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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., JANUARY, 1854. NO. 1.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP, } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS,—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

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To our Readers and Patrons.

It is proper, at the commencement of a new year and a new volume, to take our readers by the hand and look them fairly in the eye, and while we let them see their benignant smiles and pleasant faces fully reflected in our own, to tell them what we are honestly and heartily determined to do, and what we would like to have them do, for the coming year, through whose promising and prosperous course we hope to travel and to take sweet council as we walk by the way.

Well, then, friends! here are the best compliments of the old editor to his readers and patrons, with hearty good thanks for their past good will, and the flattering hopes which they give him of the same for the future. He assures his friends that he never felt a deeper or a livelier interest in their welfare, or his own,—and so far as the Farmer is concerned, these two are one—than at the present. He knows that his past efforts have been appreciated, and he trusts that the arrangement, which he has succeeded in completing for the future, will be equally appreciated and cordially reciprocated. He has no inclination to restrain, or intention of withdrawing his efforts in behalf of his favorite and long-cherished plan of giving to the farmers of Wisconsin, and the North-west generally, one of the BEST agricultural papers in the Union. But he means to bring to its aid all the assistance which lies in his power, and concentrate them upon the perfecting of his scheme.

He, therefore, with pleasure, introduces to the patrons of the FARMER, his newly acquired associate, whose bow editorial is here respectfully made to the future readers of the WISCONSIN AND IOWA FARMER.

In offering the considerations which have induced him to engage in this enterprise, the new editor would be explicit though brief.

The first, and the one of greatest weight with him, is the great esteem in which he has ever held the occupation of the husbandman, and the strong desire he cherishes that others should have for it the same high regard. He knows of no calling by which man gains a livelihood more intrinsically honorable, and truly enobling. It is the heaven ordained occupation for man made but a little lower than the angels, and the fair lineaments of its origin, though often marred by the ignorance and the folly of its devotees, are yet ever traceable in its varied branches of AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, STOCK-RAISING, AND DOMESTIC ECONOMY. Though a large portion of his life has been spent within the precincts of an academical institution, cultivating a soil, the fruitfulness of which depends as much upon the processes of *deep plowing and thorough draining*, of the turning in of *green crops*, and the *top-dressing* of others, as the fields of any of our farmers. Yet, he has found abiding with him an early imbibed love for agricultural and horticultural pursuits and a grateful admiration of the multiform and unique processes by which nature accomplishes her beneficent ends. He has watched with more than a common interest, the labors of the husbandman, as he has plowed his fields, sown his seed and gathered his harvests, and, in the tilling of the few acres with which a kind Providence has blest him, he has sometimes found his efforts crowned with unexpected success, while, at others, his most sanguine hopes have been doomed to a bitter disappointment, till he has come to sympathise with the farmer in his toils, and to rejoice with him in his pleasures. Gazing steadfastly upon him with a heart alive to the interest of a calling, made honorable in his esteem by the remembered sweat of an humble parent's brow, he has become transformed into his likeness and made one with him.

Thus far, under the sterling influence of the rock-ribed soil of *Old* New England. But these rich and verdant prairies, interspersed with crystal lakes and openings of oak, watered with perennial springs and ever-flowing streams, fruitful and beautiful beyond a New Englander's conception, marking this region emphatically as the farmer's home and the dwelling place of such as keep cattle, have fixed his fate and settled his future.

Though he expects to linger amidst the Academic groves, and sip at the castalian founts of our honored Institution, yet, will he revive his spirits and refresh his body by frequent and hearty embraces of mother earth at his own *petite ferme.*

After some cooing on the part of the old editor, and some wooing on the part of the new, and the loves of both, a match editorial has resulted, and the bands duly solemnized; the conditions of which are such, that the former understanding well home affairs, is to dress our darling in its *new* suit, arrange its bib-and-tucker, teach it to sit up straight and look up bright, while the latter, impelled by the *cacoethes scribendi*, is to *scratch* for material wherewith to satisfy its increasing desires and *growing* propensities. Like all good fathers and mothers, we mean to train up our child to speak the truth, to love the right, and not to dispise knowledge from whatever source it may come. We have taught it the Catechism, (Johnson's Agricultural,) it knows the chief end of the farmer, we have dedicated it to the service of the working masses, to the promotion of agriculture, and the mechanical arts; we have invoked upon it the blessings of of an industrous and prosperous community. As it goes forth into the world, we trust it will find friends and be kindly received by its fellows, that it will not be envied because it dresses so well, or be despised because it speaks so plainly, and so easily to be understood. If it does not tell the truth, or if it promulgates false doctrines, let it be kindly rebuked it means to be ready to *return the compliment.* It is now at peace with all and it will strive to continue so. While we do not expect that it will be over-fed with *candy* by any one, we trust that all will feel bound to give it that hearty support its nature craves. It has a good appetite and is fond of *solid* food. Let no farmer or mechanic be so rude as to close his door against it, but receive it kindly and listen to its truthful story. Heed well its suggestions, introduce it to your neighbor and tell him of its excellencies; receive with gladness his subscription and send it on to the parents (publishers) at home, who will not be unmindful of, or ungrateful for such treatment, but will gladly reciprocate the favor and make it the bearer of rarer and richer blessings to its patrons.

Suffice it to say, that we wish to make the FARMER not only the medium of our own thoughts and views, but that of the whole community. Let us have your various experiences and opinions on the various branches pertaining to our calling. Let us hold communion, one with the other, as we pass on our toilsome but pleasant paths, till our hearts are enkindled within us, and we see eye to eye.

It will be the aim of the FARMER to bring the several branches of science to bear upon the processes of Agriculture and the breeding of stock. We shall endeavor to keep our readers duly advised of the best means and modes of cultivating their fields, and of improving their stock. While we hope never to be unmindful of the greatest prosperity of his calling, we mean not to forget the highest interest of the farmer himself. We shall, therefore, endeavor to assist the farmer in self improvement. Here is a field which, though too long neglected, is now attracting and receiving the sympathies of all classes. Till lately, the farmers have been the hewers of wood and drawers of water for every other class. They have themselves even forgotten that they had any inherent rights, or that obligation was laid upon them to defend them. We wish to excite no warfare between men of different occupations, but we do desire to see the great back-bone, the marrow, the sinew and the soul, even, of our country duly conscious of its existence and qualified to understand its rights and to protect them. To render the agricultor and the artizan worthy of his own esteem and confidence, and thereby, of the regard of all others will be one aim of the WISCONSIN AND IOWA FARMER.

Breadstuffs and the Markets.

There is a great interest felt just at the present time, by produce dealers and others even, in relation to breadstuffs. The attention of those who have heretofore been more particularly engaged in the buying and selling of cotton, is now turned to that of breadstuffs, and we have every reason to believe that the excitement will soon be as great in relation to them, as it has ever been in regard to cotton.—The great increase of money all over the word

as the result of California and Australian discoveries has given such an impetus to the enterprise of the present age that the dormant energies of every people are now actively employed upon labor, which has previously offered but small inducements to the laboring classes. As a natural consequence, vast numbers who have been employed in the producing of breadstuffs, are now transformed into rapid consumers of them. In the States west of the Ohio River there are probably more than sixty or seventy thousand men engaged upon railroads alone.—The same condition of things, though perhaps to a less degree, exists in all the States of the Union. In all probability, public improvements will be carried on with increased energy for years to come, making a still increased demand for laborers, and thus very greatly effect the relative numbers of producers and consumers, vastly increasing the latter while it diminishes the former. As a legitimate result, the price of all kinds of grain consumed as food for man or beast must be greatly enhanced. It is true that the increased facilities which the railroads offer for the easier transportation of produce will greatly aid the production, but this can by no means equal the great increase in the demand for consumption.

Another item to be taken into consideration just now, and one which greatly affects our home interests, is that the news from Europe indicates that the grain crop over a large portion of the continent is short of the usual amount. All the circumstances of the case, therefore, point to the inevitable conclusion that breadstuffs must for a long time bear a price certainly some considerably higher than for some years past

It is now a comparatively easy matter for our farmers to get their products to market and they will naturally be exposed for sale. Another thing of much importance to the producers of breadstuffs, and particularly those of our own and adjoining States, is that the harvest of all small grains has never been more favorable than the present year, or the yield more abundant. The same may be said of corn, potatoes and all vegetables which go to make up the mass of food for the people. While we would advise our farmers who have been so abundantly blest by the smiles of a kind Providence, not to exact exhorbatant prices nor to refuse good offers, yet we would counsel them not to be in too great haste to sell.

A Point to be kept in View.

To create a popular taste for rual literature and science, we must study to improve our agricultural journals.—[Gen. Farmer.

In accordance with the above truth, from a source worthy of confidence, the proprietors of the WISCONSIN AND IOWA FARMER have been at much expense to "improve" their paper, that it may be a more efficent means, not only of creating a popular taste for agricultural literature and science, but to awaken a greater love for the practical application of the principles of science to agriculture and its kindred branches of industry.

They have said in the prospectus for the present year, that it is their intention to make it second to no other agricultural paper in the Union. When they said this they weighed well their words. They mean that no agricultural journal shall surpass it in manner of print, style of engraving, perfection of workmanship and completeness of finish, or in the excellency, importance and propriety of matter

The editors have entered upon their duties with no neophytic zeal and enthusiasm merly, but with the firm conviction that they have a calling to fulfill. They have considered well the obligations which the position they have assumed places upon them, and, having put their hands to the plow, in more senses than one, they fear that it is woe to them if they look back. They mean to study to be thoroughly furnished for every good *work*, and to avail themselves of every possible means whereby they may become good soldiers of the *crook*. They will labor to conceive, collect, condense and concoct, from all sources, such ideas as shall be deemed of importance to the farmer and mechanic. While they will strive to render the FARMER the medium of every valuable domestic suggestion, they will not spurn to make it the means of naturalization to any foreign thought practical and expedient to our farmers.

They believe, indeed they have reason to know, that our Western agriculturists are not so inferior by the weakness of their intellects or different in kind, by the richness of their soils. from their fellows in any other part of the world, as to require "chaff uad chop-fed feed" to satisfy the demands of the one, or a dif ferent system of agriculture to preserve the qual ities of the other. They have studied the character and capacities of Western farmers, and the composition and properties of their lands to the

little purpose, if it is in anywise true, that the wishes of the former or the demands of the latter will be met by feeding them on *pap*.

It has been truly said that the "old worn out farms of the Atlantic and middle States" need the benefit of "wheel-barrow loads of chemical essays and solid learning" ever to restore them to their original value and productiveness, but it was not *as* truly said that "our people out here could never endure such solid loads of sound doctrine." Intellectual weakness and spiritual poverty it must be remembered, do not always accompany pecuniary want, nor are the terms to be regarded as synonymous. Neither does the *richness* of land in any way retard the rapidity with which it parts with its constituents, nor the *abundance* of the harvest lessen the amount of those removed from the soil. It is not true, therefore, that "our people out here" will "not endure" and even require just "such solid loads of sound doctrine," in order to preserve the fertility and fruitfulness of their intellects as well as the productiveness and profitableness of their soils.

Farmers' Book-Keeping.

We wish that we could induce all our farmers to enter immediately, at the commencement of this New Year, upon the practice of a full system of book-keeping, or the keeping of accounts with the different crops cultivated and branches of business pursued.

There is no other branch of business conducted by any class of men with so little attention to the keeping of a strict account of expenses and incomes as that of the farmer.—The merchant bases all his sales upon the *cost* and the *price* is made such as to cover the cost and furnish some profit.

Who would think of selling goods without any regard to their cost? Every one would say that the merchant who should conduct business on such a plan, would most assuredly fail. If there is one class of men more than another who should know what the articles which they have to sell costs them, that class is the farmers. How many of our farmers can tell what their wheat, their corn or their potatoes have cost them per bushel this past year? Who of them can tell what his butter or his cheese, his pork or his beef has cost him per pound?—If there is one, we would like to hear from him. Now there is no excuse for this gross and culpable negligence on the part of our farmers.—Again, what is farming? Is it a series of processes, to be conducted wholly under the uneducated influence of instinct which acts as well blindfolded as with illumined eyes, and exerts itself as perfectly in the child as in the man? Is it not rather a series of experiments, or trials, the results of which should be faithfully recorded and not trusted to the uncertainties of a distrustful memory! What a mass of valuable facts would now be spread out before us, and before themselves, to guide them in their future operations, had our farmers kept a careful account of their yearly doings since they commenced farming!

We suppose the great reason why our farmers are not more careful to keep those records is that they think it is to much trouble, and many of them have not been taught to do it, and they think that they do not know how.—We have long wished that some one would devise a simple and easy meathed and submit it to the consideration of our agricultural friends. T. C. Peters of New York, some ten years ago got up a very good and simple plan, and we find a similar one under different heads in Mayhew's Practical Book-Keeping.

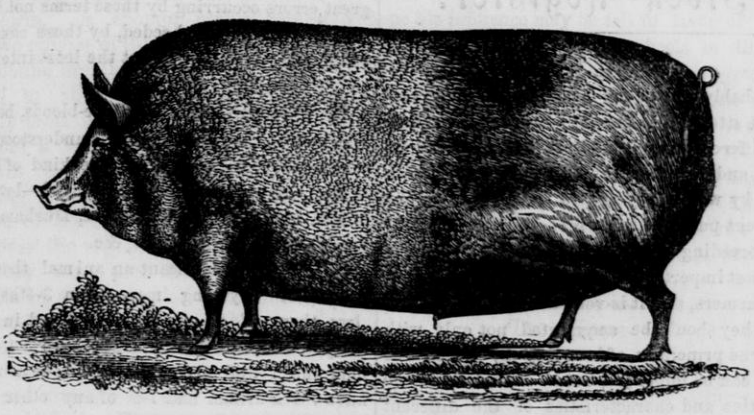
But the simplest possible way, and the one which avoids the multiplication of books, is to treat every field or crop sown, and every branch of your business as an *individual* with whom you are dealing Enter its name upon your account-book, and charge to it whatever you give it, or do on it, or put on it, at its fair price, and credit to the same whatever you receive from it, and balance the account by crediting the loss or charging the profit as the case may be. The account will ever remain to show whether it affords you an income or an outgo.

A general inventory of one's property and of his debts should be made at the commencement of every year, and the result entered in a memorandum book for future reference, and to act as a stimulous and guide to future operations.

Now, how many of our readers will be induced to commence thus this year? Let us hear from you with regard to it and the effect.

We would advise you to get one of Mayhew's systems of Book-Keeping which will assist you much in the matter if you are unable to do it without assistance. If there is no other way ask the school master of your district to tell you.

☞ Prince Albert has adopted the American Reaper on his model farm.



IMPROVED SUFFOLK BOAR—"SHANGHAI."

The above is a very truthful likeness of the most beautiful SUFFOLK PIG that we ever saw. He was farrowed on the 20th of April last, and was imported into the country when six weeks old, by the senior editor of the FARMER.—SHANGHAI took the first and sweep-stake premiums at the late Rock County Fair.

This breed is distinguished for its early maturity, small consumption of food, and great inclination to fatten. Like most *Millers'* hogs, he is in much better flesh than hogs generally, though he has been kept short—fearing he might be useless for breeding, for which purpose he was brought into the county. It is not uncommon for pigs of this stock of swine at eight months old to weigh 350 lbs. and over.

This is decidedly our favorite breed of hogs. The improved Essex, however, is much like it and preferred by some. We saw some splendid pigs of these two kinds at the State Fair, at Watertown, belonging to S. B. Edwards of Troy, this State. We hope the breed may become more common amongst us.

Collect the Leaves.

One who is in the neighborhood of a deciduous forest, that is, one which sheds its leaves annually, can secure a rich treasure with very little pains. Those who have only a small garden to take care of, may supply a sufficient quantity of good manure from this one source. If annually collected, their beneficial effects will be felt every year. The whole benefit of the application will not be felt the first year of their application, but by an annual supply a constant effect will be produced. If they can be collected and made into a compost, so much the better. But if not, if ploughed in during the fall, or covered by the spade annually, they will prove quite effective. Leaves are also used in improving the physical condition of either hard or wet soils. They cause the earth to lie more loosely, and promote thorough evaporation.—[Plow, Loom and Anvil.

A good use of leaves is to litter or bed cattle with them. They thus become saturated with urine and composted with the solid material.—Leaevs have a large portion of the inorganic or mineral part of plants in their composition, together with organic material, and are thus valuable as manure.

PLOWING IN PORTUGAL.—The way they plough in Portugal is primitive indeed.—A late traveler says:

The principal agricultural instrument used here, and throughout the provinces, is the laya. It is a ponderous iron fork, consisting of two prongs six inches apart and a yard long, the handle being formed of a perpendicular piece of wood attached to one extremity of the horizontal bar, which unites the prongs. When a field is to be turned over, eight or a dozen peasants, seating themselves in a row, each holding a laya in both hands, which they simultaneously raise, and then with the impetus of the descent, drive deep into the ground, turning up a ridge of sod at each delve. They then take one step backward, and perform the same operation with singular rapidity and regularity.

Stock Register.

Cattle.

Probably few of our farmers have given sufficient attention to the subject of cattle to know the different breeds and the history of their orign, and the peculiar characteristics of each kind, by which they are to be valued for the different purposes for which they are kept.—The breeding of cattle is destined to be one of the most important occupations of our Western farmers, and it is very desirable, therefore, that they should be acquainted not only with the true principles of breeding by which the races can be improved, but he should know the qualities and characteristics of the different kinds. We propose to devote some considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock of different kinds, and shall endeavor, without partiality, to give the important qualities and characteristics of each, accompanied with suitable illustrations in the form of engravings of animals, with which we are acquainted.

We wish to awaken in the minds of our agricultural readers a love for fine animals and a discriminating judgement of their excellencies. It is a well known fact that it costs no more, and generally not so much, to keep a good ox, a good cow, a good horse or a good sheep and a good hog, than it does to keep an inferior one; while the latter are every way vastly more valuable. It is important, also, that every one should know the good *points* of cattle and horses, sheep and hogs, that they may not be led to breed from any one and every one as chance may lead, having no *choice* to guide.

It is desirable also to know the relative value of these several points as determined upon by good judges. All these we shall endeavor to give, so that our readers may be duly informed on all these matters pertaining to stock.

There are, too, certain terms used by dealers and breeders of cattle, which indicate the division of cattle into classes, and these are employed at most of our Fairs, which it would be well for our farmers to undersand. Such as *Thoroughbred*, *Full-blood*, *Pure-blood*, *Crosses* and *Grades*. Were these terms well understood among our farmers and others, much difficulty and unpleasant feelings would be avoided at our Fairs, and all cattle, horses, sheep &c., would be properly entered under their respective heads, and receive their proper premiums. We have, during the past season seen several instances of great errors occurring by these terms not being well understood and heeded, by those concerned at fairs; and all without the least intention on the part of any one.

By Thorough-breds and Pure-bloods, both of which mean the same thing, it is understood that the animal so called has but one kind of blood in him,—that is, no mixture of blood—let it be of whatever kind it may, Native, Durham, Devon, Hereford or Ayrshire, &c.

By *Pure-blood* is meant an animal that has 3-4ths, or anything more than 3-4ths, and less than *all* of one kind of blood in him; as a *full-blooded* Durham might have 3-4 Durham and 1-4 of any other blood; or he might have 7-8 Durham and 1-8 of any other kind of blood.

By *crosses* is understood nearly the same as *grades*, except the former term alludes to the *fact* of mixture of blood, while the latter alludes to the *degree* of the mixture.

In the use of the terms *Full-blood*, *Cross* and *grades*, to express the quality of an animal, it is always desirable to mention the *proportion* of the different kinds of blood mingled in the animal.

Veterinary Surgery.

We hail with pleasure every improvement of the Veterinary art and its new application to the removal of the ills to which our domestic animals are subject. This art is not sufficiently cultivated amongst us and many valuable animals are lost to the farmer in consequence. The diseases of our domestic animals, though, perhaps not so many, yet are without doubt as complicated, and require as skillful treatment as those of the human family.

These diseases are now almost entirely left to the worse than *haphazard* treatment of ignorant quacks and scoundrels who peregrinate the country a loathsome pest of themselves.

We are led to these suggestions by the following notice in the Journal of Agriculture, of an operation for the extirpation of two melanotic tumors from the body of a horse, while under the influence of chloroform, by Geo. H. Dadd, Veterinary surgeon—Boston. The subject was a grey stallion. The tumors had been growing for about eighteen months; slowly at first but rapidly at last:

Operation:—Friday, November 4th, 1853: The patient was cast, off side up.

Dr. Fletcher Oakes of this city, kindly consented to superintend the administration of chloroform. A sponge being saturated with two ounces of this article, was enclosed in a suitable breathing apparatus, and thus applied to the patient's nostrils. The quantity used during the operation was three and a half ounces. The pupils of the eyes being dilated, and stertorous breathing having commenced, a straight incision, of eleven inches in length was made over the region occupied by the tumors, they were then dissected from their sub-cellular, and muscular attachments.—The blood-vessels cut during the operation being merely sub-cutaneous ramifications, it was not thought necessary to employ ligatures; and the horse lost but a trifling amount of blood. The wound having been cleansed with cold water, its edges were brought together by *interrupted sutures*, and finely dressed with compound tincture of myrrh. The horse was shortly afterwards led to his stable.

Description of the tumors and their location:—The first was of an ovoid-form, measuring seventeen inches around its short diameter, by seven inches in length, and weighed four pounds. On making a straight incision through its centre, it presented a black, pitchy appearance, and was composed of a somewhat dense, fibrous body; containing within its meshes a thick fluid, resembling coal tar, which left a black stain on the scalpel and fingers, easily removed, however, by water. This tumor was situated on the *off* side, in the 'posterior and inferion,' region of the shoulder.

The second tumor was of a similar form and character, and occupied the space immediately below the former; it weighed a trifle over one pound. The large tumor was firmly imbedded in the cellular tissue, and also had a slight attachment to the common integument,—its base being united to the pectoral muscles.

The above is a rare disease in the horse, but of frequent occurrence in the human family and common among cattle and dogs. We hope that we may hear further of the history of the subject from Dr. Dadd, who is to have charge of the Veterinary department of the Journal of Agriculture for the coming year. Dr. Dadd is evidently a Veterinary surgeon of great promise and ability, and we look with more than a common interest for his communications on the various subjects of his department. We hope his influence may be felt in favor of the establishment of Veterinary schools in different parts of our country, for such are greatly needed, at least one such, worthy of trust and patronage. Dr. Dadd is author of the AMERICAN CATTLE DOCTOR, published by C. M. Saxton, New York; which is very highly spoken of by those who have seen it. We hope soon to be able to speak of it from our own observation, being a physician, we pique ourself on our ability to do so.

The Horse.

The following very sensible and just remarks we take from Dr. SLADE's lectures on the horse. His anatomy, Diseases, &c., as published in the Boston Traveler.

The horse is a noble animal, and every owner of him, or he who has the management of him ought to understand his wants and be able to relieve them and to treat him properly and kindly:—

THE NERVOUS SYSTEM—URINARY ORGANS—BREEDING, FRACTURES, AND SHOEING.

The nervous system of the horse, the lecturer remarked in the opening, is the grand motive power of the animal. It is centered in the brain and spinal marrow. The brain is very small in proportion to its bulk, contrasted with that of man. From the brain proceeds cords called nerves, by which he receives pleasurable or painful feelings. To the eyes, the nose, the ears, we find these cords extending. Nerves of involuntary motion are those which are kept in action, though the animal may be asleep. From the brain is also given off the spinal marrow, running through the spine and sending out into various parts of the body branches known as spinal nerves. Sympathetic nerves surround the heart and other vital parts.

Neurotomy, or division of the nerves, has for years been practiced on men, but only lately in veterinary science. The nerve is divided just above the fetlock joint often, to relieve pain in the foot.

The urinary organs the lecturer next described. The kidneys are employed in separatinig the watery substance, and drawing from the blood the urine, which would prove highly injurious if allowed to remain

Dietic medicines are often applied with great success in removing water from the chest, abdomen, &c. When applied, the horse should be allowed to drink all the water he pleases. Inflamation of the kidneys often occurs. The horse looks at his loins, seperates his legs, and will not lie down. He also rises to urinate continually. Over exertion, strains on the parts, exposure to wet, and eating of burnt mown hay, or kiln-burnt oats, cause the disease. Sufficient care is not taken in this country to protect the loins of the horse when exposed in bad weather. The secretions of the horse differ very much at times.

The urine, after being secreted by the kidneys, passess into the bladder, a small vessel, having a neck through which it escapes. The bladder is sometimes inflamed both in the body and neck. Sometimes we find stone in the bladder and kidney, and sometimes by skillful physicians they are removed.

The breeding of the horse is a subject of great importance. Nature has provided for the reproduction of the species, and from the month of April to July we find the female in "heat," when the genital organs experience a change which peculiarly fits them for breeding.

The period of going with foal is from eleven to twelve months, although the time varies much in different mares. The mare is capable of reproduction at three or four years of age, and should not be used until that age. The animal also should not be roo old, as the colt inherits much of the weakness of its mother, and lacks that stamina so requiste for a good horse. The peculiarities are inherited by the colt, and attention should be paid to the breed of both animals.

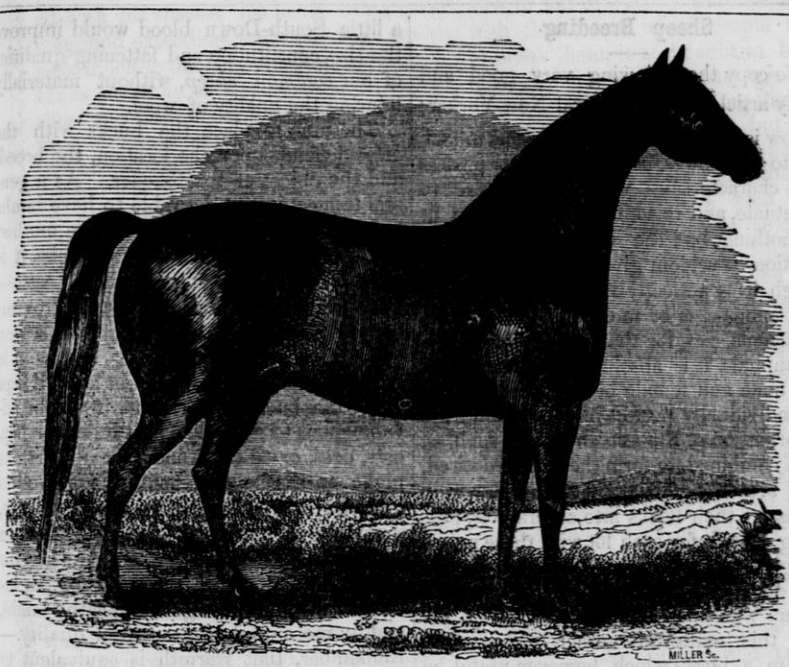
"Breeding in-and-in," or the production of colts from blood relatives, is favored by some, and by others deemed a depreciating process. The lecturer thought that breeding in-and-in did not deteriorate the good qualities of the horse, although there are often hereditary evils which crossing will remove. The English blood horse, the best in the world, is a cross between the native English and the Arabian. Crossing when properly conducted, improves the animal, but when abused produces poor horses.

Fractures, caused by blows, falls, and external violence, may sometimes be relieved by man. There are three kinds of fractures—simple, compound and complicated. If old horses have their limbs fractured, it is of no use to attempt any relief. Horses with fractures, if rendered useless for work, can be sometimes profitably used for breeding. In most cases of fractures the animal should be killed.

The shoeing of the horse was first introduced into England by William the Conqueror. Shoes are necessary, and yet they subject the foot to the liabity of many injuries. The removal of old shoes is a most important part of the process of shoeing.—The clinched nails should be removed with care, and not wrenched out, as is often the manner pursued by our blacksmiths.—Rasping is the next process, and removes all pieces of nails.

Paring is a most important part of the operation, and few blacksmiths understand how to pair out skillfully. The heel should not be much pared, and good care should be taken of the bars. They should not be cut away, but should be respected. The portions between should be cut out. The frog should always be on a level with the edge of the shoe. The selection of the shoe is also an important point, and often the foot is made to fit the shoe instead of the shoe the foot. The shoe should be bevelled out on the outer surface and should fit exactly to the parts of the hoof, and for this purpose the shoe is applied hot, to show the parts necessary to be pared off to make it fit.

The Cattle Trade of Texas is growing into considerable importance. New Orleans is the market to which it is directed. During the present season, about forty thousand head of beeves crossed the Natchez river at Beaumont, bound for New Orleans. and large herds have also been shipped from Sabine Pass and Indianola. The Galveston News predicts that, with the advantages of railways, the cattle trade of Texas will equal the whole cotton crop of the State, notwithstanding that the latter increases from year to year. Many Texan agriculturists are constantly entering the business of stock raising, which requires little labor and yields large profits.



THOROUGH BRED HORSE "ST. PATRICK."

The above cut is intended to represent a very beautiful and perfect Horse of the Arabian Blood, belonging to G. S. Ruble of Beloit.—This Horse received the First Premium for thorough bred horses at the Rock County Fair —1853; also the sweep-stake premium.

This horse has a finely set on neck, deep, fine shoulders, short back, flat legs, short from the knee downwards; a beautiful muscular development, with lightness of step and exceeding gracefulness of movements.

St. Patrick was got by the celebrated imported horse St. Patrick, grand-son of the English Eclipse, who was the best horse of his day, and produced more winners of the turf than any other horse. Eclipse was bred by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cumberland, and was got by the White Turk—son of the great Godolphin Arabian. Therefore, by the sire side, no horse can be of purer blood. St. Patrick's Dam was by the imported horse Scipio—out of the famous American Eclipse mare, owned by Judge Morgan of Virginia.

Between two and three hundred feet of the new government pier at Michigan City, was carried away during the the gale of Wednesday night of last week.

Vicious Cattle.—The common "vice" of jumping and throwing fences is *taught* to cattle, with scarcely an exception, by their owners and care-takers. Fences half down soon fall by the rubbing of cattle, and teach the first lesson, especially if cattle have any shrewdness in observing cause and effect, very fine feed, just over a poor fence, in the next letting down bars and rail fences to the halves, from laziness, so that the animal has to leap, is a third lesson—and this last is often first, second and third with sheep, until they will scale any thing.—These three lessons are usually enough, but a fourth is often added, namely, placing one additional rail each successive day, as they become more skillful, for the ostensible purpose of keeping the animal within bounds, but really operating as a most ingenious contrivance to teach the art of vaulting. We have heard of French being taught in six lessons; but few animals require more than the above four to enable them to take "French leave" of any ordinary enclosure.

Lord Palmerston has intimated his intention of putting down, with the strong arm of the law, all lotteries.

Sheep Breeding.

We copy the following very good and timely article from the Rural New Yorker:

Now is the time for Flock Masters to look well to their ewes, selecting such as possess those characteristics which they desire to perpetuate, and rejecting those that are fit for nothing but the butcher. Sufficient attention is seldom given to this point, for though it is perfectly true that the male, in all animals, is of more importance than the female, yet, for the production of perfect animals, it is absolutely necessary that both male and female be well bred, and, if not individually perfect in every point, the conformation of the *two* should be such as, when combined, to form the animal desired. Good breeders understand this matter well, and assort their flocks into several lots, procuring a buck for each lot with those points strongly developed, in which the ewes are most deficient. But a vast proportion of farmers who keep more or less sheep, neglect this matter altogether. They often procure a buck, which, however useful he might be for other flocks, is totally unfit for that which he is intended to serve.—Again, in a large flock of ordinary sheep there are often two or more kinds of ewes with characteristics entirely different from each other; hence, a buck that might be beneficial to the one would be altogether unsuited to the other, and more likely to propagate imperfections than to neutralize them, yet how common is it to let the whole flock run together, and have the indiscriminate use of the same bucks. With judicious selection any of our heterogeneous flocks might in a few years, be vastly improved without any more expense than is incurred by the present heedless, careless, and unprofitable system of breeding.

The present high price of mutton has led many, in this vicinity at least, to cross their common merino sheep with a Leicester or South-Down buck for the purpose of obtaining good sized lambs for the butcher. We believe good mutton will always command a good price, higher than at present, and that this system of crossing fine-wooled with mutton sheep will be the most profitable species of sheep husbandry. We do not like to recommend any one to breed from such a cross, yet we are not sure but a little South-Down blood would improve the size, constitution and fattening qualities of our *common sheep*, without materially injuring the quality of wool.

The time to place the bucks with the ewes depends upon the location, the breed, and the object of the breeder. As a general thing it is not desirable to have lambs before there is some grass for the mother, and as ewes go from 22 to 23 weeks, it is easy to calculate in any individual case.—In Western New York the first of November is considered best. At this season grass is scarce and innutritious, and as it is particularly desirable that ewes be well kept while the buck is with them, it will be advantageous to give them a little clover hay, oats, peas, or oil-cake, and to keep them at night in dry, warm sheds. It is well to give the buck a little extra grain or oil-cake, separate from the ewes. Care and attention to the flock at this season, and during the winter, will be amply rewarded by an increased number of large and healthy lambs, and by more wool of a superior quality.—Remember, that warmth is equivalent to food, and that salt and water are essential to health, while regularity in feeding is very desirable.

The Arkansas Native Hog.

The attention of the citizens of the Northern and Eastern portions of America, is respectfully called to the very peculiar qualities of the Native Hog of Arkansas; and notwithstanding many different species of hogs are now known, there perhaps is none that possesses so peculiar a quality as does this swine of Arkansas. He was discovered as early in the nineteenth century as the first settlement, in the southwestern portion of the State, and was immediately adopted into their flocks, where he has been constansly kept, and is considered by the lords of the soil of Arkansas as the best species of hog ever known, being very large when thoroughly matured. He weighs from six to seven hundred pounds, and is from three to three and a half feet in height, large-boned and long-bodied, with quite a long head and ears, and the most peculiar feet imaginable; the hoof being round like that of the mule or horse, and entirely destitute of the usual fork so common in the hoof of other species of hogs. Indeed, he ap-

pears to be a curiosity with those unacquainted with his species, his hoofs being very long, and extending unusually high up his legs, tapering off very sharp at the bottom. He is generally of a redish color; the hair short and thin, being finer than the hair of most all other hogs. It is believed that this hog would prove, were he adopted into general use by the farmers of the Northern and Eastern portion of the States, the best species of hog ever yet known. The Native Hog of Arkansas is most numerous in Pope and Zell Counties, or on the Magazene mountains. He is very common on the Pelijohn and the Derdenell mountains. It is hoped he will be more generally known in a few years.—[Dollar Newspaper.

Mules and Horses—Comparatine Value.

I have been in the business of rearing and marketing mules for many years; which I have marketed principally in New Haven, Ct., and in the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania; which animal in the latter two States is much in use. I sold mules there twenty eight years ago last fall, which were two years old; and I saw some of them two years ago, which were fat; and the owners said were as good as ever.

I have conversed with many aged gentlemen, who have used mules for fifteen years, and with some who had mules in their possession which they represented to be forty-two years of age. I have also been told of one owned in Pennsylvania that was sixty-three years old. I am fully satisfied, from my own observation, that mules live to double the age of horses; that it costs but about one half as much to keep them, and they are not one half as subject to disease, consequently the saving would be great; and I think they ought to be used for draught in all countries, instead of horses.

Such complaints as heaves, spavin, &c., I have never yet seen or heard of about a mule; and I have raised hundreds and seen thousands; which complaints are very prevalent among horses.

I give it as my opinion, that the average age of mules is thirty-five or forty years. They are much easier broken than horses, if treated with kindness.

It is true, there seems to be a general prejudice existing with people against this animal; and it is expected that they will kick or kill everybody who has much to do with them; and when people undertake to break them, it is thought to be first requisite to tie them up and give them a sound drubbing, not for anything the innocent creatures have done, but for something they are expected to do; and being animals that are intelligent, they rightly become dissatissfied with such treatment, and, of course, will show resentment.—While engaged in selling, I have helped harness up a great many taken from the drove, without any previous training, and have driven them in a wagon containing several persons besides myself, and I never saw one contrary or refuse to go off immediately. They are much more intelligent and tractable than horses, and their attachment is much stronger if well treated. The foal is carried easier by the mare, and reduces her less, both before and after birth.

They can always be sold for ready cash at the south; and taking them on an average, at any age, will bring more money here at the North than horses.

Therefore, I invite my fellow farmers to investigate this subject, and take greater interest in rearing mules. They are a cash article, and a very useful and profitable animal; and it would save the North millions of dollars were they in as common use here as at the South.

The mule is adapted to labor at a younger age than the horse; and experience is all that is wanting to convince the people at the North of the great advantages that would accrue from bringing these animals into general use at home, and from rearing them more abundantly for the Southern Market.—S. Smith, *Wilton, Me.*,—*Pat. Office Reports.*

☞ It is stated that, at the average of the last twenty years, a ton of corn is estimated not to be worth hauling by wagon when 170 miles from market; while at the same distance, upon a line of railroad, it would be worth $22 10. A ton of wheat, 330 miles from market, is not worth hauling by wagon; but by railroad, it would be worth $44 55.

☞ The bell on the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Montreal, it is said, weighs 25,000 pounds.

Horticulture.

Pear Growing.

Messrs Editors:—Some of your readers may be anxious to increase their stock of knowledge on the subject of pear growing in the northwest generally, and in the latitude of the settled portion of Wisconsin in particular.

South about lat. 41½ deg. on rich prairie soils most varieties of the pear promised well, making a rapid, luxurient growth in the orchard, which inspired the idea among our southern Illinois fruit growers that they occupied the very Paradise of the pear tree. But lo! the pear tree blight swept across their beautiful prairies and their favorite tree, with but a few exceptions was not. The leaf blight visited their nursery seedlings, and the hopes of cultivation almost perished. The question then very naturally came up for solution, shall not our hopes in Wisconsin be blasted in like manner, when our trees shall have become as old as theirs. At first an affirmative answer to this proposition seemed self evident, but upon a careful review of the subject, we found trees older than many of theirs which perished entirely unaffected. Those most entirely unscathed standing upon our driest and poorest soils.—which fact goes to show that rich, badly cultivated soils, like most of the Illinois prairies, by inducing too rank growth, is the chief cause of the difficulty.

It has also been suggested by some late writer, (the name of the author is not recollected) that the pear prefers a northern latitude; and that long, warm summers, by inducing an unseasonable flow of sap after the foliage has fallen is the chief cause of the difficulties complained of in this country; in proof of which the best pear growing districts in Europe are shown to be quite far north in point of latitude.

If his positions are true, then it follows that pear growing will only be limited in the settled portions of this continent by too intense cold in winter, and in some portions, though not in the west, by superabundance of snow. That the pear tree ripens off its wood early when growing on a dry, loamy soil here is a well established fact. It has also been observed that those planted on high grounds, or those not over rich in vegetable mould with a pervious subsoil, are subject to fewer casualties than those growing in rich vegetable mould with a heavy clay underneath. These thoughts have been rather hastily penned, and with your permission the subject of stocks and varieties will be briefly treated of hereafter.

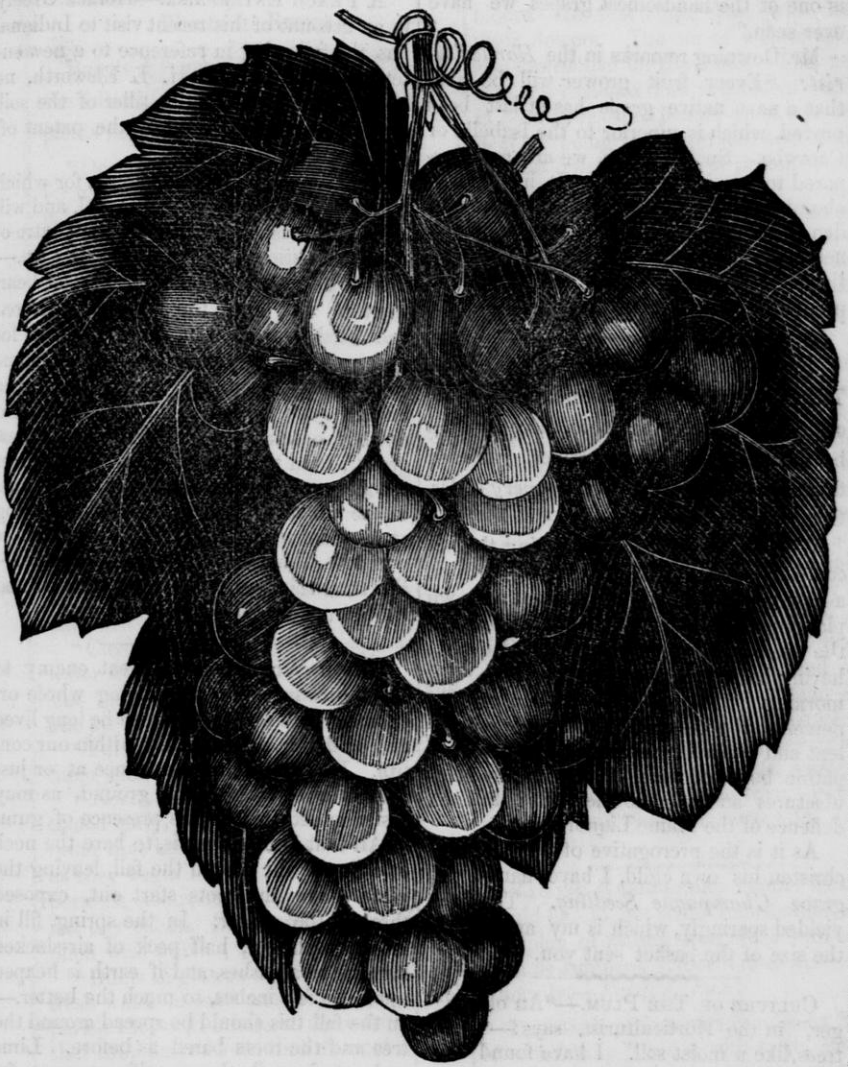
Yours, very truly. J. C. Brayton.

Trees for Streets.

In planting trees on the road, one important idea seems to be generally overlooked, and that is adaption to situation and soil. My first attempt at transplanting forest trees was to set a row of sugar maples each side of the road, two rods apart, making in all one hundred and forty trees, anticipating a fine avenue in a few years; but what was my disappointment to find invariably, that where the land was too moist for wheat, and much of it was, the trees died. The rest grew finely. Now, we need some tree adapted to these moist spots which occur so frequently on most of our roads, and I know of no tree better for the wettest spots than the yellow or golden willow. It is easily propagated by cuttings, and grows the most rapid of any tree that I know of. I have one that has been set some 14 years, which is five feet three inches in circumference, 40 feet high, and the top 40 feet in diameter. It has a lively and pleasant appearance, especially in early spring, and contrasts finely with the red or soft maple which is likewise a good tree for moist soils.

I am surprised that the black walnut has been overlooked as a street tree, easily propagated from the seed, very rapid in its growth, with a spacious head and a beautiful foliage; and I never saw a more splendid tree than one of these on the Chemung river, loaded with fruit resembling pears.

The white walnut or butternut, is also a fine tree, and the nuts of both are excellent. The wild red, or pigeon cherry, is a fine tree, grows rapidly, very beautiful flowers, is not infested with catterpillars like the wild cherry. Beautiful in winter on account of its reddish brown bark. It would make a fine tree for lawns, were it not for its disposition to throw up suckers, which it does not seem to have when planted in the street. I set some 14 years since, one of which is three feet four inches in circumference, and over thirty feet in height.—*Horticulturist.*



THE DIANA GRAPE.

The *Diana* grape is named in honor of Mrs. Diana Crehore, of Milton, Massachusetts, by whom it was raised from seed of the Catawba. Mr. Hovey, in his *Magazine of Horticulture*, says of this grape:

"Last fall we had a full crop of larger fine clusters, ripe fully a week before the Isabella, and so superior to that variety, that they obtained the prize at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society as the best native grape." He also remarks, "It is a most abundant bearer, and has less of the taste peculiar to our native grape than any other variety. It also possesses a peculiarity which we have not noticed in other sorts: as early as the first of September, when the berries change to a grayish tinge, they are quite sweet and agreeable to the taste; but they do not acquire the high flavor which constitutes its great excellence, until they assume their full color, when it

is one of the handsomest grapes we have ever seen."

Mr. Downing remarks in the *Horticulturist:* "Every fruit grower will be glad that a new native grape has at last been proved, which is superior to the Isabella or Catawba. Such a grape, we are now prepared to say, is the Diana. It has fruited abundantly for two years past, in the garden of Woodenethe, the residence of our neighbor, H. W. Sargent, Esq. After tasting it repeatedly, we do not hesitate to pronounce it the best of American grapes."

FROST-PROOF GRAPES. — The Boston Traveler says:—we acknowledge the receipt of the following note, accompanied by a basket of delicious grapes, gathered this morning from the *open grapery* of Dr. Coggswell of Bedford:—

Will you oblige me by accepting the accompanying basket of *frost-proof grapes*, a new variety, raised from seed of my own planting! They have defied Jack Frost in the open air to the present time (Nov. 1.) having been plucked from the vine this morning. They resemble, as you readily perceive, the Catawba, but are more succulent and *spirited*. Each grape is a homoepathic bottle of wine, which nature manufactures and offers to the public, in open defience of the Maine Liquor Law.

As it is the prerogative of the parent to christen his own child, I have named this grape *Champagne Seedling*. The vine yielded sparingly, which is my apology for the size of the basket sent you.

CULTURE OF THE PLUM.—"An old Digger," in the Horticulturist, says:—"Plum trees like a moist soil. I have found that covering the ground about four inches deep with old spent tan-bark, is a good way of preserving the moisture, and keeping the tree in health. I scatter fresh lime thickly over the surface of the tan every year, as soon as the green fruit begins to fall. This kills every curculio that attemps to enter the ground. The tan prevents the weeds from growing, keeps the roots cool, and insures me good crops of plums. I spread it as far as the roots extend, and it wants renewing, or adding to, once in three or four years."

A PEACH ENTERPRISE.—Horace Greely in an account of his recent visit to Indiana, has the following in reference to a new enterprise of the Hon. H. L. Elsworth, no less famous as a scientific tiller of the soil, than as the former head of the patent office. Mr. Greely says:

"He is gathering peach stones, for which he is paying fifty cents per bushel, and will plant fifty bushels of them in the centre of a great prairie which he is breaking up.—They will grow luxuriantly and soon bear, when he will have the peaches gathered and dried by women on shares; and so for four or five years, growing corn or some crop among them, and thus keeping the land in good condition. Then he will cut down the trees for fuel, and have a new growth from the roots. This he believes the cheapest and quickest way to get fuel where it is most needed, besides producing an abundance of dried fruit, of which there was never half enough in this country.—We trust this enterprise may be crowned with abundant success."

PEACH WORMS.—This great enemy to peach growing, after destroying whole orchards, which would otherwise be long lived and profitable, is fortunately within our control. His operations commence at or just below the surface of the ground, as may easily be detected by the presence of gum.

All that is necessary is, to bare the neck or collar of the tree in the fall, leaving the place where the roots start out, exposed through the winter. In the spring, fill in around each tree, half peck of air-slacked lime, or wood ashes, and if earth is heaped upon it a few inches, so much the better.—In the fall this should be spread around the tree and the roots bared as before. Lime and potash are both a specific manure for the peach tree, giving it increased vigor and productiveness, and its leaves a fine healthy deep green. We have known the worm to be destroyed by this treatment, but where he has already made an entrance he had better be ferreted out with the knife and destroyed. The lime assists the healing of the bark. This method answers most effectual as a preventative.—[Southern Cul.

☞ Leached ashes are an excellent manure for quince trees.

Plants in Rooms.

Buist's *Flower Garden Directory* gives the following instructions for taking care of plants in rooms, during the winter:

"Do not at any time admit air (except for a few moments,) while the thermometer is below 35° exposed in the shade.

"In times of severe frosts, the plants ought to be withdrawn from the window to the centre of the room during the night.

"Never give water until the soil is inclining to become dry, except for hyacinths and other Dutch bulbs that are in a growing state, which must be liberally supplied.

"Destroy all insects as soon as they appear; for the means of destruction see next month.

"Give a little air every favorable opportunity, (that is, when the thermometer is above 35°, exposed in the shade,) by putting up the window one, two, or three inches, according to the state of the weather.

"Clean the foliage with a sponge, and water frequently, to remove all dust, &c.—The water thus used must not exceed 80°, but 60° is preferable.

"Turn the plants frequently, to prevent them growing to one side.

"*Roses*, of the daily sort, may be obtained early, by having them in a warm room that has a south window, and as soon as they begin to grow, admit air in small portions, about once every day that the sun has any effect. Such must be well supplied with water.

"Bulbs in glasses must be supplied with fresh water at least once a week, in which period they will inhale all the nutritive gas that they derive from that element if they are in a growing state.

"*Camellias*, when in bud and flower, should never be allowed to become the least dry, neither confined from fresh air. The effects would be, that the bud had become stinted, dry, and drop off.

"Therefore, to have these in perfection, attend strictly to water. Give frequent airings, and wash the leaves occasionally with water. Never keep them in a room where there is a strong coal fire. The most of *camellias* will bear 3° of frost without the smallest injury, so that they are easier kept than *geraniums*, except when they are in bloom. In that state, frost will destroy their flowers. The air of a close cellar is also destructive for the buds. The reason that the *camellia* does not bloom perfectly in parlors or other heated rooms, is owing to their being too warm and arid, destroying the vital vegetative principle of the plant, and it soon perishes.

"There is one way in which these plants can be kept perfect, even in dry places, when the recess in the windows is of sufficient depth as to allow plants to stand within it, enclosing them from the apartment by another sash: in such a situation, water could be placed, which would keep the atmosphere between the windows perfectly moist. The verdure would be rich and the flowers brilliant; and they would be completely protected from dust—the whole would have a very pleasing effect. Attention will be requisite to give them air during the mild part of the day. There are several *camellias* not proper for room culture; those which have dry, brown, scaly buds, are to be avoided, such as *anemone flora, eger tonia, cleviana, fulgens, atro rubens;* also avoid *woodsii, chaudlerii* and *dorsetia*, as being difficult of expanding—they are so very full of petals. Those most proper for room culture, are *double white, conchi-flora, eclipse, fimbriata, florida, imbricata, maliflora, pæniflora, punctula, colrillii, rosii, speciosa, variegata*, and *incarnata*."

Raising Evergreens from Seed.—I would like to get some information on the best plan of raising evergreens from seed—such as Junipers, Arbor Vitae, &c. Thos. Thornily.—*Falston, Pa.*

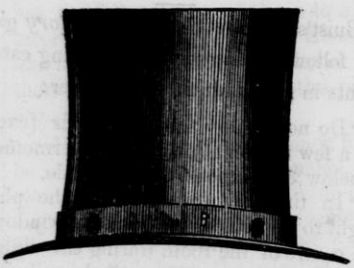
The seeds of Junipers require to be put in a "rot heap," mixed with earth, and left one year before planting; then sow in light sandy or peaty soil. The Arbor Vitea seeds may be sowen when gathered, or the spring following, it will grow the first season. The soil should be a sandy peat if possible. At one season's growth the plants may be transferred from the seed-bed into nursery rows, or into other beds where they will have more room.—*Horticulturist.*

☞ The mangers of the Philadelphia House of Refuge have awarded a premium of $100 to E. C. Hale, of Worcester, Mass., for the best Essay on Juvenile Delinquency.

Can Insects Talk?

A striking instance of the possession of a capabily of spreading intelligence, and that of a somewhat abstruse character, is furnished by experiments that have been made by Huber and others upon bees.—Every one is aware that the queen-bee is an object of the greatest solicitude and attention to the workers of the hive, and yet, among so many thousands, all busily employed in different and distant parts of the colony, it would appear impossible for them to ascertain, at least before the lapse of a considerable time, whether she was absent from them or not. In order to see whether bees had a power of conveying news of this kind, the queen-bee has been stealthily and quietly abstracted from the hive; but here, as elsewhere, ill news was found to fly apace. For some half hour or so, the loss seemed not to be ascertained, but the progressively increased buzz of agitation gradually announced the growing alarm, until shortly the whole hive was in an uproar, and all its busy occupants were seen pouring forth their legions in search of their lost monarch, or eager to avenge with their sting the insult offered to their sovereign. On restoring the captured queen to her subjects, with equal secresy, the tumult speedily subsided and the ordinary business of the community was resumed, as before the occurrence. That in such cases a sthe above narrated, information, and that of a rather complex character, was transmitted by one insect to another, cannot be doubted—but by what means? All that has been ascertained upon this point is, that the ants and the bees cross their antennae in a peculiar manner with the antennae of the others that they encounter, and this action being repeated again and again, seems to be a mode of communicating intelligence common amongst the insect races.—[Jones' Nat. His. of Animals.

Wisconsin Flowering Plant.—Dr Asa Fitch writes us that Prof. Wood, Botanist, has given him the name of the plant we sent him some time since, received from Wisconsin for a name. It is one of the earliest in flower upon the Western Prairies. and is the "*Anemone patens*" of Linnaeus (*Pullsatilla patens* of de Candolle.)—*Jour. N. Y. Ag. Society,*



New Ventilating Hat.

The annexed engraving is a view of a new hat recently registered in the London Patent Office, by a Liverpool hat company named Flanagan.

The object of this hat is to fit it more comfortably to the head by forming a soft rim in it where the head enters. The body, of the hat, is the same as it has been, except that it is made with an external air channel, B. standing up a short distance above the rim. The mouth of the hat is therefore made a little wider than those in common use, and the channel, B, answers as a receptacle for air to act as an elastic cushion. This recess may contain granulated cork or air alone. It is covered tight on the inner side by a flexible band, which is glued to the body of the hat with an opening left for the external air. An encircling air chamber is thus formed to embrace the head, and make an easy, pleasant fit. All that appears externally, is the band-like projection which contains the elastic fitting piece.

With few exceptions, the black silk hat is the only one in general use. It is not a good hat but a positively bad one. It is hard and uncomfortable, and is perfectly air tight; it therefore does not allow the vapors of the head to pass off; it is the cause of headaches and baldness on this very account The hat provides for the comfort of the person who wears it, and we hope that our hatters will either adopt this or some other mode of improving their silk hats for the comfort and benefit of their customers.

☞ The Portland Advertiser is informed that 7,000,000 feet of lumber, having been brought down by the fall freshets, are now lodged at the Bonney Eagle boom, on the Saco river.

Statistics of Wisconsin.

We have taken much pains to digest the following facts from the last census report respecting our own State, which our readers will find of importance and convenience as a reference.

The whole population of Wisconsin including native and Foreigners, 305,371; Natives 197,912; Foreigners 106,695.

Whole population born as follows:

Maine,	3,252	Africa,	1
N. Hampshire,	2,520	Mexico,	9
Vermont,	10,157	Cen. America,	11
Massachuseets,	6,285	South America,	6
Rhode Island,	690	West Indies,	20
Connecticut,	4,125	Sandwich Islands,	1
New York,	68,575	British America,	8,277
New Jersey,	1,566	Other Countries,	191
Pennsylvania,	9,571	Unknown,	74
Delaware,	141	Holland,	1,157
Maryland,	462	Turkey,	——
District Columbia,	33	Italy,	9
Virginia,	1,611	Austria,	61
N. Carolina,	322	Switzerland,	1,244
S. Carolina,	107	Prusia,*	71
Georgia,	876	Norway,	8,651
Florida,	54	Denmark,	146
Alabama,	49	Sweeden,	88
Mississippi,	35	Sardinia,	1
Louisiana,	78	Greece,	1
Texas,	4	China,	——
Arkansas	67	Asia,	17
Tennessee-	449	Scotland,	3,527
Kentucky,	1,429	Wales,	4,319
Ohio,	11,402	Germany,	34,519
Michigan,	1,900	France,	775
Indiana,	2,779	Spain,	4
Illinois,	5,292	Portugee,	4
Missouri,	1,012	Belgium,	45
Iowa,	445	Ireland,	21,043
Wisconsin,	63,015	Idiotic,	77
California,	——	Insane,	48
Territories,	26	Blind,	50
England,	18,952	Deef and Dumb,	65

Paupers:—Native, 169; Foreign, 197; Total, 666 Annual cost of support, $14,743. Assessed value of real estate, $26,715,525. True value, $42,056,595; Acres of improved land, 1,045,499; Acres of unimproved in farms, 1,931,159; Total acres of land in farms, 2,976,658. Cash value of improved and unimproved, $28,528,563; Average cash value per. acre, $9,58; Value of improvements of Husbandry, $1,641,568.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

Horses, 30,179; Mules Asses, 156; Milch cows, 64,339; Working oxen, 42,801; Other cattle, 76,293; Sheep, 17,574; Swine, 2,775; Value of live stock, $3,351,058.

*It seems to us that there must be some mistake respecting this number, for it gives us a vastly greater number under this head than any other State; the great State of New York having got only 2,211. [Ed.

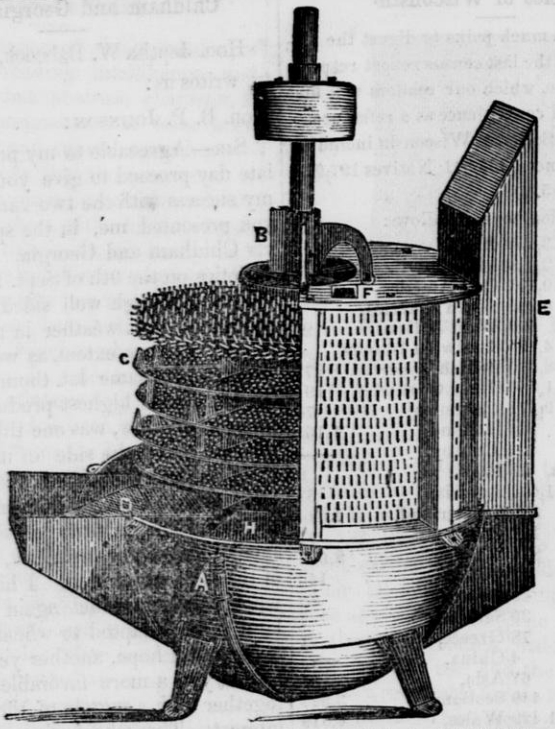
Chidham and Georgia Wheat.

Hon. Jeptha W. Babcock, Niagara county, writes us:

Hon. B. P. Johnson:

Sir—Agreeable to my promise, I at this late day proceed to give you the result of my success with the two varieties of wheat you presented me, in the spring of 1852, viz Chidham and Georgia. I sowed both varieties on the 9th of Sept. 1852, on rather low land, though well sided up; but the protracted wet weather in the spring injured it to some extent, as well as my other wheat in the same lot. though the side of the bed laying highest produced a bountiful crop of straw, was one third larger than the Soule's by the side of it, the heads a third larger, well filled and plump; the yield was 1½ bushels from about six rods of land. The quantity of seed being so small I had to sow broadcast, while the rest of the field was drilled. I have sowed the whole of the product again this year, on land better adapted to wheat, have drilled it in; and I hope, another year, to be able to give you a more favorable account of it, together with a sample of the product with interest. The wheat ripened full as well as the Soule's; the other variety (the Georgia) had the same chance, and shared about the same fate, though it ripened some ten days earlier; the growth of straw not so large, the heads shorter but broader, well filled and very plump; had 18 lbs. from less than a pint of seed. I have faith to to believe that this too will prove a valuable variety, on account of its maturing so early—it will be more likely to escape the rust. In the latter variety there were a few kernels of rye, and upon pulling it out I found that one kernel had produced fifty-six stalks, and nearly all them had well developed heads. The crop of wheat, in this section, has not been an average one this season, on account of the cold wet spring. It is now worth in our market, on the lake shore, from 11s. to 11s. 6d. per bushel.—[Journal N. Y. Ag. Society.

The Rail car making business of the United States is said to involve $5,000,000 capital. giving employment to several thousand men, and producing a value in property, estimated at $17,000,000 per annum.



NEW AND IMPROVED SMUT MACHINE.

The annexed engraving represents a Smut Machine invented by John M. Earl of Troy, N. Y., which has recently been secured to him by patent. The engraving represents one half of the case thrown off to allow a more perfect examination of the interior. The grain enters the top head at FF, which is so constructed with circulur, V, flanges that compel it to act and react alternately, until the smut, white caps and fibres from the ends of the berry are entirely broken off by the blast.

C represents the beating forks in the scouring chambers. The grain passes down the incline aprons, on to the screens represented at D, through which passes a powerful blast, sufficient to raise the grain from 8 to 12 inches, when all substances lighter than grain, as chess, white caps or other filth is forced upwards through the spout E attached over the screen D, whence the grain passes over the incline screen into the projecting spouts attached to the concave bottom, inside of which is a powerful blower, the tip of which is seen at H, and is regulated by the expansion and contraction of the spouts E. as represented above.

S. S. Barry & Co., Cleveland, Ohio, Agents.

Cows Holding up their Milk.—A few years ago I bought a young cow, which proved to be very wild, and when I took away her first calf, she would not give down her milk. I heard it remarked that putting a weight on the cow's back would make her give her milk down. I accordingly drove her into the stable, got a bushel of grain and put it on her back.—While kept in this position, she had no power to hold up her milk, for it came down freely. After doing this a few times, and afterwards putting my hand on the back of the cow, it would give way, and she would immediately give down her milk.—[Ex.

Asses and Mules.—Of these useful animals the census gives only 559,070 in all the States and Territories. New Mexico had 8,654, and only 5,079 horses.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Agricultural Pursuits.

Messrt. Editors:—What a train of thought throngs the mind when we contemplate the use and importance of a well conducted Agricultural work. Its range of subjects is almost universal. No matter hardly, in what direction it may lead your thoughts it seems an essential partner in the great business before you.

If you contemplate the consequences and effects of agricultural pursuits upon any condition of life, they present no feature of doubt or speculation. The great fixed principles and truths of agriculture are so interwoven with our being that all else seems but auxiliary to its importance and elements in its character. In it we can most readily perceive our relations to our God; the proud and profane are taught by its stern laws lessons of humility and dependence. To him who would attach to himself the conviction that there is no God, is smitten as it were with a rod of truth, by a cursory glance of the eye over the harvest field. What heart is not touched with the liveliest sympathies of human benefaction in contemplating the fact of ourbread being spread out on the broad earth, made ready to their hands for the whole fraternity of man. To Him, whose touch has shaped the teaming elements of our earth into food for the million, should be tendered our best considerations.

But how stands he, in his social relations with his fellows, who is the direct instrument in nourishing and sustaining the beings who are styled God's handy workmanship? Is it as a hewer af wood and drawer of water?

It seems to me that upon this occupation has fallen the anathema of a jealous God, as upon Israel's children of old, who, although the children of God, were doomed to march and march through the wilderness till they were almost effectually used up. There is no human fact more convincing of man's fallen nature, nor more strikingly illustrative of the necessity of the command of holy writ, that he should *work* out his redemption, than is found in the condition of Agriculture.

Agriculture is the handmaid of our being, in which is embodied every element of usefulness to man. Its true rank and condition defines the character of our whole social relation. It is the incorporation of all that is virtuous and good among a people. In its influence it builds our cities, plies the loom, and spreads the sails of commerce upon every water. Its tendency, as a common occupation is to fraternise the whole race of man. Its condition among a people measures their advancement in civilization. Yet, with all its importance, as compared with other pursuits, strange to say, it is sadly neglected. Hence the necessity of its improvement. To you, my Farmer belongs this proud duty; this high office. You show the folly of those practices and customs in our business that have no other foundation than their antiquity; and conception in prejudice and superstition. You teach me how to economise my time and labor, and by your directions the scanty yield is multiplied by a tenfold bounty. You explain the various laws of nature and give to me their control. You analyse the stubborn earth and tell me what elements constitute its productiveness, and I have their direction and know how they may be used most profitably.—You inspire me with confidence in my labors by teaching me how to prevent loss or failure. I am awakened to the conceptien of cause and effect and to the deducing of principles from the unvarying laws of nature, which heretofore have been hidden things. In fact, my occupation, which was formerly a blind drudging, is now, with your aid Mr. Farmer, a profit and a pleasure.

A. B.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Northwood, Minnesota, Nov. 7, 1852.

Messrs. Editors:—I have on had a quantity of our Wild Rice, gathered expressly for me for seed which I am distribiting among the Agricuitural Societies in the east. If it will be acceptable, I should like to send one pack to your State Society if they have any desire to introduce it. It will form a valuable crop on lands that are too wet for cultivation and can be raised without any further trouble than the first sowing. I am anxious to see all the "waste places become fertile," and there are many acres of land that will forever lie idle, unless this or some similar crop is grown.

It gives me pleasure to inform you that we farmers up here are wide awake—we now have three County Societies, and in January next, Delegates from each are to meet for the purpose of organizing a Territorial Agricultural Society. You shall then hear from Minnesota and we shall speak with a voice such as a "north wester" only can speak,—a sound not only heard but *felt*.

The annual meeting of the Benton Co. Society takes place at Sauk Rapids on the second Monday in December, and will be in session one week, and it is expected that Gov. Gorman will deliver the annnal address.

The experience of the past year proves plainly to our agriculturists the want of machinery on our farms. The sandy nature of the soil is well adapted to nearly all kinds and we hope manufacturers of implements will turn their attention to our wants. Seed Drills, Harvesters and Threshing Machines, (two-horse powers) are in demand, but only perfect ones will sell. May I ask the favor of you to call their attention to it.

Our season has been all we could desire.—Crops did exceedingly well. First frost to kill melon and squash vines was on the morning of *October the First*; this I think speaks well for the climate said by some to be too cold for *corn*. By the way, I raised on one piece of two acres, "Yellow Flint Corn" at the rate of *forty-four* bushels shelled to the acre. Average wheat crop twenty bushels to the acre. Potatoes we raised this year, planted in drills, two hundred and thirty bushels to the acre.

No snow yet; Mercury yesterday morning 5° above 0, this morning, 23° above.

Yours truly and in haste, O. H. Kelley.

Cor. Sec. Benton Co. Ag. Society.

The Exportation of Corn.

The Rochester American says, "With the best possible facilities for transportation, this country might profitably export one hundred million bushels of corn a year.—The corn crop of Monroe county is but a trifle below a milllon bushels, while its wheat crop is a million and a half bushels."

To which the Rural New Yorker shrewdly and opportunely replies: "Would it not be far better to convert this hundred million bushels of corn into twelve hundred million pounds of pork or beef, as the freight on the one would be five times as much as on the other?—and freight is no small item in carrying grain from our Western States to the Atlantic cities, or to Europe. By so doing we should not only expend less in freight charges, but should make a large quantity of manure, and thus enrich instead of impoverish our farmers. We trust the day will never come when we can export a hundred million bushels corn. If we can afford to export wheat, all very well, but do let us keep something at home to feed stock and make manure. Would the American have the farmers of Monroe county grow corn instead of wheat for exportation?"

It may be difficult for us to convince our Wisconsin and Iowa farmers of the importance of feeding stock with any reference to the *value of the manure* thus obtained, but we hope that the other argument used by the Rural New Yorker and other considerations of great importance may induce them to convert all their extra grain into pork and beef instead of transporting it. Under the present condition of things there is no way in which it can be made to give so much real value. If we can read the signs of the times with any degree of skill, there is going to be a still greater demand for pork and beef. No more than the usual number of hogs and scarcely any cattle are being fattened, while the number of consumers is constantly increasing among us. Under the present demand for beef and pork and and where, too, there is not enough to supply the demand, no grain should be used up for any other purpose.

The farmers of Monroe Co, *now* feel the result, and value manure. They *once* thought as many of *our* farmers do now, that their land was too rich to be impoverished by cultivation.

Shanghai Fowls.—A writer in the London Farmer's Magazine, says: "For those whose space is limited, Shanghai fowls are undoubtedly the birds; they are quiet and homely to a degree; mine feed out of my hand, and frequently pick from the dog's paws. Any fence, moreover, will confine them, so little do they appear desirous of straying. Do you want new laid eggs in the winter when they are scarce and dear? I know of no hens so likely to supply you. Are you desirous of rearing chickens? They are the best of mothers, and their progeny the easiest to rear of any breed I know. And when the time comes for putting them upon the table, is it no advantage that one should weigh as much as the couple of olden times!"

—The Rev. Dr. Osgood, in his late Thanksgiving sermon, said that more than a fourth of a man's salary ought not to be paid for his house rent.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

Regarding it of much importance to the farmer that every thing pertaining to his farm be done in its season, we shall, each month, call the attention of the Farmer to "what avails to be done," and we hope all will read and give heed. It is the way to economise both time and money and save a severe trial of patience and a loss of good humor which are of great importance to the farmer.

We will take it for granted, though we fear somewhat that it is not so, that your horses, cattle, sheep and hogs are daily and regularly well fed, warmly housed, thoroughly cleaned, and neatly bedded; that all the grain which you have concluded to sell has been got off to market while it bears a good price and the straw well stacked to be used as food or bedding for cattle, and that you have already or are now replenishing your wood pile, and cutting it up in a sufficient quantity for the year, so that the time of yourself or that of your hired men is not taken up in planting, hoeing, haying, or harvesting time; that you are looking well to your manure heaps, gathering up the leaves of trees, muck from the swamps and all the decaying and waste matter about you, adding them in proper quantities to these heaps; that your sleds, wagons, plows, harrows and every farm implement is now being put in trim condition, giving them all a good coating of cheap paint to protect them from the weather; that you are looking well to your young orchards, that the rabbits and mice are not barking them and burrowing among their roots; that your grape vines are properly pruned and the slips properly buried to sett the coming spring, and so that you may have some to give to your poorer neighbors; that your plans for building of out-houses and fences are all perfected and the lumber and posts are all being got ready to be used as early as the opening of spring will allow.—Then we would say, try to pay off all the debts and begin the year with clean hands and a pure heart, owing no one anything but brotherly love and good will: Begin this year to keep accounts of expenses and incomes, with your farm, with your dairy, your hogs, and your sheep, and with the merchant and the mechanic. Take a few or at least one of the best agricultural journals, purchase some agricultural books and study them all thoroughly during these long winter evenings; ask the boys while they are tinkering up the rakes, smoothing the axe helve or whittling out the ox-bowe, and the girls while they are darning the socks or knitting the stockings, and the good wife while she nurses the baby, to listen to you while you read in clear tones the important lessons.—In these works you will find much that they all and you ought to know. Then your minds and hands will work together and profitably. Intelligent farmers are destined to be thrifty farmers and they are the happy farmers!—Now remember.

Curing Hams.—The best method I have found for curing hams is, after the hams have been cut, let them lie out on a shelf, where they can have a plenty of cool air, so that the animal heat is entirely out of them before you attempt to put them down in salt; then corn them down for two or three days; after which drain off any bloody water which may come out; and then make the following pickle, sufficient to cover them:—Take 9 pounds of salt, 3 ounces of saltpetre, 1 oz. of saleratus, 4 pounds of brown sugar or molasses, and six gallons of water; let them lie in the above pickle from three to six weeks, according to the size of the hams; when you may take them out and smoke them with good hickory or maple wood until sufficient to suit your taste. They should be taken down and hung up in a dry, cool place, in bags to protect them from the flies.

I have hams cured after the above method, which were almost as fine when eighteen months old, as when taken from the smoke house.—And while upon the subject of hams, I would further say, that when you boil them, they should be boiled until done, in good soft water; and, when nearly done, throw in a handful of clean Timothy hay; it absorbs all impurities which may be around the outside of the ham.—As soon as done, take out the hay, but leave the ham in the water until nearly cold, when you may take it out.—*James Campbell, Weston, N. J., Patent Office Reports.*

☞ Throughout New England there is a general scarcety of apples—indeed almost a dearth of them.

Editors Table.

To our Exchanges.—We have a favor to ask of our friends who exchange with us, and one to grant to them, and we would like to make the latter as valuable as the former, so that there may be no robbery. We desire a copy of our exchange papers sent to the general editor at Beloit, Wis., and also to the local editor at Janesville, Wis. In return we will send two copies or give proper notices from time to time to the full value of the exchange If there are some with whom we would like to exchange, that think they cannot afford to enter into the above arrangement, we shall have to enter into a private negociation with them by letter.—Our friends will please take notice and arrange books accordingly so that we may know at an early date who assents to our proposition.

Premiums.—The following premiums were awarded to the editors of the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer at the last Rock Co. Fair. We publish the list for two reasons—We are willing that our patrons should know that we are interested in agriculture and its kindred branches, not only theoretically but practically; and then again, our pride is somewhat gratified by the fact, that our efforts meet the approbation of good judges. We invite all our patrons to compete with us in any and all the branches of agricalture, and we shall not be among those who complain if you come off victorious, but will rejoice with joy not *un*speakable, but full of glory:

1st	premium	for best short horn calf,	$2,00
"	"	" Boar, (full blood Suffolk)	1,00
Sweep-stake	prem.	" " "	3,00
2d	prem.	for greatest variety of fowls,	2,00
1st	"	best pair of Shanghais,	1,00
"	"	" Bolton Grays,	1,00
2d	"	" White Shanghais,	1,50
1st	"	best Stowell Evergreen Corn,	50
2d	"	" " " "	25
1st	"	" Kitchen garden, (2 acres)	5,00
"	"	" Show of vegetables,	3,00
"	"	" Sample of beets,	25
"	"	" " potatoes (8 var.)	25
"	"	" " squashes, 9 "	25
"	"	" Hive Bees and Honey,	1,00

☞ At the late North Carolina State Fair at Raleigh, a mule of extraordinary size was exhibited. It measures six feet six inches in height, and was as active as a horse. It was raised in Georgia.

Old Colony Sweet Corn.—B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, in the Journal of the Society for November, says:—"We received from Hovey & Co., Boston, last spring, some of this corn, which we distributed; and from the returns we have received, as well as from a trial of it ourselves, we think it one of the most productive and useful varieties of the Sweet Corn we have seen."

By reference to our Prospectus, it will be seen that this variety of Corn is among the seeds we offer as premiums.

Waupun, Dec. 24, 1853.

Friend Miller: I have just weighed 8 of my chickens—the following are the weights:

Roosters, 1 7lbs., 1 7lbs. 2½ oz, 1 7lbs 3½oz.
" 1, 7lbs. 4 oz., 1 7lbs. 10½ oz.

Pullets, 1 6lbs 3½ oz., 1 5lbs, 2 oz., 1 4lbs 6 oz., or in the aggregate, 52lbs; age, 7 months and 11 days. If any of your subscribers can show better at the same age, let us hear who they are, and what they ask for their chickens if they have any to sell.

Yours, truly, Charles Smith.

Remarks.—Mr. Smith has some fine stock; he was the owner of the Shanghai Pullet mentioned in our notice of the poultry show at the State Fair at Watertown.

Death of John Delafield.—We should have recorded ere this, the death of the distinguished agriculturist—John Delafield. Mr. D. was a graduate of Columbia College, and afterwards a junior clerk in a commercial house in New York; was made the commander of a fleet of merchant vessels, visiting various foreign parts, was wrecked on the coast of England, became a prisoner on parole, and while in England, visited the most prominent and successful cultivators of the country. Afterwards became a banker in the city of New York, effecting his last Illinois State loan in 1837, by the repudiation of which debt Mr. D. lost his private fortune, and, as a last resort, turned farmer, by which, if he did not redeem his property, he established a reputation as an agriculturist which few are able to attain. His survey of Seneca County, published in the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society, is one of the most important papers given by an American farmer to his associates.

We mourn his loss the more when we remember that he was the first and lately elected

President of the New York State Agricultural College, to which we have been looking for an exhibition of the practical workings of a model Institution for the formation of agriculture.

Mr. Delafield exhibited a remarkeble degree of versatility of business talent, and a capacity of applying his knowledge whether gained in the halls of an academy or on the fields of cultivation. When such a man dies the farmer has reason to mourn.

The Rock Co. Agricultural Society held its 4th Annual Meeting in this city on the 5th of Dec., 1853. After the transaction of business pertaining to the affairs of the Society for the last fiscal year, the following Officers were elected for 1854:

President—S. P Lathrop, Beloit.

Vice Presidents—C. Loftus Martin, Turtle; J. A. Fletcher, Johnstown; Nathaniel Howard, Magnolia; Charles Colby, Janesville city; Mark Miller, Harmony; Azel Kenney, Lima.

Rec. Secretary—Charles Gibbs, Harmony.

Cor. Secretary—Z. P. Burdick, Janesville.

Treasurer.—Samuel A. Martin, Janesville.

Additional Members of the Executive Board—H. T. Woodward, Beloit; J. M. Riker, city of Janesville; W. Lester, Rock; J. R. Boyce, Porter.

Directors—H. Stebbins, Porter; L. Brace, Fulton; R. F. Fraser, Milton; J. Childs, Lima; F. B. Cook, Johnstown; Wm. Spaulding, Harmony; J. H. Budd, city of Janesville; A. W. Pope, Janesville; W. A. Webster, Centre; J. Dunbar, Magnolia; J. Newman, Union; R. Taylor, Spring Valley; S Burnham, La Prairie; T. W. Williams, Bradford; H. Case, Clinton; B. E. Mack, Turtle; N. B. Gaston, Beloit; P. McNare, Newark;—Dixon, Aaron.

Messrs. Lathrop, Willard, and Miller, were appointed a committe to draft a charter for the Society, to be presented to the next legislature, asking for an act of incorporation.

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.—We have received from the author, a copy of "*Remarks on Entomology, chiefly in reference to our Agricultural benefit: by* W. D. Brinckle, M. D. Also, "*Ad Interim Report of the Fruit Committee for July and August,*" and the *Special Report of the Entomological Committee*—for all of which our thanks are due. This Society must be of immmense value to the Horticulturists of Philadelphia and vicinity, composed as it is of some of our ablest and most active Naturalists.

We seldom meet with an article of more value to the Agriculturist, than the one by Dr. Brinckle, both on account of the knowledge it communicates of insects in general, and of some in particular. Our Legislatures could do the people great good by taking measures to have such articles widely disseminated among the people. They would be of vastly more importance than the thousands of Congressional speeches, &c., which are distributed at so great cost to the government. We wish the above Society the success it so richly merits.

Agricultural Reading.—Milton J. Ross, of Allen Co., O., says in the Ohio Cultivator:—This year I had twenty bushels of wheat to the acre, from forty acres—which for this region is a remarkable crop—and I attribute the extra yield *entirely to knowledge I have obtained by reading.* When I commenced farming, twelve years ago, my wheat crop was from six to eight bushels per acre." * * "Mr. Buel, in his life time, furnished me information, through his "Cultivator," in relation to making and using manures, that is worth at least five hundred dollars. Mr. Buel also learned me how to raise one hundred bushels of potatoes from two bushels of planting."

Vitality of Plants.—It is surprising what efforts some plants, or parts of plants, will make to save, as it were, their lives, when disease or serious accidents befall them. A branch of a gooseberry trained against a wall became diseased near the ground, and began to die upwards gradually, but the top of the branch made a struggle for life, and threw out roots into the wall between the joints of the bricks, and in that dry situation found some means to support itself; the dead wood was cut out and the living part left near the top of the wall, and there it remains a living plant.—*P. Mackenzie.*

☞ Capt. McClure, the discoverer of the North-west passage, found an abundance of game in the frozen regions, heretofore supposed to be destitute of animal life. The expedition found the musk-ox, deer, hares, grouse, ducks, geese, wolves and bears.

A Fact from the Census.—The United States had within 3300 miles of Railroad completed at the beginning of the year 1852 as all the rest of the world put together, and reasoning from the dates furnished by the experience of the past it is inferred that in 1860 there will be 25,000 miles of railroad completed within

the United States. Such a developement of inherent resources into gigantic greatness as has been exhibited in the United States is unprecedented in the history of nations, and can never again be approached.—*Chicago Daily Jour.*

LARD OIL.—The improvement in the manufacture of this oil is astonishing. It has been only a few years since it was first introduced, and now it is made equal to sperm oil.

☞ A worm the eighth of an inch in length has been taken out of the eye of a man in Pittsburg, where it had held its quarters for ten years.

STEAMBOAT ARRIVALS AT ST. PAUL FOR 1854: —As Navigation on the Mississippi is probably suspended for the next five months, we have been at some trouble to look over the steamboat arrivals at the port of St. Paul during the past season, and comparing them with the previous years. The followtng is the result of our labors :—*Minnesotian.*

Arrivals in 1850,	104	Arrivals in 1852,	171
Arrivrls in 1851,	119	Arrivals in 1853,	229

In 1850, navigation commenced on the 19th of April, and closed on the 18th of November.—In 1851, on the 4th of April, and closed the 20th of November. In 1852, on the 16th of April, and closed on the 10th of November; and in 1853, the West Newton, the first boat that arrived from below, came on the 11th of April, and it will probably be three or four days before the last boat leaves.

MAYHEW'S PRACTICAL BOOK-KEEPING, *by single and Double Entry*, with a set of Account Books to be used by the learner in writing up the examples for practice contained in the Book-keeping, and a Key for teachers, containing their solution. By IRA MAYHEW, A. M., late Superintendent of Public Instruction in Michigan, author of a treatise on Popular Education, etc. etc.

This is truly a *practical* work, and meets a want that has long been felt by our teachers.—We regard it decidedly the best work of the kind, and can heartily recommend it for use in all our District, Select and Higher Schools. It is admirably adapted to meet the wants of our farmers' sons and daughters—for we hold that every child should know how to keep accounts. Here they will learn Book-keeping as they will have occasion to use it in after life. It is compact, cheap and correct.

☞ Decidedly hoggish was the slaughter of 1832 hogs, in nine hours, by one set of hands, at a Cincinnati slaughter house, recently.

MR. BURGOYNE, (the author of "The Future Wealth of America,") who resided in the East as a planter, for fourteen years, and has recently traveled extensively in the U. States, expresses the opinion—firstly, that the "cotton cultivation of America is irrevocably in utter decline;" secondly, that "India has every means of producing as good cotton, and much cheaper than America."

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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., FEBRUARY, 1854. NO. 2.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP, } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS,—50 Cents a Year in Advance: Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each snbsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $5,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

A Way to Benefit Farmers.

A general effort should be made to place a copy of some good agricultural paper in the hands of every farmer and gardener in the county. By so doing, public opinion will soon create industrial libraries and seminaries of learning, when science and physical labor will meet each other as friends and co-workers for the education of mankind.—*Genesee Farmer.*

Few have really just conceptions of the importance in community of agricultural journals. Scarcely a family is without its political and religious newspaper. This is right. They would be qualified to serve neither God or man were they without them. But how is it that they are to be qualified to discharge their duties as husbandmen and housewives, destitute, as a large portion of them are, of the means of knowledge of the processes, numerous and intricate, pertaining to their avocations?

The class of farmers is vastly larger than that of any other one class, and yet the number of agricultural and horticultural journals of the Union is comparatively limited, and those generally feebly supported.

Now and then there comes up from the cultivators of the soil a cry—half stammering, half hesitating with fear, as if it was about to trespass upon the rights of the community—that the interests of the farmer are not properly represented in the councils of the nation, and duly regarded in the general means for the advancement and improvement of the different branches of industry. It gently reminds us of how much our Government has done for the manufacturer, and how little for the producer. It whispers of the large portion of time which is used up by our legislative bodies upon the merest trifles, comparatively, while the greater matters of the body politic are forgotten or little considered.

But these cries are few and feeble—like the faint and emasculated lion, caged and fenced around with bolts and bars of iron—scarcely a breath of approval is heard, even from those most deeply interested.

How long, feeble and unsuccessful, have been most of the efforts to establish agricultural schools, to obtain experimental farms, and to acquire the desirable means of prosecuting researches in the sciences of Agriculture, Horticulture, Stock breeding, &c.! We ask, why is this? The answer is at hand, and should be in every man's mouth, and felt tingling at every farmer's heart. There is a great want of real agricultural reading among the rural districts and in rustic families. Politics—party politics—proper, just, and even important, in due quantity and quality, but too often overgrown and huge in its dimensions and demands, corrodes the interests, uses up the time, and wastes the energies of our productive classes, leaving them enervated and regardless of their higher and better good. This is the legitimate result of well devised antecedents on the part of unprincipled demagogues. There is scarcely a county, and few are the villages, of any size, throughout the Union, where there is not a political paper, either larger or smaller, which is at work with all its own and some borrowed or donated energies, to mould and wield the mass of the people. Again, every man is a partner in the concern, or an agent, self-constituted or otherwise, to circlate the *documents*. No hamlet is too mean to be visited and supplied with the proper papers, and no voter too brainless to be seen and put in the possession of *the* idea and a vote, especially the latter. We can but admire the energy, the perseverance, and the shrewdness even, with which all this is done, and we do not wonder at all at the results.

It is not our object or our place here to complain of this. What we aim at is to enlist the same energy, perseverance and faithfulness in

those who are, to a greater or less extent, concerned in the prosperity of Agriculture and its allied subjects, to extend the means of knowledge and of improvement in the same, to every one who has a foot of land to cultivate, a colt, calf, or a chicken even, to raise, or a currant bush to prune.

In proportion to the cost of printing, editing, and illustrating agricultural papers, they are furnished as cheaply as most other papers—far more so, certainly, than most scientific papers with which they should be properly classed.—The cost, therefore, should not be urged against their general introduction. Until a knowledge of, and an interest in the matters of Agriculture is diffused among the Agriculturists themselves—and there is no other way ot doing it than by means of a press devoted to their interests—will the present condition of things remain, and the hard-earned money of the land worker and land owner be used up in the perfecting of other interests and other schemes foreign to the prosperity and elevation of the farmer, *as* a farmer and a man.

Farmers must come to feel a sort of personal pride for and interest in his calling, or profession, for such it is, that shall lead him to put forth efforts in its behalf. He must read more himself, and talk more with his fellows on the numerous and different branches of his art.—Thus "starting from a point that an *art* is something to be *done*, and a *science* something to be *known*, the masses may constantly rise in knowledge and arts, in virtue and happiness, by cultivating the inherent powers which God has given them."

Disposition of Straw.

We see large stacks and heaps of straw lying about the fields of many farmers, which seem to be only in the way, and are often left to rot upon the ground, are burned that they may be disposed of the more rapidly. There is another way in which this straw can be disposed of, which we think accords much better with the true principles of economy: this is to cut it up and mix with it corn or oat meal, and feed it to stock. A straw cutter, of course, will be necessary, of which there are several kinds and at different prices, from $8 to $20. It has been ascertained by careful experiment of men of sense and close observation, that the saving made by the use of one of these machines, amounts from one-fifth to one-fourth of the material used, whether it be straw or hay. Again, it is a well settled fact, that there is a saving of from one-fourth to one-third, by the grinding of corn and oats, and another third or fourth by the steaming or cooking of the food, so that, by these several processes, which, all together, cost comparatively but little, there is a saving which amounts to the doubling of the food. Now, we have a way to propose to use these three means of increasing the value of food and rendering the straw, now a nuisance, a valuable possession.

Take a large bucket or boiler of boiling water; put into it the desired amount of oat or corn meal, stirring it in the water until it is well scalded, then use the mixture to wet the cut straw or hay, and you will have a nutritious and digestable, as well as delicious, mash, which will make your cows, calves and colts *laugh in their skins;* and when the feeding season is over, please reckon up the cost, and see if you have not more than saved the cost of your straw-cutter, if your cattle are not in better condition, and to add to all, as a clean profit, you will have your straw and your coarse hay transformed from a nuisance into hundreds of loads of the nicest manure, worth *twenty-five cents* per load for any crop you wish to raise the coming season.—Come, friend, think over the matter, and see if we are not in the right.

Flax.

We were favored a few days since with a call from the managing Director of the American Flax Company, Mr. Thomas Kimber, Esq., of Philadelphia, and by him furnished with several flax documents, samples, &c. From Mr. Kimber we learned several facts concerning flax, its culture, and the improved method of dressing it, which we regard of much importance, and which is destined greatly to increase the culture of flax by our farmers. Every effort to render the culture of flax, or any other crop, remunerative to the farmer, should receive at our hands its proper *aid and comfort.* It has been a doubtful question whether it was advisable for our farmers to raise flax, when the seed alone was saved; but if the straw, by any process of manufacture, can be made of as much value nearly or quite as the seed, why, then the question seems to be settled at once in favor of flax culture. The great obstacles to flax culture have been the expense of *pulling* and the hand labor required in the old processes for the production of linen fabrics, and at the same time the comparative cheapness of cotton fabrics.—If now, by improved methods of harvesting the

crop, and *dressing* the flax, linen fabrics can be furnished nearly or quite as cheaply as those of cotton, every one will prefer the former. This has now been accomplished, and the great want at present is to induce our farmers to furnish the article.

The history of flax culture in our country is quite an anomaly. While the States of Kentucky and Virginia raise flax for the *lint*, Ohio raises it for the *seed*. While Kentucky has furnished half of the whole amount of lint that has been raised in the United States, Ohio has furnished nearly fifty per cent more seed than Kentucky, and only about the sixteenth part of the amount of lint.

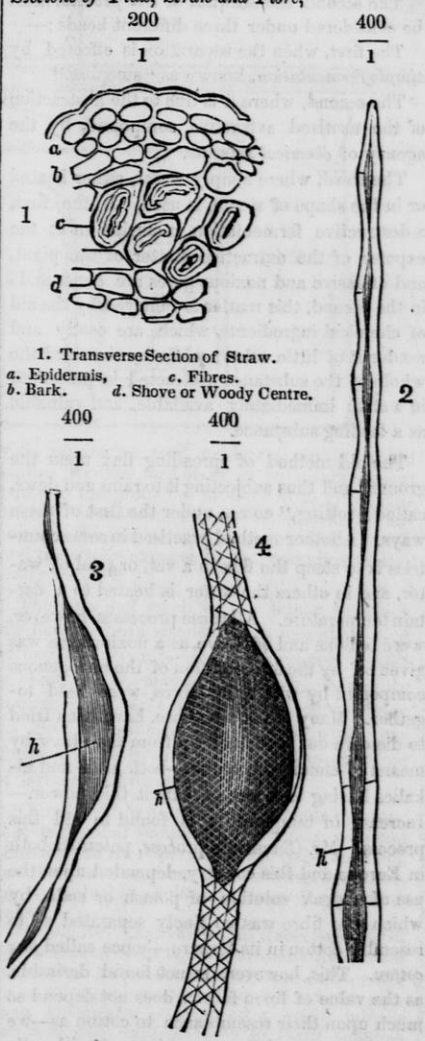
The flax plant is remarkable in its structure, a knowledge of which was all important to those devising means to improve its methods of preparation for the manufacturer—to facilitate and expedite them. The structural arrangement of the plant is well shown in the accompanying cut, copied from Prof. Wilson's Lecture on Flax, delivered before the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, at Saratoga, and published by C. M. Saxton, N. Y.:

"If we take a portion of straw, break it, and carefully examine it, it will be found to consist of three distinct parts:—the centre is occupied by a substance composed of a cellular tissue, in appearance like wood; this is usually called the "shove" or "boon;" around this is a tubular sheath composed of bundles of long and tough fibres, cohering firmly together, the whole structure being cemented together by an azotized compound, and enveloped by a thin and delicate bark and skin."

The object to be accomplished in the preparation of flax for the manufacturer, are to separate the fibre from the "shove" and the fibres from one another, by dissolving and washing out this "azotized" or gummy mucilage by which they are "cemented together." This can be done to a greater or less degree of perfection, according to the process adopted. These processes are various, differing much in their principles and mode of doing the thing.

They may, however, be all classed under two heads,—the *mechanical*, in which the operations are conducted in a *dry* state; and the *chemical*, in which *moisture* is more or less necessary. In the first the object is obtained by the various parts being mechanically separated from each other; in the latter the plant itself is disintegrated, either by the action of fermentation, which destroys, or of some solvent, which abstracts, the cementing matter by which its parts are held together.

Sections of Flax, Straw and Fibre,



1. Transverse Section of Straw.
a. Epidermis, *c*. Fibres.
b. Bark. *d*. Shove or Woody Centre.

2, 3, and 4. Longitudinal Sections of Fibres—*h*, *h*, *h*, Cavities.
2 and 3. Ordinary Cavities.
4. Rarer kind.

Of the first but little need be said, as, except for rough goods not requiring to be bleached, as canvas, rick-covers, rope-yarn, &c., it could not at present be advantageously used; or, even in the event of a successful result in the separation, the goods thus manufactured from the fibre are always liable to be injured by moisture, or any other condition that would act upon the azotized substance, which would still remain enveloping and cementing the fibres together.

The second, the *chemical* or *wet process*, must be considered under three different heads:—

The first, when the separation is effected by *simple fermentation*, known as "steeping."

The second, where it is due to the abstraction of the azotized extractive compound, by the agency of *chemical solvents*.

The third, where simply water, either heated or in the shape of steam, is used. In the first, a destructive fermentation is carried on at the expense of the extractive matter of the plant, and offensive and noxious gases are generated; in the second, this matter is removed by the aid of chemical ingredients, which are costly and render it of little value; while by the third the whole of the substance abstracted is preserved in a state immediately available, and valuable as a feeding substance.

The old method of spreading flax upon the ground, and thus subjecting it to rains and dews, called "rotting," comes under the first of these ways. Another method practised in some countries is to steep the flax in a vat, or pool of water, and in others the water is heated to a certain temperature. All these processes, however, were tedious and offensive, as a noxious gas was given off by the fermentation of the nitrogenous compound by which the fibres were held together. Many plans, therefore, have been tried to dissolve out this mucilage from the straw by means of chemical solvents—both acids and alkalies having to a certain extent this power.—Increase of temperature is found to aid this process. Mr. Claussen's process, patented both in Europe and this country, depended upon the use of a weak solution of potash or soda, by which the fibre was so finely separated as to resemble cotton in its texture—hence called *flax cotton*. This, however, is not found desirable, as the value of linen fabrics does not depend so much upon their resemblance to cotton as—we may say—upon their resemblance to silk. So that the most perfect of all processes appears to be that patented by Watts, of Glasgow, during the last year, and improved upon by a still later patent by a Mr. Buchanan, also of Glasgow. We give a description of this last in the language of Prof. Wilson:

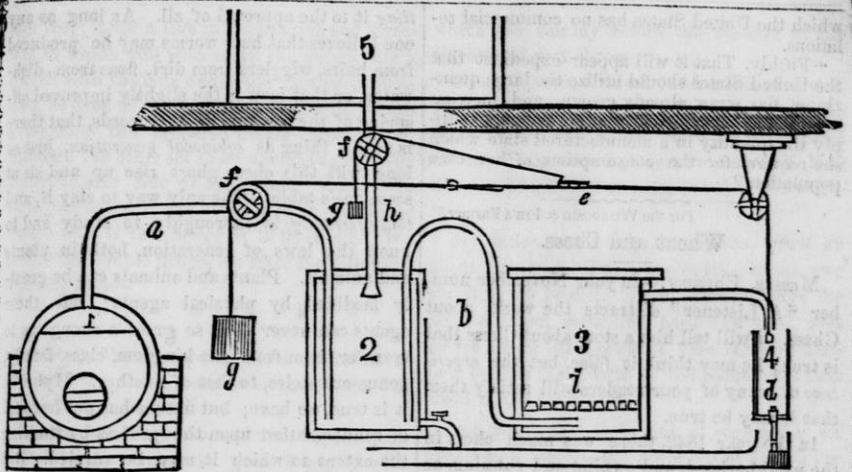
"In this the steeping is effected by *repeated immersions* in a tank of heated water, arrangements being made by which the temperature is never allowed to exceed a certain degree—a point of great importance, both as regards the abstraction of the azotized extractive matter, and also the quality of fibre produced. It is well known that albuminous solutions, containing even a very small proportion of albumen (1 in 1000), coagulate at a temperature of 180° and then become insoluble; and it is always considered that fibre is more injured if exposed beyond a certain high temperature. These two important points have been taken advantage of in Buchanan's process; the temperature of the steep liquor is kept within a certain range of temperature, and the operation, both as regards time and produce, more satisfactorily performed. The process is quite *automatic*, thus saving labor and the risks consequent upon carelessness; and the mechanical arrangements by which it is effected, are very simple and inexpensive.—The accompanying diagram will, I hope, make the process clearly understood.

"The flax straw is placed in an open vessel (No. 3) termed the steeping vat, having a false bottom (*i*); a boiler (No. 1) generates the steam required; and between these two is placed a suitable vessel (No. 2), the condenser, of about the same capacity as No. 3, and communicating with that by the hot-water pipe (*b*), and with the boiler by the steam pipe (*a*). This centre vessel or condensing chamber is filled with water from the cistern (No. 5), and steam is then blown in from the boiler. When the latent heat of the steam is absorbed, and condensation no longer takes place, the hot water is driven over into the steeping vat, and completely immerses its contents. The overflow pipe (*c*) then conveys a portion into the bucket (No. 4), which, overpowering the balance weights (*gg*), descends, drawing the chain (*ee*), which, being attached to the pullies (*ff*) fixed on to the cocks of the steam-pipe (*a*), and of the condensing pipe (*b*), reverses their action by cutting off the steam and turning on a charge of cold water into the condenser. The steam in No. 2 is then rapidly condensed, and the liquor drawn back from the steep vat into which it had previously been forced. This completes the operation of immersion, which recommences immediately: for as soon as the overflow bucket (No. 4) has reached a certain point in its descent, it strikes against a pin, having a screw adjustment, which causes the valve (*d*) at the bottom to open and discharge its contents into the discharge pipe (No. 6). The bucket, then relieved of its load, resumes its original position, the balance weights (*gg*) act on the pullies (*ff*), which again reverse the cocks, cutting off the cold water sparge, and turning on the steam to No. 2.—This is repeated as often as may be required.

"So far as the experiments have gone, it has been found that by ten such immersions the whole of the coloring matter of the flax has been removed. These in practice would not occupy more than three or four hours. This, however, is subject to the test of the operation on a commercial scale which are now in progress in Scotland for carrying out the patent.*

"By this process we have all the advantages obtained by Watts—economy of products—*increased economy of time, only four hours being required, instead of twelve*—and, in addition,

*The Patent for the United States will be carried out by the American Flax Company, of which Mr. Thomas Kimber, Jr., of Philadelphia, is the Managing Director, to whom all applications in reference to it should be made.



GREAT ECONOMY OF LABOR. Another great improvement is claimed by Buchanan, his method of drying the steeped straw, preparatory to scutching. This is usually a tedious and costly process as regards labor and arrangements. The fibre, too, is to a certain extent liable to be injured by the necessary handling. The ordinary mode is to place the flax thinly spread between two wooden laths, which, when closed by means of hooks or rings over their ends, firmly hold the stems: about fifty-six of these are required for a cwt. of flax. They are then carried to the drying shed and suspended from frames, where they remain exposed to the action of the air until they are dry. The time required depends on the weather—from three or four days to as many weeks. In Watts's process, where steam is available, the process of manipulation is the same, but the drying is effected in a heated chamber in a much shorter time. *Buchanan's method is entirely different.* He proposes to effect the desiccation in the same vat in which the flax was steeped, by means of *dry warm* air, which is driven through it in unlimited quantities, at a very little expense. The air is readily obtained in the desired state by causing it to pass through *porous earthenware* pipes set across the lower part of the chimney, which while heating the air, deprive it of its moisture. These communicate on the one side with a blower driven by the engine, and on the other side with a pipe which conveys the heated air to the lower part of the vat containing the flax to be dried. This is all the arrangement needed. The blower drives the air through the earthenware pipes; its temperature is there raised, the moisture abstracted, and entering the bottom of the steeping-vat, it comes in contact with the flax and passes through it, absorbing and carrying off the moisture, and leaving the flax in a perfectly dry state. It is then ready to be rolled and scutched. The patentee's experiments induce him to believe that by this process the entire operation of converting the straw into dressed fibre may be effected in the working-day, or twelve hours; and, from the simple nature of the mechanical arrangement and of the materials required, a very moderate outlay would suffice for the formation of an establishment equal to the probable produce of a given district. The steeping process being entirely automatic, the cost of labor is very small indeed, and the whole expense of the operation materially reduced."

The taste and smell of the liquor in which the flax has been steeped much resembles that of hay, and when poured over crushed "bolls" or chaff, and we may add cut straw, is readily consumed by cattle, who appear to thrive upon it. Prof. Wilson comes to the following conclusions, in his lecture, worthy of the attention of farmers and others:

"Firstly. That flax is not an exhausting crop; that its peculiar suitability to different soils and climates, the short period it occupies the soil, and the market returns of an average crop, render it a valuable addition to the ordinary rotations.

"Secondly. That the recent improvements in the process of treating flax, whereby the fibre is prepared at an *immense saving both in time and labor, all nuisance avoided,* and the *waste products beneficially utilized,* offer great inducements for the establishment of small factories in suitable districts; thus directly encouraging an increased cultivation by insuring to the grower a ready and constant market for the produce.

"Thirdly. That a large breadth of flax is annually sown in the United States, of which the seed only is rendered available as a market produce, the straw being only used to a very limited extent for the preparation of fibre, the rest remaining on the field or being carted home for rough litter.

"Fourthly. That a very large sum, about 14,000,000 to 15,000,000 of dollars, is annually expended by the United States in the purchase of linen goods from Great Britain, which country is obliged to procure the raw material for their manufacture from other countries with

which the United States has no commercial relations.

"Fifthly. That it will appear expedient that the United States should utilize the large quantity of flax straw already grown, and increase her production sufficiently at all events, to supply the quantity in a manufactured state which she requires for the consumption of her own population."

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Wheat and Chess.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your November number "A Listener" distracts the world about Chess. I will tell him a story about Chess that is true; he may think it false, but the *experience* of many of your readers will satisfy them that it may be true.

In the year 1842, there was much chess in the neighborhood, and owning and running, as I did, a grist mill, my mind was on the inquiry for the cause. I made many inquiries, but all were unsatisfactory. I determined to make an experiment, and, as I doubted not, to be able to prove to my customers just such a doctrine as is put forth by your correspondent, "Listener,"—that by sowing clean seed the evil would be avoided. Well, I chose a piece of new land, bordered on the south and west by a wood land, and having some half dozen shade trees on the tract. I prepared it well, and sowed clean selected seed in August. Not a chess kernel could be discovered in the 5½ bushels I sowed.

Now for the result. The winter was unfavorable; the land was a heavy soil; the water stood on it and froze to ice, so as to cover nearly half of it. I thought it was, of course, all winter-killed. However, the spring brought it forward, so that I had some hope of a crop.—As the season advanced it promised better, till when heading I found it about one half chess! In every furrow and loose place, the chess occupied nearly the whole ground; and under every shade tree, and for about two rods in width along the fence, on the south and west side, where the forest timber had cast a shade, not a spear of wheat could be found, but in place of it a heavy growth of chess! Your correspondent "Listener" can make what he pleases of these facts. PROVE ALL.

Stevens Point, Dec. 5, 1853.

> The times have been,
> That when the brains were out the man would die,
> And there an end; but now they rise again
> With twenty mortal murders on their crowns,
> And push us from our stools. [Macbeth.

So with this chess question. There is no *settling* it to the approval of all. As long as any one believes that hair worms may be produced from hairs, wigglers from dirt, fleas from dish-water, or that man is the slightly improved offspring of the monkey, in other words, that there is such a thing as *equivocal generation*, just so long will this chess ghost rise up and sit at some one's table. The only way to slay it, and *that effectually*, is thoroughly to study and to know the laws of generation, both in plants and animals. Plants and animals can be greatly modified by physical agents; but these agents can never effect so great a change as to transfer them from one kingdom, class, family, genus or species, to that of another. Hybrids, it is true, we have; but nature has put her seal of condemnation upon the process by limiting the extent to which it may be carried. But chess is not a hybrid. It is capable of producing its like. Would that it were a hybrid—a something between a miserable hedge-row and a hated rye, possessing the excellences of neither and the despicables of both—and that all these pests of the farm were of like character, then we might hope by taking

> "Arms against a sea of troubles,
> And, by opposing, end them."

We doubt not the facts given by our respected correspondent. We know of many other just such, and some stranger cases, and yet we do not *believe* wheat becomes chess. We have *seen* persons *eat* knives and forks, and draw out from their *abdominal* regions yards of *lutestring*. Yet, we never *believed* that the jugglers bowels metamorphosed the one into the other. There are some things our little knowledge wont let us believe and are not able to explain.—[ED.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Osage Orange.

MESSRS EDITORS:—I have about five thousand Osage Orange plants of one year's growth, which I wish to set for a hedge on the road another spring. I would like, if you or some of the readers of the Farmer would tell, the best manner of setting the hedge, the distance apart, the manner of preparing the soil, &c., for which I would be much obliged.

Salem, Kenosha Co., Wis. D. R. B.

Prepare the plants by cutting off the roots to about 10 inches, and the tops to within 2 or 3 inches of the roots; put the ground in good condition by deep plowing and raking off all turf, grass, weeds, &c., to the width of three or

four feet; draw a line in the position and direction in which you wish to set the hedge; dig a trench with the side under the line perpendicular, as deep as the length of the roots. Take a basket of the prepared plants in one hand, and with the other set them upright against the perpendicular side of the trench, from 10 to 16 inches apart, if the hedge is to be double, or from 6 to 8, if the hedge is to be single. We prefer the double hedge, set after the following manner, thus—

* * * * * * *
* * * * * * *

alternately, the rows being about 10 inches apart, and the plants from each other at the distance above mentioned.

Let another follow you, and with a spade push the soil to the plants, and press it gently with the foot. If the soil, after rains, should settle away from the plants, more should be brought up, so that the water shall not soak the roots.

The plants should be kept clear of weeds, and the ground should be moved occasionally around them. No fence, or any thing, should be placed nearer than four or five feet, as it would so shade the plants that they would not thicken out at the bottom, a point most desirable in the hedge.

They must not be trimmed the first year, but at the beginning of the second they can be cut back to four or six inches of the ground; and during this year, a second cutting back of the upward shoots may be made to within four or six inches of the previous year's wood, by a pair of garden shears; at the time when they get to be about two feet in length, and the side shoots so cut as to give an even and straight side to the hedge. Each year afterwards the hedge should be perfectly trimmed, to give it the shape and thickness which is desired. It must not be trusted too soon to turn cattle, for if they get breaks through it they will be apt to enlarge them. Nothing makes a more beautiful, safe and desirable fence, when properly set and taken care of, than does the Osage Orange.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Large vs. Small Potatoes.

Messrs. Editors:—I had flattered myself much pleasure in meeting with you at our State Fair; but was necessarily and unexpectedly prevented from attending. I was intending to have presented a few specimens of potatoes, but must content myself now by giving you a statement of my potato crop the past season, which you can lay before the readers of the Farmer, if you choose.

From 1⅛ acre I raised 700 bushels of sound, excellent potatoes, of the "Trout" and "Irish Grey" varieties. There were no extra pains taken. They were lightly manured with long manure, and hoed but once, and that thoroughly.

My entire potato crop, this season, grew on about 1½ acres. They are worth, to me, two shillings per bushel. This estimate pays for all the labor, returning back the seed, and leaves a neat little profit of *Two Hundred Dollars*, besides the growth of 150 apple trees that stood in the same field.

I am aware that it is out of season for an article *on* potatoes—but never out of season for a good article *of* potatoes. As an article of diet, it is used more extensively than all other vegetables combined; and, to the farmer who lives near a good market, or has a large stock, his potato crop is, or may be, as valuable as *any other*. How frequently the remark, "I would rather do without bread than potatoes"; or, when out of potatoes, how frequent the exclamation, "we feel as though we had nothing to eat." Since it has become so essential an article of diet, and it may be made so profitable, why so little interest manifested by the farmers generally in its cultivation? Why so great a disparity between this and other vegetable crops? Why is it that we often find only from one to two hundred bushels of potatoes growing, where the soil, with good cultivation, would warrant us 45 bushels of wheat, 50 of barley, 75 of corn, or 80 of oats per acre?

The impression has gone forth East, and is encouraged by many a Western Farmer, that Wisconsin soil is not adapted to raising potatoes; and this objection is often urged as a very serious drawback against our productive soil. But what element is lacking? or, with what is our soil overcharged?

Those who complain of stinted potato crops are not all agreed as to *what* or *where* the trouble is; but they generally *are* agreed in a *few* things; and first, that *small* potatoes, or even *chits* of potatoes, for seed, are just as good as large potatoes. Also, that it is just as well, or a little better, to do all our spring work first, and then plant our potatoes. They are agreed that it is not best to hoe their potatoes very thoroughly, and some, I should infer, were opposed to hoeing them at all. These complain-

ers, too, are generally agreed that it adds very much to the flavor of the potatoes to leave them in the ground as late as you possibly can in the fall. That is, in order to have them mealy and nice for the table, let them have all the benefit of our fall rains, lay and water soak through the months of October and November, till those which are exposed, or lay near the surface, have become quite chilled or frozen.

Now, brother farmers, I have but a word or two to say at present in relation to this subject. Secure to yourselves a good variety of Potatoes —the largest, healthiest and best of them are none too good for seed. Feed out your little, scrubby potatoes, but *never* use them for seed. Plow your land deep; plant early in the spring —let them be the *first*, instead of the *last*, seed planted—hoe them thoroughly just before they blossom. If you plant in season they will be ripe in season; then be sure and dig them in season, and keep them in a dry place, as cool as possible without freezing; and my word for it, you will no longer complain of a stinted or worthless crop of potatoes, or find fault with the quality either. Try it, brother, farmers, and when you beat me in the potato line, "I'll try again."

And now, as I am fairly in the way of boasting, I may as well make a thorough business of it, by saying, that I have raised beets this season, some of which measured over two feet in circumference, and weighed 12 pounds and 10 ounces each. Who *beats* such beets?

C. B. Hawes.

Randolph, Wis., Jan. 4th, 1854.

☞ Messrs. Editors, I wish to enquire, whether you, or any of the readers of the Farmer, have ever used any of our Wisconsin Peat for fuel? If so, will you tell us *how* and *when* to cut it, and how to prepare it to the best advantage? If there has been any experimenting on this subject, I, for one, feel quite interested in knowing all about it, either *pro* or *con*.

C. B. H.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Agricultural College.

Messrs. Editors:—Is it not possible to induce the Legislature of our State to make provision, this coming winter, for the endowment of an Agricultural College, and the purchase of a Model Farm, to be connected therewith? It might be an additional department to the State University, and perhaps ought to be.—Why is it that Legislators are so loth to do any thing for the advancement of the *dearest interests* of our land? Why is *Agriculture* left to struggle on unaided, while so many minor interests are fostered? There is no end to legislation in behalf of the so-called "learned professions," in behalf of railroads, and of other public improvements. Schools of learning of every description are built up, where every thing is taught, except Agriculture—and who dares deny, that on Agriculture every other calling depends for success

We have liberally educated lawyers, ministers, doctors, merchants—*when* shall we have liberally educated farmers? Farmers, we have fed and clothed all other men ever since the creation, and we have been paid off in ignorance —ignorance of our very calling. We are led by the *nose* from our cradles to our graves; and none are so much to blame as we. Why, we always bear the great burthen of taxation, and instead of going ourselves, we suffer lawyers, gentlemen, and fops to go to the Legislature and tell us what we shall be taxed for; and they invariably require us to fork over, for the advancement of their own peculiar self-interests, or to gratify their passions. *Apropos*—a *lawyer* gets angry with a *Judge*, prefers charges, the Legislature examines the matter, and we, the bone and sinew of the State—*we farmers*—have to pull our purses and advance forty thousand dollars to carry on the quarrel, which ends in smoke. Let us go to the Legislature ourselves, and legislate for ourselves.

I have somewhat gone wide of the question. I asked the editors, if the next Legislature can be induced to provide for an Agricultural College? Without waiting for a reply, I will hazard the assertion, that if the people are waked up to the real importance of the subject, our legislators will consider the endowment of an Agricultural Institution the next great progressive step which must be taken.

No instrument is so well fitted to bring the subject before the community, as the "Wisconsin Farmer." Let it be loud in advocating the project. Racine. C.

Remarks.—It is hoped that the present Legislature will listen to the suggestions which the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society judiciously laid before them, and take action thereon, favorable to the interest of the farmers.

Stock Register.

Improvement of Stock.

To such as intend to breed cattle of decided merit, and we hope there are many, it is important they get distinctly before their minds *what* it is they wish to accomplish. The several good points of *the* breed to which they are about to give their attention, should be well understood, and should be so well combined in their minds as to form a *beau ideal* of excellence, which shall serve as a type to the attainment of which their efforts shall be directed. They should then learn the true principles of breeding, and the manner of their application in the management of stock. They are then prepared to select the animals which shall serve as parents to the improved breed. These should possess as many of the desirable points of as near pure blood, or thorough bred, as possible—remembering, that it is *safer* to breed from a *comparatively inferior* animal, from a well bred herd, than from an *accidental good one* from an inferior or questionable one.

In coupling these animals, they must endeavor to counteract the defect of the one by an excellency in the corresponding part of the other, and *vice versa*.

It is generally regarded of more importance, that the male animal should be perfect, than the female, though each should be well bred. We are of the opinion, however, that the female has her own *impress* to make on the offspring, which can scarcely be regarded of less importance than the impress of the male. Hence the importance of thorough bred females and of established pedigree. We feel safe in recommending males of *moderate* size, possessing a *fineness* of bone and limb, consistent with a proper masculine vigor and energy. with *fullness* of carcass and ripeness of points, so as to embody great substance within a small compass, rather than those of great size, while they are wanting in other more important respects. We should seek size as one of the desirable qualities of the female rather than of the male. If the male selected *breed well to the females*, we should have no fears in employing his services to the second, and even the third, of his own getting. Such practice, when there is no hereditary taint, will produce a desirable uniformity. Ever be careful, under all circumstances, of *any* tendency to run valuable points into offal. Keep constantly before the mind the fact, that if any *excellency* is found to be *hereditary*, it will be worth much to counteract defects; but, on the other hand, if any *defect* is found to be hereditary, it will require much attention, and a long time to correct it or banish its influence. Now and then, through some "*freak of nature*," or, rather, probably, established, but not well understood, laws of nature, such an event may happen; and they are the more likely to do so where there does not exist a *clean* pedigree. When this does occur, the animal had better be introduced to the shambles, or put to other service than that of continuing his species.

Great perseverance, patience, care, and time, therefore, will be necessary to secure a stock which shall manifest its perfection in every individual. Hence the importance of commencing early, and with the best possible animals, comparatively regardless of their first cost.

Many think that every desirable improvement can be made by selecting the best from our *native* breeds, and propagating from them only. Great improvement could thus be made, no doubt; and if, at the present time, there was no better way, as in former years there was not, this would be worthy of the highest commendation. But who wishes to go or commence back sixty or seventy years, (for it will take the whole of that time to bring our natives up to the present perfection and permanancy of excellence of our *already* improved stock,) simply to travel over again the tedious and difficult path, which is already surpassed? Why not commence at the *highest* point yet reached and within our power, and press onward and *upward*? But it *costs* so much, says one. Very true. *We* have reason to know that it *costs* much in the outset, and might seem to him who thinks only of the *pecuniary* result to *himself personally*, not to *pay*. But what is the cost of *money*, compared with this *sixty years of labor and anxiety*? We should almost as soon think of putting a money value on the struggles of our Revolutionary fathers. We should sooner think of reaping out vast fields of grain with the hand sickle, and thrashing it with the hand flail, and of grinding it in a mortar, than of *relying* on our native stock for the *highest* perfection of our cattle. We should go back scarcely further in the one process than in the other, and at the end of our efforts be behind even the present improvement, and with

this important difference, that with the machines a few days would serve to correct the evil; but with the animals, the tedious revolutions and processes of nature must alone suffice to correct the error.

There are other important considerations on this subject, which must remain to another time.

The increased demand for improved cattle and horses, as well as of sheep and swine, and fowls, even, indicates an *improved* state of mind among our husbandmen, and that they are becoming really interested in this branch of agriculture. These facts have induced us to give considerable attention to this subject.—We wish to make the Farmer the means of diffusing information on this branch, of so much importance to our Western farmers.

We, therefore, invite communications on this subject from those who feel interested. We should be pleased to be furnished with the cuts or drawings, and pedigrees, of good animals, that we may insert them in our paper. Those who have good animals would thus become known to our farmers, and the community will know where to look for what they want. Pedigrees must be of unquestionable authority, and properly certified to.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Durham or Short Horn Cattle.

Messrs. Editors:—Your October number contains an editorial on the "Short-horns" or Durham cattle, giving, I believe, a correct description of the peculiar qualities and features of the breed—although, I think your remarks upon their color are calculated to mislead the uninformed by conveying the idea, that all pure bred Durham cattle are of a *red and white* or *roan* color. A few years since, roan was the prevailing color in England; since then, some few breeders, by breeding from animals of the lightest color, have herds almost wholly of white cattle, whilst others, following the reverse—i. e. striving to attain a deeper, richer color—have produced as good a red as we see in the Devon; yet, both the red and the white are equally pure bred with the roan.

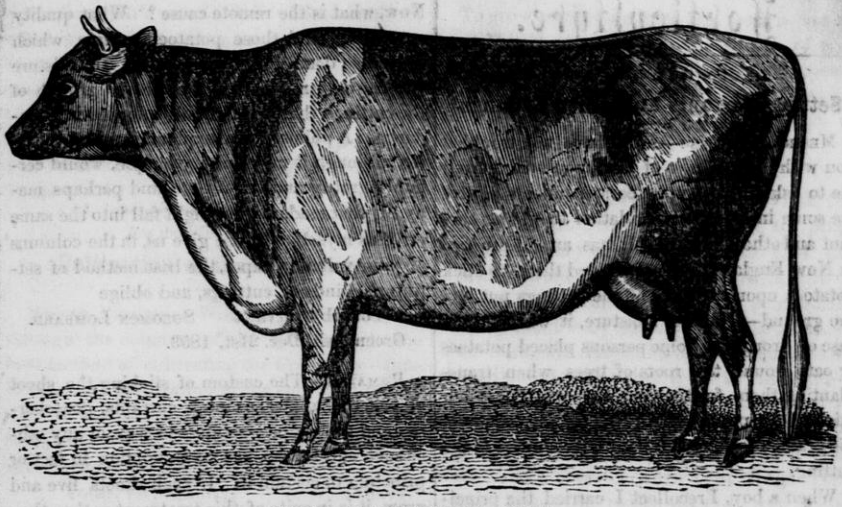
I have this fall imported three pure bred Durham calves, two heifers and one bull, from the celebrated herd of Mr. Geo. Falkner, Rothersthorpe, England, which are red, as nearly the whole of his herd are. His noted bulls—"Hector," 9200; "Dictator," 11,356; "Protection," 11,956—are all red, as rich and deep as any Devon. Mr. Jonathan Thorne, of Dutchess Co., New York, imported on the same ship with mine, the "Herman," nine head of the purest Durham blood probably to be found in England, seven of which were red, including the celebrated bull 'Grand Duke," which he purchased of Mr. Bolding, Lancashire, for one thousand guineas ($5,080,) and a splendid heifer, descended from "Midas," (435,) purchased at Earl Ducie's sale for, I believe, something like five hundred guineas; the remaining two were roan.

You say, "We shall be pleased to notice any effort on the part of the farmers, to improve the stock of the State." If you will call upon me, probably I can show you the best long-wooled sheep in the State—a yearling Cotswold Ram, which I purchased of Mr. Cother, of Oxfordshire—which, for size, symetry, and weight of fleece, I think, cannot be beat by any sheep of his age. I imported, also, a pair of pure bred Shropshire Downs, one of which, the buck, unfortunately had his shoulder broken on the passage, but is likely to recover. He is from the flock of Sir Wm. Heathcote, Hursley Park. The passage across the Atlantic was a stormy one, consequently my stock arrived in low condition; but even at that, I believe they are such as you do not see every day.

Muskego, Waukesha co. John P. Roe.

Remarks.—It was not our intention, though the language may have been such as to convey the idea that *red and white or roan* were the only colors of thorough bred Durhams. We intended to have said that the colors are either *red*, *white*, or both mingled, and often in such a manner as to form the color called *roan*. At the time of penning the article alluded to, we had in our possession a deep red Short-horn heifer. We are highly pleased to learn that Mr. Roe has made such commendable efforts to improve the stock of the State, and trust that he will not be without his reward, in the estimation of his brother farmers. We shall be pleased to hear from Mr. Roe from time to time, on the subject of cattle, or any other.

☞ Young stock should be moderately fed with grain in winter, and receive generous supplies of long provender, it being essential to keep them in a fair condition, in order that the formation of muscle, bones, &c., may be encouraged and continuously carried on.



THE ALDERNEY COW.

The above engraving is a tolerably good likeness of a Jersey cow belonging to ELIJAH M. READ, Esq., of Tewksbury, Mass. Mr. Read's statement will be received by all who know him without any grains of allowance. He presented the cow at the late Show in Middlesex county, and took the first premium, and his statement to the examining committee we give below:—[N. E. Farmer.

"My Alderney cow, Europa, is eight years old, was imported from the Island of Jersey, in 1851;—she calved in October, about two months after she came into my possession; the average quantity of milk given by her the next nine months, was nine quarts per day; the greatest flow in the same time, was 12 quarts per day; her milk has not been kept separate from that of other cows, except for the purpose of testing its properties for butter. The first trial was in August, 1851, about two weeks after she arrived in this Yankee land, and about two months before she calved. I found by this trial that 4 quarts of her milk would produce a pound of butter.—The second trial was in February, 1852; we were then using for the family three pints per day of her milk, and the balance in seven days produced eight pounds of butter. One more trial was had in the last of October of the same year, and the result was 13½ pounds of butter in nine days. She had at this time given milk over one year, her last calf being more than one year old. She dropped her next calf on the 17th day of May, 1853; the whole quantity given by her since, I am unable to state. The next trial of her milk for butter was made in May, about two weeks after she calved; in seven days she gave 110 quarts of milk, which yielded 17¾ lbs. of butter. The last trial was had within the last two weeks. She gave in nine days 85 quarts of milk, and the yield was 16¼ pounds of butter, equal to 12½ pounds per week.

"Her keeping through the winter was 2 quarts of corn and cob meal, 1 quart of shorts per day, and good hay; in summer good pasturing, with the addition of grain, occasionally, through the drought in July and August last, and two quarts of meal per day while we were testing the properties of her milk for butter. She has had no meal at any other time during the summer; her greatest flow of milk the past summer was 17¼ quarts per day.

ELIJAH M. READ."

☞ Milch cows, in winter, should be kept in dry, moderately warm, but well ventilated quarters, fed and watered three times a day, salted twice or three times a week, have clean beds, be curried daily, and in addition to their long provender, should receive succulent food, morning and evening.

Horticulture.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Setting Currants and other Cuttings.

Messrs. Editors:—As I have not troubled you with scribblings of late, you will permit me to ask you and your correspondents to give me some information in relation to setting currant and other cuttings. It was an old practice in New England, when I resided there, to stick potatoes upon the ends of the cuttings put into the ground—to afford moisture, it was said, in case of drought. Some persons placed potatoes or oats around the roots of trees when transplanting them, for the same purpose—the sap or juice of the potatoes, and the dense growth of the grain, affording the same nourishment to the cutting.

When a boy, I recollect I carried the principle to such an extent as to place potatoes around willow posts, which I was setting near my father's house for a fence; but I could perceive no difference in growth between the posts or trees around which I placed the potatoes, and those around which I placed none. Whether or not there is any philosophy in the idea, I cannot tell; but I would be pleased to receive some information upon the point.

My common practice is, to put the cuttings down *so*, as the Southern people say, which means, *without anything*. Perhaps you or your correspondents have a better way of doing it; if so, let the public have the benefit of it. I will give you the result of an experiment which I tried the past season.

Last spring I received some fine currant cuttings from the Rev. L. W. Davies, of Sheboygan—who, by the way, is one of the best Horticulturists in Northern Wisconsin;—and when I set them out, I dug some potatoes which had remained in the ground during the previous winter, and placed one upon the bottom of each cutting, supposing that potatoes which had been frozen and thawed would be more juicy, and consequently afford more nourishment than those kept in the cellar. The result was, every cutting died, although planted in rich, mellow soil; while those merely stuck into the ground flourished exceedingly. I never took more pains in putting out cuttings than in that instance, and I never experienced so complete a failure. But what was the cause? I have no doubt that the death of the cuttings was caused by the potatoes—but that is the immediate cause. Now, what is the remote cause? What quality or property did those potatoes contain which proved so deadly to vegetation? If moisture was the only requisite to the life and growth of the cuttings, that was certainly afforded in abundance. A philosophical explanation of the matter, although it may be very simple, would certainly gratify and benefit me, and perhaps many of your readers who might fall into the same error as myself. Please give us, in the columns of your valuable paper, the best method of setting all kinds of cuttings, and oblige

Yourob't servant Solomon Lombard.

Greenbush, Dec. 21st, 1853.

Remarks.—The custom of sticking the shoot of peaches, apples, or even currants, gooseberries and grapes, into potatoes or wax, or any other such substances, has no foundation in fact or principle to sustain it. If such shoots live and grow, it is in spite of this treatment, rather than from any aid such substances afford. These substances not only prevent the shoots so treated from absorbing from the soil their peculiar nourishment, but impregnate the plant with their own peculiar fluids—many times rendered poisonous by decomposition, and by new chemical relations into which their elements enter.

In most cases, propagation by cuttings is only applicable to such species of plants as readily throw out roots, such as the currant, gooseberry, grape and quince.

The best time to take off cuttings is generally in late autumn or early winter, never later than January. To preserve them till the time of planting, in early spring, they should be buried in the earth in a pit, out of doors, with a mound of earth drawn up over them, to turn off the water. At the earliest favorable moment in the spring they should be planted, in a soil so mellow that it cannot bake, and yet so compact that it will retain sufficient humidity to support the shoots until new roots are formed. They should be inserted so deep that only two buds shall appear above ground. If the cuttings are long, they can be placed sloping in the ground, so that they shall be within the reach of heat and air.

We have not room to speak more particularly at this time. We will only add that which is important at this time of the year, which is, the *time* of taking the cutting, and the *manner*. Of the first we have spoken; of the latter, we would say—that the cutting should be of ripened wood, and taken off with a portion of the

preceding year's wood. Side shoots should be taken so closely to the main stem as to secure the collar or enlarged portion of the wood at the base of the branch. Roots are more readily thrown out, also, if the cut be made immediately below a bud. We shall be pleased to hear from others on this interesting branch of Horticulture.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Cultivation of the Cranberry.

Messrs. Editors:—Will you please inform me through the columns of the Farmer, as to the best method of cultivating the Cranberry—time of planting, preparation of the soil, kind of soil, &c. In this part of the Prairie we have numerous pieces of low, wet land, and very rich in decayed vegetable matter. Is this good?

Yours, respectfully, J. W. Bundy.

Fairview, Jones Co., Iowa, Dec., 1853.

Messrs. Editors:—If you, or some of your correspondents, will tell me how to grow Marsh Cranberry plants from the seed, you will do me a very great favor. Allen Taylor.

Fairplay, Dec. 28th, 1853.

Remarks.—We have had no practical experience in the cultivation of the cranberry, but it is said to be perfectly easy of cultivation. In place of any knowledge of our own, we will condense what we may have learned from other sources, and hope if any of our readers are able that they will give us the proper information. Cranberries can be raised upon most any soil, but the best is in low meadows, where but little grass grows. They can be raised, however, in dry, sandy pastures. The way is, to select the best kinds, such as the flat, dark red ones, which are the richest and greatest bearers. Take up with a spade a turf that contains a plenty of vines; dig a hole of the proper size, and put the turf with the vines in it, treading it down with the foot. These can be placed from three to four feet apart. A shovel full of sand and gravel should be thrown over each hill, to make all even and smooth, leaving the vines just barely uncovered. They can also be raised from seed, but it is easier and safer to raise from the plants. The planting should take place in the fall or early spring, and the hills should have sand and fine gravel supplied from year to year. There is no special preparing of the soil by plowing or digging, the natural soil being the best adapted for the growth of the plants.

To grow cranberries from the seed is not so easy, though not difficult. The pumice of ripe cranberries planted in fine soil, and duly covered and properly weeded during the first season; after which it is well to transplant them, as above.

Profits of Fruit Raising.—When the farmers about New York began to plant orchards, every croaker cried out that the market would be glutted with fruit, how is it—Mr. Pell, from a small farm, is annually raising $4,000 by sales of apples alone.—One man, Mr. Reynold of Del., keeps two steamboats to take his fruit to market.—The freight for one day last summer, over the Amboy Railroad, for peaches alone, amounted to $1100. While 90,000 baskets of strawberries were sent from New Jersey across one road in a day, and whole car loads of blackberries and whortleberries. Don't clear up *all* the briar patches, "a good time is coming, boys," when dimes will be plenty as blackberries.—[Unionville Journal.

To Cure Wounds in Fruit Trees.—The following directions were published by William Forsyth, King's Gardener in England, many years ago, and have often been found valuable: "Take one bushel of fresh cow dung, and half a bushel of lime rubbish from an old building, that from the ceiling of rooms is preferable, half a bushel of wood ashes, and two quarts of fine sand. The three last articles to be sifted fine, and then mixed with the first, working them together until the mixture is very smooth and soft like paste. The tree is to be prepared by carefully removing all decayed or injured portions, down to the sound fresh wood, leaving the surface smooth, rounding off the edge of the bark very smooth. After this, the above plaster is to be spread very carefully and smoothly over the cut surface, and somewhat beyond. The plaster should be from an eighth to half an inch thick, and smoothly and thinly finished off at the edges. After the plaster has been spread, it should be dusted over with a mixture of four parts of dry ashes, to one part of fine sand once in twenty or thirty minutes, until the moisture is all absorbed, and there is a smooth dry surface.

SAW DUST FOR ORCHARDS:—A correspondent of the Dollar Newspaper gives the following as the result of an experiment with saw dust, ashes and manure, around fruit trees

"I put fresh stable manure around one row and sawdust around the next; around another row I put leached ashes, and the remainder of the orchard I manured with well rotten barn manure, and in the spring spread it well and planted the ground with corn and potatoes.—The rasult was, many trees grew very luxuriantly, but the trees where the sawdust was, grew the best, the bark being smoother, and the trees had a healthier appearance. I will state also, that the part of the orchard planted to potatoes grew greatly better than that part planted to corn. The soil, a clay loam."

TO KEEP PEACH TREES FROM FREEZING IN WINTER.—A verv intelligent gentleman, who is at present traveling in Europe, and occasionally corresponds with the New York *Evening Post*, during a visit which he paid to the Agricultural College of Hohenheim, in Wurtemberg, obtained the following recipe to keep peach trees from freezing in winter, which is practiced at that institution:

"Strip the peach tree as soon as possible after the fruit has been taken off, of all foliage. Then dig deep all around the tree, for three or four feet in circumference."

The Garden Inspector Luccas stated that he had used it for several years, and had found that it never failed. He gave as the theory for this remedy the following:

"The leaves being taken off will prevent the swelling of the buds, because the leaves operate on trees as the respiratory organs, and are, therefore, apt to impart life to the buds during the warm days which generally occur in October or November. The digging around the trees destroys those roots which are easiest affected by the outer atmosphere, and their destruction prevents the sap from starting, except late in the spring, after warm weather has fully set in."

Mr. Luccas is stated by the visitor to be a very intelligent, practical horticulturist, of deservedly high repute. He showed plenty of trees well loaded with fruit of good quality, that had been treated as above, while other trees, left to themselves, were almost entirely barren.—[Mich. Farm.

PEARS ON THORN STOCKS.—The present system of dwarfing fruit trees, which is said to be applicable to the pear, as well as to other varieties of cultivated fruits, removes in a great measure the objections urged against the thorn, by nurserymen.—It has generally been asserted, and no doubt truly, that while the scion of the pear does remarkably well, and makes a rapid growth on the thorn, the latter is not large enough to secure a good sized and healthy tree. But in dwarfing the size is a secondary consideration. Very productive trees are obtained by this method, and they are very generally preferred in consequence of their being less liable to injury from winds, more easily managed and requiring far less ground, Thorn stocks, also, are easily obtained, whereas quince stocks and pear stocks are extensive, and obtained only with difficulty, and from a distance of those who grow them for sale, and at an exhorbitant price.—[N. E. Farmer.

BORERS—LIME—PRUNING.—It may not be generally known that almost any kind of cloth, covered on one side with lime whitewash, in which one pint of salt is added to the pailful, wrapped around the trunk of the tree so as to extend two inches below, and six inches above the soil, will effectually prevent the ravages of the borer, unless he has previously imbedded himself in the wood.

I have likewise proved to my own satisfaction, that lime is the best manure for the peach orchard, unless the earth abounds with that substance.

Now (Nov.) is the best time to prune apple trees, as the sap is in the root and the wounds will have time to dry before the spring opens, and by painting them before the sap again flows, all bad effects will be prevented.—E. C. H. [N. E. Farmer.

GATHERING AND KEEPING THE PEAR.—Nearly all pears ripen with a much finer flavor if picked and matured in the house. The exceptions are very few. Some which prove only second or third rate, when allowed to remain till they soften on the tree, become rich, melting and delicious if house ripened. Gathering the fruit while yet hard, will in nearly all cases prevent or greatly diminish the rotting of the core, which otherwise nearly destroys the value of many early sorts.

Winter pears should hang upon the trees as long as safety will allow, and when gath-

ered, should be kept in a cool room till near their usual period of maturity, when the ripening is to be completed in a warm room, at a temperature of 60° to 70°.—They should be kept covered to prevent shrivelling. Some cultivators have wholly repudiated winter pears, merely for want of skill in the management of their ripening, or the want of a good cellar to keep them in. Some sorts, however, as the Beurre d' Aremberg, require but little care; others, as the Vicar of Wakefield, need particular attention. But the transfer from the cool to the warm room is of great importance to most, and will convert tough and hard specimens into those which are juicy, melting and excellent.—[Thomas.

GRAPE CULTURE AT THE WEST.—The Cincinnati Columbian, in an article upon the grape interests of the West, says:—

The third year after planting the slips, the production of wine may be commenced from the fruit. There is more expense and labor in commencing the cultivation of the grape, than is probably attendant upon the planting of the usual crops, but less afterwards. From one acre, well planted with healthy vines, probably from six hundred to one thousand dollars' worth of wine may be produced in good seasons. This wine has generally brought one dollar per gallon here, but this year will probably bring twenty-five cents more.

Notwithstanding the immense annual increase of the quantity of wine manufactured in the West, the price continues to improve, and it must do so as the wine becomes more generally known. This year, notwithstanding the increase of wine made in this neighborhood, the price has raised nearly twenty-five cents, and the demand for wine is much greater than last year.—So must this demand continue increasing.

The crop this season has been very fruitful, surpassing, in fact, any former yield known in the West; the wine will be very pure, and demand great.

In Ohio there are about 1,500 acres of land exclusively devoted to grape-growing, between 300 and 400 of which are near Cincinnati. Within twenty miles of this city, including a part of Kentucky, on the opposite side of the river, there are 1,300 acres, and double quantity of vines. More have been planted this year than there were last. In Missouri, near Hermann, there are 500 acres; in Indiana, 200 or 300; in Illinois, about 100, and in Kentucky the same—making about 2,500 acres in all.—It is estimated that Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky will this year produce at least half a million gallons of wine. The yield on some of the vineyards will be equal to 7,000 or 8,000 gallons—allowing 2,400 vines to the acre, planted about three feet apart, in rows separated by a distance of three feet. Mr. Robert Buchanan, who is among the most successful cultivators of the vine, this year obtains about 800 gallons of wine from each acre of his vineyard, which will nett him about $700 per acre. Some other vineyards will do equally well.

FACTS IN GRAPE CULTURE.—E. A. McKay, of Naples, N. Y., gives, through the *Horticulturist*, some interesting facts in regard to the mode adopted by him in the cultivation of an acre of Isabella grape vines. The vines were planted five years ago last spring, one vine to a square rod.—The holes were dug about two feet deep and six to eight feet across. In the bottom of each these holes was placed half the carcass of an ox—a drove of eighty oxen having died in the neighborhood while on their way to market. The holes were then half filled with good surface soil. Sixteen loads of leather shavings, which had been accumulating at a currier's shop, were then divided equally among the 160 holes, which were then filled by surface soil, mixed with the leather. A bushel of well-rotted stable manure, mixed with the same quantity of charcoal dust, completed the preparations for the vines. He states that most of the vines measured last spring, a foot in circumference, some of them fifteen inches, and one seventeen inches. He allowed them to bear considerably the past season, and the quality of the fruit was so superior as to command fourteen cents a pound, when most grapes of the same kind were selling at the same place at twelve and a half cents a pound. The crop of the present season he estimated at 20 lbs. to the vine, or 3,200 lbs. to the acre. He states that he has repeatedly dug down to the bones, and found them "completely surrounded with a net-work of *living*, fibrous grape roots."

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Oxen and Horses—Comparative Value.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—An article appeared in your paper last spring, upon the comparative value of oxen and horses for agricultural labor. The writer stated, that the ox, *well taken care of*, was *equal* to the horse for that purpose. I am satisfied that such is the fact, from the amount of labor performed by a yoke of oxen I have had during the past summer. They have plowed 53 acres of land, only 6 acres of which was old, or land in crop the past year, the balance heavy sward land, and broken as deep as was possible, and turned it over, (from 9 to 12 inches deep.) The dragging was most of it performed by them with a 32 tooth "Geddes Harrow," being assisted part of the time by a pair of 3 year old steers. The breaking was done with 2 and 3 year old steers, to assist the oxen, (one pair of each,) and sometimes with a pair of horses instead of the steers.—The oxen, however, traveled every furrow with the plow, and have done more than three-fourths of the whole dragging, much of which was done in the hot weather. They now weigh 3906 lbs., and in addition to all the other work, they drew in my hay and grain, and drew off the land a good deal of stone in the spring, for stone walls. The keeping during the spring months was hay and ¾ of a bushel of Ruta Bagas, each, per day; after the roots were gone, 12 quarts of oats each, with hay, fed regularly, and watered three times per day; and tied up in the stable with as much regularity as the horses, and the yoke taken off at noon to rest them. When grass became of good length, so they could fill themselves in an hour or so, no grain was given, and they continued in good flesh and spirits, and are now capable of doing as much work, and *look* in as good condition as in the spring—although they then weighed 3980, making 74 pounds difference. Like too many of my brother farmers, my cattle have generally done most of the work, while my horses get the most of the grain; but I am well satisfied, that the ox, for agricultural labor, is *underrated*, because he is unfairly dealt by.

Yours truly, GEO. O. TIFFANY.

Milwaukee, Dec. 20, 1853.

☞ In the garden of E. R. Pierce, of Enfield, Ct., one pumpkin seed, self-sown, produced 13 pumpkins, weighing as follows: 1 of 43 lbs., 2 of 35, 2 of 32, 5 of 30, 1 of 28, 1 of 27, and 1 of 15—total, 397 lbs.

Statistics of Iowa.

Having in our January number given important statistics of Wisconsin, digested from the Census Report, we propose to do the same in this for Iowa, and in the next, or March number, for Minnesota.

Total population of Iowa, in 1850, 192,214

Born as follows, viz.:

Maine,	113	England,	3,785
N. Hampshire,	580	Ireland,	4,885
Vermont,	1,645	Scotland,	0,712
Massachusetts,	1,251	Wales,	0.352
Rhode Island,	256	Germany,	7,152
Connecticut,	1,090	France,	382
New York,	8,134	Spain,	1
New Jersey,	1,199	Portugal,	8
Pennsylvania,	14,744	Belgium,	4
Delaware,	439	Holland,	1,108
Maryland,	1,888	Italy,	1
District Columbia,	70	Austria,	13
Virginia,	7,861	Switzerland,	175
N. Carolina,	2,589	Russia,	41
S. Carolina,	676	Norway,	361
Georgia,	119	Denmark,	19
Florida,	51	Sweeden,	231
Alabama,	180	Prussia,	88
Mississippi,	138	Greece,	1
Louisiana,	133	Asia,	2
Texas,	10	British America,	1,756
Arkansas	163	Mexico,	16
Tennessee-	4,274	South America,	1
Kentucky,	8,994	West Indies,	14
Ohio,	30,713	Other Countries,	124
Michigan,	521		
Indiana,	19,925	Total Foreign,	21,232
Illinois,	7,247	Unknown,	362
Missouri,	3,807	Deef and Dumb,	51
Iowa,	50,380	Blind,	47
Wisconsin,	692	Insane,	40
California,	3	Idiotic,	93
Territories,	135	Paupers,	135
Total Native.	170,620	Annual cost of support,	$5,358

Assessed valuation of Real Estate, $21,690.642

True or estimated value, 137,247,707

Acres of improved land, 824,682; acres of unimproved land in farms, 1,911,382. Total, 2,736,064.

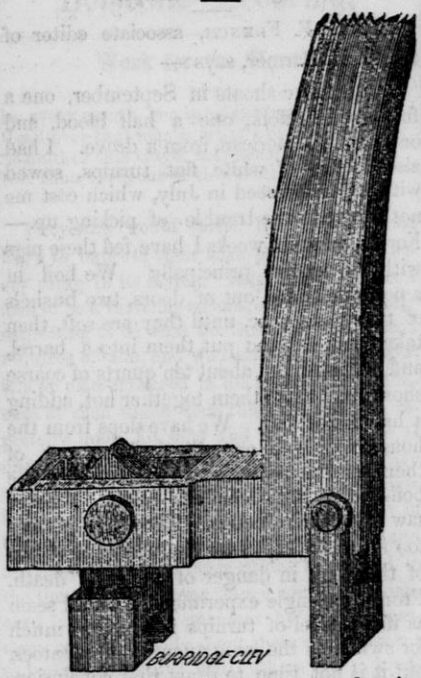
Cash value of land, improved and unimproved, $16,657,567; average cash value, per acre, $6,09.

Horses, 38,536; Asses and Mules, 754; Milch Cows, 45,704; Working Oxen, 21,892; other cattle, 69,095; Sheep, 140,960; Swine, 323,247.

Value of Live Stock, $3,689,275.

☞ A gentleman in Danbury, Ct., has invented a ball, which is so constructed, that when discharged from the cannon, or rifle, and strikes its mark, it explodes and does a second execution with a charge of shot contained within the ball.

Hale's Spike Extractor.



This machine is intended for drawing Spikes from Railroad ties. It is the invention of DANIEL HALE, of Hinsdale, N. H., and has been secured to him by patent.—Its construction will be readily understood from the engraving. The advantages of this invention are apparent; the iron rail being the fulcrum, a ready and permanent bearing is thereby at all times secured, which greatly facilitates the work, and is there fore a saving in time. The spikes are easily drawn without cranking or otherwise injuring them in the least. It can be used in all places where other tools can be used, and in many where others cannot.

WHITE SHEEP SKINS FOR DOOR MATS.—Take two long woolled sheep skins, and make up a strong lather of soap; the sign of proper strength is when the lather feels slippery between the fingers. When the lather is cold, wash the skins carefully in it, squeezing them between the hands so as to take all the dirt out of the wool. When this is accomplished, lift out the skins and wash them in cold water until all the soap is extracted. Have a vessel of clean cold water ready, to which some alum and salt (about half a pound) which have been dissolved in a small quantity of hot water, are added, and the skins left to steep all night. They are taken out in the morning, and hung over a pole to dry. When all the alum water has dripped off, they are spread out on a board to dry, and carefully stretched with the hand from time to time. Before they are thoroughly dry, a composition of two table spoonsful of alum, and the same of saltpetre, are gronnd to powder, in a mortar or otherwise, and sprinkled carefully on the flesh side of each skin. They are then placed the one on the top of the other, leaving the wool outside, and hung upon a rack of salts, in a barn shed, or dry airy place, for about three days, or until they are dry; they should then be turned every day. After this they are taken down and the flesh side scraped with a blunt knife, and each skin trimmed for a mat.—The flesh side may then be rubbed over with pipe clay, beat with a switch, and will then be found supple, of a beautiful white color, and fit for a door mat for a mechanic or prince.—[Mark Lane Express.

PERIODS OF GESTATION IN DOMESTIC ANIMALS.—It is frequently very important for farmers to know how long the different domestic animals go with young. The following table is believed to be very nearly exact:

Mares,	11	months.
Jennet,	11	"
Cow,	8	"
Goat,	4½	"
Ewe,	5	"
Sow,	4	"
Bitch,	2	"
Cat,	8	weeks.
Rabbit,	4½	"
Rat,	5½	"
Mouse,	4½	"
Guinea Pig,	3	"

Toe period of incubation of domestic fowls is:

Swan,	6	weeks.
Turkey,	4	"
Goose,	4	"
Duck,	5	"
Per Hen,	4	"
Guinea Hen,	3	"
Common Hen,	3	"
Pigeon,	2	"

Clipping Horses.

Clipping the hair close to the body of saddle and harness horses has been recommended and practiced pretty extensively within the last few years. The effects likely to arise from this operation may be collected from these remarks of a veterinary surgeon:—

"If the owner," says he, "cannot suffer a long coat of hair, and will have it shortened, he must never allow the horse to be motionless while he is wet or exposed to a cold blast. He must have a good groom and a good stable. Those who have both seldom have a horse that requires clipping; but when clipped he must not want either. A long coat takes up a deal of moisture and is difficult to dry, it affords some defence to the skin, which is laid bair to every breath of air when deprived of its natural covering. Every one must know from himself whether wet clothing and a wet skin, or no clothing and a wet skin is the most disagreable and dangerous. It is true that clipping saves the groom a great deal of labor. He can dry the horse in half the time, and with less than half the exertion, which a long coat requires; but it makes his attention and activity more necessary, for the horse is almost sure to take cold if not dressed immediately. When well clothed with hair, he is in less danger, and not so much dependent on the groom. These observations contain the whole rationale of clipping, and show it is inapplicable to farm horses; and as country grooms are generally qualified, clipping would prove but problematically beneficial to the saddle or harness horse of the farmer.

[Farmer's Guide.

Cheese Making. I was much pleased with the article on cheese making in the Rural, of July 23. I have practiced cheese making in Vermont as therein described, but I have found from experiment, that there is a greater saving in reducing the night's milk to curd, without leaving it to cool. I put the rennet into the milk as it is brought to the right temperature, and in forty or fifty minutes have the curd draining until morning. I found this method advanced the products of forty cows, about 33 lbs. per day in quantity and all as much in quality.—A. Baldwin, Belvidere, Ill.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Pigs and Turnips.

Henry F. French, associate editor of the N. E. Farmer, says:—

I had three shoats in September, one a full blood Suffolk, one a half blood, and one native American, from a drove. I had also a crop of white flat turnips, sowed with my grass seed in July, which cost me nothing but the trouble of picking up.—For the past six weeks I have fed these pigs with the turnips principally We boil in a portable boiler, out of doors, two bushels of turnips at once, until they are soft, then take them out and put them into a barrel, and add a pailful, about ten quarts of coarse shorts, and mash them together hot, adding a handful of salt. We have slops from the house, not quite enough to keep one of them, and these, with two kettlefuls of the boiled dish, last them one week. I never saw pigs thrive better. They are getting too fat to be kept over the winter, and two of them are in danger of an early death. From this single experiment, it would seem as if a bushel of turnips is worth as much for swine, as the same quantity of potatoes, but it is not time to draw that conclusion. Many farmers have turnips on hand, and I hope the experiment will be thoroughly tried, so that if results be favorable, we may all lay down our land in July and August, with grass seed and turnips, sell part of our hay, and keep the homestead in good heart, by raising swine at a profit.—My ruta bagas, which will keep good till spring, will many of them be turned to the same account. I have another old porker, which fed on turnips until within a month, but as he was expected to aid the festivities of Thanksgiving in the house, it was thought best to put him on a corn-meal diet.

It is said in the "Complete Body of Husbandry," published in England a hundred years ago, that sheep fattened upon turnips, should be fed on other food, two weeks before they are killed, or the mutton will taste of the turnips. It probably would be prudent, for those who prefer their pork and turnips on separate dishes, to attend to this hint.

☞ A bushel of plaster per acre, sown broadcast over clover, will add one hundred per cent. to its produce.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

They who would thrive by farming, must learn to improve their time properly, to do every thing in its season. It is idle to expect a man to be a thriving farmer, who is habitually neglecting to do what the time and the season requires of him, and who acts without any system or plan arranged in his mind. The influence of such a man upon those around him, especially upon his sons and his hired men, is unfavorable, both to them and to him. They soon learn to do as he does, whether the course is good or bad. Many are really ignorant of the proper time to perform certain work, and are thankful for any suggestions in regard to the time for doing these things, and are quickened in their good purposes by such suggestions, and all is made about their establishment to look promisingly; while others are so heedless, that seven thunders would not be sufficient to wake them up to their duty, to themselves, to their cattle, and their farms. We trust, however, that none of this latter class are among the readers of the Farmer. It is to assist those who are *ready* to do their duty, that we make these suggestions for the month. Any labor mentioned for last month, and which, owing to any circumstances, was not done, should be attended to immediately, especially the wood for the summer. It is a well settled fact, that wood pays a handsome profit to be cut up and properly seasoned a year before hand. Don't forget this. Farmers also make a great mistake in drawing *green* wood to market. In the first place, they do not get so much per cord, and they cannot draw so much to a load. It is estimated by those who have had the means of knowing; that every cord of green wood contains 1443 lbs. of water; so that the farmer who loads his team with a cord of green wood, has as great a load as the one who loads his team with a cord and a third of well dried wood. This carting *water* to market is nearly as bad as to cart *liquor* home. Again, who would think it good policy to put on the fire several good *chunks* of ice with his dry wood, just to make the fire *hotter!* But the man who burns green wood does just this and nothing else.

Now is the time to look well to the cows which are soon to calve, and the mares which are to foal, and the sheep which are to lamb, that they are not injured while heavy with young, and that they are properly fed with extra food. There is much in the old saying of the old woman about these things. Just remember, therefore, that there are now *two mouths*, and perhaps more, to feed, and that the young of animals cannot do without food any better *before* they are born, than *after*. No fine calves, colts or lambs, well formed and of right size, can be brought forth by half-starved parents.

It sometimes happens that cows are costive a week or so before and after calving. A few roots and some oil cake daily, will be of great use in such cases. Sheep should be looked to closely during this month. It is a trying time for them. It is well now to look over the potatoes and feed out the small and decaying ones. See that the rats and mice are not getting more than their share of the grain. Give the fowls plenty of grain, that they may have something to make heat of, and not be frozen.—Cut apple scions, and trim trees and grape vines, if you have not already done it. Get the hot bed frame ready, and be preparing the bean poles, and all the little fixings wanted to support and protect garden vegetables next summer. Those of you who are fond of the luxury of ice in the hot days of summer, to cool your milk, now is the time to prepare for putting it up, while it is beautifully and solidly chrystalized, and you will thank your stars a thousand times next summer, that the Farmer just gave your memory a jog on this point.

In these fine winter evenings lay out all your plans for next spring and summer operations and inform yourself thoroughly upon the very best way of doing these things. make up your mind what you will do, and keep right straight forward, and success will be yours.

Hints to Stock Raisers.—Mix occasionally one part of salt with four or five of wood ashes, and give it to your stock of all kinds during summer and winter. Green and fermentable food produces flatulency, and this mixture affords a remedy. It is said that if horses are liberally supplied with salt and clean wood ashes, they will neither be troubled with bots nor cholic.

To Cure Warts on Cows.—In the Farmer' (weekly) August 13th, I noticed a subscriber answered my inquiry, "What will cure warts on the teats of cows?" My remedy is as follows: I tried walnut shells on the shoulder of a cow, where the warts covered a place six inches square. I took the walnuts, cut the shells off, and pounded them (the shells) up so that I could press the juice out, and rubbed the warts with my hand and juice for about ten minutes every day for a week, when the warts began to be quite loose, so that you could pick them off quite easily. Before applying the juice, I rubbed the warts so as to take all off that I could; the last time I put on the juice, I rubbed the warts till the blood came; now the warts are all gone, and the place looks as if none had ever been there.—[N. E. Farmer.

To Keep Horseradish.—If you want to keep horseradish, grate a quantity while the root is in perfection, put it in bottles; fill the bottle with strong vinegar, and keep it corked tightly. You may thus have supply at all seasons.

To Boil Fresh Pork.—Take a fat blade bone of country pork, commonly called the oyster; take out the bone, and put veal stuffing in its place, wrap it in a clean cloth, and put it into a saucepan of boiling water with a little salt; let it boil slowly for about an hour and a half, or an hour and three quarters, according to the size; it should, however, be well done. Serve it up with parsley and butter poured over plentifully. This is a most rich, and at the same time a most delicate dish, equal to boiled fowl and pickled pork, which indeed it greatly resembles.

How to treat Lard.—As the time for preparing lard is now upon us, and it is of so much importance that the process be done well and properly, both for its sweetness and that it may keep without spoiling, we recommend the following mode as being best. We clip it from the Scientific American:

"The trying of lard is an important branch of economy, requiring a little care and some direct information. Water, be it remembered, should never be made use of in this process, since it cooks the fat and makes it soft and liable to become speedily rancid. Put the lump fat in a pot, and then stand the pot along side of the fire, gathering around it a few embers; let a little of the fat try out, after which, put the fat over the fire; with such precaution there is no danger of the lard's scorching, and no need of water, but the lard when fully cold, will be found quite firm and solid, which cannot be the case if water be made use of in the trying out."

To Corn Beef.—To each piece of beef of tolerable size, two heaped tablespoonfuls of beaten saltpetre, and four or five of molasses.—Rub this on all sides well. After each piece has been gone over, rub well with salt. Lay the bone side up in a tub. Let them remain eight or ten days; then pour from the beef all the bloody brine. and put it into a large pot, adding as much water as you think will cover the beef. Make the brine strong enough to float an egg; then add to it a cup of saltpetre and 1 pint of molasses; let it boil a few minutes, then set it aside till next day, that it may become perfectly cool, when it must be poured over the beef after your pieces have been closely packed in the cask.

PICKLING BEEF IN QUANTITY.

Take 9 galls. of water,
9 lbs. salt, half fine, half coarse,
3 lbs. brown sugar,
1 quart molasses,
3 oz. saltpetre,
1 oz. pearlash.

Boil these materials together; take off the scum as it rises. When cold, pour it on your beef, well packed in the cask.

Rub your beef with fine salt before you pack t.

Remedy for Wounds—Take the leaves of the elder tree, and make a strong decoction, and wash the parts injured from one to three times a day, and you will not be troubled with worms or flies on the wound. This is a good remedy undoubtedly, but it cannot be used in winter. elder ointment can be. Scrape off the outer bark and throw away, then take the inner bark of elder sticks and boil it in at the rate of a stout handful to a pint of lard. This will make an excellent ointment. To make it a salve, add a little tar, or rosin, or beeswax, or both, enough to make it sticky. It is equally good for man or beast. An ointment made in the same way with grated carrots, instead of elder bark, is equally good; some say better.

Britannia should be first rubbed gently with a woolen cloth and sweet oil; then washed in warm suds, and rubbed with soft leather and whiting. Thus treated, it will retain its beauty to the last.

☞ Suet keeps good all the year round if chopped and packed down in a stone jar, and covered with molasses.

☞ Do not wrap knives and forks in woolens. Wrap them in good strong paper. Steel is injured by lying in woolens.

Editors Table.

AGENTS AND CLUBS.—In reply to the daily applications made for seeds, we can make no promises, except to subscribers, before the 25th of March. At that time, packages will be made up and forwarded to clubs, according to the terms of our Premium list; after which, the surplus, if any, will be for sale in small parcels to first applicants. All who want seeds had better form themselves into Clubs, and thus secure them beyond any contingency. New Clubs may not only be formed, but new subscribers may be added to those already sent in to make up Clubs, or to Clubs already forwarded, from time to time, and receive their quota of seeds, as if all were forwarded at the same time.

We invite every person, into whose hands this copy of the Farmer may find its way, to consider himself an active, working agent.—Show it to your neighbors—solicit them to become both subscribers and co-workers in behalf of its circulation. Don't be afraid of soiling or wearing it out—we will send you duplicates, clean and tidy, to replace them. All who intend to form Clubs will see the importance of immediate action. Read Prospectus on the last page of the cover.

OFFICERS OF THE RACINE CO. AG SOCIETY for 1854: HENRY COLLINS, President, Caledonia; CHARLES K. MCEACHRON, V. President, Yorkville; ELIPHALET CRAM, Treasurer, Town of Racine; CHAS. CLEMENT, Cor. Sec'y, City of Racine; JOHN F. GRAY, Rec. Sec'y, Raymond.

Executive Committee.

City of Racine—Alex. Mosher, A. G. Knight, R. M. Norton, N. D. Fratt.

Town of Racine—Eliphalet Cram, H. Beebe.

Mt. Pleasant—Richard Richards, David S. Tefft.

Caledonia—Peter Van Vliet, Julius Wooster.

Raymond—S. O. Bennett, Wm. Howe.

Yorkville—Wm. Stock, D. D. McEachron.

Dover—Wm. Bullock, Fred'k Droughr.

Waterford—Samuel C. Russ, Arch. Cooper.

Rockester—Solomon Blood, Richard E. Ela.

Burlington—E. B. Brown, Henry N. Perkins.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—All who wish to improve their *understanding*, are referred to the advertisement of Buckingham & Richardson, sign of the BIG BOOT.

SMITH'S GEOGRAPHY.—We had set down to write a notice of this popular work, but the following, which we find in the *Janesville Gazette*, reflects our own views so exactly, that we fully endorse it. We have no hesitation in declaring this Geography, the best work of the kind extant:

"We have examined the latest edition of this excellent school book, and do not hesitate to recommend it fully to teachers in our primary and higher schools. It is arranged, like the same author's admirable grammar, on the productive system, and is embellished with new illustrations throughout. The population of places is in accordanee with the latest census, and all the new political divisions are given—A complete compendium of ancient geography is added, much enhancing the interest and value of the work. It is accompanied by an atlas, containing twenty-six different maps and twenty-five very valuable statistical tables. The whole combines more excellencies than we have noticed in any other work."

DANIEL BURGESS & Co., Publishers. It may be found, with all other kinds of school books, at the bookstore of James Sutherland, in this city, and at all other bookstores throughout the country.

UNITED STAES' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The second annual meeting of the U. S. Agricultural Society, will be held at Washington, D. C., on Wednesday, February 22d, 1854.

The objects of the Astociation are the following:

The acquisition and dissemination of the best experience in the Science of Agriculture.

The union of the men who desire to advance to its legitmate rank, this most important of all human pursuits!—and

The increase and extension throughout our country of a more cordial spirit of intercourse between the friends of Agriculture, by whose countenance and co-operation this Society shall be elevated to a position of honor and usefulness worthy of its national character.

Business of importance will come before the meeting. A new election of offic ers is to be made, and in which every State and Territory is to be represented

Applications will be laid before the Society for the holding of National Exhibitions in different parts of the Union.

Delegations are respectfully solicited from all the Agricultural Societies in the country, and the attendance of all Agriculturists who may find it convenient to honor the occasion with their presence.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, President.

WILLIAM S. KING, Rec. Sec'y.

Death of Jas. E. Teschemacher, Boston.—The Agricultural press is frequently called to mourn the loss of some of the best and ablest of the promoters of Agricultural science. Not only the various branches of agriculture, but of general science, have experienced in the death of Mr. Teschemacher an irreparable loss. He happily combined and caused each to shed its glory over the others, the character of the scholar, artist and naturalist, while he was a practical tiller of the soil. He edited *Stockhardt's Chemical Field Lectures*, and enriched them by notes. He was the first to promulgate the important principle of the absorbtion and powerful retention, for the use of vegetation, by clay, of the valuable alkaline salts of potash, soda and ammonia, the discussions on which, by Prof. Way, have created so much interest in England. As early as 1842 he performed a series of experiments to determine the value of guano as a manure, and in 1845 published a pamphlet, setting forth its value in its true light.—Few men have done more by their knowledge to benefit agriculture.

Gravel Houses.—The Prairie Farmer has a good article on this mode of building lately patronized by Messrs. Fowler & Wells and the Rural New-Yorker—for it never originated with them—and were we Joseph Goodrich, of Milton, in this county, the well known *Gravel man*, we would cast a stone at them for daubing with untempered mortar, and for getting up a house of eight angles instead of a dozen gables, and calling it a good house for poor people, instead of a poor house for any body, even cattle. The Prairie Farmer takes the right view of the case, and who wouldn't, who has ever seen the inside of one loaded with icicles and perpetual frosts. We cannot conceive how so good a man as the originator—we know him—could ever have fathered so mean an idea of the qualities of a dwelling. That Fowler & Wells should do it, is not strange to any one who understands phrenological bumps. But it is altogether a too *rusty* concern for the *Rural*, although it delights in *rustic* affairs. Condemn us to a miserable log house, but never to one of these perrennial iceries.

Ale.—There are 233,000 barrels of ale manufactured in Albany, yearly. This requires the consumption of 600,000 pounds of hops, worth 35 cents a pound. The number of persons employed is about 700.

☞ Our thanks are due to the Secretary of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, for a copy of the Report of the Northwestern Fruit Grower's Association. We have marked several places for further notice. The Address on the occasion is characteristic of its author, and adapted to the place—mellow, ripe and juicy, while it melts away as you contemplate its excellencies and wish for another bite.

Rather Foxy.—The Dec. No. of the Farmer's Companion, of which Chas. *Fox* is the principal editor, has an article from an English paper, to show that the *fox* is the farmer's best friend! Ah, brother, who *Betts* that is not a side thrust at our *Ho(l)mes* in the face of Scripture. The Farmer's Companion is the best evidence to us, that *one Fox* is a friend to the farmer. Don't take such a round-about way next time to speak your mind, brother.

Transactions of the State Ag. Society, Mich.—We see this work noticed in the Dec. No. of the Companion. Will not the *editor* of the last vol., or the *Secretary* of the Society—it makes no difference to us even if *both*—send us a series of the Michigan State Agricultural Society's Transactions; for then the general and local editors of the Farmer would each have a series,—we feel no small interest in Michigan matters—and thus the Transactions shall receive due notice at our hands, and J. C Holmes shall not be without his reward, either as editor or Secretary.

☞ We should like to see *prices* attached, as far as convenient, to the animals noted under the "Stock Directory" of the Farmer's Companion. It would be of much service to those wishing to purchase.

Fish Story—Remarkable.—Prof Agassiz, of Cambridge, has lately, in the Journal of Science, described two new kinds of fish from California, which bring forth their young alive as a sow does her litter of pigs.

Kenosha Co. Agricultural Society.—This Society held its annual meeting Dec. 5, 1853, and elected the following officers for 1844:

N. B. CLAPP, President.
Linus Woodworth and Adolph Reitbrock, Vice Presidents.
Henry Johnson, Corresponding Secretary.
F. J. Brande, Recoding Secretary.
G. N. Towsler, Treasurer.

☞ Three- fourth of the entire labor and capital of the United States are employed either directly or indirectly, in agriculture.

THE GENESEE FARMER, for January, was early on hand to receive our compliments, with the same dignified look as ever, but with a short-tailed coat, and no buttons or braid. It is decidedly quakerish—"plain and becoming."—This is an old favorite paper of many; always stern and severe in its language, yet very reliable. Dr. Lee is a tried and good soldier in the warfare for the highest good of the farmer.

THE PRAIRIE FARMER—within a year as old as the Genesee, and always fuller, freer, and better natured; never striving to be over-learned, but ever juicy as an orange, and fresh as a newly laid egg. This is our nearest brother, of the "Farmer" family, and we have peculiar feelings towards it—always wish it well, and loving to see it in every family. It is so near (*W*) *right*, when it speaks of us, that no one would think that some luckless *Wight* was at its head. We thank him, however, for his "considerable" mention of us, and especially the Dr.'s opinion of our *Miller*. The "Old Doctor" can say a good thing when he keeps his eye on the *Mark*

DR. CHEEVER, speaking of the book entitled "Up the River," by F. W. Shelton, says: "The author's experience of Shanghai hens and roosters is not solitary. That breed of fowls will do better, and be more naturally admired, in a country where *bow-wow* makes a favorite dish, than in more refined and civilized regions. We have reason to be content with our own hens."

We regard that as a *fowl* criticism.

THE HOME CIRCLE—A Weekly Parlor Journal, Devoted to *Literature*, *Science*, *Rural Art*, and the *Organ of the Sons of Temperance*.—$1 per year. Watertown, Wis.: E. B. QUINER, Editor and Publisher.

This is a clean-looking, small quarto of eight pages, of pleasant contents. It has half a dozen large birds to kill with one stone; which, however, has an abundance of ammunition enveloped in its dimensions—provided the birds can be got into a line, so that one shot shall deal death to them all. It has an eye—aye, and a palate, too, for we are a witness—for Horticulture. Suffice it to say, that friend Quiner has the will and the mind to do the right thing, and he certainly pulls a sufficient number of strings to make some of them effective. Our fear is, that some of the game will go off with only a scattering shot lodged in some region distant from the vitals.

☞ All wet land should be drained.

POPULAR EDUCATION: For the use of Parents and Teachers, and for Young Persons of both sexes By IRA MAYHEW, A. M., late superintendent of Public Instruction in Michigan, author of a practical spstem of Book-keeping, etc., etc.

A work of the above title has been put into our hands for examination, and we seldom receive a book which so fully meets our wishes in all points as this. This is deservedly a popular work, and is destined to tell well on the minds and bodies of great multitudes who will, under its benign influence rise up and call its author blessed. It treats on physical, intellectual and moral education, and should be in every family and school district library of the Union. It makes a *sound body* the only sure basis of a *sound mind*. It is itself sound in all its principles and exhibits the heart and head of a sound mind.

☞ It is stated that the pest of New England Farmers, the white daisy, may be exterminated by Guano. If it is in land that can be plowed, break it up and sow 250 pounds of guano per acre, with oats or wheat and clover.—If it is in pasture, sow the guano with half a bushel of plaster to each hundred pounds of guano, and the daisies will disappear. Or, if they don't, a good deal of guano will disappear, to make room for further importations, and keep up the price.—*Boston Post.*

☞ An Ohio farmer says, that gapes in chickens is caused by lice getting into their mouths and turning to worms. He recommends putting fine tobacco in the nests about a week before the chickens are hatched, to drive off the lice.

Another hen fancier says, that onions chopped fine and fed to chickens two or three times a week, will be found a preventive and remedy for gapes, inflammation of the throat, eyes and head, and indeed of nearly all the diseases poultry "is heir to." Mix onions with their winter food to keep them healthy.

ICE.—Raising ice is becoming quite a business in Massachusetts, and well it may; for one acre of good ice will yield as much clear money as six acres of good wheat. The ice used in California comes principally from Russian America—a region that grows ice large enough for first class mainmasts.

☞ Thorough preparation of land is absolutely necessary to the successful and luxuriant growth of the crops.

HORTICULTURAL REVIEW.—We invie the attention of our readers to the Prospectus of this work, in another column. We have often spoken in high praise of the Review. It is *the* work for Western Horticulturists.

LUMBER.—All in want of this article we would refer to Mr. Ross, of this city. He has a good supply and assortment. See Advertisement.

OUR YOUNGEST SISTER.—Governor Bigler, of California, comparing that State with others, makes the following statement:

"In horses she is in advance of fifteen of the States; in mules of twenty-six States; milch cows of twelve; in working oxen, eight; value of live stock, of twenty States; barley, only equalled by New York; and more than one-half of all produced in the Union; wheat greater than ten of the States; hay, exceeding nine of the States; mining, without parallel; fruits, exceeding all the States in variety, and one-half of them in quality produced.

There is a capital of $105,665,668 employed in agriculture, real estate and improvements.—Her mines are yieiding at the rate of $100,000,000 a year. From January to the 30th of May, 1853, there entered 436 vessels, 242,033 tons, and cleared 725 vessels, of 795,245 tons."

A GREAT LIVE TRAIN.—The Binghampton Republican says, a train consisting of 32 cars of cattle, 25 cars of hogs, and one car of geese and turkeys, drawn by two powerful locomotives, passed east through our village this (Saturday) morning. The cattle cars would contain about 13 a piece, making 426! The hog cars 75 each, making 1875, and the other car any quantity of geese and turkeys.

PERUVIAN GUANO.—The last advices from Europe contain some interesting information with regard to the guano at the Chincha islands. There are three of these islands off the coast of Peru, and there were exported from them in 1850, 118,352 tuns of guano, and in 1851, 189,024 tuns. In 1851, 150,635 tuns went to England, and 38,371 to the United States. Last September one hundred vessels were loading or waiting to load.

UNITED STATES FARMS.—There are 118,457,622 acres of farm land in the United States improved, and 184,621,348 unimproved, worth in the average $10 per acre. The average value of the farm lands of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, is about $30 per acre; those of New Jersey averaging the highest, and those of Pennsylvania the lowest; Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont average about $15 per acre.

☞ The laborer who wastes half his strength in working all day with a dull saw, because he cannot give a shilling or afford an hour to get it sharpened, will waste at least thirty-four cents per day, or six dollars per month.—*Alb. Cultivator.*

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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., MARCH, 1854. NO. 3.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

Farm Gardens.

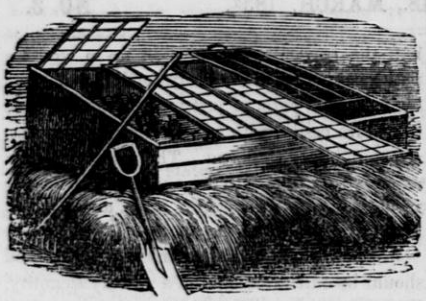
We are surprised when we consider how few good gardens there are among farmers. The garden is, or can be made, the most profitable part of the farm. No portion of the farm furnishes so much, in proportion to the expense laid out, for the supply of the table, and at the season too, when it is most desirable, as the garden.

There are, also, other considerations which, in an economical point of view, renders it a profitable portion of the homestead. Much of the work can be done at odd spells, and by the female portion of the family. Our wives, if they are what they should be, always take a peculiar interest in the garden. It is a good place for the hired men before breakfast, and "when it rains too hard to work out of doors." It is true, it should be managed quite different from most of the gardens of our farmers. In many of these there is a great want of a system or plan of planting and managing. To manage the garden in the best possible way, it is well to draw up a plan of it before hand, and allot each portion, in proper quantities, to its proper kind of seed. These seeds should be previously selected of the very best kinds, and then the very best way of cultivating them should be learned and put into practice. The right time for planting or sowing each kind of seed should be known. Some of these, such as lettuce, cabbages, cauliflowers, radishes, peas, &c., need to be put into the ground as early as possible, while others for other purposes should be planted later. The old practice of throwing up here and there and any where a *bed*, so narrow that half the garden space is used up in division paths, cannot be too severely condemned. One main division path, of just proper width to pass to and fro easily, with two or three cross paths, are abundantly sufficient. The rows may then extend from one path to another, giving the greatest facility for cleaning them, and a much better appearance to the garden.

A great variety of vegetables of each kind should be cultivated, and of a goodly quantity. With proper care, the garden and the poultry yard will, with very little expense, supply the table for the farmer's family with the choicest delicacies. A scarcity of vegetables and a want of variety, together with the everlasting salt pork and salt meat, good and nice in due quantity, drives many a farmer's sons and daughters from the enjoyments and employments of rural life. See to it, then, farmers, that you have good, early, *slaw* and nice radishes, that make every thing else on the table relish so well; and early peas and string-beans, that make one look for salt pork. Then look out well for the early ash-leaved kidneys and lady-fingers, so mealy and nice; the summer squash and the choice lima beans, together with early beets, tops and all, and the compact Savoys that, well vinegared, gives a gusto to the salt beef. Then comes the cucumbers, the sweet corn, the Boston marrows, that, with chicken, whether Shanghai, Cochin China, Surrey Dorking, Poland top-knot, or what not, sit so coolly and graciously under your old-aldermanlike waist-bands.

We are altogether in favor of good gardens. Do you remember those beautiful potatoes, so numerous and so various; those splendid beets, sugar and red; those golden carrots and big-headed cabbages; the sweet corn and fat squashes which carried off the prize at the last fall Fair in old Rock? and which made the mouths of the ladies, even, to water and wish that they could have such to cook and serve up for their liege lords. Well, there is not one of you that knows beans and is not a cabbage-head, and would help himself to squash, but can turn up what will beat them this next summer. A better country than this Western does not lie out of doors; and if the farmers of the West,

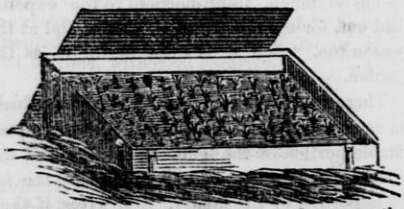
with their wives, do not surpass all other people in the excellency, variety and quantity of the garden products, it is because they are to blame. Just make up your minds, then, for good gardens, and look well to the monthly work in the Farmer.



Hot-Beds.

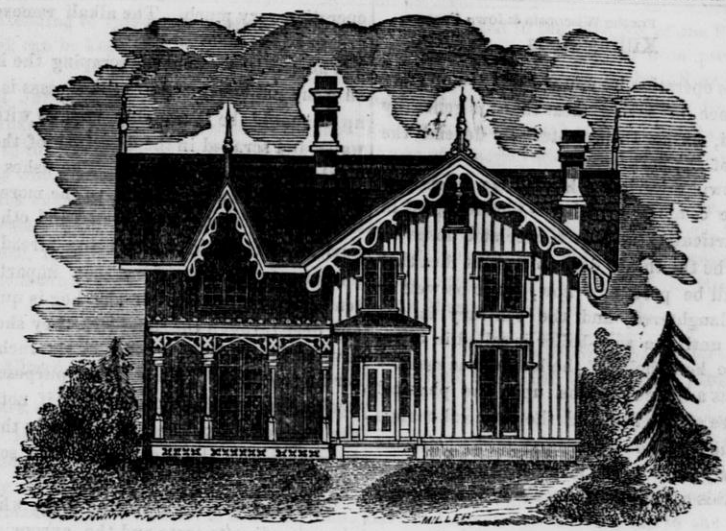
It is quite a common opinion, that hot-beds are an appendage to the town or city garden alone, or to the gardens of those who have more money to spend for vegetables than the farmer has vegetables to sell for money, and that they are rather a curiosity than a necessary aid in the garden; and, in fact, that they do not belong to the farmer's garden at all, and are out of place there as much as a pair of *gaiters* or *kids* in the plow-field. We think this a mistake. We believe if any body is entitled to eat the good things of the soil and of the valleys and the hills, it is the farmer, and we know that by a little attention—we do not mean *expense*, for it will cost the merest trifle—(it is true, the farmer must know how, and that is what we wish to show him)—the farmer can have his table supplied the season through with the choicest vegetables—and we shall show in another place, with the choicest viands also. If we can but awaken in your mind, reader, the resolution to have a *good garden*, the foundation will be already laid, and for the more successful prosecution of the superstructure, you will be greatly helped by the advantages of the hot-bed. This can be made by any one of you that can nail a board to a post. Hot-beds can, of course, be larger or smaller size—one from six to eight feet long is sufficient for most, while one four feet will do for many. It should be from three to four feet wide, two and a half to three feet high on the north side, and the south side about half that height, and the ends should slant from the back or north side to the front or south side. This can be made of plank or boards, by nailing them to four posts or pieces of joice, putting one in each corner. The top is to be covered with sash and glass. An old window does very well, but one made to order does better. These should be put on so as to slide, or be hung by a hinge, so as to open for watering or dealing with the plants in any way, and to let in air. The outside of the frame should be banked up if the weather be cold.

If desired, a cheaper covering may be made after the plan published in the March number of last year. This is a transparency, made by stretching cotton cloth upon a frame and brushing it over with a composition made after the following directions: To one pint of boiled linseed oil, add one ounce of white wax—heat, and when thoroughly mixed add half an ounce of sugar of lead ground with a little oil. One or two applications of this mixture with a brush will render the cloth transparent. This kind of covering possesses some important advantages over glass. The plants do not require watering so often,—grow more healthy than under glass—nor are they ever struck down or checked in their growth by the heat of the sun, still have plenty of light.



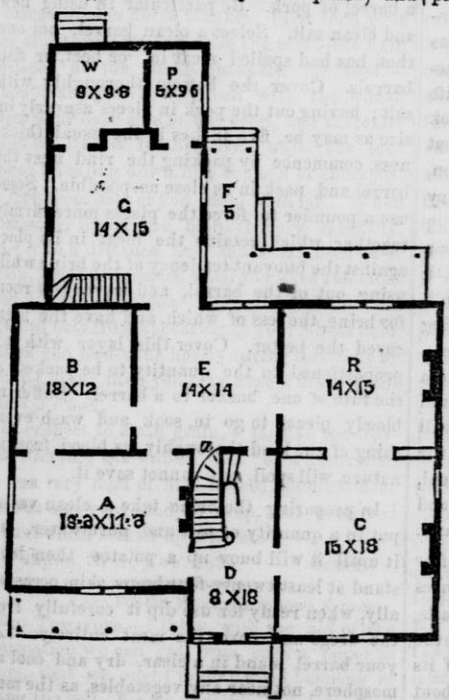
Hot-beds should face to the south or south-east, and should be in a dry place. To prepare the hot-bed itself, after deciding upon its position, sink a pit some 12 or 15 inches below the serface, of the size of your hot-bed frame; fill the pit, and a little more, with fresh manure from the horse stable, that has been placed in a heap and turned and mixed several times.—Tramp it down hard, and then cover it evenly to the depth of from 6 to 8 inches with rich, fine mould; place your hot-bed frame over the whole, and in a few days all will becoue nicely warm and fit to receive your seed. If the mould has become white, or gives off a rank smell by the time you wish to put in your seed, put in a little fresh mould. It is well to sow your seeds in rows, and label them with their proper names, that there may be no mistake; and mark the place of your rows.

Be watchful and water properly, and give air in warm days. Do not sow the seeds when it is very cold, but wait till the coldest weather is surely past.



COTTAGE IN THE RURAL POINTED STYLE.

This cottage is suitable for a moderate sized farm house, or a residence in the suburbs of a city. Roof projects 3 feet, finished with ornamental verge boards of 1 ¼ inch plank, and neat verandas with square columns, and a porch over the front door, supported by brackets.—The frame is of light timber, and covered with planed and matched boards, from 9 to 11 inches wide, put on vertically, and battened over the joints with inch boards 2½ inches wide. The windows are ornamented with hood mouldings.



GROUND FLOOR.

The floor plans are arranged as follows: A, living room, 13 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in.; B, bed-room, 12 by 15; E, dining-room, 14 by 14; R, library, 14 by 15; C, parlor, 15 by 18, connected with library by sliding doors; D, hall, 8 by 18; G, kitchen, 14 by 15; W, wash-room, 9 by 9 ft. 6 in.; P, pantry, 5 by 9 ft. 6 in. Principal story, 9 ft. 6 in. between joists; chamber story, 8 ft.

The cost of this structure, with cellar under the whole, will not exceed thirteen hundred dollars when completed.—[Merwin Austin, in the Horticulturist.

PETROLEUM SPRING.—A new petroleum or oil spring, has been discovered in Western Virginia, near the forks of the Hughes river. It was found in sinking a well for salt. Instead of salt, however, the spring commenced blowing out mineral oil, and has continued to furnish it at intervals up to the present date—about 14 gallons of oil being produced every fifth day. The Christian Advocate and Journal says, that the stratum yielding the oil lies parallel with the bed of the river, is generally near five feet thick, and is reached in various places by sinking pits 30 feet into the earth. Some pits, fifteen feet square, have yielded one hundred and thirty-five barrels of oil, but all are not alike rich.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Killing Hogs

In this operation its minor parts are of more importance in saving meat than is generally supposed, as on them materially depend the quality of the pork.

My own experience has led me to observe that the common practice is too negligent in these particulars, as convenience and despatch seem to be the things desirable. The idea that pork will be pork any how, let it be well or badly slaughtered, and the contrary is not known until the soap-boiler is called in to relieve the household of the loathesome mass.—Whereas a little reflection upon the physical structure of the hog, and the chemical change he is subjected to in becoming good wholesome pork, may have saved many a farmer his supply of this all important staple in the farmer's store.

The hog should be fed regularly up to the time of being killed. They should not be allowed to run or be dogged before sticking, as this worries the animal and inflates his system with an unusual share of blood, which being highly charged with those gasses which are themselves the elements of decay. On the contrary the animal should be caught as quietly as possible with a strong hand and turned immediately on its back, as in this position the knife can be thrust more directly to the desired spot. The custom of cutting crosswise of the throat previous to making the longitudinal incision, should be avoided, as it makes an unnecessary and bad looking gash.

The knife should be directed at an angle a little less than forty-five degrees, on a line with the carcass, and to about one third its depth towards the shoulders, and upon withdrawing the blade, its keen edge should be lightly pressed so as to widen the gash enough to permit a free flow of the blood, when the animal should be allowed to get up This, if done right, will avoid the necessity of entering the knife the second time, which is a torture to the animal, and often horribly mangles the shoulders and causes the blood to clot in the wounded parts.

The carcass should be scalded as soon after it is dead as possible, for very soon commences a fermentation of the matter in the entrails, which, if too long delayed, will impregnate the whole carcass and increase the chance of its spoiling. A quart of good ashes added to about fifteen gallons of scalding water will assist the operation very much. The alkali removes the grease of the skin.

The best instrument for scraping the hair is an iron candlestick. After the carcass is hung up it should be thoroughly washed with cold water and scraped in the direction of the hair until it is thoroughly clean. The ashes assist in this operation very much in the more effectually removing the excrements and other impurities of the skin, which being already of a putrescent character very soon imparts this tendency to the flesh. If the hog is quite fat and deep through the shoulders, they should be divided to the depth of four or six inches (according to size.) This is for the purpose of allowing those parts to cool, which, if not done, the retained animal heat, particularly that part in contact with the bone, causes it to sour and spoil.

The next process is cutting it up, which varies according to taste and the apropriation of its different parts, but never should be done until the hog is quite cool and stiffened. Never pack it while it contains any animal heat, or any frost.

One bushel of salt is considered enough for a barrel of pork. Be particular in using new and clean salt. Select a clean barrel, not one that has had spoiled meat in, or beef, or fish barrels. Cover the bottom thoroughly with salt; having cut the pork in pieces as nearly in size as may be, five inches is the usual thickness, commence by packing the rind next the barrel and pack in as close as possible. Some use a pounder to force the pieces more firmly together, which retains the meat in its place against the buoyant tendency of the brine while using out of the barrel, and leaves less room for brine, the less of which, and have the meat cured the better. Cover this layer with salt proportioned to the quantity to be packed, at the rate of one bushel to a barrel. Suffer no bloody pieces to go in, soak and wash every thing of the kind thoroughly, as blood, from its nature, will spoil, salt cannot save it.

In preparing the brine take a clean vessel, put in a quantity of salt and pure water, stir it until it will buoy up a potatoe, then let it stand at least twenty-four hours, skim occasionally, when ready for use dip it carefully from the dregs and cover the meat entirely. Let your barrel stand in a clear, dry and cool atmosphere, not near any vegetables, as the meat will absorb any of the surrounding impurities.

By attending to these apparently small matters pork can be kept safe and sweet the year round. A. B.

Beloit, January, 1854

REMARKS.—We commend the above excellent article to the attention of our readers. It is from one who knows whereof he affirms, having been much engaged in the packing of pork and other meats. This is the stand by of meat to the farmer, it is therefore important that it should be made as good and palatable as possible.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Clean Your Seed Wheat.

Farmers, can you take oats out of your seed wheat? If you can, you need not read this; if you cannot, you had better read it and act accordingly. Perhaps the plan is knowu East, as my informant, Charles Pearce, is a worthy and ingenious Vermonter, but it seems not to be known in our Western country. The operation is as follows:

Set up at a suitable angle any sort of flat boarding—say an old door, but one large enought to let in the "elephant"—hang over it a coarse woolen horse blanket; then open your bag and throw well up upon the easel-like fixin portions of the wheat intended for seed.—Should any oats come down with the wheat, then your door stands too erect, and therefore must be leaned further over, until the seed comes trickling down into the box or sheet just as free from oats as you could wish for. When necessary, lift off the blanket very carefully, take it to a distance and shake it; then go it again, brother farmers, until you have sufficient seed for your purpose. But all this will not prevent oats from appearing in your wheat field, unless you feed your horses during seed time on ground oats; then you may expect to see wheat *which is wheat*.

In respect to clean grain, I am like the traveler who told the waiter, that "as a naturalist, he was very fond of flies, indeed, admired flies. He was also very fond of soup, but preferred to have them served up separate."

Waupun, Wis., Feb., 1854. SCOTIA.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

BIG TOMATOES.—I think, with the aid of the information we can get from such a paper as yours, that we ought to do a good business at tilling the soil—for we certainly have excellent soil in this country.

I see it stated in the Nov. No. of the Farmer, that an editor in Angelica had been presented with a tomatoe weighing 2 lbs. Now I can beat that a "leetle." I picked one from my garden, last fall, which weighed 2½ lbs. strong. It was of a large variety, and of a pale red color.

I may, probably, at some future time, give a few hints in relation to agriculture, &c., in this part of the country; and, for the present, remain, yours, R. L. C. MILLER.

Old Mission, Iowa, Jan., 1854.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Sweet Corn for Cattle and Hogs.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Being one of your subscribers, I have often noticed calls for such to write for the *Farmer*. After hesitating for a long time, in consequence of my inability, I have at last concluded to respond to the call.—My first effort will be to inform you of my success in raising sweet corn.

Last spring I planted three-fourths of an acre of the small variety, which, being well tended, flourished well, and threw out many shoots, or suckers. As soon as the ears were set I commenced feeding it to my hogs, cutting it close to the ground, and found that they eat the stalks, even to the largest butts. As the stalks became more tough, and the ears larger, they left the butt ends of the stalks, in a measure. Being a *Yankee*, I thought best to save all, so I commenced snapping off the ears for the hogs, and cutting the stalks for my oxen. This induced my hogs to fatten very fast, and served well for feed for my team. I must say, it was the most profitable crop I ever raised. I saved quite a quantity of seed, and intend to plant quite a piece next spring. I think it would not be profitable to plant more than one can feed before late in the fall, as it will not harden on the stalk, nor dry in the crib, but is liable to mildew in wet weather.

If successful in this attempt to merit your notice, you will probably hear from me again.

Metomen, Wis., Jan. FARMER & MECHANIC.

REMARKS.—The raising of sweet corn, especially of the Stowell Evergreen or Old Colony, to be cut and fed out to cattle and hogs in the fall and early winter, and to milch cows when the grass is short and frost bitten, is one of the most economical and profitable processes of the farmer. We hope many will be induced to try it. These two kinds of corn mentioned are

very prolific, and completely saturated with saccharine matter, which furnishes an abundance of rich and palatable food for cattle and hogs.

SHANGHAI HEN.

Weights of Blooded Fowls.

I am much pleased to see in the last number of your paper, the plan adopted by Mr. Chas. Smith, of Waupun, not only to ascertain who has better chickens than himself, but the commendable spirit he evinces to procure such if for sale; and as I have some idea of changing my residence, and if so, will dispose of my varieties of fowls, and at reasonable prices; hence, for his information, comply with his request, and give the weights of some of mine, though not in high condition—having heretofore injured and lost several of my best birds by strong feeding. I now keep them on a short allowance—a light feed of corn in the morning, and the after part of the day cabbage leaves, boiled potatoes and wheat bran. I have no doubt I could add a pound, at least, to each in 12 days, by strong feeding.

One pullet is older than Mr. S.'s chicks; six are a week or two younger, and two are four or five weeks younger.

The Brahma and buff Shanghai cockerels have each had a territory assigned them, and promoted Pachas with an Oriental Haram, in which "happy-go-lucky" event they display such sublime politeness, by strutting in their gaudy attire—which well becomes their noble figures—cooing and caressing their concubines, until their noble, generous, loving gallantry (not ridiculous flattery) induce the confiding dames to accept the last kernel. And these noble knights feel it to be glory enough to be sustained by a continual feast of pride and vain boasting, consequently are found wanting, when put in the scale, of solid weight—possessing more the light leanness of vanity.

All the pullets have laid freely for more than two months, and, too, in houses in which the cocks, during the late extreme cold, have had their combs and wattles badly frozen, which also has tended to lessen their weight.

Brahma Pullet,	hatched	June 3,	'53, 8 lb	7oz.
" "	"	July 4,	7	7
" Cock,	"	" 11,	7	11
Buff Shanghai Cock,	"	" 7,	7	9
" " Pullet,	"	" 7,	7	10
Red Cochin Cock,	"	" 7,	8	7
" " Pullet,	"	Aug. 5,	6	7
Black " Cock,	"	July 1,	8	6
" " Pullet,	"	" 1,	7	5
Gray Chittagong C'k,	"	Aug. 2,	8	13
In aggregate,			78	2

M. FREEMAN.

Schoolcraft, Mich., Jan., 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Pumpkins.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I see it going the rounds in the papers, that one Daniel Pease, of Edgartown, Maine, raised twelve pumpkins from one seed, the eight largest weighing 15 pounds each. *Wael*, that is "some pumpkins" for Maine to raise, but not much for Iowa.

I will tell you what I raised from one seed, if you will not scold too much. Here you have it: From one seed there were *forty-three* pumkins. We picked off and put in the cellar, thirty-nine, the average weight of which was eighteen pounds, making *seven hundred and two pounds*. If Mr. Pease can beat that he can have my hat. L. S. BRETT.

Makee, Iowa, January, 1854.

REMARKS.—We know that Dea. Woodward, of Beloit, Wis., raised forty-four ripe, and twenty unripe pumkins from one seed. What was their weight we do not know. So much for Wisconsin. In fact, it is of no use for Eastern folks to boast of any great, or tall, or numerous products. Granite is good to build houses of, but not to make crops. The Great West furnishes great things!

Stock Register.

Points of Cattle.

We have noticed at all the Fairs at which we have been present, that much difficulty occurs among the judges of cattle—and the same is true to a greater or less extent with other kinds of stock, and horses, even,—from the want of a definite and distinct knowledge of those points in the several breeds which are of the most value. Every one whose duty it becomes to act as a judge of cattle, must, almost necessarily, have formed in his mind some conception of what he considers a good animal. This conception will, as a matter of course, have its characteristics given it by the kind of animals to which the conceiver has been accustomed. The conception which has been formed by the judge who has been accustomed to satisfy and feast his eyes by looking upon the massive frame, the square form, and the portly development of the princely Durham, will be quite another thing from the conception of the judge who has been accustomed to the comparatively loose frame, the thin hind-quarters, and the gaunt outward appearance of the Ayrshires; but who remembers well the great amount of inside filling compared with the weight of carcass. Another judge has been accustomed to the beautiful form and color, and the well knit frame of the sprightly Devon. His conception of a good animal, therefore, will differ from that of either of the former judges.

What we wish to say in these remarks, is, that the judges, when they come to examine the cattle exhibited, will not naturally or necessarily have their opinions formed with reference to the same standard. From this fact it is that the decision which has been made by one set of judges one year, is liable to be reversed by another set of judges the next year, both set being actuated by the purest motives when the change, which is the ground of this reversion, is in the *persons* of the judges, while the respective and relative characters of the animals remain the same. A necessity arises, therefore, in order that justice may be done to all parties, and all causes of unpleasant feelings among competitors be removed, that there be some *standard*, fixed and unalterable by any one, even the judges themselves, and only alterable or capable of being changed in its features, by a vote of the Society awarding the premiums. This STANDARD, which should consist of a concise list of the important points in each breed for which premiums are offered, with their numerical values attached, should be made out by each Society, and put into the hands of its judges, and they be required to note the points of the standard which are met by any particular animal, and the sum of these points gives the animal its standing.

The Agricultural Society of the State of New York, first and foremost in nearly every judicious and sagacious movement, either for the advancement of its stock raising or grain growing interests, and the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, second only to the first in its appreciation of the true principles of breeding stock, and the raising of grain, have both taken measures to erect a *standard* for the judging of cattle. This should be formed by a proper combination and a just appreciation of the points desirable to cultivate in the different breeds of animals. This standard does not, and should not, bring the different breeds into competition with each other. This, when it is done at all, should be under certain regulations, also formed by each Society for itself, and modified from time to time, as the cattle interests of the community, represented by the Society, require.

It was our intention to have presented in this number, what we consider a just scale of points for one of the improved breeds of cattle, and to follow it in future numbers, with a scale of points for each breed, illustrated by engravings of good animals of each breed, and accompanied by remarks with respect to the value of each to the farmers of the West. But we have just learned that we have the honor of being appointed a member of the committee, whose duty it is to report a scale of points to the Executive Committee of our State Society. We deem it, therefore, improper for us, under these circumstances, to make public our peculiar views before they have been revised and improved by judgment of the other members of this committeee, whose decisions are so intimately connected with the highest improvement of our cattle. When this is done we shall immediately perfect our intention. We hope it will be done soon.

☞ By stabling and shedding stock through the winter, a saving of one-fourth the food may be effected; that is, one-fourth less food will answer, than when the stock may be exposed to the inclemencies of the weather.

☞ Keep all the stock you can provide feed for, in order to have abundance of manure.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Premiums on Foreign Cattle and Fruits.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I am much interested in your paper, and think it is received with much pleasure and profit in my neighborhood. The advancement of Agricultural knowledge should commend itself to every one Agriculture has been the chosen occupation of many of our wisest and best men. The influence of rural occupations on the mind is to elevate and refine it.

The earth is the common parent, and most bountifully does she repay our attentions.—She lavishes not only her grains and grasses, to sustain animal life, but flowers and fruits in profusion, to please our eyes and our palates. As we regale ourselves by the fruits which our own labors have been instrumental in producing, do we not enjoy an independence and a pleasure found in no other station in life?—That we can successfully produce fruit here, of a superior quality, can no longer be doubted. The past year's experience has proven the fact. We only need energy to compete successfully with any other State in the Union, in the extent and variety of Agricultural productions.

Our State Society, although young, is doing much to incite the people to endeavors in that direction. But in one thing it has failed, and until it shall change somewhat, many, we fear, will be deterred from competing for prizes.

That animals just brought from other States shall take precedence of those belonging here, does not seem fair. And that prizes shall be given for fruits brought *expressly* from a *Michigan Nursery*, (as at the last Fair a great proportion, more than half, of those drawing the first prize were brought,) is not just to those who have reared their own with much labor and expense. If such is to be the case, he who can gather the greatest variety from all quarters—if he be a Nurseryman he has the better opportunity—must invariably carry off the honors from those who are in fact more deserving. Should there not be better arrangements with regard to prizes—requiring, in the case of animals, actual residence; and, that those presenting fruit, certify that they have grown it themselves, rather than to allow them to borrow from their neighbors or from other States.

Yorkville, Wis., Jan., 1854. JUSTICE.

REMARKS.—We approve, in the main, of the views of our correspondent, with regard to the manner in which our State Fair should be managed; but, unless we are very much in error, he is mistaken with regard to our last Fair. We were present and headed the committee of judges on cattle and poultry, and in these departments there certainly was nothing of the management alluded to.

We also paid great attention to the fruit, and were not aware of the fact to which our correspendent alludes. Cattle *owned* out of the State and first raised out of the State, certainly should not take premiums. We do not think, however, that *cattle* should necessarily be raised in the State to entitle them to premiums. We wish to encourage the importation of improved cattle among us. We think it, therefore, wise to offer premiums for such cattle. But they should be *owned* in the State where they receive a prize.

Shelter Your Sheep.

A Mr. Childers selected two lots of Leicester yearling wethers, of 20 in each; one was placed under shelter in a yard, the other folded in the field. They all received the same food, 12 lbs. cut turnips, as many as they could eat, half a pound of linseed cake, half a pint of barley, a little hay, and salt per day, for each sheep. At first they each ate about 19 lbs. of turnips a day, but after three weeks, those in the shed eat 2 lbs. apiece less, and in the 9th week, 2 lbs. apiece less again, and of the linseed cake there was a falling off also, of nearly one-third of the amount given, viz.: 13. 3 lbs. a day from the lot. Those in the field consumed the same quantity from first to last.—The respective weights of the two lots were as follows:

	In the shed.		In the field.	
	Stones.	lbs.	Sts.	lbs.
Jan. 1st,	183	3	184	4
April 1st,	239	9	220	12
Gain,	56	6	36	8

The gain of the shed fed sheep over the field fed, was 19 stones 12 lbs., consequently the sheep in the shed, though they consumed nearly one-fifth less food, made above one-third more progress.

In another experiment of three lots; one entirely covered in, one under a shed in the yard, and one entirely exposed, all of them having a pint of oats a day apiece; the first consumed on an average between Nov. 18 of one year, and March 9th of the following. 8 lbs. of cut turnips and other roots per day, and increased in live weight 23½ lbs. per sheep; the second consumed 11 lbs. of the same food, and increased in weight 25 lbs.; the third consumed 17 lbs of cut turnips per day, each, and increased 23 lbs. live weight in that time. The several lots, it thus appears, did not differ so

much in their growth as in the case reported by Mr. Childers, but there was a much greater difference in the quantity of food eaten by them. These experiments would tend to an assumption that twice as many sheep can be kept upon the food, under perfect shelter, as when entirely exposed.

Treatment of Milch Cows.

Go where you will, you are sure to be shocked at the scenes of suffering and neglect these patient animals are made to endure, whether on commons, farms, stables, or yards. If driven out after milking, or brought home to be milked, they never fail of being run, whipped or cudgeled by some unfeeling boy, who seems to think it part of his duty to deal them as many blows as he can while within his reach.—Then but too often follow the blows of the milker, should the poor animals wince under the pressure on teats, lacerated perhaps by thorns, or made sore from other causes. No wonder that this treatment, with scantiness of food and sometimes of water, reduces the cows to the wretched condition in which they are but too often found in every quarter. Set a farm hand to clean the cow stable daily, to curry and brush the cows, and he will be apt to think you a fool, or that you mean to degrade him—if he comply, it will be with reluctance, and it is quite likely that he will take more out of their hides, or put more into them, than you bargained for. Ask the same worthy to groom your horse, and he will not fail to do it cheerfully. Why this prejudice, this folly? Does not the cow stand in a more interesting relation to us than the horse? He works for us and carries us, to be sure, but then do we partake of his flesh and blood while living, in the shape of milk, butter and cheese? and do we slaughter him for beef when we suppose him failing in strength? No. Well, then, why is not the same attention paid to the cleanliness and health of the cow as is bestowed upon the horse? The same care that produces so fine a condition in one, could not fail of having the same effect upon the other—and I say that it is the height of folly and positive injustice to ourselves to withhold those attentions from the cow. She is a second wet nurse to us and our children, and if this nurse be in ill health, will not her milk, cream and butter be imbued with her condition? Would we be willing to eat of the flesh of some of those wretchedly poor animals if they were slaughtered? And why should we not feel the same repugnance to use their milk? Let us be more careful in feeding those useful animals properly, and keeping them comfortable and clean, and in good healthy condition,—[Mr. Gowen's Address at Mercer.

Wintering Domestic Animals.—The Country Gentleman, after speaking of the immense losses from bad wintering of farm stock, suggests that every farmer adopt a set of rules something like the following:

1. To shelter all fodder well, that the weather may not waste its strength.

2. To shelter well the straw for litter, that it may be always dry and comfortable.

3. To feed regularly, both as to time and quantity, that the animals may never fret for delayed meals, or from stinted supplies.

4. To give every night a good bed of dry litter, that animals may not become chilly from dampness.

5. To keep their places of repose clean and their hides well curried, that they may not suffer the discomfort of filth.

6. To provide ample racks and feeding boxes, to prevent a waste of roots, meal and fodder.

7. To give special attention to growing animals, that they may not become irrecoverably stinted.

About Cows.—Every one has felt the inconvenience of having his cows calve during the night. In all seasons, but especially in winter, this is exceedingly annoying, and not only demands continual, useless watching, on the part of the cow keeper, but very often indirectly causes the death of the calf and its mother. Now, it has been ascertained by a person living in the neighborhood of Utrecht, that a cow with calf, milked for the last time at night instead of in the morning, calves in the day and not at night. Out of 30 cows on which the experiment was tried, only three or four are mentioned by Mr. Numon, Professor of Agriculture at Utrecht, as being exceptions. As confirming the above statement we may mention the fact, that a large farmer in the campine has also tried the same plan with success.—[Eastern Gazette.

Treatment of Live Stock.

The following extracts are *taken* from a paper by Cuthbert W. Johnson, Esq., F. R. S., in the Farmer's Magazine. We are happy to strengthen whatever views we may have put forth, by so high authority. The subject is of great importance and will be felt to be so by every one who has correct views of the animal economy.

Let the keeper of live stock remember, amongst other things, that the food of cattle requires to be of a certain *bulk*—the stomach requires a certain mechanical stimulus, which the bulk of the food naturally imparts to it. *Occasional over-feeding* produces derangement of the digestive organs, hoven, and diarrhoea; *habitual* overfeeding produces an enlarged liver, puerperal fever, black-quarter.

Deficient Food.—Animals, even before birth, are affected by insufficient food: insufficient food during pregnancy, besides rendering the young at the time of birth small and weakly, has also the injurious effect of curtailing the provisions necessary for its future sustenance: the milk secreted is small in quantity, or if it be considerable in bulk is poor in quality; nor will even the most liberal aliment given after the birth of the young one always remedy the evil. Surely, then, it is false economy to put pregnant cows on an over-restricted diet. Remember, too, that there is no period in the life of an animal in which the effects of insufficient food are more prejudicial than in early years; this is far too often the case with regard to calves; the calf, after a week or ten days, should be liberally supplied with milk, and for six or eight weeks should receive only new milk, from 8 to 10 pints per day, divided into at least three meals; then skimmed milk may be gradually substituted for a part of the new milk —milk should, during three or four months, form its principal food; then the calf may be gradually accustomed to other sorts of diet, especially to oil-cake. Calves should be housed at night before the weather becomes cold and inclement, after their first summer's grass. Young cattle are generally placed in sheds or courts, but their feeding often receives too little attention; the result is unthrifty coats, lank limbs, and potbellies—these again, when they are suddenly put upon a more liberal diet, become liable to various casualties, such as purgative, congestive fever, abortion, epilepsy, and various cerebral affections.—When the *bulk* is insufficient, and the quality poor, the digestion is impaired; thus straw is apt, when used exclusively for some time, to cause distension, constipation, and fardel-bound, and afterwards dysentery.—When cattle are put up to fatten, about their second or third year, the evil effects of early bad feeding are apparent by the length of time required for fattening. In milch cows more than in any other kind of cattle, an unusually large supply of food is requisite, not only to support the condition of the body, but also an overplus from which the milk may be formed.

In sheep, insufficient food produces thinness and lightness of fleece, coarseness and brittleness of fibre; general debility, and emaciation, excessive liability to the attacks of the fly; purgative, dropsical swellings, hydatids in brain, typhoid fevers, braxy, and scab.

Change of food.—On the advantages of this we need not dilate, or its preparation, or the regularity which should be observed in feeding.

Exposure to wet.—Its most uniform effects are a tendency to diarrhoea and muscular relaxation; there is a marked tendency to anasarca, and œdamatous swellings observed amongst men and animals living in moist localities. Wet weather is apt to induce rheumatic enlargements of the joints, foul in the feet, and quarter-ill. In sheep, the ill effects of exposure to rainy weather are still more decided than in neat cattle; in them it produces diarrhoea, affections of the feet, enlargements of the joints, scab, braxy, and rot.

Cold.—Exposure to a moderate amount of cold, and for a limited time increases the vital energies, and invigorates the organic functions. In excess it has exactly the opposite effect. It then exercises a sedative or depressing influence, inducing slowness of the circulation, feebleness of the respiratory organs, diminished power of generating heat, coma, and death.—These are the symptoms which manifest themselves in severe winters, and are seen in all their stages by shepherds, whose pas-

ture grounds are unsheltered, and exposed to piercing cold and scourging winds.

Shelter.—Want of shelter exposes animals to sudden and excessive changes of temperature, and to the heat-abstracting influence of cold currents; it necessitates the consumption of a very large allowance of food, and when, as is usually the case with animals badly sheltered, exposure to cold is conjoined with exposure to rain and all kinds of weather, the necessity for an increased supply of food will be still greater. In such circumstances, an unusually large quantity of materials is expended in the maintenence of the animal heat; and if this extra expenditure be not compensated for by an increased quantity of food the animal necessarily loses weight. Amongst the other diseases procuced by exposure to cold, are rheumatism, pulmonary consumption, scrofulous tumors, increased loss of ewes and lambs in the lambing season.

TREATMENT OF FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP.—There is a disease very incident to sheep, called the "foot-rot." For the production of the foot-rot, we must have soft ground, and it does not seem much to matter how that softness comes about. In the poachy and marshy meadow, in the rich and deep pasture, and in the yielding sand of the lighter soil, it cannot perhaps be said that it is almost equally prevalent, but it is frequently found; nevertheless, soft and marshy ground is its peculiar abode. The first symptoms of the disease is the lameness of the sheep. On the foot being examined, a morbid growth is almost invariably found; the foot is hot, and the animal shrinks if it is firmly pressed. It is particularly hot and painful in the cleft between the two hoofs. There is always an increased secretion usually fœtid, and often there is a wound in the coronet, discharging a thin stinking fluid; sometimes there is a separation of the horn from the parts beneath. In comparatively often cases, the hoof seems to be worn to the quick, at or near the toe. The lameness rapidly increases, and often to such a degree, that the sheep is unable to stand, but moves about the field on its knees. Of one thing the flock-owners may be assured—that the foot-rot is exceedingly infectious; if it once gets into a flock, it spreads through the whole unless stagnated. The treatment of foot-rot is simple enough, even to the most ignorant, and it can be most easily cured by the following instructions: First: The foot must be carefully examined, and every portion of the horn that has separated from the parts beneath thoroughly removed; then apply with a flat stick the composition named below, giving it a rub. After the animal is properly dressed as stated, place it for three or four hours upon dry straw, and not on slacked lime as many propose, which ruins a great number; be sure and not let the sheep go amongst the wet before the time, as that will destroy the dressing, and support the disease. Dress the animals once in two days, but generally the first dressing will cure, except when the rot has gone to the nerve. Foot-rot composition, to be placed in an earthen vessel, and kept covered except when using: Gunpowder, verdigris, blue stone, equal quantities, to make the powders like a stiff ointment. As soon as mixed it is fit for use.—Farmer's Magazine.

GATES.—Every field on the farm should be entered by a good self-shutting and self-fastening gate. Farmers, who are too busy in summer time to make them, or get them made, should see to it now. How long does it require to take down and put up a set of bars? At least two minutes; which, if repeated three times a day for a year, amounts to thirty hours, or three days of working time—which would yearly pay for a good gate. Or examine it in another point of view—three times a day is 1800 times a year; now is there a man between Halifax and California, who would take down and replace a set of bars eighteen hundred times in succession, in payment for a farm gate? Hardly; yet this is the price yearly paid by those who use bars that are constantly passed, and the gate is not obtained by it. Again how much better is a well hung gate, than one half hung? or one with a good self-fastening latch, than one with a pin crowded into an auger hole? Try it by dragging a badly hung gate over the ground, eighteen hundred times in constant succession, securing it each time with a pin, and see if you do not think this labor would pay for good hinges and a latch.

Horticulture.

Notes on Fruit Culture.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The following communication was received from an amateur friend, in answer to a request that he should forward some notes for the Farmer. If acceptable, please insert. F. K. PHOENIX.

Delevan Nursery, Jan. 23.

FRIEND PHOENIX:—Though somewhat diffident of the value of my opinion, I have concluded to comply with your request, and give you my impressions of our last year's fruits.—We fruited over forty varieties of apples, from trees got mostly in '48, '50, and '50. About all I shall name fruited last season for the first:

Sweet Bough—Bore well, fruit fair.

White Juneating?—(May be Early Harvest—F. K. P.)—Has borne three crops, bears well, fruit always fair.

Harvest Red Streak—This is one of my favorites; trees got in '48 and '49, bore full; trees grow well, fruit fair and excellent, very tender and juicy.

Red Astracan—The most beautiful apple I have ever seen, and very good besides. Trees set in '48 and '49 bore a few specimens.

Kirkbridge White—Not to my taste—beautiful shade tree.

Carolina Red June—I hardly dare trust myself to speak of this fruit, but must say, that it is, or was here, decidedly the best early apple I ever saw. If its value is known, there will be a rush.

Keswick Codlin—This you know is an old favorite of mine; bears right along every year. Some have affected to despise it, but it has spoken so well for itself that it has silenced all opposition.

Fall Orange—Fruit large, fair and good; bears well.

Holland Pippin?—(Fall Pippin—F. K. P.)—Bore a few specimens, large and good.

Colvert—New to me; tree very thrifty and of most beautiful, upright form. Had some half dozen specimens on tree set in '48, about the size and color of Holland (query, Fall) Pippin, somewhat elongated or conical; flavor mild, good. I think this will prove valuable.

Autumn Strawberry—You may recommend this to your customers with perfect confidence. It is a perfect jewel; trees set in fall of '49 loaded with fruit.

Bailey Sweet—Growth spreading, somewhat slender, curious; fruit good, next to Jersey Sweeting—the best sweet apple I have seen.

Jersey Sweet—Lost more than half the trees I set—they appeared to be tender—but those that got started have done well. Fruit best of all sweets, to my taste.

Yellow Ingestrie—Fruit small, beautiful yellow, form perfect, quality fair. Worth cultivating to a limited extent, if only to look at.

Drop D'or—(should be Holland Pippin—F. K. P.)—Tree a perfect romp—outgrows itself and all reasonable expectations. Can't stop to grow straight, but spreads itself just as it happens—and such loads of fruit as they bore last fall! Fruit large and fair, pretty tart, but fine for cooking.

Surprise—Worthless.

Gravenstein—Trees set in '48 and '49 had two apples. Came fully up to its great reputation.

Pennock—Fruit coarse.

Pomme Gris—Too small.

Queen Ann—Medium size, purplish, early winter, good. Trees set in '49. I think it will prove a good bearer.

Talman Sweet—Bears well.

Belmont—One of the little trees I got of you in '49 was very full of fruit. Quality good.

Rawle's Jannet—I think it will do well here. Fruit very fair, and some specimens quite large. I feel much interested in this variety, and, from what I have seen of it, prefer it to any long keeper I have fruited.

Winter Pearmain—One of my favorites; mild flavored, very rich.

Blue Pearmain—Large, very beautiful. We had but few; I can, therefore, hardly give an opinion, but, at present, I think it not equal to Winter Pearmain.

Golden Russet and Baldwin—Opinion suspended. The boys have eaten them.

R. I. Greening—Trees root grafted, bore well, and such beauties!—I have not seen their like this side of New York.

Green Everlasting—This much despised fruit has yet some good qualities. If not a fine dessert apple, it keeps well, and the tree is an early, constant and great bearer.

Newtown Pippin—Has borne a little fruit, not large, but fair.

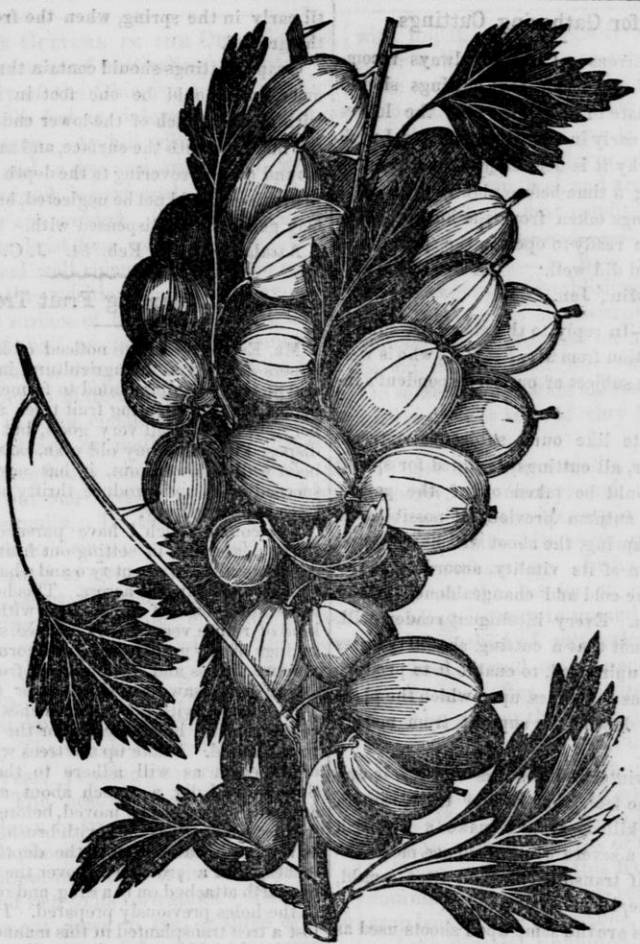
Fameuse—Excellent, bears well.

White Bellflower—Trees small, but had on a few specimens; first rate.

Yellow Bellflower—Another of my favorites. Tree a good grower, and when grafted on seedlings standard height, a reasonably early bearer. Fruit truly excellent.

The *Northern Spy* has not yet fruited.

Burlington, Wis., Jan. D. MATTHEWS.



HOUGHTON'S SEEDLING GOOSEBERRY.

This Gooseberry is said to be a cross between our native Gooseberry and some foreign kind, and was originated by Mr Abel Houghton, of Lynn, Mass. We have cultivated this Gooseberry two years, and have found it hardy—a great bearer, and the fruit of fine quality—from very small roots obtained from Mr. Cahoon, of Kenosha, in the spring of 1852, the twigs of which were less than a foot in length, produced last year, clusters of fruit something like the above.

This Gooseberry excels all other kinds as a grower. Its twigs are long, straight and slender, and should be tied up on a trellis, the same as a grape vine in order to make them bear profusely. Mr. Cahoon, of Kenosha, has a single bush that covers a space ten feet square.

The berry is not so large as some other varieties, but the skin is thin, flesh fine, tender, sweet, and of a delicious flavor. It is in good condition for cooking about four weeks.

California Cranberries.—We have examined three odd looking fruits, which go by the above name, which were raised in Walpole, Mass., from seed sent from California. They look something like an enormous potatoe-apple being about an inch in diameter, round and very full, with a smooth, green skin, covered with a dry film, for defence. It is said they will yield abundantly.—[Portsmouth Chron.

Time for Gathering Cuttings.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I see it always recommended by Nurserymen, that cuttings should be taken off late in the fall, after the leaves drop, or very early in the winter. Now, I wish to inquire, why it is necessary to gather cuttings so long a time before planting. I have planted cuttings taken from the bushes, after the buds were ready to open in the spring, and they lived and did well. A SUBSCRIBER.

St. Paul, Min, Jan., 1854.

REMARKS.—In reply to the above, we submit a communication from Mr. Brayton, who is well posted on the subject of our correspondent's inquiry:

In a climate like ours, subject to extreme cold in winter, all cuttings designed for spring planting, should be taken off of the parent stock in the autumn previous, if possible. If deferred till spring, the shoot will have parted with a portion of its vitality, according to the severity of the cold and changeableness of the winter season. Every intelligent reader will, doubtless, admit that a cutting should possess all its juices uninjured, to enable it to produce roots, as well as the leaves, upon which the plant or tree is to depend for support, from merely leaf buds.

That the winter reduces this vitality, is evident from the fact, that tender trees, though not entirely killed, always make a dwarfish growth after a severe winter, and are more disposed to die if transplanted, than after a mild, temperate one, like that of 1842–3.

The effects are the same upon shoots used as cuttings, which are left above ground, upon the parent stock through winter, rendering tender ones more, and the hardy ones less, hazardous. Our common currant is a very hardy shrub, and its cuttings may be taken at any season after the leaves fall, with success, if properly planted.

As you recommend in your remarks on Mr. Lombard's communication, in Feb. No., instead of a "frozen or thawed" potato, which can have no favorable effect, give the ground about the cuttings, after planting, a coat of mulching (old straw or leaves,) sufficiently thick to prevent evaporation from the surface.

Some of our foreign gooseberries, the grape &c., are more or less tender, and should always be taken off before severe cold weather has set in, and buried in dry ground, out of sight, until early in the spring, when the frost has left the ground.

Grape cuttings should contain three buds or more, and should be one foot in length, cut within half an inch of the lower end; leave the top bud even with the surface, and raise a slight mound over it, covering to the depth of an inch. Mulching should not be neglected, but watering may generally be dispensed with.

Aztalan Nursey, Feb. '54. J. C. BRAYTON.

Transplanting Fruit Trees.

MR. EDITOR:—I have noticed of late, in the papers devoted to the agricultural interest, several methods recommended to farmers and gardeners for transplanting fruit trees and shrubbery. They are all very good, but still I am disposed to follow my old plan, as, when it has been well followed out, it has never failed to succeed well, and produce thrifty and prolific trees and shrubbery.

The course which I have pursued for some thirty years past, in setting out fruit trees, is to dig a round hole, about two and a half feet deep by three or four feet across. This hole I fill up to within a foot of the surface with most any kind of refuse vegetable substance, such as the rakings of my garden and yard, corn butts, chip manure, leaves and rotten wood from the forest, or even sawdust, shavings or tan bark.—This I cover with about two inches of surface earth, and the hole is ready for the tree to be transplanted. I take up the trees with as much of the earth as will adhere to their roots.—Sometimes I dig a trench about a foot deep around the trees to be moved, before the ground freezes, cover the trench with brush, and as soon as the earth has frozen to the depth of a few inches, with a crowbar tip over the trees with the earth attached on to a drag, and remove them to the holes previously prepared. I have never lost a tree transplanted in this manner and they have invariably succeeded well, and many of them have produced fruit the first season following. The vegetable substance, with which I partly filled up the holes in which I set my trees, soon decays, and affords them nourishment for many years, forming a loose compost which the tender roots easily penetrate.

My fruit trees have yielded well the past season, although but little fruit has been produced in this section. Perhaps some may say there is too much labor required to pursue this plan. I would ask if it requires any more labor than it does to transplant two or three times in the old way? For I notice that some of my neighbors who follow the old method, are obliged to set their orchards over two or three times before they succeed in making their trees take root and live. Besides, my orchard is full ten years in advance of others set out at the same time.

My shrubbery I transplant in the same manner, only on a smaller scale as to the size of the holes and the amount of dressing. H. P. D.
—[Maine Farmer.

GRAPE CULTURE IN THE OHIO VALLEY.—The manner of cultivating the vine in the valley of the Ohio, is a matter in which many will feel an interest in all parts of the country. A hill with a southern exposure and a dry, calcareous soil, with a porous subsoil, is preferred. Wet or spongy lands are avoided. The cuttings should contain at least four joints, and be taken from wood well ripened; should be set out in a slanting position, with the top eye even with the surface of the ground, though covered with half an inch of light mould, if the weather is dry. Pruning is done from November to March, and cuttings are preserved in cool cellars until the ground is warm and dry, or mellow. The first season's superfluous shoots are pulled off, leaving but one or two to grow, and but one eventually. In the spring the vine is cut down to a single eye, and one stalk or cane allowed to grow, tied to a stake—no suckers being allowed to grow. The second spring after planting, cut down to two or three eyes, or joints, and the third year to four or five, pinching off laterals and tying up. This year, two stalks are trained to the stake, and some grapes will be produced. The vine is now established. The fourth year, pruning requires good judgment. The best shoot of the former year is cut down to six or eight joints, and fastened to the adjoining stake in a horizontal position, or bent over in the form of a bow, and tied to its own stake. The other stalk is cut down to two or three eyes, to make bearing wood for the next season.—Mr. Buchanan favors the bow system.—The time recommended for tying the vines is when the buds begin to swell and look white.

The cultivation of the grape has been carried on to a high degree of perfection in the Ohio valley.

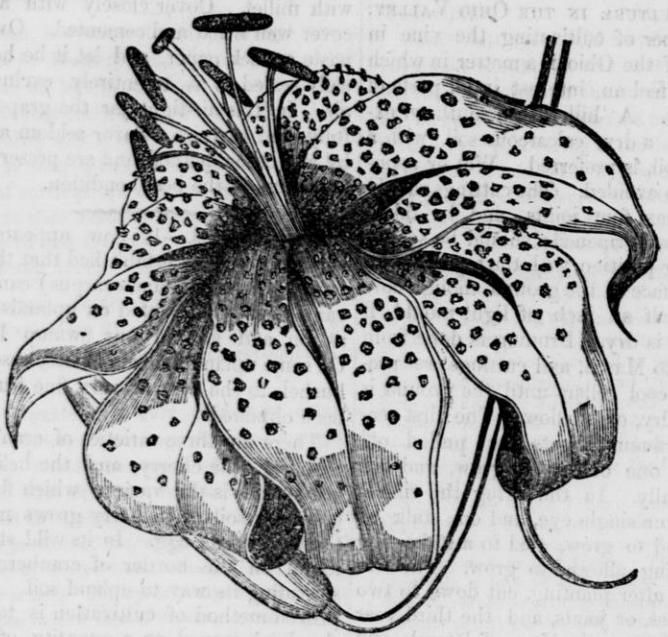
PRESERVATION OF GRAPES.—A traveler who lived at St. Petersburg during the winter season, states that he ate there, the freshest and most beautiful grapes he had ever seen. To preserve them they should be cut before being entirely ripe. Do not handle the berries; reject all damaged ones, then lay the grapes in a stone jar holding about thirty gallons. The mouth should be narrow, so that the grapes will not touch each other. Fill the spaces between them with millet. Cover closely with a stone cover well fitted and cemented. Over this paste a thick paper, and let it be hermetically sealed so as to entirely exclude the air. In this air-tight jar the grapes ripen fully, and acquire a flavor seldom attained by any other method, and are preserved for two years in the best condition.

CRANBERRIES.—It now appears to be very successively established that the cranberry, (Oxycocus Macrocarpus) can be advantageously cultivated on uplands as well as on and around our swamp lands.—On some upland fields in Massachusetts 300 bushels to the acre, of very fine fruit have been obtained.

There are three varieties of cranberry—barberry, the cherry, and the bell. This last species is the variety which flourishes upon dry soils. Its berry grows much in the form of an egg. In its wild state it is found on the border of cranberry bogs, spreading its way to upland soil. The approved method of cultivation is to plough the land, spread on a quantity of swamp muck, and after harrowing the soil thoroughly, set out the plants in drills twenty inches apart, hoeing them the first season. After this, no cultivation is needed. In three years the plant will cover the ground—provided the soil is too poor to encourage the growth of grass or weeds.

The cultivation of this fruit is highly recommended, as it is very remunerative, the crop being quite a sure one, the yield large and the demand unlimited. The time for planting is either in October or November, in the spring, from the opening of the season to about the 25th of May.—Chcago Tribune.

We saw on Saturday, in the green house of O. F. Winchester, Esq., Court street, the most beautiful flower that has ever come under our observation. It is a tropical plant called by the natives "Espiritu Santo," (or Holy Ghost,) and was sent to Dr. Totten, of this city, by his brother Col. Totten, of the Panama railroad—a duplicate of which was given to Dr. Code, of Philadelphia, last spring. It is a most remarkable exotic. The blossom is of a most delicate waxy appearance, the interior of which represents a pure white dove, with outstretched wings, richly mottled. Its delicious fragrance, and long period of remaining in blossom, combine to render it a most desirable plant.—New Haven Reg.



LILIUM SPECIOSUM.

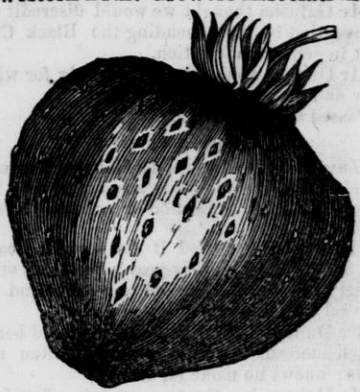
This flower is described in the "Soil of the South" as being the most exquisite specimen of Flora's dominions. "It is in itself a perfect bouquet, blending more of the true principles of beauty, than any one hundred flowers we ever saw. What the dimond is among gems, this lily is among flowers. Its perfume is that of the most delicious violet, and its colors mock description—the most delicate violet melting into white, studded all over with golden dots, such as art might forever try, in vain, to imitate. Its glittering, well poised anthers, trembling on its slender stamens, look like jewels hung in mid air, supported by a fairy hand. The high price of the bulbs, have thus far confined its beauties to a few. Dealer's prices, being from $1,50 to $2,00 per bulb. The bulbs are very small, not larger than a small tulip, but as they multiply freely in our open grounds. we see no reason why the Japan lilies should not soon be sold as cheap as the hyacinth and tulip. The lily, like all other bulbs, flourishes best in a sandy soil. The Japan lilies may be planted in the open border, any time from October to March; they bloom from May until August, and when we take into consideration the little care they require when once planted, propagating themselves, by their offsets, without the trouble of grafting or budding, we are astonished that the Japan lilies have been so long finding their way into Southern gardens. It is considered a tender bulb, and is only cultivated in green houses at the North."

A Curiosity.—An apple has been presented us which has no seeds, and the tree on which it grew, with many others, had no blossoms in the spring. The pulp is exceedingly firm, and of an excellent flavor. In the centre of the apple there is but a very slight appearance of a core. We have a faint recollection of reading somewhere, that fruit of this character was usually obtained by driving the pith out of the body of the tree. Quite a number of trees bearing such fruit are said to be growing about Salt Creek. As such trees are said to be very prolific, and sure bearers, it may be well worth the attention of fruit growers to investigate the subject. Such apples would be far preferable to the common ones for eating, drying or cooking, if equal in quality and size; the trouble and waste of the core being saved.

[Bloomington (Ill.) Herald.

☞ The young leaves of the black Currant are sometimes dried and used instead of tea.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.



Strawberries were taken up as the first business presented.

Large Early Scarlet.—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy, esteemed it a very productive and desirable variety.

Mr. Brayton found it the most profitable variety he had tested.

Recommended by Convention as desirable; one of the most profitable

Necked Pine.—Mr. Shepherd had proved it very productive, and to continue longer in succession than any other variety he was acquinted with. Has had larger berries from it than from Hovey's Seedling; it is perfectly hardy.

Mr. A. R. Whitney has had it in cultivation five years; considers it better for market than any other variety of his acquaintance.

Mr. Brayton thought the specimens on exhibition as Necked Pine were the Large Early Scarlet, just recommended

Mr. Edwards, of Bureau county, cultivates largely the variety on exhibition; has had one hundred bushels this year from a little over an acre of land; decidedly the most productive and profitable he has yet tested; received it without name; by some has been called Large Early Scarlet—so described by J. P. Eames in current volume of "Prairie Farmer;" he is now satisfied that it is the Necked Pine.

Recommended by Convention as worthy of general cultivation in the West.

Hovey's Seedling.—Mr. Dunlap thinks too tender; not worthy of cultivation in this region.

Mr. Brayton—It is tender in Wisconsin.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy—It is hardy and excellent in this section of country.

Mr Herrick—Is very unproductive with him

Mr Perkins has cultivated it five years, and considers it first rate.

Mr Stetson has cultivated it and the Early Scarlet; finds Hovey's Seedling of poor quality.

No action of the Convention taken.

Burr,s New Pine.—Dr. Wardner thought it a poor grower generally; medium in size, of good quality; would not recommend it for market; no amateur should be without it.

Mr Wight has cultivated it for three years; agrees with Dr. Warder as to its growth and quality.

Mr. Galusha has cultivated it for several years; too tender with him; more tender than Hovey's Seedling: never fruits.

Mr Watts—At Rochester, N. Y., it was very profitable last year as a market fruit; the present season has been too dry.

No vote taken.

Mr Dunlap has cultivated Strawberries 20 years; now raises but two varieties: the Large Early Scarlet, and a variety he received as Methven Scarlet. The fruit of the latter is of a bright scarlet color, somewhat later than the other variety, and rather acid.

McAvoy's Superior—Was introduced by Dr. Warder as a very productive variety, of large size; he had but one fault to find with it—the leaves turn brown in August.

Mr McWhorter said it promised well with him; fruit of a superior quality.

Mr Edwards, of Bureau—The leaves have turned brown in August on his plants, but are now healthy, and young leaves are of a lively green color; one of the easiest varieties to transplant.

Mr Watts—It is highly valued at Rochester.

Dr. Warder—The variety figured in the Horticulturist is Longworth's Prolific. He considers McAvoy's Superior worthy the premium awarded to it, and moved that the Convention recommend it for further trial in the West.

Carried.

Iowa Male.—Mr Edwards said that it bore a good crop once in three years.

Mr Richardson found it in flower late in the fall, potted some of the plants, and had fruit through the winter.

Dr. Warder has often found blossoms late in the fall; sometimes berries are sold at that season in Cincinnati from the open ground. The Iowa is a curiosity; will sometimes bear a full crop, at other times scarce at all.

No action taken.

Hudson.—Mr Dunlap finds it a very uncertain bearer.

Dr. Warder—In his locality it is one of the best market varieties, equal in size to Hovey's.

Mr McWhorter—Very hardy; superior in bearing to all others.

Mr Edwards, of Bureau—Is unproductive; worthless on that account with him; had plants from Cincinnati.

Recommended for general cultivation in the West.

Mr Dunlap offered some remarks on garden Strawberry culture. Recommended to plant in the spring, on ground trench plowed twelve to sixteen inches deep. In the fall cover with two or three inches of stable litter, rake off the coarser part of it in the spring; after two years spade under one half the ground; thus renew the plantation for many years.

Mr Edwards, of Bureau—Would use no manure on good prairie soil; has known a rank growth of vines, without fruit, when manured highly.

RASPBERRIES.

Ohio Everbearing—Mr Kinney has had three crops this season; esteems it highly.

Mr Shepherd—Bears in succession with him; prolific and very hardy.

Mr. Coleman has seen it bear abundantly; considers it very superior.

Recommended by Convention for its extreme hardiness, productiveness, and exemption from liability to sucker from the root.

Dr. Haskell introduced a yellow variety, brought by him from Massachusetts; resembles in form of berry and growth of plant, the native black thimble berry; very hardy, and best in quality of fruit; has cultivated it fifteen years; always hardy.

Mr Ellsworth has it from Dr. H.; esteems it the best he has any acquaintance with.

Mr Stewart is familiar with it; tender only in Southern exposures and severe winters.

Mr Hathaway cultivates it with some half dozen other varieties; finds it the most productive; hardy, except in severe winters.

Recommended by Convention for general cultivation in the West.

Red Antwerp—But few of the members acquainted with it in the West; and by them pronounced very tender in the plant.

Voted as not sufficiently hardy for general cultivation.

CURRANTS.

Red Dutch.—Messrs Dunlap, Coleman, Galusha and others, considered that there was no material difference between the Red Dutch of the books and our Red Currant in common cultivation, when well manured and cultivated.

This the Convention recommended for general, *good* cultivation.

White Dutch.—Mr Dunlap has often brought from Eastern nurseries bushes under this name They have generally borne berries of large size and *red* color.

Mr Ellsworth—The fruit is superior to the common white.

Mr Holmes, of Rockford—The growth is more upright than the red; fruit of superior quality.

Recommended by Convention for general cultivation.

Victoria.—Passed as too little known in the West.

Black Naples.—Ditto.

Mr. Ellsworth considers it as identical with *Black English*.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy, has cultivated Black English; is unproductive; has a new variety in bearing this year; a profuse bearer.

Mr Herrick—Good only for medicine.

Mr. Holmes, of Rockford, considers it superior for wine, jellies and preserving; twice as productive as the red or white.

Mr. Edwards, of Bureau——Experience and opinion coincide with Mr. Holmes'.

Mr Galusha thought we would discredit the Convention by recommending the Black Currant in general cultivation.

Mr Dunlap would recommend only for wine, jelly and preserving.

Passed without action.

GOOSEBERRIES.

Houghton's Seedling.—Mr Holmes has cultivated it three years; bears sparingly, with few exceptions; thinks position or exposure affects its bearing.

Mr Stewart has tried it for several years; has bore profusely every year; knows no other variety equal to it. Moved to recommend for general cultivation. Lost.

Mr Dunlap has cultivated a small red berry, which succeeds tolerably well, but often mildews; knows no name for it

Mr Holmes has the same variety; free from mildew.

Messrs Ellsworth and Colby—Experience same as Mr Holmes'.

Mr Hanford—Almost invariably mildews with him.

A member (name not noted) has seen them on low prairie soil entirely free from mildew, while on higher prairie they mildewed badly.

The President said that no Gooseberry was known to mildew near the Lake Shore, in the vicinity of Chicago.

Samuel Edwards has had bushes badly affected by mildew for several years; this year gave them a very severe pruning, mulched with coarse hay, top-dressed soil with well-rotted barnyard manure, salt and leached ashes; no mildew.

Mr Mason has two varieties free from mildew; another variety in his vicinity free from it; a fourth mildews badly.

Mr Wight has Crown Bob and White Amber; his neighbors have red, green, white and yellow varieties; none of them ever mildew; soil rich and moist, the only reasons he could assign for their exemption.

Mr Colby inquired if soil drained easily from near the surface.

Mr Wight—It does, but is always moist.—Soil is very fine. Gardens are generally elevated from six to twelve feet above Lake Michigan. Some cultivators prune severely, others not at all; always bear well. Houghton's Seedling needed pruning, or tying to stakes, to prevent falling to the ground and taking root; it is then a good bearer.

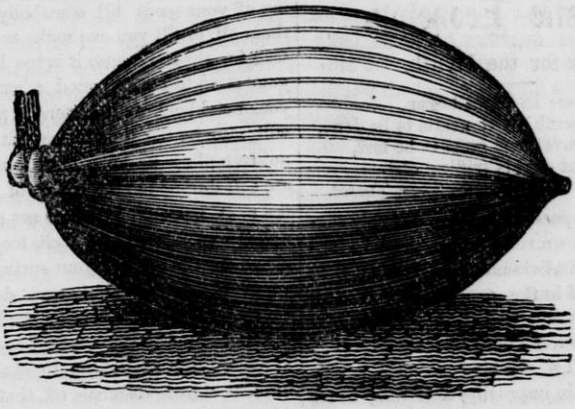
Mr Cahoon, of Kenosha, Wis., has a bush of it that spreads and covers a space ten feet square.

Mr Holmes thought on sandy soils it would be exempt from mildew; his soil is dry, sandy prairie.

On motion of Arthur Bryant, discussion of Gooseberries was discontinued.

[*To be continued.*]

☞ The Currant is a native of Great Britain and the North of England.



THE BOSTON MARROW SQUASH.

The above is a correct representation of the Boston Marrow Squash. The usual size of this squash is about one foot in length, and from six to eight inches at its largest diameter. It is of a deep orange color, with almost scarlet streaks. We esteem this variety of squash above any other, both for beauty and quality. It is the most popular kind carried into the Boston market, and always sells for a higher price than any other variety. It will be observed, that the seeds of this squash are among those we propose to distribute as premiums.—We obtained the seed from Messrs. Hovey & Co., Seedsmen, Boston, in the spring of 1853.

THE TREES OF OREGON.—A fir tree standing on the farm of Judge Strong, at the Cathlamette, twenty-five miles above Astoria, on the Columbia river, has the following dimensions: Diameter, five feet above the ground, where it is round and sizeable, 10 feet; height to the first limb, 112 feet; height of the tree, 242 feet.—This trunk is perfectly straight, diminishes very gradually, and the whole tree is beautiful: yet in this respect not singular, for our forests are composed of trees lofty, straight and beautiful.

A spruce tree, standing on the bottom lands of Lewis and Clark's river, ten miles from Astoria, measured accurately with the tape five feet above the ground, is 39 feet in circumference. The place of measuring is above the swell of the roots.—The trunk is round, and with a regular and slight diminution runs up straight and lofty. We did not ascertain its height. Nor is it "alone in its glory," but in a forest of spruce, cedar, and fir, some of the trees of nearly and perhaps quite equal size.

Gen. John Adair, of Astoria, informs me that about three years ago he bought a hundred thousand shingles, all made from one cedar tree, for which he gave fifteen hundred dollars in gold.

The forest trees of Oregon are remarkable for their straightness, loftiness, and very gradual diminution in size. They are destitute of large branches, and have comparatively little foliage. Two hundred feet in length of saw-logs have been cut from a tree, the smallest end being sixteen inches in diameter. Lewis and Clark "measured a fallen tree of that species (fir,) and found that, including the stump of about six feet, it was three hundred and eighteen feet in length, though its diameter was only three feet." [N. Coe, in Horticulturist.

PROLIFIC SHEEP.—A recent letter from J. M, Leland, Bristol, Kenosha, co., Wis., says:

"One year since I purchased 50 sheep of the coarse wool or common kind, (which came from the South.) Of that number 34 were ewes. I put a fine wooled buck with them, and the result was 38 lambs.—Of those which had lambs, 9 had 22, 6 had twins, 2 had 3 each, and 1 had 4.—This is true to the letter. All lived but two—the one having four lost two. All were undoubtedly dropped alive, for when I found the ewe three were living. If any of the sheep rearers can beat this, I will try again next spring."—[Exchange.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

Though it is impossible in these monthly suggestions, to lay down rules which shall be applicable to every individual's case, further than what is embraced in the general one, "do all things in due season"; yet, while we hint strongly at things to be done, we would advise every one to use his thinking as well as his corporeal powers in improving his leisure hours in forming plans to be perfected in future action. Well directed effort accomplishes so much, and does it so much more satisfactorily than that performed without a previous design, that no work of importance should be undertaken without being previously well digested in the mind.

This is the month when all the kinds of stock need to be looked after closely. The cows will be dropping their calves, and the ewes their lambs, though we hope the latter will generally be delayed till the next month. These cows and ewes, and their young, must have the best of care. A few carrots, beets, or potatoes, with shorts, oil meal, some green bough, where they can be had, &c., for sheep, to get both the parents and the offspring well started after this period of much risk and importance to both.—This period safely passed, and nothing but a promising future is before the animals. It is important that cattle, and especially sheep, and still more especially these having lambs, have good dry places or yards, in which they can lie down. Sheep are inclined to stand out in warm showers, and get their fleeces well filled with water, then when a change comes they are in the worst possible condition to bear it. They should, therefore, be kept under sheds in rainy weather until they have passed the period of severe cold.

Now is the time *actually* to begin to put things to rights in the garden; to make the hot-bed, and in the latter part of the month to put in the seed of such vegetables as are wished early, such as cabbages, radishes, tomatoes, lettuce, cauliflowers, peppers, &c. In another article we shall speak fully of the manner of making these hot-beds. Look well to the compost heap, that you may have the proper manure for your several vegetables. Do not delay the purchasing of your seeds till somebody else has got them all, or till you can make no provision for securing them, because it is too late. Make up your mind to have as good a garden as any of your neighbors, and better, if possible. Now will also be the time to see that the cattle are not trampling up your grass lands, while they are soft during the latter part of this and thro' the next month. Meadows are greatly injured in this way. It will be well, too, now to look about for the seed of your spring and summer crops, if you have not as yet done it. Select well your seed. Do not sow or plant that which is deteriorated in the least. Use full and heavy kernels. It is well, also, to change seed with farmers a little distance off, that there may be a benefit from the change of soil. Plants as well as sheep, are fond of a change of pastures. Calculate on raising something of a variety of crops, that if there is a failure of one there may not be a failure of all your crops.

The middle of the month will be a good time to cover the asparagus bed and the strawberries with manure, if it was not done in the fall. A heavy coating of pretty well rotted manure, for the asparagus, and a tolerably heavy coating of chip manure for the strawberries.

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

☞ Put new earthenware into cold water, and let it heat gradually until it boils—then cool again. Brown earthenware, particularly, may be toughened in this way. A handful of rye or wheat bran thrown in while it is boiling, will preserve the glazing so that it will not be destroyed by acid or salt.

Shrinking and Swelling of Meat in the Pot.—When children, we used to be told that pork, beef, &c., killed in the *old* of the moon would *shrink in the pot;* and if in the *new, that it would swell;* and a great many good honest farmers religiously observed the waxing and waning quarters for their periodical packing. That some meats shrink, while others swell, is a fact too notorious for cavil; but that the moon is to be praised or blamed for this agency, we most fully deny. The true causes of these changes is found in the manner of feeding animals before slaughtering. An animal that has been long and well fed, until the fat has become fully charged with solid matter, will on exposure to boiling water, absorb a portion of it, and consequently swell the dimensions of the flesh; while that which has been hastily, or but partially fattened, will diminish in cooking from the abstractions of the juices which occupied the cavities or spaces between the lean fibres.—This is the *whole secret of the shrinking and swelling* of meats. It will thus be perceived that one carcass of equal weight may differ materially in value from another of nearly the same apparent quality. Eggs from well fed hens are also much more rich and substantial than those produced by hens sparingly fed.—The latter will invariably be found meagre and watery.—[Am. Agriculturist.

Coloring of Butter.—Of the various recipes for giving the proper color to butter, the "Prairie Farmer" approves of that recommending the use of carrots, and very judiciously advises that they be given to the cows. Butter thus colored, we think, will not only possess the desirable golden yellow, but be from 18 to 20 carrots fine.

To Keep Eggs.—About two years ago I tho't I would pack some eggs in charcoal. I pounded the charcoal, and packed them in the same manner as recommended, in oats, ashes, salt, &c. The result was, they kept perfectly good, and these when used were as fresh and good to all appearances, as new laid eggs. I have tried charcoal, says the above correspondent, with the same result, since.—[Agriculturist.

To Pickle Eggs.—The eggs should be boiled hard, say ten minutes, and divested of their shells; when quite cold put them in jars, and pour over them vinegar—sufficient to quite cover them—in which has been boiled the usual spices for pickling, tie the jars down tight with bladder, and keep them until they begin to change color. It is the best pickle made to be eaten with cold meat.

To Clarify Honey.—Melt the best kind with water over a water bath, add the white of an egg, and boil it to throw up the scum; when the sum is removed, the water must be evaporated, and the honey brought to its former consistence.

☞ When molasses is used in cooking, it is a prodigious improvement to boil and skim it before you use it. It takes out the unpleasant raw taste, and makes it almost as good as sugar.

☞ New iron should be very gradually heated at first; after it has become inured to heat it is not likely to crack.

Indian Loaf.—Two quarts of fine corn meal, dry, one table-spoonful of salt, one and a half pints of flour, one pint molasses, one pint buttermilk, one tea-spoonful saleratus; mix well, and bake about three hours, slowly, in an iron basin.

To Remove Grease from Books.—Lay upon the spot a little magnesia, or powdered prepared chalk, and under it the same; set on it a warm flat iron, and as soon as the grease is melted, it will be all absorbed, and leave the paper clean.

Branding Sheep.—The proper place to brand is on the top of the rump; that the mark may be seen from any position the sheep may chance to be in, and that it may not be obliterated by their crowding together. The size of the letter need not exceed two inches in length, and should be put on without handling the sheep at all. The tar should be in a shallow vessel with a handle; the sheep should be in a close pen, (easily made with feeding boxes,) when they may be branded and counted in a very short time, without laying hands on them.

Cure for Founder.—Mix one pint of the seed of the common sunflower in the animal's food as soon as you discover symptoms of founder.

Cement.—The best cement ever used for roughcoat plaster, on the outside of buildings, is made of clean, coarse, sharp sand mixed two parts, by measure, with one of good, fresh slacked, stone lime. If the sand is not entirely clean, put it in a tub or trough and stir it until every particle of clay and vegetable matter is washed out. We have seen this cement used, on the basement walls of dwellings, and where it has stood for six years without showing any signs of decay.

☞ Clean a brass kettle before using it for cooking, with salt and vinegar.

☞ A workshop, where tools can be kept, is an indispensable appendage to a good farm.

Editors Table.

Fill up the Clubs.

We find upon our books the names of a large number of Post-offices, to which are sent from ONE to SEVEN copies of the Farmer. Now let all such lists be increased to clubs of ten or more, and thus each subscriber will receive, in addition to the paper, a package of seeds. We venture to say, that there are but few organized school districts in the whole Northwest, in which a club of at least ten subscribers cannot be obtained for the Farmer.

☞ We notice that an Agricultural Society has lately been organized in Winnebago county, Ill. Among its officers we recognize the names of several with whom we are acquainted, and whose interest in Agricultural pursuits and in the breeding of improved stock, is a sure guarantee of the complete prosperity and success of the Society. We feel so much personal concern in this Society, that we wish it all prosperity and shall endeavor to be present at its Fairs, and witness the success of our friends in their laudable and commendable enterprizes.—Winnebago has the means and the intellectual ability, to compete with any county any where.

☞ The "Prairie Farmer" for February has an interesting article from the "Agricultural Gazette, (Eng.,) showing that the Short Horns, instead of decreasing in value, never stood so high in the estimation of breeders as at the present moment, whether on this side or the other of the Atlantic.

Wheat in Minnesota.—The average yield of wheat in the neighborhood of St. Anthony, is said to be about thirty bushels to the acre.

At Pembina and Selkirk, wheat yields 35 bushels to the acre, is sown in the spring and fit to cut by the early part of August.—[St. Paul Pioneer.

Profitable Hens.—David Depue, of Pittsfield, Washtenaw Co., Mich., has 160 hens which he has kept the past season, 130 of which he kept shut up in a yard, embracing an area of about 182 square feet. They have been fed upon oats and barley, as their principal food, with corn once a week. From the hens he has sold twelve hundred and forty dozen eggs, and estimates that he has used one hundred and twenty dozen, making in the aggregate *thirteen hundred and sixty dozen.*

Threshing Machine.—Geo. P. Brown, of Fond du Lac, Wis., wishes to hear from some farmer who has used Case's Threshing Machine—the two horse Tread Power, with Cleaner attached. He wishes to know whether they work well.

The Swan Flower of Venzuela, when in full bloom, resembles, in one position, a Swan with closed wings, and in another with outstretched wings. The interior of the flower is exceedingly beautiful. Venezuela also produces a flower called a pigeon flower—it is like a bird's nest in shape, while its stamens and petals resemble a pigeon at rest.

☞ The act has gone into effect in London, which requires that factories, mills and manufactories of all kinds shall burn their smoke.—Coal smoke is declared a nuisance which ought to be abated, and smoke is condemned to be burnt.

Dodge Co. Agricultural Society—Officers for 1854:—

Geo. W. Green, Beaver Dam, President.
T. B. Sterling, Iron Ridge, V. President.
E. C. Hull, Beaver Dam, Secretary.
Joel Rich, Juneau, Treasurer,

Executive Committee,

First Dist. Obadiah Crane, of Leroy.
2d do L. S. Van Orden, of Neosho.
3d do Ira D. Lonsbury, Watertown.
4th do Clark Lawton, of Lowell.
5th do G. C. Gunn, of Trenton.
6th do Ephraim Perkins, of Juneau.

Minnesota Agricultural Society.—A Convention was held at St. Paul, January 4th, to form a Territorial Agricultural Society. Wm. Holcomb, of Washington, was called to the Chair, and Col. J. H Stevens, of Hennipen, and W. H. Morse, of Washington, were appointed Secretaries of the Convention.

The Convention proceeded to elect officers for the year 1854, which resulted as follows:

His Excellency, W. A. Gorman, President.

J. W. Selby, of Ramsey; R. M. Richardson, of Benton; S. M. Cook, of Dakota; John H. Stevens, of Hennipen; R. Watson, of Washington; and Wm. H. Nobles, of Scott—Vice Presidents.

Dr. A. E. Ames, of Hennipen, Secretary.
C. H. Parker, of Ramsey, Treasurer.

Executive Committee,

B. F. Hoyt, of Ramsey;
W. R. Brown, of Washington;
N. E. Stoddard, of Hennipen;
Capt. J. B. S. Todd, of Cass;
Wm. S. Allison, of Dakota.

Iowa State Agricultural Society.—The following is the list of officers for 1854:

T. W. Claggett, of Lee, President.

D. P. Inskeep, of Wappelo, V, President.

J. M. Shaffer and C. W. Slage, of Jefferson, Secretaries.

W. B. Chamberlain, of Des Moines, Treas.

Besides these, there is a Board of Managers consiting of three from each county.

Size of American Territories.—Utah would make twenty States of the size of New Hampshire; Nebraska, fifteen; Indian, twenty; North-west, sixty-five; total—one hundred and twenty-six States. Should these Territories have an equal population to the square mile with New Hampshire, they would contain a population of about thirty-eight million souls. What a destiny awaits our country.

Beloit College Monthly.—We have received the first three numbers of this paper, published by the students connected with Beloit College. It is made up wholly of original matter; nine numbers corresponding to the months in the College year, constitute a volume. Terms 50 cents. We have watched with much interest the progress of this paper, and have read attentively, not to say critically, the several numbers as they have appeared. Tho' we confess to a degree of fear and doubt as to the result of this attempt to sustain such a paper—strengthened, doubtless, by the fate of many similar efforts in older institutions—yet, we are happy to say, that these are being dissipated, as we find each number evidently better than its predecessor, and bearing external evidence of a healthy existence, and internal promise that the fountains from which issue these gushing rills, at first, perhaps, too much impregnated with pent up vapors, are not of shallow depth, or soon to be dried up, or furnish any thing else, when their current is fully established, than crystal waters healthful to the nations. We heartily commend the paper to the patronage of the public, and solicit for it friends and patrons. We trust that the paper will be able to sustain its present character, modified only as its age and experience shall open to it a wider, deeper, and a more real and earnest field of labor. We are pleased with the views entertained in the article, "Professions *vs.* Business Life," in the last number, and are inclined to transfer it to our columns.

Iowa Journal of Education.—We have received the February No. of this periodical, edited by R. R. Gilbert, and published by R. Spaulding, Dubuque. Terms $1. It is quite spirited in its manifestations, and will do much to awaken an interest in the important subject of Education in the West. We commend the Journal to the teachers of the West, excepting the last page of *Fun and Humor*, which is not sufficiently elevated to correspond with the character of the other pages.

Address of Wm. S. King.—We have just perused, with exquisite pleasure, the very able and edifying address of Wm. S. King, Esq., editor of the Boston Journal of Agriculture, before the N. H. Agricultural Society. We wish it could be in the hands of all of our readers. We have marked several passages, which we shall use hereafter. It ably advocates the application of Science to Agriculture. For several reasons we can truly say, that it is a *royal* production.

The Monthly Visitor and Granite Farmer have been merged in a weekly; under the title of the *Granite Farmer and Visitor*. C. E. Potter and Levi Bartlett, Editors; $2 per year. It is devoted to Agriculture. News and General Intelligence, and one of the very best family papers we know of. We advise all New Hampshire boys in the West to secure its weekly visits.

Parlor Magazine, for February, is received filled with sound and useful literature. This monthly has attained a high character among the literary works of the day, and is a new feather in the cap of Western enterprise. It is not a whit behind any of its Eastern cotemporaries. Each number is handsomely illustrated with a steel plate and wood engravings. Address Jethro Jackson, Cincinnati.

Moore's Rural New Yorker.—It is hardly worth while for us to speak of this work.—We have often called attention to it. Every body, almost, sees and reads it. If any of our readers do not, we advise them to order it forthwith.

Godey's Lady's Book, for February, is on hand, with its usual promptness, filled with the choicest productions of literature, and appropriately embellished.

The Ancient Landmark.—A monthly, devoted to Masonry, Literature, General Intelligence. M. H. Marsh, publisher, Mt. Clemente, Mich. $1 per annum. The Landmark appears to be the organ of the Masonic fraternity, but contains much that will interest the general reader.

NORTON'S LITERARY AND EDUCATIONAL REGISTER FOR 1854.—We are indebted to the author and publisher for a copy of the above named publication. It is of great value to every literary person, and those who feel any interest in the progress of knowledge throughout the world. It gives an account in full of all the public libraries in the world, a full account of the interesting proceedings of the Convention of Librarians, held at New York last September, a vast amount of literary statistics, also a list of all the books published in America in 1853, and a list of the publishers, together with a list of the English publications for 1853.

Mr. Norton, both by this Literary Register and his Literary Gazette, together with his New York Quarterly, is doing a good work for Education and Literature. The latter of these works, however, we have not seen, but hear well of it. We hope that we shall soon be favored with the numbers that we may speak more advisedly.

THE JOURNAL OF THE N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, ALBANY.—We have received the number for January. This is a valuable and important Journal, especially to the members of the Society and of the State. The N. Y. State Agricultural Society, like most of the institutions of the Empire State, is conducted on enlarged principles, and is a worthy example for the imitation of other State Societies, and its able and discreet Secretary a pattern for other State Agricultural Secretaries.

☞ We are indebted to the Hon. Charles Durkee for valuable Congressional Documents. The Patent Office Report for 1852–3 is as valuable as any of its predecessors. That is some praise; but we hope to see the day when we can say more than that even. With the patronage of government, this should be one of the most valuable, as well as *reliable* documents presented to the farmer. It is now hardly equal to the Transactions of most of our State Societies. As it is, however, it is a duty of our representatives in Congress, to see that they are abundantly distributed.

THE WAPACCA SPIRIT.—This is a new paper, published at Waupacca Falls, Wis., by the Messrs. Redfields. The Spirit is well got up, and will render good service in bringing into notice the advantages of its locality for new settlers. We were at Waupacca Falls three years ago, and found it then a smart village. It possesses an excellent water power and the finest stream of water we have ever seen in the State. The country about the Falls is diversified with prairie, openings, and dense forest of pine, maple and other kinds of timber.

☞ The awards of the juries at the Crystal Palace are announced. The whole number of silver medals awarded is 115; of bronze, 1,186. The number of exhibitors who received honorable mention is 1,210.

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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., APRIL, 1854. NO. 4.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance:** Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

Demand for Grain.

In the January number of the Farmer, we spoke of the prospective demand of grain, and the probable high price it would bear, and gave some of the reasons for our opinion. What we then said was with reference to the selling of grain which the farmers already had on hand. We are gratified to know that our views have been fully realized, and that our farming community are pocketing the gold for their golden harvest. We wish now to call the attention of farmers to the subject again; not now, however, with reference to the sale of the crop of 1853, but to induce them to enter largely into the raising of grain of all kinds, which it is possible to do, the coming season. As far as we can learn, there was not a common breadth of winter grain put in last fall. The circumstances controlling the market were not then sufficiently developed, certainly to farmers in general, to serve as a basis for their then future operations. These are now sufficiently unfolded to render it certain that the demand for grain must continue to be great, and can only be met by an abundant crop the coming season. The continued wet weather in England, during the time for the sowing of winter grain last fall, will necessarily render the crop there in 1854, less than its usual amount; so that, from this cause alone, there will be a demand from England upon the United States for grain. In addition to this, the war in the Danubian Provinces, which now seems to be a settled fact, will greatly increase the demand by causing a less amount of grain to be sown in the territories of those engaged in war—diminishing the producers and increasing the consumers—and by obstructing the importation of grain from those countries which have usually furnished to England and France large amounts. The following language, by a writer in the *Mark Lane Express* (England), corroborates our views:

"Should the Principalities be occupied for twelve months under offensive operations, there cannot be a doubt but they will experience a deficient crop next year, as well as the adjoining provinces of the belligerent parties; so that during 1855, the provinces of the Black Sea may require their own wheat, if not something more, if they can get it."

We feel the importance of urging upon our farmers the duty to themselves and the country, of being able to meet, to some extent, the demand which we are confident will be made upon them for grain. We do not say, neglect other things, other crops, stock, sheep, &c.; but we do urge the duty of not suffering this opportunity of bringing into the West millions of dollars in exchange for grain to pass unimproved by the farmers.

While we are on this subject, let us also remind you of the importance of sowing the *best* of seed, and of putting it in in the *most approved* method, whatever be the cost. Be assured, the money will be refunded to you in the quality and quantity of the crop.

Poultry.

It is a well settled fact, that no animal on the farmer's premises gives so great an increase for the amount of outlay, as the domestic hen; and yet no animal has been more traduced, vilified and slandered. She is banished from the premises of many who are unable to live without her productions, and compelled to seek her scanty means of living about the guarded and picketed premises of others who feel themselves under the necessity of suffering her to live, but who will pursue her with clubs, brick-bats and stones, if she unwittingly takes a kernel from the crib, or picks up a crumb from the grunter's superabundance. Peculiarly adapted, by the many excellencies of character which she possesses, to be an occupant of the farm-yard, her existence is a necessity not only to the

farmer himself, but to every duly-provided-for family. In her excellencies of character she much resembles the *gude huswife*. Her mate, desirous of being doubly useful, assumes the responsible position of acting as the rustic's night clock, giving him, with nice precision, the several watches of the night, and the early, but proper alarm for his resurrection in the morning, duly to commence the labors of the day.—He is also a perfect pattern of the *gude husband*, and we commend him to the consideration of all surly and improvident heads of families.

Fowls not only offer us their daily contribution to the pantry and the platter, but they yield up their lives at a moment's notice to furnish the table, for ourselves and our guests, with one of the best of viands.

We therefore undertake to urge the claims of the domestic hen upon the farmer. Her wrongs, to which we have alluded, like those of women, have become grievous and loudly call for a reform. She has been too long the constant and unwearied benefactor of the farmer, and furnished his table with too many *tit-bits* not to receive at our hands certainly justice, if not generosity. She has been condemned because she would not give us the egg a day, through the week, and on Sunday two, without the least furnishing of material on our part. Egyptian like, we have refused the straw and demanded the bricks. No other animal is so treated, and, in the warmth of our plea, we must say so abused. Ready as she is to give us by weight daily, more than she asks at our hands, she ought to be allowed an opportunity of rendering her efforts of service to the farmer.

So much in plea for the hens.

It will naturally be asked, what is the particular treatment they should receive, to do them justice; and then, what shall be the kind, out of the great number of varieties, that we should choose? The treatment is about alike, whatever be the kind, modified only by the consideration that some, from their erratic habits, will better supply themselves with food, and therefore will not require to be furnished so abundantly as other kinds which are much more quiet in their habits, and explore daily much less territory.

The great thing to secure an abundance of good rich eggs—for eggs, even newly laid ones, differ greatly in their qualities—is *variety* of food. All kinds of grain, meat, bread, potatoes, &c., &c., come in play. Whatever usually finds a proper place in the swill-pail—but often, instead, goes to the miserable sheep-killing whelp of a cur—is duly prized and disposed of by the fowls.

As to the variety, we think well of every kind that has tolerably well marked the distinctive characteristics of any of the improved breeds. Most of our *native* fowls, like our native cattle, have been actually run out, and, as the boys would say, run into the ground. They are like the miserable Hottentots in Africa, despised even by the monkies and the inhabitants of Isham's "mud cabin," in England so despicably degraded that they are passed redemption.

All farmers not being alike in their likes and dislikes, any more than other people, the different kinds of fowls will by them be received with different favor. In the village where gardens are numerous and contiguous, and there are nearly as many hen-haters as hen-husseys, no other than the "Knickerbocker's" Up the River correspondent's *round-about-short-tailed coat* kinds should be allowed. These Cochins, Shanghais and Chittagons, &c., are so heavy and so short-winged that they are unable to mount any thing but a low roost, and much less a respectably high fence. Again, they are so quiet, and so domestic, and so *civilized* in their habits, and have such a just conception of a hen's duty and sphere, that they win the admiration of all who are more influened by the idea of utility than the less profitable one of beauty. To those, however, who can afford to have an eye to beauty, while they do not wholly forget the useful, we can recommend the prim, nicely rigged Bolton Grey; or, the beautifully dressed, variegated and top-knotted Poland, though very erratic in her habits, vetoing all confinement, and backing it up by a total refusal of eggs. To those who can afford to give a greater regard to beauty than utility, and are willing to put up with what they can get in return for good looks, we recommend the royal and aristocratic black Spanish, with his broad red comb, contrasting strongly with his rich and glossy black plumage, and the magnificent and lordly Guilderland. But mind you, if you wish to dance to this tune you must pay the fiddler.

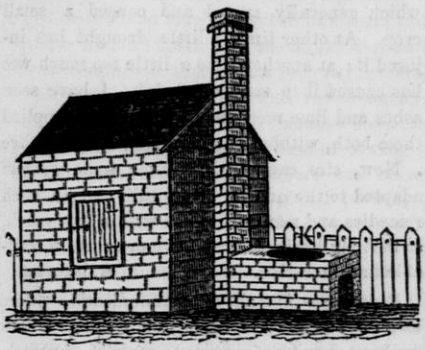
We are glad to know that there is more interest taken in the breeding and rearing of fowls among us than formerly. There are many good fowls in the State, and we hope there will be more. We hope that those who have fowls of the improved breeds, will labor to disperse them. We shall be pleased to notice all such efforts, and to advertise them. We shall

have a few eggs of some buff Shanghais to dispose of to our friends, at low prices—they to be served in the order of application.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Building Smoke and Ash Houses.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Having had occasion to build a smoke house the past fall, I sought in vain for one from which to copy in the construction of mine, and was consequently left to contrive one entirely on "my own hook," and I succeeded so much to my satisfaction, that I herewith send you a plan and description of it.



PLAN OF ELEVATION.

This smoke house will contain all the meat necessary for a family of large size, (say at least 3 or 400 pieces,) and is also an ash house and boiling apparatus for cooking food for swine, or any other purpose for which a cauldron kettle is needed.

The house is six feet by eight feet *on the* ground, and should be 3 feet in the ground, and 7 feet above, making the walls in height, 10 feet from the bottom to the top on the inside.—The excavated space is used for an ash house, and the door should be 3½ feet or 4 feet from the door sill to the bottom of the smoke house. Door 3½ feet high, 2 feet 4 inches wide, inside the casings.

The cauldron kettle should contain 2 barrels, if designed for scalding very large hogs, but for 250 or 300 hogs, 1½ barrel kettle will be large enough. This should be set in an arch at one end of the smoke house, and the draft from the fire should go once around the kettle, in a flue, before it is let into the chimney, and this will be about two feet from the ground. The end of the house where the chimney is built should serve as one side of the chimney, which can thus be run up to the desired height, and be as firm as any other part of the building. Opposite where the flue enters the chimney, a space should be left 6 inches by 8, through which the smoke enters the smoke house when the kettle is *not* used for heating; when it *is* used for boiling food or heating water, this is closed by a sheet iron *slide*. The draft up chimney is closed in the same way by a slide, when the smoke is driven entirely into the smoke house when needed, by moving it. These slide doors should be fitted when the work arrives to this point, by laying two small strips of iron so that the upper slide will work free, and the smoke door can be made to slide while the mortar is soft, and will move easily afterwards. The arch can have a sheet iron door, which will answer all purposes, or a cast one hung on hinges, which is better but more expensive.

The chimney should be 12 inches by 4, inside, and run up as high above the house as the taste of the mason may dictate, and finished with a border as upon any small house.

As the walls are erected, pieces of 4 by 4 scantling must be put in cross ways of the building, two pieces 4 or 5 feet apart and so that the upper face is level with the top of the wall, and two other pieces 18 inches below them, then pieces with hooks driven in, rest on these, and can be put in as they may be needed—2 by 4, with a row of hooks on each side.

Three or four pieces of iron should be placed across the arch, sufficient to support the wood and keep it off the ground without being close enough to the kettle, to prevent putting in a sufficient quantity to *heat up* when desirable to do so.

The *advantages* of a smoke house constructed in this manner I hold to be these: Perfect safety as regards the meat getting heated; more meat can be put in a building constructed in this way, as the smoke enters it deprived of all heat which can do the least injury, and fills it from bottom to top with *thick smoke*. By conducting the heat around the kettle, before entering the house, all the benefit is derived in both heating the kettle and letting no heat into the house.

In killing hogs, whether the day is windy or calm, you can make your calculations, regardless of these; and in scalding your hogs, neither be annoyed by fire or smoke, as *all are* who scald and dress hogs in the usual way. A con-

cern of this kind will last *long enough*, say 25 years or more—will cost about $25, all told, and is worth—a good deal—to boil up potatoes, roots, or other food for swine, make soap, &c.

A four inch wall is sufficient, if the building is not larger than mine, as above specified, (brick,) and the floor should be made by mixing one bushel lime to 8 bushels of clean gravel.—Let the lime be well slacked and the gravel mixed in; then plaster the floor two inches deep. When hard (in three weeks) it will be a stone floor, and outlast the maker, even if he beat Methusaleh a century or two.

Milwaukee, Feb. 1854. GEO. O. TIFFANY.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Being a plain kind of a farmer, and an unpretending sort of a man, and having been a reader of the Farmer for some time, I beg leave to propound some questions in relation to my business. I have endeavored to glean the necessary information from your paper, but your communications are mostly of a learned character, and consequently abound in names and technicalities which my early opportunities do not, unfortunately, afford me the means to solve.

I have a prairie farm of an average quality. My winter wheat has generally failed, and spring ditto. My corn crop has generally been good, with the exception of some spots in the field inclining to sorrel, where it would be thin.

My usual way of plowing is to commence as early in the spring as the frost will permit, and plow on the average three inches deep, and sow about one bushel and a half to the acre, with once dragging. My corn ground was plowed about the same way, and marked out by a machine, four rows at a time, and tended by the cultivator generally three times through. My average crop is about twenty bushels to the acre; while you frequently give accounts of fifty, sixty, and even seventy bushels to the acre.

Now, sirs, why cannot I do the same? What is there in my process that is wrong? What kinds of manure is best, and in what quantity? What time in the season is it best to apply it, and in what condition? Do I plow too early or too late; too shallow, too wet, or too dry? Is it necessary to drag any more than enough to cover the grain? Is there any thing wrong with the seed which I have usually sown year after year, from the same farm? Do I plant my corn deep enough in the furrow, or should the plow be used once or twice going through, for the purpose of stirring the soil deeper?

Now, sirs, my neighbors hold a variety of opinions on these matters—all founded on experience, and all equally sanguine in their views. Believing that vegetation is governed by fixed laws, as much as any thing else, and that these same laws hold good under all circumstances, yet, I inquire, why should the results be so different? I have applied manure, which has caused a great growth of straw, which generally rusted and caused a small crop. At other times a little drought has injured it; at another time a little too much wet has caused it to smut or shrink. I have seen ashes and lime recommended, and have applied them both, without the least sign of advantage

Now, sirs, can you give me some system adapted to the quality of my soil, and to such remedies and manures as are within my reach, so that my business may be more certain, reliable and lucrative. A. BLOUSE.

REMARKS.—The above communication offers us an opportunity of saying some things which we hope may be of service to some of our readers. Though we have an inkling that A. Blouse knows better, than his letter would indicate, how to manage a farm, and that for him, personally, we need not so much to reply without "names and technicalities," yet we shall speak as tho' he did just as he says he does, for there are many that do, and shall endeavor to make a few *plain* suggestions, which, if followed by A. Blouse and others who farm it like him, will gradually bring about a better state of things. We can speak quite to the point, for we are somewhat acquainted with Blouse's farm, and have often thought of its needs.

In the first place, the "three inches deep" plowing which has been done on your land every year, from the first time that it was broken up, till the present, with very light manuring some years, and none at all at others; and the removal of the whole crop has wholly robbed the surface of some, and nearly so of many more, of the essential elements of a crop, and left only those elements to abound which furnish ingredients upon which sorrel and other pests of poor soil thrive. The ashes and lime applied were good—very good, as far as they went—and doubtless furnished the basis for the most of the crop you have received. We should advise the use of the sub-soil plow to the depth,

the first year, of five or six inches, and increasing by two inches yearly, till it become both impossible and unnecessary to go deeper, and continue the application of the ashes and lime, if grass and root crops are to be grown. If grain crops are desired, we should, in addition, recommend a manure richer in animal products, such as the droppings and the urine of cattle, well composted with muck, which, in your case, is not convenient; but the soil from your fields will answer equally well to absorb the urine, but does not *add* so much to the value of the manure so composted, as swamp muck.

In regard to the *time* of applying mannre: This depends so much upon the kind and state of the manure itself, and the object desired to be accomplished, that we can only say, generally, that for summer crops, well rotted manure, and for winter crops, fresh manure from the stable is to be applied at the time of sowing or planting the crop. Fresh manure can be applied in the fall, at the time of fall plowing, if its effect is not wanted till the crop comes on which is sown the next spring. The simple principle to guide us is the fact, that well rotted manures act immediately and quickly, while those that are not rotted, or what is called *long manure*, acts more slowly and for a greater length of time.

As to the *time* of plowing: some are in favor of fall, while others are in favor of spring plowing. At the East, in most of their heavy soils, we should much prefer fall plowing, and never plow in the spring till the ground become quite dry. But here at the West, most of our soil is abundantly light and friable, (in truth, the greatest difficulty with us is, our soil is too light and spongy for most crops,) so that we may plow just when we choose, provided it is not so wet that we do not like to wade in the mud.—We prefer the time and way that will give the best state of *firmness* and *consistency* to the soil.

In regard to the amount of dragging: it is with our soil as with the making of putty, it is probably never spoiled by treading it too much in this way, though enough is enough. We believe most of our crops in our light soil are greatly benefitted by rolling after dragging.—This gives firmness for the roots of the plants.

The necessity of *change* of seed has become a well established fact. Change of feed makes fat cattle, and it is equally true with the *pasturage* of crops. Some soils, however, like some pastures, are much better for furnishing food than others. It is the difference in soil, to a great extent, which has given us our varieties of wheat. Most every variety is improved when grown upon the natural wheat soil of Central New York. This will be true on some of our best wheat soils; while on others not so peculiarly qualified by its elements for wheat, it will certainly depreciate in quality.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Criticism—Farmers—Education.

Messrs. Editors:—I think your remarks on Mr. "Prove All's" letter on chess raising were rather too sarcastic. I fear you have not sufficient patience with the ignorance of your correspondents; and, perhaps, if you notice me at all, you will *come out* on me; but I don't care, I wish to say something to you, and claim a kind of right, inasmuch as you place yourself before the public—and I believe you have invited farmers to correspond with you and with one another, through the columns of your "Wisconsin Farmer," as a medium.

I know that Agriculture, in its popular sense, is the grand foundation upon which manufactures and commerce depend for their support and prosperity. I respect Agriculturists as the first benefactors of mankind, because they produce that which is necessary to the daily existence of all others in civilized life. And, to be a good farmer, in the full sense of the word, is the highest limit of my ambition in worldly matters. I know, too, that you Agricultural editors try to flatter us *real* Agriculturists, as being very "intelligent farmers." To be sure we are intelligent in some things; but what do we, as a class, know about science or literature? When or where *have* we had, or *do* we have, an opportunity to investigate the abstruce laws of Physical Science? Some of us know something of the more obvious laws of Nature, and some of us but very little; we have never been trained to habits of deep thought and accurate investigation. It requires an educated mind to seize a thought, and strip it of all extraneous ideas, and to hold it steadily through a long argument. How many of us can arrive at a remote and hidden fact by a long chain of logical deductions, or by a difficult and tedious analysis by mathematical reasoning, or by a careful series of chemical manifestations in a labratory? We have not had an education sufficient to do these things, or even to understand them when done by others. It is necessary that the mind should be schooled, trained,

drawn out, and expanded by a long course of severe and continued application, before it can successfully grapple with the facts themselves, that are laid before us by others whose whole lives are spent in ascertaining them. How many of us can arrange, in consecutive order, the few simple facts necessary to demonstrate the 47th proposition in the 1st book of Euclid? How many of us know that bone (when divested of its "soft parts") is pretty good phosphate of lime, and that phosphate of lime occurs mineralized in beautiful crystals in some localities? Do you suppose some of us know a little about Botany? but what do we know about Hybridity? Some of us have seen mules, (and I sold a pair the other day, 2 years old past, for $225.) Have any of us read Dr. Morton's, or any other papers in the "American Journal of Science and Arts," on the subject *of* hybridity among animals? Have we any experience in hybridizing flowers, plants, trees, or fruits?—Are many of us acquainted with the writings of the immortal Downing, or with any similar works? How many of us are aware of the definiteness of class, order, genus, and species, as made by God himself, and discovered only by Naturalists? You say, "not many"; very well. Is it strange, then, that some of us think that wheat turns to chess, while our powers of critical research, and our means of information are so dull and limited? But we who say that it does, do not all believe it.

There is a trait in human character that seeks for notoriety, and if it cannot gratify that ambition by discovering some new truth, it will by denying something that is known, or by differing from others in some way. Judas sought notoriety, and so did Benedict Arnold and Georgy, and so does John Mitchell, and so did the man who pulled up the stool of wheat, and said he found chess growing from the same root. Did he macerate the mass, and examine critically with a powerful magnifier, to see if the roots of the chess did really coalesce with those of the wheat? No; such men are never scientifically critical. Mr. "Prove All" assures you that there was no chess in the seed he sowed; but did he assure you that the wheat did not kill out dead, and that there was no chess in the ground when he sowed the wheat? It is much easier to say that chess grows from wheat by quoting that which is very obvious, than by demonstrating that which is really abstruse.

Some of us say, "sow two bushels of winter wheat to the acre;" some others say 1½ is enough; and I heard a farmer say, "he thought one bushel sufficient." Some of us say, "sow early"—the last week in August; others say "that the middle of September is early enough." Now, we are all certain that *we* are right, and with some of us the pride of opinion is so great, that we had rather lose our crop of wheat every year, by rust, than to "acknowledge the corn" and sow early and thick and have a good crop.

Professional men are obliged to know some facts, but we farmers are content to do as we have been accustomed to do. Any old, exploded notion is good enough for us, provided it has the sanction of previous custom by our fathers or by ourselves. The old man who put a stone in one end of the bag, and his small grist in the other, I have always venerated; because, he, in the first place, broke over the unhandy practice of his father, and taught his son a new idea; and, in the second place, he showed that he had observed more about the laws of Equipoise and Equivalents, than was generally known. He was a liberal minded philosopher compared with many of us. *Requiescat.*

You, or some other Agricultural editors, invite us to experiment and to observe the result. A man should be well educated to experiment intelligently,—a single result does not establish a rule; it is only by a continued course of varied trials, under all the influencing circumstances which are apparent, that any thing like a rule may be laid down; and, then, some subsequent discovery may show that the exceptions are so numerous and strong, as to very much weaken the integrity of the rule. And, then, I think it requires more real and practical knowledge to make correct and useful *observations* in farming, than it does to *experiment*. The man, after studying Geography a fortnight, went almost into extatics at the wisdom and goodness of God in constructing the earth, when he *observed* that large rivers generally run by large cities, and that mountains, rocks and deserts were placed where the country was not very thickly inhabited.

Farmers' sons should be educated in the Physical Science and then in the Agricultural Arts. The time is coming, when Agriculture will be done up, even in this country, by scientific farmers, who will conduct it on a larger

scale than now; and, taking advantage of every *known* principle in Nature to aid them, will do it cheaper—or, in other words, with more profit to themselves; and they will, by such means, crowd out from the business all the ignorant, slovenly, and small farmers in the country. I say, the time is at hand—even now coming.

Is there no way possible, to erect and commence a school in your beautiful and central village, in which our sons may be taught Mathematical, Physical, and Chemical Science, and the practical part of Agriculture, sufficient to enable them to do it up in the best known manner? If such a school could be sustained a while I think it would be eventually able to sustain itself. (I know of some who will say NO, to that idea.) Then Mr. "Prove All" and I will send our sons, and, possibly, when you receive a communication from them, it may be worthy your acceptance without criticism.

LEWIS N. WOOD.

Walworth, Wis., Feb., 1854.

REMARKS.—Let no one mistake the above artiele, which is *wheat* for *chess*, for we know the *seed* and can affirm whereof we know.

DISTANCE FOR PLANTING TREES.—We recently had occasion to calculate the number of trees that an acre would contain at given distances, and we know that the following table may assist the farmer or gardener who expects to plant trees or vegetable this winter or next spring. An acre of ground contains 42,560 aquare feet; at these distances apart an acre will contain as follows:

Feet.	Plants.
1	43,560
1½	10,360
2	10.890
2½	6,969
3	4.840
4	2,722
5	1,742
6	1.210
9	537
10	435
12	302
15	314
18	193
20	103
21	98
24	75
25	69
27	59
30	48
40	27

The number of beds or plats any given dimensions contained in an acre, may be reckoned the same way.—[Ex.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Weather Observations.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I send you the accompanying Table for publication, if you deem it worthy. The observations were made with a Thermometer that I believe is very near correct. The instrument was hanging exposed, in the shade. I have, for convenience, used the sign — (less) for below zero.

The observation of January 23d, of this winter, was made after the cold had sensibly decreased the night previous—as far as I could judge by my feelings, was decidedly the coldest I ever knew.

As I am a great enemy to cold weather, I have been more particular to note down, from time to time, the coldest days of our climate; and, as there are perhaps others as "tender" on this point, it may not be amiss to let them know how low a temperature they can stand and yet live.

A TABLE Showing the Three Coldest Days in each Winter, for Nine Successive Winters:

1845–6	Dec. 19,	at 8	o'clock,	A. M.,	— 18°
	" 20,	7	"	"	— 11
	Feb. 26,	7	"	"	— 20
1846–7	Jan. 7,	8	"	"	— 17
	" 10,	8	"	"	— 24
	" 16,	8	"	"	— 14
1847–8	Dec. 26,	8	"	"	— 12
	Jan. 9,	8	"	"	— 12
1848–9	Jan. 16,	8	"	"	— 18
	" 18,	8	"	"	— 22
	Feb. 18,	8	"	"	— 22
1849–50	Dec. 25,	8	"	"	— 16
	" 30,	8	"	"	— 18
	" 31,	8	"	"	— 20
1850–1	Jan. 29,	8	"	"	— 15
	" 30,	8	"	"	— 24
	" 31,	8	"	"	— 18
1851–2	Dec. 15,	7	"	"	— 19
	" 17,	7	"	"	— 20
	Jan. 19,	8	"	"	— 28½
1852–3	Jan. 26,	8	"	"	— 6
	Feb. 8,	8	"	"	— 8
	" 9,	8	"	"	— 12
1853–4	Jan. 6,	8	"	"	— 20
	" 21,	9	"	"	— 20
	" 23,	9	"	"	— 25

Burlington, Feb. 17, 1854. D. M.

LONGEVITY OF FARMERS.—It appears from the Massachusetts Register of births and deaths that the duration of the lives of agriculturists was 13 years above the general average, nearly nineteen above that of common laborers, and 19 per cent. above the average age, at death, of mechanics.

Stock Register.

Large Priced Animals.

We noticed in the last number of the Prairie Farmer an article headed, *Large Priced Sheep*, with remarks following, rather ridiculing the idea, that an ewe can be worth from "$15 to $40 a head," and rams from "$500 to $1000 each," and says: "One thousand dollars is a great deal of money to be bound up in one sheep's hide; it will buy a section of government land, build a good house; or carry on a small farm for a season. * * * * We could buy a great many things with a thousand dollars, that we want before the one sheep"; all of which is very well, with certain limitations. There is no doubt there is some cheating in the selling of cattle, horses and sheep; and in what business is there not? There exists the same, and no more, reason for urging caution upon our farmers and breeders of stock, in the purchase of new seeds, plants and grains, and of improved fowls, sheep and cattle, as upon the community in general in the purchase of lots in a city, or of the necessaries for a family at a grocery store.

We protest against the outcry of some of our agricultural journals against the purchase of improved animals, seeds, or machines, because, forsooth, what is usually esteemed a *high* price is asked for them. We would hope that due caution will be exercised by those wishing to improve their herds and flocks in the purchases they make for this purpose; but it is necessary that they should know that no truly desirable animal, or seed, or machine, even, which is worthy to be possessed at all, can be obtained for a song. The point upon which our farmers and others need a warning voice is, that of buying of *strangers* to them and those who are *without a reputation*, which is to be hazarded by a false representation. As far as our observation extends, there is abundant inclination, without further encouragement among our agriculurists, to be satisfied with their already numerous varieties of Pharaoh's lean kinds, in the form of *pork-upine* land sharks, mulish nags, bristly ovines and dromedarian milkers. This sneering at the purchase of a valuable animal, for the purpose of improving any of our different kinds of stock and benefitting a whole community of farmers thereby, down through endless generations, because they *cost more* than some one of the *miserables*, too common in every community, is what we call "buying as many tin whistles as he [one] can carry in his breeches pockets, and blowing on them all at once, so disturbing his neighbors, against which there *should* be *some* law." We should as soon think of ranting against the eating of a dish of oysters, while we endeavored to satisfy the cravings of hunger with a dish of pig-tail soup, because the oysters *cost so much*, and the pig-tail could be had for nothing. The truth is, there is a judicious course to be pursued by every one desirous of improving his stock, and this is found no more in the buying, selling, or owning of worthless cattle or sheep, than in the paying of an extravagant price for a valuable animal. Indeed, the former course should always be discarded, while the latter may be *sometimes* encouraged.

Importation of English Cattle into the United States.

The following article is taken from the *Journal of Commerce*. It is now generally admitted that we have as good cattle in the United States as they have in England. The importations of '36 and '40 were made for *practical* purposes by *practical* men, who had spent many years in the attempt to improve our native stock. The experience of breeders with those importations, and with those of more recent date, has satisfied them of the comparative value of the former. It is for crossing that importations are now made, and the cattle sought for at such great prices:

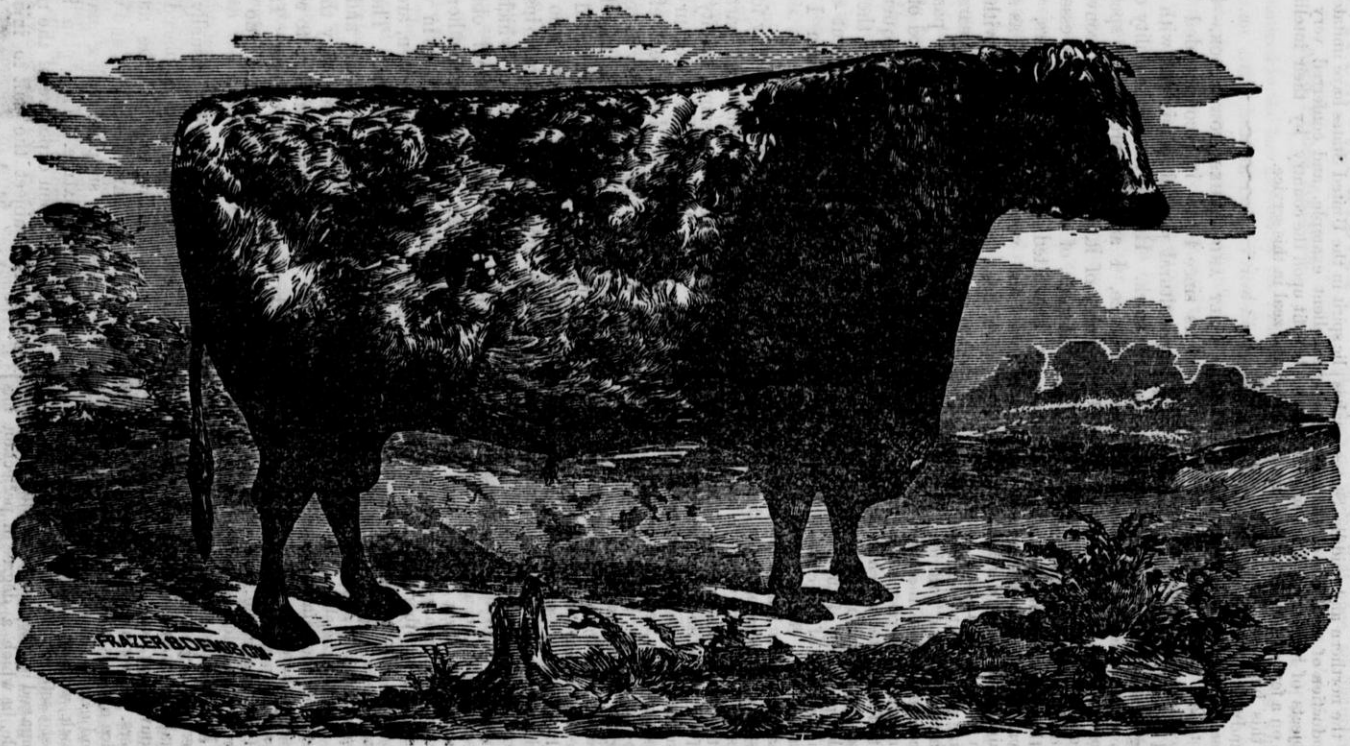
The importations into the country have become quite frequent and important. A few years ago the taste ran in a different direction, and blood horses were all the go. Priam, Glencoe, Monarch, and horses of that stamp, were purchased in England at enormous prices—15,000 or 16,000 dollars being paid for a single animal; but a fondness for racing has diminished not only in the northern but also in the southern states, and the importation of well-bred cattle, sheep and hogs has been pursued with more ardor. Whoever will compare our common native sheep with the improved breeds, will see at once an immense difference between them, and yet the care, attention, and expense required to raise the former is no less than for those of higher grade. One is an ornament to lawns and an object of interest; the other almost a disgrace to the poorest farms. The profit which attends the raising of higher breeds is far greater, and it ever increases the pleasure derived from farming to have the stock of a superior quality. In a late celebration attended by breeders of fine sheep, it was stated that those from the United States were the purchasers in the English markets of the best animals. The influence of previous importations and of those now going on, must be extensively felt in the production of fine wool in the United States,

and the manufacture of excellent woollen fabrics. The vast extent of grazing land we possess in the northern and middle States makes the production of wool one of the most important objects of industry. The southern states, except on a few of the mountains, are not suited for this business. The entire coast is flat and sandy from Virginia to Texas, and from the shore to the mountain region, for the width of 100 to 200 miles. Over this extensive surface there is no pasturage for animals, which are fed on fodder and imported hay. The mountain region south of Virginia affords some pasturage, which enterprising citizens are engaged in devoting to the raising of sheep. They prefer breeds from Spain, owing to their supposed adaptedness to to a warm climate. It was supposed that Illinois, which has a level lay of the land, was not suited to this purpose; but it was ascertained that sheep which had reached their growth in the eastern states advanced materially in size and weight from being introduced to rich pastures on the prairies. The wool became coarser, but it increased in quantity.—This important interest is now under full way in most of the states which are adapted to the purpose, and it will make a great impression upon the prosperity of the country. It is however, in the breed of fine cattle that we are likely most to excel. Gentlemen having country-seats have shown a laudable desire to import the best stock, on the principle that a few good animals in a country where labor is dear, are better than numerous poor ones; and that animals of fine shape and color are objects of interest in their lawns. The county of Westchester, especially, has become eminent for its numerous and superior breeds of imported stock. Among the earliest importations into that county were some noble cattle from Holland. They were beautiful in shape, large, and good milkers. These have been crossed with the Durham, and a breed known as Dutch and Durham is scattered over the county. Old Mr. Bathgate, who lives there, and who has been engaged in this business for half a century, speaks of them as being among the best for milking. Stock of the Alderney, Ayrshire, and Devon breeds have been imported by other gentlemen; but importations of the Durham have been most numerous, and where the pasturage is good, they are considered the best stock, not only for the dairy, but also for the shambles. Col. Morris, the President of the State Agricultural Society, who resides there, has been very active in the business of importing good stock into the country. His sales of cattle have attracted a great concourse of people, and large prices have been paid. It would, no doubt, very much advance the interest which gentlemen feel in this subject, if annual sales were made of improved stock, at some convenient locality near the city, open for all sellers. They need some mode of disposing of choice animals which will attract competition, and enable them to dispose of their surplus stock without disadvantage. In England, the most useful of the nobility have for years been engaged in attempts to improve the breed of cattle, in which a degree of perfection has been reached which can hardly be excelled.—They look upon fine stock as the best ornaments of their grounds. Many citizens of public spirit in the United States have imitated this excellent example, and conferred very great benefit upon the country by their intelligence and zeal in this service.

Salt and Ashes for Stock.—Some years since I saw it recommended in an agricultural journal to mix salt with ashes for stock. Having tested the utility of the practice, I am now prepared to speak favorably of it, and from a firm conviction that stock, of all descriptions, are essentially benefitted thereby. My cows, work-horses and young cattle, as well as sheep, have been regularly supplied with it as often as once a week for two years, and notwithstanding the feed in the pastures, during a part of the grazing period of both seasons, was quite short in consequence of the prevalence of severe drought, the stock generally has remained in excellent condition; much better, indeed, than I have seen them for years.

Sheep, especially, are extremely fond of it, preferring it to fine salt, and partaking of it with almost the same avidity with which, when hungry, they devour their meal or grain. As to the general efficacy of the practice, and its tendency as respects the health of the stock, I will merely say in conclusion, that I am acquainted with several discriminating farmers who have made the same trial, and that in no instance with which I am familiar, or which has fallen under our direct personal observation, has it been attended with other than the best results. The proportions in which the ingredients should be given, are one part salt to seven of ashes. The salt should be fine, and the ashes dry and free from coals. If thought necessary the salt may be increased in quantity, to two or even three parts, instead of one. Try it, farmers, and see if it doth not "do good like a medicine."

In the season of pasturing I usually have several boxes or long troughs placed in a shed or out building to which the animals can at all times have free access, and which I keep constantly supplied with a quantum sufficit of the mixture. This plan is necessary, as an open exposure of the receptacles would subject the salt to injury in rainy weather.—Exchange.



BULL PRINCE ALBERT 3d. Owned by William Bebb, of Fountaindale, Winnebago Co., Illinois.

Pedigree of Prince Albert 3d—Roan.

On the opposite page we present our readers with a cut of one of the best Short Horn Bulls in the United States, for which we are indebted to the sons of the owner, who are not without distinction in their application of the principles of science to the arts of husbandry and cattle breeding.

Bred by Dr. Arthur Watts, of Ross county, Ohio. Winner of the first premium, and also of the sweepstakes premium, over all competitors, at the Ohio State Fair of 1851, and sold to and now owned by William Bebb, of Fountaindale, Winnebago county, Illinois.

Prince Albert 3d—sire, Prince Albert 2d; dam, Lady Paxton 2d, by Prince Charles (2461), imported by Ohio Company. Gr. dam, Lady Paxton 1st, by Comet Hally [1855], imported by Ohio Company, and sold for $1505. Gt. gr. dam, Blossom—imported by Ohio Company, and sold for $1000—by Fitz Favorite [1042]. Gt. gt. gr. dam, by a grandson of Brampton [54]. Gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, by George [1066].

Prince Charles [2461], *Roan*—bred by Wm. Whitaker, imported by Ohio Company; got by Norfolk [2377]; dam Spinster, by Meteor 2d [2305]. Gt. dam Elvira, by Baronet [774]. Gt. gr. dam Emerald, by Meteor [432]. Gt. gt. gr. dam Levinia, by Comet [155], bred by Charles Collings, and sold at his sale for 1000 guineas. Gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, Lilly, by Collings, son of Favorite. Gt. gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, by Collings son of Favorite. Gt. gt. gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, by a Bull of Mr. Chassman's. Gt. gt. gt. gt. gt. gt. gr. dam by a Bull of Mr. Grinston's.

Prince Albert 2d was sired by Prince Albert 1st; his dam imported, Arabella, (sold with her calf, to Dr. Watts, for $1200,) by Victory. Gr. dam Sally [546], by Major, a son of Minor [441]. Gt. gr. dam, Old Sally, by a grandson of Favorite [252]. Gt. gt. gr. dam, by Punch [531]. Gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, by Hubback [319].

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Messrs. Miller & Lathrop:—I want to buy a few good sheep, if I knew where to get them. When you publish stock for sale, if the price was attached, we could then know whether we are able to buy. This, you are aware, is a new country; the land is broken and rolling, but the soil is rich and dry. I think it one of the best sections for sheep in the world. I make this statement confidently, from my own knowledge. I am 65 years old—was raised in England, and have lived in all four quarters of the globe, but for the last 36 years in the western country. T. Goode.

Veraque, Bad Ax co., Wis., March, 1854.

☞ Cassius M. Clay recently purchased a cow and a calf, in Cincinnati, for $2,300.

The Dairy and its Products.

At the last Quarterly Meeting of the Rock County Agricultural Society, the subject for the essay and discussion, was the *Dairy*. The essay read by Mr. F. S. Eldred, of Johnstown, though concise and farmer-like, furnished many valuable hints to those present—the good fruits of which we hope to see taking effect in every buttery and cheese-room in old Rock, and extend their influence far and wide. We anticipate the pleasure of laying before our readers either the whole essay, or extracts from the same, at some future time.

It was voted to request the publication in the Farmer, of the following enquiries, made to the meeting by the President, and solicit replies to them from the several readers of the same:

What is the average amount of milk per day, from your cows, during the time of giving milk?

What is the average length of time that your cows give milk?

What feed, in connection with grass, gives the *greatest* amount of milk?

What feed furnishes milk the richest in butter, and what in curd or cheese?

What breed of cows have you found to give the greatest quantity of milk, and what the best quality?

What are the desirable points in a *great* milker, and what in a *good* milker?

What is your experience of Guenon's method of determining a good milch cow?

How many pounds, or quarts, of your cow's milk, on an average, makes a pound of butter?

How much milk will make a pound of cheese?

What, in your opinion, are the qualities of good butter, and by what process in the making are these secured?

In which month can you make the best butter?

What are the effects of scalding the milk on the qualities of the butter, and the ease with which it is made "to come"?

These are questions of great practical importance, and the object of bringing them before the dairyman is to secure the benefit of his experience for the guidance of others. We hope that we shall receive many concise and condensed replies to the above enquiries, for publication in the Farmer. In the meantime we would recommend to the consideration of all an article on Dairying, in the 2d volume of the Transactions of the State Agricultural Society, by B. F. Adams, of Fitchburg, Wis. Many suggestions there will be found very valuable to the Western dairyman.

Horticulture.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Root Grafting.

Messrs. Editors:—As I have been in the habit of speaking my mind freely on the subject of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, I send a few lines to you on the subject of Root-Grafted Trees, especially the apple. I know that my remarks on this subject will differ somewhat from some of my warmest friends, those particularly who are engaged in raising trees to sell. I send you the remarks of the Boston Cultivator of November 26th, 1853, under the head of "Fraud in Fruit Trees."

Tne Worcester Spy calls attention to the fact, that many of the fruit trees sold by traveling agents are worthless. These trees are said to be manufactured in the State of New York by a short process called root-grafting.—It is done by taking the roots of trees, in the winter, and cutting them up into short pieces, into each of which is grafted a scion. They are then packed away into the cellar till spring, when they are set out, and in two years they answer to cheat the *greenies* with, who buy trees of irresponsible, strolling dealers. They will grow very well in the Nursery for three or four years, like trees raised from suckers, but like them, they soon come to a stand, assuming the appearance and decrepitude of old trees. Many kinds, naturally good bearers, grown in this way will hardly bear at all:—Now, as we are situated in about the same latitude, the above has been my experience.—The Newton Pippin, English and Roxbury Russet, and a number of other kinds I might mention, which I bought as root-grafted trees, are dead, or no better. Scions taken from the same, and grafted into good seedling stocks, are now doing well—most bear the third or fourth year—and, as far as I have tested them, I do not think there is any part of the globe in which they could be beaten.

I would say to every man that has a farm, send to a seed store, and get a pint or quart of apple seed; let them soak over night in warm water; then put them in a box well mixed with moist dirt, and set them out of doors. Just as quick as the frost is out of the ground, sow them 4 feet apart, in drills, so that after the first year you can work them with a cultivator. I mixed mine in this way in April; five years from that time, in the fall, I gathered half a bushel off from two trees. It was on new broken ground, and the two trees that bore stood separate, and never had a limb taken from them until after bearing. They grew very low and sprangling. B. E. Mack.

Turtle, February, 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Fruit Trees—Planting, &c.

Messrs Editors:—As the time is at hand for planting fruit trees, I thought a few lines on the subject might be of use to many of your readers; and, therefore, with your permission, I will furnish a few thoughts on the subject.

In the first place, the trees should be young and thrifty—from three to six years old—with well-balanced tops, and with as entire roots as possible. Large trees should not be transplanted, as it is next to impossible to procure roots in proportion to the trunk and top, and the consequence is, that the tree is checked in its growth for years, and the fruit which it may bear will be inferior to the fruit grown on a tree transplanted while young.

The time for transplanting is as soon as possible in the spring, after the frost is out of the ground. By waiting until late in the season, you lose nearly one year's growth, as the ground does not have time to settle around the tree before it should start to grow.

In taking trees from Nursery, you cannot avoid breaking some of the roots, and these should be cut off smooth, near where they were broken, and the tops trimmed in proportion to the roots. If this be neglected, the roots will not furnish food enough for the branches, and consequently the tree will make little or no growth the first season.

In setting your trees, you should dig a large hole, from four to six feet across, and two feet deep; then put in one basket of well rotted manure, mixing it with soil; then put in a few inches of soil, making it highest in the centre; then place the tree in the centre of the hole, carefully placing the roots in their natural position, and fill well pulverized soil around them, so that there will be no vacancies left around the roots; the upper roots should be held back until the lower ones are covered. After the hole is filled and packed, the tree should be mulched with coarse litter. By planting trees as above directed, you will seldom have a tree fail to grow and do well. C.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Setting Currant Cuttings.

Messrs. Editors :—I noticed in the February number of the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer, an article on setting currants and other cuttings.—As my experience differs from Mr. Lombard's, and from the remarks on the same article, I will state to you my mode of cultivating the same.

In the first place, select the tallest and largest growth of the past season, and place in sand, or bury them in a pit until the first of May; then prepare the ground where they are intended to be placed, by pulverizing it finely to the depth of six inches. Cut the buds from the cutttings even with the bark, as far from the bottom as they are placed in the ground—they should be set six inches in the ground. Currants should be three feet apart. In this way they will grow straight, and will not send forth sprouts from the roots, and will need no pruning, and will grow much larger than the common way of growing them.

Greenfield, March, 1854. J. Palmer.

Sites for Peach Orchards.

Intelligent cultivators have been long familiar with the fact, that the peach crop more uniformly escapes the frosts on hills and exposed localities, than in warm valleys. On hills, the wood ripens early and becomes hardy, and the frosts are not so sharp, although the cold winds may be felt more sensibly by animals and men. We have long entertained the opinion, that by a selection of aspect, and the adoption of shelter, there is scarcely a county in the Northern States, where peaches might not be raised with considerable uniformity. By shelter, we mean shelter from the sun on frozen trees, more than mere shelter from the cold.

A late number of the Granite Farmer furnishes some corroborating facts on this point, which we condense for our readers. Charles Richardson of Manchester, N. H., who cultivates a fine garden, succeeds in raising the best peaches from a tree almost completely shaded on the south and east from the sun, the roots, body and branches being kept at a low temperature, while his other trees were barren. The fine peaches which excited so much attention at the Horticultural Society's rooms in that city, raised by A. C. Heath and O. P. Warner, were from trees protected from the sun on the east and southeast by brick walls. A tree in Concord, on the top of what is called "The Mountain," has borne abundantly the best of peaches for twenty-five years, stands in a very exposed situation, and is surrounded every winter with snow banks several feet deep, which, melting in the spring, keeps the fruit buds back till they are safe from the frost.

Walpole, in Mass., is celebrated for its fine peaches. The Neponset runs in a northerly direction through the town; and on its low banks the peach tree grows luxurantly, but never bears. On the gravelly ridge above the valley, the trees bear bundantly. The editor of the farmer states that in a distance of a fourth of a mile up one of these ridges, he passed "from a peach barren to a peach plenty."—[Exchange.

Transplanting Trees.—Mr. James T. Worthington, at Chillicothe, through the columns of the Ohio Farmer, gives the following method for transplanting trees, which we recommend for trial by our readers. For if the result is as the writer says, there must be great advantage in the method proposed:

Some fifteen years ago having more than one hundred trees to transplant, mostly fruit trees, I had the holes dug in the month of October, and planted about one third of the trees.

Failing to procure all the trees I desired in time, I was obliged to leave the holes open all winter, much to my vexation, as they made a very unsightly appearance on the land.

The next March, however, I procured about one hundred trees, transplanted sixty or seventy of them in the holes dug the fall previous, and the remainder in holes dug in the spring. A few of the trees planted in October died, but all of the trees planted in the spring lived; and I observed that all those planted in March, in holes dug in October, made a much more vigorous growth than any of the others. I have repeated the experiment on a larger and a smaller scale almost every year since, and with uniform success; the trees not only growing better the first year, but continuing far to outstrip in growth and vigor, trees planted in holes not exposed to the frosts and atmosphere of a winter, which seem to prepare the ground for the roots better than any mechanical means whatever.

One word more, as the orators say, and I have done. It is not desirable to plant fruit trees more than an inch or two in diameter, they will have fruit but little if any sooner, and in after years are apt to become unsound. I have now an apple orchard planted in March, 1849, holes dug in December, 1848, nearly all the trees of which bore fruit this season, and many of them bore last year, though the average size when planted was not greater than $\frac{3}{4}$

of an inch in diameter; and another apple orchard of 70 trees of the same size and similarly planted in 1844, bore this season several hundred bushels of choice fruit. I would say then, dig your holes in the fall or early winter in a proper situation, not too wet nor too much exposed, plant small and vigorous trees, manure them with a bushel or more of rotten chips each; cultivate the ground to potatoes, or other root crops, and you will have good healthy trees, and fruit in 4 or 5 years at farthest.

Yours truly, JAS. T. WORTHINGTON.
—[Granite Farmer.

HOW TO SAVE CURRANT BUSHES.—On returning home after an absence of a couple of years, some four years since, I found my currant bushes, which were in rows on the outside of my garden, overgrown with witch-grass, and was informed by my *better half* that she could not welcome my return with a glass of currant juice, as her bushes had yielded but a very few currants the season past. I could not think of losing them, as I was too fond of their fruit, and, besides, they had cost me much labor. Digging them up and rooting out all the grass was too great a task, therefore I thought I would try and smother it out.—I covered the earth around them to the depth of two or three inches with tan bark, putting some half a dozen shovelfuls into the centre of each bush. It operated to a charm,—the grass was exterminated, and the next season I spaded in the tan bark, and since then my bushes have yielded bountifully. I am satisfied that vegetable dressing is equally as good, if not better, for trees and shrubbery than barnyard manure, which I save for field dressing.—[Maine Farmer.

MILDEWED GOOSEBERRIES.—Cole, in his fruit book, says, "to prevent mildew and produce good crops, select a cool soil and airy situation. Cultivate well and deeply; prune well. Lay salt hay, sea weed or other litter, with one or two quarts of fine salt to a square rod around the bushes. Lime and sulphur, incorporated into the surface soil are good preventives against mildew. When by a white-washed fence or wall they are not so liable to mildew. Wood ashes, sifted on, when the leaves are just out, and once or twice after, is also good against mildew Spent tan around the bushes is said to prevent the effects of gooseberry caterpillars that are sometimes destructive."

ROTATION OF CROPS IN THE GARDEN.—Rotation of crops is equally important in the garden as on the farm. The English gardener holds that the perennials—Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries and the like, should be rotated—that they should not hold one spot longer than 12 years and should not be removed in less than 3 years. In all gardens rotation in crops should be attended to if we would get a proper return for our labor. Good gardening requires that two crops of similar character should not follow each other. The cabbage plot, the beet bed, the carrots, the onions, &c., should alternate—neither of them be planted upon the same ground two successive years.

It is well to keep all those vegetables like in nature together, viz—The legumes—beans and peas in one quarter; the brassica—cabbage and cauliflowers in a second quarter;—the bulbous onions, turnips in a third,—the carrots, beets and parsneps in a fourth, &c. In this mode they look better and are more readily alternated:

The following rotation in the garden is the one approved of in England.

1. Broccoli, cabbages, cauliflowers and savoys.
2. Beans and Peas.
3. Carrots, beets and parsneps.
4. Turnips, potatoes, onions and savoys.
5. Celery, endive, lettuce.

Celery is an excellent preparation for asparagus, onions and cauliflowers.

Turnips are a good preparation for cabbages and greens.

Cabbages are properly to be followed by beans and peas, onions and beets.

Currants, gooseberries and raspberries prepare the ground well for potatoes, carrots, beets and parsneps.

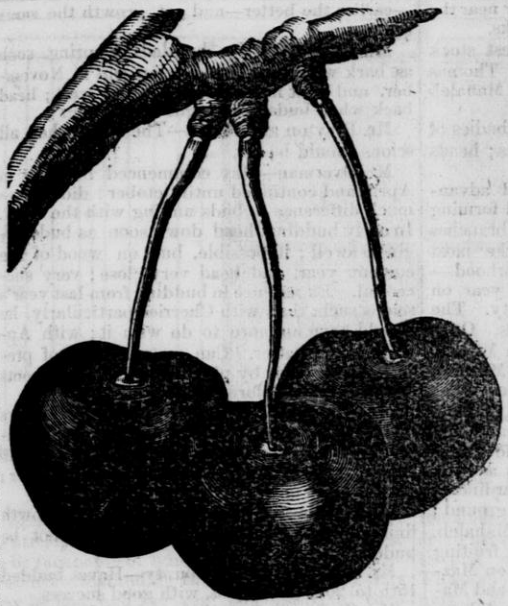
Vines require a light sandy soil—exotics—coming from the sandy soil of Africa and South America, silicious soil is required for their roots and a warm sun for the growth of the vine. They will grow well on richer soil—but the growth consists rather of vines and leaves than of the luscious fruit. But even of vines they should alternate with other crops.

Thus in gardening it is all important to keep up a "Rotation of Crops."—Granite Farmer.

CHARCOAL.—Pounded charcoal, or the refuse of the heap, should be thickly strewed over every place where filth is allowed to accumulate. It absorbs the bad smell, and makes an excellent manure of what otherwise would not only be useless but offensive. It also prevents the larvæ of insects from becoming flies or moths. Pigs like to eat charcoal, and are thought to fatten on it; and in the course of the summer months, I frequently have a bushel or so at a time thrown over the pen.—It makes the manure so much more valuable that I find it worth while to buy it for the purpose; and in so doing the pens are never offensive.—[Am. Agriculturist.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 66.]



CHERRIES.

Kentish, or *Early Richmond*.—Mr Edwards of Bureau, has fruited it for several years; bears profusely; fruit fine for culinary purposes; sells readily in any quantity at $1 a bushel. Trees planted last year bore several quarts this year. Soil, high prairie.

Mr. Wakeman has cultivated it four years; finds it a profuse bearer; dry prairie soil.

Mr. Hanford has it on common Morello suckers; a good bearer; dry prairie soil.

Mr. Harkness has found it the only Cherry that could be cultivated successfully in his section of country.

Mr. Coleman has seen many varieties in the west, grafted on Morello suckers; he regards the Kentish as the best bearer he has seen; tree very hardy, more so than any other.

Recommended by Convention as best for market and culinary purposes.

May Duke.—Mr. Coleman—In Tazewell county has seen it succeeding finely.

Mr. Stewart has it doing well on Morello stocks; fruit of superior quality.

Samuel Edwards—Fruit is very fine when you can get it; is much troubled by birds and insects; bears about half as much as Kentish, and sells readily for double the price.

Mr. Shepherd—it is fine in his vicinity; thinks it too liable to be taken by birds.

Mr. ——— thought it one of the best of Cherries; better on Mazzard than Morello; with him more difficult to propagate than any other; more difficult on Mazzard than Morello.

Recommended by Convention for general cultivation.

Elton.—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy—With him it is one of the finest; fruit as large as black Tartarian, and tree as hardy.

Mr. Shepherd—One of the tenderest trees in his locality; on this account, fruit difficult to obtain.

Samuel Edwards—His neighbors and himself had planted many of the Elton 8 and 9 years since; knows of only one tree now living of the lot, and that quite feeble; had borne a few fine Cherries this year for the first; will never bear another crop.

Mr. Hathaway—tender with him.

No vote taken.

Black Tartarian.—Mr. Stewart would recommend as very hardy.

Mr. Ellsworth has cultivated it eight years, principally on Mazzard stocks; tree hardy, but not a free bearer.

Mr. Hathaway has it thriving well on Mazzard stocks; birds get most of the fruit.

Mr. ——— had no difficulty with it on account of want of hardiness, on Morello stocks, if outside bark is kept loose by scraping and washing with soapsuds.

Mr. Coleman finds it to succeed as well as any other.

Passed without action.

Bigarreau, or *Yellow Spanish*.—Mr. Coleman has had no success in raising it in the West; thinks it will not succeed here; knew it fine at the East.

Mr. Brayton has seen it and the Black Tartarian grow side by side; the Black Tartarian taken by birds, Yellow Spanish not troubled.—He moved to recommend for general cultivation. Carried.

Belle D' Choisy was pronounced by several members a poor bearer.

Passed without action.

American Heart.—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy, has had it bearing several years; a good and constant bearer; tree as hardy and vigorous as any other; could he have but one variety, this should be it.

Mr. Hathaway cultivates it; had thought it hardy until two years since, lost several trees by late spring frosts; last spring lost others from same cause.

No action recorded.

Mr. Loomis believes we shall not succeed in the cultivation of the Heart and Bigarreau varieties at the West, until we form low heads to the trees; thinks it would prevent cracking of the bark, and trees would bear younger. Recommends root pruning in September and October.

Mr. Stewart has had but limited experience; only three or four years; had a tree of Knight's Early Black winter killed; the root sent up a sprout which was budded with Black Tartarian; root pruned, and eventually died; had others share a similar fate; would agree with Mr.

Loomis in recommending low heads. Now propagates on the Morello seedling stocks, and succeeds tolerably well.

Dr. Warder—All experienced and skillful cultivators at Cincinnati are in favor of low headed trees, and prefer to work them at or near the surface of the ground, on Morello stocks.

President—The Morellos are the best stock he has tried for the Dukes, etc. J. J. Thomas has written him that he believes the Mahaleb was *the* stock for the West.

Cherries need dry bottom, and the bodies of trees shaded on south and west sides; heads should be low.

Mr. Fahnestock—Has found decided advantage in working near the ground and forming low heads; have trees eight years old, branches within a foot of the ground; were the most beautiful, thrifty trees in his neighborhood.—The black knot has shown itself last year on the Black Tartarian and one other variety. The soil should be dry for Mazzard stocks. Only Dukes and Morellos succeed well on Morello stocks with them. Have grown on Mahaleb stock extensively; specimen trees seven or eight years old; heads formed near the ground; fine trees, and the fruit appears finer than when grown on any other stocks. Thinks the Mahaleb as good a stock for orchard trees as any, with the advantage of superior hardiness; would do tolerably well on low, wet ground; has seen no disease affect trees on the Mahaleb.

Mr. Kinney has no experience in fruiting choice varieties. The trees have died on Mazzard stocks, but stand well on Morello and Mahaleb; the latter grows very thriftily with him; has had it winter killed after very thrifty growth in fall; not commonly injured at all.

Mr. Ellsworth agrees with above testimony in favor of Mahaleb stocks; they are very productive; succeed well with him on gravelly soil, and on prairie soil, with gravelly sub-soil; has lost a stock of trees on low ground in a severe winter; lost none on Morello, but it is too liable to sucker.

Mr. Brayton thinks if we would use Morello seedlings for stock, we would not be troubled with its throwing up suckers.

Mr. Coleman inquired if the Mahaleb suckered.

Messrs. Kinney and Fahnestock have never seen it sucker.

Mr. Shepherd has seen one only.

Messrs. A. Bryant and Overman—When the Morello stock is worked near the ground, and trees make a thrifty growth, it is not liable to sucker.

Mr. Truesdell has trees six years old on Morello stocks, hardy and productive; do not sucker.

Mr. Negus has Black Tartarian four years on Morello; no suckers; took up one year old suckers, grew them in nursery rows one year before working; they make fine stocks.

Mr. Ellsworth—Trees on Morello stocks bear better than on Mazzard, but have suckered badly with him.

Mr. Fahnestock—Do not bear better with them; none but the Dukes and Morellos take readily on Morello; knows a tree of Black Tartarian on Morello; at the point of union bud projects eight inches over the stock.

Mr. Kinney has best success budding early, and start them at once.

Mr. Overman—Buds from 15th to last of June—earlier the better—and get growth the same season.

Mr. Truesdell—Has budded in spring, soon as bark would peel, from scions cut in November, and kept in moss; have done well; head back when buds show signs of starting.

Mr. Brayton and others—The time when all scions should be cut.

Mr. Overman—Has commenced budding in April, and continued until October; did not see much difference in buds uniting with the stock. In early budding, head down soon as buds begin to swell; if possible, bud on wood of the current year, and head very close; very successful. Experience in budding from last year's scions such, that, with Cherries particularly, he should have no more to do with it; with Apples it does better. Can mature buds of present year sooner, by pinching off ends of shoots a week or two before using.

Mr. Fahnestock—We bud Cherries and Pears on quince, the last of all budding. Bud Mazzard stocks second year; commence from the 10th to 15th of August; finish in September; scarcely any fail.

Mr. McWhorter—Cherries have their growth finished in August with him, and cannot be budded.

Mr. Stewart, of Ogle county—Have budded 15th to 20th of August, with good success.

Mr. Stewart, of Quincy—Once budded in May from last year's scions, headed down in two weeks; all died; has lost over ninety per cent. of Apples grafted late in the season, in nursery. The May Cherry seedlings grow more vigorously with him than the common Morello.

Mr. Brayton buds Cherries in July; never do well later than that.

Mr. Ellsworth—Bud on Mazzard in August and till 10th of September; after that on Mahaleb; then Pear on quince; all succeed well.

Mr. Loomis—Budded first Cherries on Mazzard last year, August 10th; finished September 23d; look fine; dry out if budded early.

Mr. Shepherd inquired if any one had tried the experiment of stripping off outer bark of Cherry trees, as recommended by Prof. Turner?

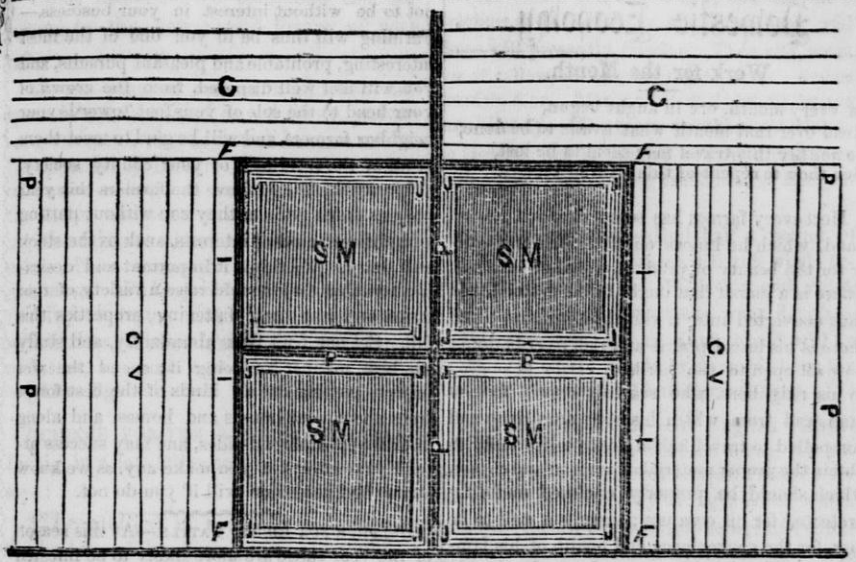
Mr. Dunlap—A neighbor had two fine trees May Duke and a Heart Cherry—stripped off the outer bark and scarified them considerably in June last year; they were loaded with fruit this year.

Mr. Truesdell—before seeing Professor Turner's article on peeling the Cherry tree, he lost several trees by winter killing; since then he has peeled off the outer rough bark; loses no trees now.

Mr. Stewart believed bark necessary to a tree as the skin to an animal; would expect to kill trees by stripping them.

Mr. A. Bryant—It would in the fall of the year, but not if taken off in June.

Mr. Ellsworth has tried wrapping trees with cloth, as had been recommended; it was no protection; the winter of 1851-52 lost several.



PLAN FOR AND GOOD GARDENS.

MESSRS EDITORS:—There are few who are so utterly and shamefully destitute of taste, as to be incapable of admiring a good garden.—Yet, notwithstanding the ease with which they may be had, and the real and abundant comfort they will afford, many, very many, have never known what it was to have one. With them, the idea of a good garden is synonymous with something either quite beyond their reach or entirely beneath their notice. But their Maker did not consider the garden beneath *His* notice, or he would not have made it the birth-place and abode of the last and noblest work of his creation. The garden has even been the chosen spot of the contemplative Philosopher and the Statesman.

An eminent writter has well said, "that the improvement in gardens always keeps pace with our mental culture." It must, then, have an *important* bearing upon the intellectual faculties, which is, of itself, a sufficient reason for more attention being paid to the subject.

The size and location of the garden may be regulated by circumstances. The garden should be located where it will be seen, so that it may not only be easily watched and protected, but seen and considered as an ornament to the premises; and substantial and efficient (ornamental if practicable) fences be in every instance constructed around them. Plans for the arrangement of gardens are numerous, and many of them are both tasteful and convenient. One which I have made and *tried*, I like as well as any I have seen.

Let 1 1 be the side nearest the house; C C the ground for raising garden corn; P P P P, at each end of the garden, be the places for peas; V C V C, the places for cucumber and melon vines, cabbages, potatoes, &c; I, I, I, I, tomatoes: and SM SM SM SM the places for small miscellaneous vegetables, such as onions, lettuce, salsify, parsnips, carrots, &c., &c.—These should be in the plot marked by the corners F, F, F, F, and the lines P P, P P, the only paths in the plot or in the garden. The plot F F, &c., should be marked off in lines 18 inches apart. This is perhaps most conveniently done with a marker made of a light piece of scantling, 3 feet long, with a fixed tooth at each end, a moveable one in the middle, and a handle or pole 4½ feet in length. Let this be drawn by hand, as straightly as possible, across one side of the plot, and redrawn in the same marks till they are well defined and perfectly straight; then mark towards the opposite side of the plot, keeping the inside tooth on the last line drawn—this will guage them so that they will be parallel, which is as essential to the beauty of the garden, as that they should be perfectly straight. Let as many of the lines in the middle as are wanted for a path, be taken, and 9 lines be marked in the middle of the plot, crosswise of the others, and let the three middle ones of the 9 be taken for the other path; let 3 lines also be drawn across each end of the plot, that is, parallel to the line 1 1; the plot is then ready for planting. Sow 3 rows of carrots around each one of the squares S M, defined by the corners J, J, J, J; fill up the squares according to convenience. Remove the middle tooth of the marker, and lay off the places for corn, peas, vines, tomatoes, &c. The corn will, as the season advances, form a beautiful background to the garden; the peas will define the sides, and the tomatoes divide the plot from the cabbage and vine patches, and the carrots will form a fine border around the squares of the plot F F.

G. M. POWELL.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.

Thos. Tusser.

Most every farmer has some dreaded job on hand, which he knows ought to be done, either for the beauty or productiveness of his farm. There is a marsh that ought to be drained, and thus converted into a valuable meadow; and there is his broad prairie and rich river bottoms, now all open to the herds of cattle belonging to his neighbors, who scarcely own a foot of land, and from which his cows are driven and compelled to travel half a dozen miles daily to obtain the proper materials for butter and cheese, which should be properly enclosed and duly protected for his own use; there is a well to be dug, for the convenience and health of his family, instead of using water from the brook, which is the common reservoir of barn-yards and road-washings, better calculated much for his farm than family, or his corn than his children; there is a prairie to be broken and an opening to be cleared, and both made ready for a wheat crop next fall, &c., &c. Now let us tackle these in right good earnest, and win a glorious victory, one vastly more profitable and honorable than that of Palo Alto, and which will give us much more internal good feeling and external good looks. There is nothing so profitable, gratifying, and *satisfying* to the farmer himself, as such real improvements. Let no one delay any longer to see that his fences are in good condition, that the cattle are kept from his meadows, that his farming implements are all in prime order, remembering that hired men love to use a good implement, and handle it with much more dexterity than a dilapidated, clumsy concern; measure off the ground and make the plans for your premium crops; calculate on winning the premium this fall for the best kitchen garden; secure some of the new and improved varieties of seed; introduce upon your farm a pair of good Shanghais, or get some of their eggs and put them under one of your hens, this will please your children and lead them to love their rural home and rural pursuits; buy a Suffolk pig; purchase a Short-horn, Devon, Ayrshire, or Jersey calf, cow or bull; if you have the means, get some South-downs, French or Spanish Merinos—see that they are all O, K,—and we will warrant you not to be without interest in your business.—Farming will thus be to you one of the most interesting, profitable and pleasant pursuits, and you will feel well disposed, from the crown of your head to the sole of your foot, towards your neighbor farmers, and will be glad to meet them at all of the meetings of your county society.

We would like to have the farmers this year raise as much grain as they can without putting a hindrance to other interests, such as the stock and dairy. We think it important and desirable, too, that they should raise a variety of root crops, and test their fattening properties this fall. Set out fruit trees abundantly, and study the best manner of doing it; spend the wet days in putting out all kinds of the best forest trees about your houses and homes, and along your fences and road-sides, and may success attend your efforts, if you make any, as we know shame and confusion will if you do not.

Sulphur for Lice in Cattle.—At this season of the year cattle are more likely to be infested with those pests, lice, than at any other, A correspondent of the Farmer's Companion gives a remedy much more simple and safe, to our mind, than the external application of tobacco smoke, juice, or ointments usually practiced:

"I saw the recommendation in an agricultural print, and had it also from a neighbor who has tried it. I therefore tried it myself, on some calves that were literally covered with the vermin, and upon which tobacco and other remedies made scarcely any impression. The result was, not a louse was to be seen in two weeks. I fed a spoonful to a calf in meal, two or three times a week. Whilst giving it the weather should be fair, or the calves housed and not permitted to run on marshy ground, else they may be liable to take cold and receive injury.

T. E. W."

Beef Tea.—When one pound of lean beef, free of fat, and separated from the bones, in the finely chopped state in which it is used for beef sausages or mince meat, is uniformly mixed with its own weight of cold water, slowly heated to boiling, and the liquid, after boiling briskly for a minute or two, is strained through a towel from the coagulated albumen, and the fibrine now becoming hard and horny, we obtain an equal weight of the most aromatic soup, of such strength as cannot be obtained even by boiling for hours, from a piece of flesh. When mixed with salt, and the other usual additions by which soup is usually seasoned, and tinged somewhat darker by means of roasted onions or burnt sugar, it forms the very best soup that can in any way be prepared from one pound of flesh.—[Liebig.

CORN BREAD.—We commend the following to the eaters and lovers of corn cake:

To one quart of sour milk add two teaspoonfuls, well stirred in, of finely pulverized saleratus, two eggs well beaten, one table-spoonful of brown sugar, and a piece of butter as large as an egg. Salt to suit the taste, and then stir in the meal, making the mixture about as stiff as for pound cake. Now comes the great secret of its goodness. *Bake quick*—to the color of a rich, light brown. Eat it moderately warm, with butter, cheese, honey, or sugar-house molasses, as most agreeable to the palate. —[Am. Agriculturist.

SCIENCE FOR THE KITCHEN.—Professor Liebig, in a late letter to Professor Silliman, says:

"The method of *roasting* is obviously the best to make flesh most nutritious.—But it does not follow that boiling is to be interdicted. If a piece of meat is put in *cold* water, and this heated to boiling, and boiled till it is 'done,' it will become harder and have less taste, than if the same piece had been thrown into water already boiling. In the first case the matters grateful to the swell and taste, go into the extract—the soup; in the second, the albumen of the meat coagulates from the surface inward, and envelopes the interior with a layer which is impregnable to water. In the latter case, the soup will be indifferent, but the meat delicious."

GERMAN YEAST—The yeast prepared by the Hungarians will keep for a whole twelvemonth. During the summer season they boil a quantity of wheaten bran and hops in water; the decoction is not long in fermenting, and when this has taken place they throw in a sufficient portion of bran to form the whole into a thick paste, which they work into balls that are afterwards dried by a slow heat. When wanted for use they are broken, and boiling water is poured upon them. Having stood a proper time, the fluid is decanted, and is in a fit state for leavening bread.—[Johnson's Encyclopedia of Agriculture.

TO PREPARE WATER-PROOF BOOTS.—Boots and shoes may be rendered impervious to water by the following composition: Take 3 oz. of spermaceti, and melt it in a pipkin, or other earthen vessel over a slow fire; add thereto 6 drachms of India rubber cut into slices, and these will presently dissolve. Then add, *seriatim* of tallow, 8 oz.; hogs lard, 2 oz.; amber varnish, 4 oz. Mix, and it will be fit for use immediately. The boots, or other material to be treated, are to receive two or three coats with a common blacking brush, and a fine polish is the result.

NUTRITIOUS BREAD.—Boil half a pound of rice in three pints of water, till the whole becomes thick and pulpy. With this and yeast, and six pounds of flour, make your dough.—In this way, it is said, as much bread will be made, as if eight pounds of flour, without the rice, had been used.—[Am. Agriculturist.

BITE OF MAD DOGS.—An English journal says, that an old saxon has been using for fifty years, and with perfect success, a remedy for the bite of mad dogs, by the agency of which "he has rescued many fellow-beings and cattle from the fearful death of hydrophobia." The remedy is to wash the wound immediately with warm vinegar or tepid water, dry it, and then apply a few drops of muriatic acid, which will destroy the poison of the saliva, or neutralize it, and the cure is effected.

☞ Woolens should be washed in very hot suds, and not rinsed. Luke-warm water shrinks them.

CURE FOR CORNS.—A correspondent writes that a pint of alcohol poured in his boots caused all his corns and calluses to peel off, leaving his skin smooth and soft. If this be so, alcohol in the boots must have an effect contrary to the usual one, for we have known many individuals to get tremendously *corned* with less than a pint of alcohol, largely diluted with Croton.—[Scientific American.

☞ The oftener carpets are shaken the longer they will wear; the dirt that collects under the mgrinds out the threads.

If you wish to preserve fine teeth, always clean them thoroughly after you have eaten your last meal at night.

TO INSURE HEALTH FOR CHILDREN.—Give them plenty of milk; plenty of flannel; plenty of air; and let them have plenty of sleep; and they will seldom, if ever, ail anything.—That is, milk is their best diet; they must be warmly clothed; must be much out of doors; and must be always allowed to sleep on till they awaken of their own accord.

Editors Table.

Premium Seeds.

DIRECTIONS FOR PLANTING.—Plant the corn, squash and cucumber seeds, as early as the season will permit—say about the 10th or 15th of May. The first week in May, as stated on the seed-bag label, will be too early for this latitude. Should the weather be cold and wet, the seed may rot in the ground. We find on reference to our memorandum, that we planted last season on the 23d of May, but we would recommend a little earlier planting.

Plant the corn on rich, warm land, at least 30 rods from any other variety; and the other seeds 8 or 10 rods from each or any other varieties.

BELOIT SUBSCRIBERS are requested to call on Prof. LAPHROP and receive their seeds.

THE CENSUS, unabridged, has already been laid upon the desks of the Members of Congress. An abridgement more convenient, and quite as useful for many, is in preparation.—Each member will have for distribution nearly a thousand copies of the Abstract. This will make a book of about 600 octavo pages.

PROSPECTS OF THE NEXT CROP OF WINTER WHEAT—BAD SPRING, &c.—We learn from some of the farmers, says the Detroit Advertiser, that there is fear that the growing wheat crop has been considerably injured within the past four weeks, by a coating of ice, which has covered it most of the time since the December and January snows went off. The fall growth has mostly been killed by the ice, but whether the roots are affected, cannot be ascertained until warm weather sets in. We trust the fears are unfounded

THE PLOUGH, LOOM AND ANVIL.—We have received the February No. of this valuable and reliable Agricultural, Mechanical and Politico-economical journal We want the January No. also. This is oue of the most earnest and orthodoxical of the journals devoted to the interests of the farmer and mechanic. All its readers, while they admire its ability, do not always find themselves able to coincide with its views on some matters of political economy. We commend this journal to those who wish to be posted up on the Tariff interests.

☞ A steamship nearly one-eighth of a mile long is building at Liverpool.

☞ We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisements of our Beloit friends and patrons. The establishment of Love & Stone (successors of Barker & Love) is one of the oldest and most reputable in the Rock River Valley. We have lately visited this extensive and well conducted establishment, and can say, from personal observation, that every thing is done in the most workmanlike manner.—They have in their employ long-tried and skillful workmen, practical engineers who understand their business. Their Mower received a medal, with special approbation, at the Exhibition at the Crystal Palace, and also received a premium at the trial of machines at Geneva, N. Y., last fall. We commend them to the patronage of the agricultural community.

Rolfe, Strong & Co., who know well what are the wants of the family table, and how they can best be furnished, gladly avail themselves of every opportunity to do their customers a kindness, and that in a gentlemanly way, and while they provide for the inner man, the wants of the outer can be abundantly, satisfactorily and tastefully supplied at the

BELOIT CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT. O. A. is O. K. and always on hand, and is just as good natured and gentlemanly when you purchase as when you don't. If you are suffered to leave without a fit, "like a duck's foot in the mud," just give it up that you are indeed a crooked stick.

At the Beloit Bookstore will be found not only good books, rare books, cheap books, latest books, and all kinds of stationery, music, &c. but what is worth them all—an honorable and obliging man.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES ENCOURAGED.—The following is from an exchange paper:

BABY EXHIBITION.—The Committee of the Southern Central Agricultural Association, have authorized to offer the following premiums to be awarded at the next fair in Augusta:

1st Premium, a silver pitcher worth $50, for the handsomest and finest baby two years old.

2d Premium, a silver pitcher worth $25, for the handsomest and finest baby one year old.

3d Premium, a silver goblet worth $10, for the handsomest and finest baby six months old.

The children are to be clothed in domestic fabrics, and the premiums to be awarded under the direction of the Executive Committee.

TRIAL OF REAPERS.—We have received the following proposals from Mr. Wright, and tho' we find nothing in them to object to, yet they do not seem to us exactly to meet the difficulties of the case. Could not a committee of the U. S. Agricultural Society devise a plan which would meet the demands of the case? We are decidedly of the opinion that it is important, both for the interests of manufacturers and users of reapers, that the matter should be taken in hand. It is so much a national matter, that it falls within the precincts of the National Society. If not done by this Society, each State will have to be at the expense of perfecting some arrangement itself.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7, 1854.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As a manufacturer, I desire to enter my protest against any more petty trials of reapers. They cost a great deal and amount to nothing. The decision at one trial is reversed the next week at another, perhaps with the same machines, and often the competitors can show their defeat was owing to some extraneous circumstances, as not having a suitable team, bad driving, or unfortunate management in some way.

A reaper trial is not like a horse-race, where the sole object is to beat, regardless of everything except the coming out ahead; it is, or ought to be, to ascertain surely which is the best machine, and not so much to benefit the owner as the farmers, who wish to know what kind to buy.

How absurd is it for any set of men—I care not how great their experience and judgment—to take from three to a dozen reapers, perhaps all of acknowledged merit, and by the cutting of two acres each, as was done at the Wooster, Ohio, trial, where mine was defeated; or even by cutting five or six acres, as at the Richmond, Ind., trial, where mine was victor, decide positively and absolutely that one reaper is better than all others.

Such a trial might show whether a reaper would work or not, but to judge between rival reapers, of which there are over twenty of established reputation, each having its points of excellence; a long and thorough trial must be requisite, to see how they work in different kinds of grain, and under varied circumstances, and how they wear. A trial to be decisive should go through an entire harvest. One, too, that was thorough and reliable, would be equally available in one State as another. They are also expensive to all concerned. I would therefore propose a general trial on something like the following plan:

Let several State Agricultural Societies unite, each appropriating $200 or $500, and appointing one or two committee-men, in whose experience, judgment and fairness, entire confidence could be placed. Let the committee make their arrangements as early as possible, adopt their rules, and appoint time and place of first meeting. They might begin South and proceeding North continue the trial for weeks if necessary, leaving out one machine after another, as its inferiority became manifest.

The committee should have all their expenses paid, and perhaps compensation besides; and the cost of removing reapers from place to place might also be borne by the committee, in order to enable every builder to come into the trial; and for this reason I would not require any entrance fee, though some of the larger builders would doubtless be willing to contribute to the general fund. If five or more societies can be got to unite in such a trial, I will contribute $200 to $500, or as much as any other builder.

The surplus funds should be divided to the best machines, say half to the first, one-third to the second, and one-sixth to the third, to be paid in plate or money, as might be desired by the winner.

To save time and expedite arrangements, I would suggest to parties interested to correspond with Col. B. P. JOHNSON, Secretary N. Y. State Agricultural Society, Albany, N. Y. I have not communicated with him, but am quite sure his interest in agricultural matters will cause him to bear the labors with cheerfulness.

Yours respectfully, J. S. WRIGHT.

☞ Our thanks are due to John A. Kennicott & Sons for a Catalogue of their valuable collection of Fruit and Ornamental Trees.—Theirs is a well known Nursery, of good reputation, conducted by judicious, honorable and safe men.

☞ In Rome charcoal is principally used for fuel, and you will see a string of twenty mules bringing little sacks of it upon their backs, when one mule would draw it all in a cart.—But the charcoal vender never had a cart, and so he keeps his twenty mules and feeds them.

☞ The number of persons in the United States engaged in commerce, trade and manufactures, is put down at 1,596,265; in Agriculture, 2,400,588; Government Offices, 24,066.

Sheep Shearing Festival.

We received the following Premium List and Regulations for a Sheep Shearing Festival after our paper was wholly made up for April. We should be pleased to make some extended remarks, but, for want of space, shall be obliged to defer them to the next number.—In the meantime, we trust all the wool-growers of our State will immediately make their arrangements to be present on the occasion.

We trust the farmers of our State will appreciate the enlightened and judicious views of the Executive Committee of our State Society, and the liberal plans which they devise to elevate and bring to perfection every branch of agricultural industry:

The Executive Committee of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, being aware of the uncertainty and doubt thrown around many questions in Sheep economy, have determined to institute an Annual Sheep Shearing Festival, for the purpose of affording an opportunity for determining with certainty many of these questions.

The Festival for the present year will be held at the village of Whitewater, on Wednesday, May 31st, under the direction of the Society, when the following premiums will be awarded:

CLASS A.

For the best 10 Ewes, two years old or over, that have been wintered and are owned in this State, that will shear the greatest value of wool of one year's growth, in proportion to the expense of keeping, and irrespective of breeds, a Premium of TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS will be awarded.

For second best do.,	$12 50
For the third best do.,	6 00
For the best lot of Lambs, the progeny of the 10 Ewes,	6 00
For the second best do. do.	4 00

The Committee of Judges in this Class will consist of Reuben M. Norton, of Racine; Benjamin F. Pixley, of Janesville; and Horatio Hill, of Milwaukee.

Each competitor will be required to shear his own sheep, or to provide a shearer for that purpose.

The shearing will commence at 10 o'clock, A. M.

CLASS B.

For the best Buck, 2 years old or over,	$15 00
For second best do. do. do.	10 00
For best Buck, under 2 years of age,	10 00
For second best do. do.	5 00
For best single Ewe, 2 yrs. old or over,	6 00
For second best do. do.	3 00

The Committee of Judges in this Class will be announced on the day of the Festival.

CLASS C.

For the best Shearer,	$6 00
For the second best do.	3 00

The Committee of Judges in this Class will be announced on the day of the Festival.

Rules to be considered relative to the ten Ewes.

The Committee, in estimating the expense of keeping sheep, are to consider the annual cost of keeping sheep at one dollar per hundred pounds; and the standard weight of Ewes at eighty pounds each. Should any lot of Ewes average less than the standard, the Committee will estimate the expense of keeping as though they weighed full weight.

The sheep are to be weighed by the Committee in the morning, before the shearing, and the sheep are to be shorn in the presence of the Committee.

After the wool is properly done up, and before weighing, the Committee will fix the relative value of wool, per pound, on each sheep.

The Committee will be very particular in regard to the condition of the wool. Should any wool, from unavoidable causes, or from careless washing, or from the use of any foreign substance, be found to be in bad condition, the Committee will make the necessary deduction before weighing.

No sheep will be allowed to compete unless they have been well washed within two weeks previous to the time of shearing.

For the best single Ewes.

The Committee will take into consideration size, build and constitution, quantity, quality and length of staple, and what will pay the greatest profit to the farmers of Wisconsin.

For the best Buck.

The Committee will consider size, build, and constitution, and the general appearance of the animal, and the quantity, quality and value of the wool, and what will pay the greatest profit to the farmers of Wisconsin.

For the best Shearers.

The Committee will take into consideration time, workmanship, and the condition in which the fleece comes off the sheep for doing up.—Each competitor to shear at least five sheep.

All competitors for premiums on sheep will be required to become members of the Society, and make their entries by the evening of Tuesday, May 30th, 1854. Each competitor must give as full a description as practicable, in regard to the blood and pedigree—whether Spanish or French Merino, or Saxony, &c.; or, if a cross, with what blood crossed, &c.; with the manner of keeping; the quantity of hay and grain fed per hundred sheep during the winter; with an estimate of the cost of keeping one hundred sheep per year; what his general average of wool per head is; also, the average per cent. of losses on one hundred sheep per annum; also, the number of lambs raised to the number of ewes kept.

All competitors for premiums as Shearers, will be required to become members of the So-

ciety, and to signify to the Secretary their intention to compete, by the evening of Tuesday May 30th, 1854.

Persons intending to compete for any premiums at this Festival, are requested to inform the Secretary as soon as practicable, in order that suitable arrangements may be made for their accommodation.

Good pasturage and shelter will be provided by the Executive Committee.

In establishing this Annual Festival, the Executive Committee trust that their efforts for the improvement of the conition of Sheep Husbandry, will be duly seconded by the farmers of Wisconsin; and that there will be a full representation of all breeds of sheep, and their various grades.

Persons desiring further information with regard to this Festival, can communicate, either personally, or by letter, with the Secretary at Madison.

ALBERT C. INGHAM, Secretary.
State Ag. Rooms, Madison, March, 1854.

CATTLE FAIR.—A mee ing was held at Cambridge Dane county, on the 5th inst., by farmers residing in the towns of Oakland, Lake Mills, Deerfield, Albion, and Christiana, for the purpose of taking into consideration the utility of holding a semi-annual Fair at Cambridge, which resulted in the farmers and others favorably disposed, unanimously resolving to have their first exhibition on the last Tuesday in March, 1854, and their second on the first Tuesday in October following. Its object is to buy, sell and exchange stock and farm products. The farmers in our vicinity are showing a praiseworthy disposition to emulate the progress that other counties around us have made, and are making to improve their stock and other farm products. We hope they will go on progressing, and vie with each other in introducing the best breed of horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, etc. JOSEPH FLAGG, Pres't.

GEO. DOWE, Secretary.

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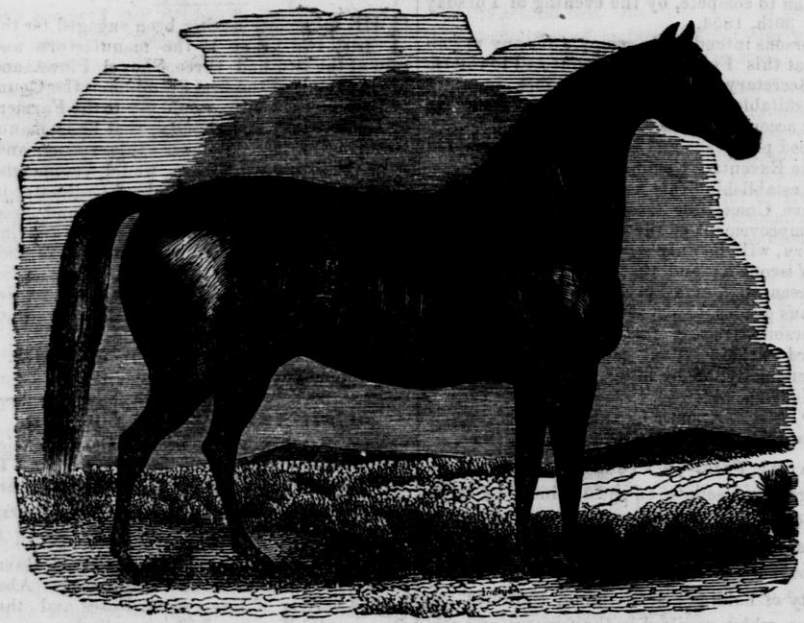
ARABIAN BLOOD HORSE,



YOUNG ST. PATRICK.

The above engraving is a very true likeness of YOUNG ST. PATRICK, who drew the First Premium at the late Rock County Fair; also, the Sweepstake Premium over all other horses exhibited from other parts of this State, and a number of fine horses from other States.

This high-bred Horse is 5 years old; stands 16 hands high, and is of a dark chesnut color, most beautifully dappled, and was got by the celebrated imported horse St. Patrick, grandson of the English Eclipse, who was the best horse of his day, and produced more winners of the Turf than any other horse. Eclipse was bred by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, and was got by the White Turk, son of the Godolphin Arabian. St. Patrick's dam was the famous mare got by Col. Houston's celebrated imported horse Scipio, out of the famous Eclipse mare owned by Judge Morgan, of Virginia. No horse, therefore, can be of purer blood.

This fine and high-bred horse will stand for breeding purposes, during the present season, commencing April 10th, and ending July 1st, as follows:

Mondays and Tuesdays, at the stable of N. Olmstead, Cottage Inn.

Wednesdays and Thursdays, at the stable of Col. T. Stevens, Western Hotel, Dodgeville.

Fridays and Saturdays, at the stable of T. K. Blodgett, Central House, Mineral Point; at the following rates:

$5 the single leap; $10 the season; and $15 to insure a mare with foal.

Parting with insured mares, before known to be with foal, forfeits the insurance money.

Public days and a reasonable time for moving the horse reserved.

Care will be taken to prevent accidents, but no accountabilily for any that may occur.

☞ The well known horse, YOUNG BELL FOUNDER, will also stand in connection with St. Patrick, at reduced rates.

April, 1854. GEO. S. RUBLE.

WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., MAY, 1854. NO. 5.

MARK MILLER, } Editors and Publishers.
S. P. LATHROP }

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $3,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Cattle Breeding.

The attainment of any degree of eminence in the breeding of horned cattle requires, probably, more skill, care, and judgment than any other branch of agriculture. Not only must the stock breeder possess a well trained eye to take in at a glance the whole contour of the animal, and a practical knowledge of the particular points of excellence developed in a well bred animal; but also a nice discrimination in handling; to judge not only of the mellowness and softness of the skin, but also of cellular tissue and adipose matter beneath.—This knowledge can only be acquired by practice and close observation. Books may convey an idea of it; but proficiency can alone be attained by the study of living models. Even the hair, when soft and silky and of sufficient quantity, is a sure index to the practiced eye and hand of a kindly nature beneath, as certain as the soft and pliable hide—showing a disposition to take on fat readily. The full, prominent eye, beaming with placid intelligence, bespeaking not only the temper of the animal, but much of its fattening qualities; the wide, open forehead tapering to the muzzle, as denoting the muscular character of the male; the clearness of the chops and throat, the width and depth of the brisket, as showing the amount of room allowed for the vital organs, the heart, lungs, &c.; the straight, level back, with wide loins and hips, showing not only an aptitude to fatten, but to lay it on where of the most value; the roundness, breadth and depth of rib, as affording space for a capacious stomach; the proper setting on of the tail, so that none of the rump is lost; the straightness of the legs, full and muscular to the knee, are good points, which can be understood and properly appreciated only by close observation; and even when sensible of their importance, how difficult to combine them all in one animal; hence arises the necessity of patient, untiring perseverance, a steady pursuit of one object kept constantly in view—virtues not easily acquired by men who are always "selling out," ever changing, or by those who make haste to be rich. We owe the improved breeds of cattle of the present day to men of rare judgment, who have spent the energies of their whole lives in the study and pursuit of this one object, and who considered themselves amply rewarded for years of toil in having lessened some defect, or developed more perfectly some good point in their herds—small matters in the estimation of too many who rear cattle, and wholly escaping the notice of the general observer, yet of great importance to the scientific breeder.

An eminent English breeder once said, after nearly half a century spent in improving the shape of the head, without sacrificing any good point of the carcass, that he could retire from life with satisfaction, having fulfilled his mission in the accomplishment of the end in view. Another observed in the writer's presence, that he had been steadily pursuing one object thirty years in developing the vascular system, thereby perfecting the handling properties of his herd, and with no small degree of satisfaction, directed attention to a bull of very masculine character, showing great stamina and strength of constitution, unrivalled proportions, yet combined with richness and mellowness of handling in a superior degree, as an evidence that his well directed efforts had been crowned with success.

The foregoing remarks will apply chiefly to the selection of proper animals from which to breed; but this, though of the greatest impor-

tance, is but the foundation of success—as so much depends upon the rearing of young stock, the quality of their food, and the care and attention they receive, that many, like the "old Dutchman," consider the breed of the hog trough of more importance than the breed of the hog. Few animals can bear extraordinary forcing at an early age, without being liable to disease; so, on the other hand, the best bred animal cannot thrive and develope himself under a starving process, which, if it do not deteriorate many herds of native cattle subjected to its influence, is from the fact, that they are at so low an ebb that to retrograde is impossible except to sink in death. Cattle, to arrive at the greatest perfection, should be kept in a uniformly thriving condition, not pampered when calves for three months, and then turned into a wild pasture to shirk for themselves, at a season when the grass is tough and wiry, and the softest edibles within their reach are oak grubs and hazel brush; not subjected to the surfeit of a luxuriant pasture for three or four months in the summer, to be followed by a scanty supply of poor hay the next winter.—The farmer who commences the improvement of his stock, will, if judicious, commence at the same time, if not previously, to improve his pasture, the quantity and quality of the grass, the quality of his hay, the comfort and warmth of his sheds, and his facilities for stock water.

Some begin by considering blood everything, but after a few years mismanagement, come to the equally erroneous conclusion, that there is nothing in blood, but feed is everything; consequently, they go to work forcing worthless animals, wasting their corn and grain upon such as have not the nature to manufacture the food into beef, nor the sense to lay what little flesh and fat they do grow upon the right places.

The prerequisites which the writer considers necessary to ensure success, are, a taste for the business, skill and judgment in the dilligent prosecution of it, well bred animals to begin with, good pasture, comfortable sheds, good, nutritious winter provender, and good water.

Muskego, March, 1854. JOHN P ROE.

REMARKS.—We are greatly obliged to the author for the above valuable communication, and hope to hear from him often on the subject of stock and stock raising.

IRELAND is said to be increasing its agricultural prospects, though its people are diminishing.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Wheat and Chess.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your February number I notice the experience of Mr. "Prove All" on the subject of Wheat turning to Chess. I beg the privilege of sending you my testimony on this subject. I am not unmindful of the great amount of evidence on both sides of this subject, and of the great danger of running into an unprofitable controversy, and would not trouble you with it did I not believe I am in possession of information that will, or ought to, lay this matter forever at rest.

During the great controversy in the Genesee Farmer, a number of years ago, my father and myself tried the following experiment, to satisfy ourselves on the subject: We went to an open place in our peach orchard, which had been in sod a great many years, and which is a good soil, inclining towards the west. We took off the sod with the spade, and then loosened up the ground to a sufficient depth; then we stuck down four rows of stakes, about twenty in a row; and at the foot of each of these stakes we planted one grain of wheat. When this wheat came up, we went and dug down and saw that each of these grains of wheat had come up and were growing. We then let it rest until it had got pretty well rooted, when we repaired to it once more, and cut off some of it, and *stamped* some, and twisted it off at the top of the ground, and in the spring we did all that our neighbors told us to do to make it turn to chess; but all would not do.—When harvest came, there was not a single head of chess in the patch, nor was there a great deal of wheat either—for under such treatment as it received little could be expected,

Now, if Mr. "Prove All" wants any better evidence than this, he will have to get it up himself, for we have nailed our flag to the mast on this subject since that time. In conclusion, I would suggest to those who believe in transmutation, that if they would take the trouble to select a number of young plants of wheat, with the kernel attached to the roots, and reset them in a suitable place, and subject them to such treatment as will promote the attainment of their object, and let them make a candid statement of the result, then their *facts* will be entitled to respect and consideration.

W. LAPHAM.

Mt. Tabor, Ohio, Feb, 12, 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I am sorry to see that a gentleman with a cognomen as significant as that of "Prove All," should accuse "A Listener" with "distracting the world about chess"; and I am still more sorry to see him put forth a "story" to distract the world still more on the subject, verifying the old distich—

"The faults of our neighbors with freedom we blame,
But tax not ourselves, though we practice the same."

But I think no rational man will doubt the truth of "Prove All's" story, it seems so every way likely to have taken place just as that gentleman says. I can also believe that the whole 5½ bushels of wheat sowed was hand-picked, grain by grain, so as to preclude the possibility of a single "chess kernel" being found in the whole lot. I can also well believe that just such a result ensued as "Prove All" describes. New land, especially wood land, is not exactly the kind of land I should have chosen to experiment on I should have selected clean land, as well as clean seed, in order to have brought forward a plausible "story," confirmatory of "Listener's" doctrine, and not "new land" and clean seed, to establish a negative.

"Prove All" does not seem to be aware that Chess (*Bromus Scalinus*) is one of the native wild grasses of the American continent; he may find it on the Prairies and in the openings abundantly; he can find wheat growing wild no where, because it is not a native. No one will wonder, then, that "along the fence, where the timber casts a shade." no wheat, but abundance of chess, was found to grow; hence we find the "facts" do not subvert "Listener's" doctrine, nor add much strength to the position taken up by "Prove All."

Albion, Feb., 1854. JAMES CLARKE.

REMARKS.—Though we are obliged to our correspondents for the above articles on the subject of Chess—for we think they have the right view of the matter—yet we wish to guard against entering into a discussion which, from the circumstances of the case, will be almost necessarily an endless one, Men differ in their views, and will till they see eye to eye.

☞ The Stevens Point Pinery says it thinks a Traveling Agricultural Lecturer a better institution for the people, than the endowment of an Agricultural College, as the first will benefit the whole people, while the latter will only help a few of the *aristocracy*.

Walworth Co. Agricultural Society.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Walworth County Agricultural Society, held at the Court House in Elkhorn, on the 17th day of March, A. D. 1854—present, Dr. J. C. Mills, President of said Society; John Williams, Vice President; Hollis Latham and Peter Golder, Secretaries; William Hollinshead, Treasurer; Orra Martin, H J. Starrin, O. W. Carter, and Hiram Cross, Managers.

On motion of Mr. Hollenshead,

Resolved, That the Committee proceed to make out so much of the Premium List as relates to Farms and Cultivated Crops, and that the remainder of said list be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee.

Whereupon the following Premium Lists were agreed upon:

FARMS.

Awarding and Examining Committee. Orra Martin, of Spring Prairie; John Williams, of Darien; Jacob Burgett, of East Troy.

For the best improved Farm, not less than 80 acres, $10
Second best, 5
Third best, $2, in Agricultural Books.

Any person wishing to compete for the above Premiums, must enter their name, and a brief description of the farm, with the Secretary of the Society, or one of the above named Committee, on or before the 15th day of June next, and, if not a member of the Society, must also pay the initiation fee of one dollar. Immediately on the application being so made, the Committee will proceed to examine all farms so entered, and will report on the same at the Annual Fair.

GRASS AND BROOM CORN.

Committee.—M. R. Britton, Spring Prairie; Augustus Smith, Troy; Joseph W. Seaver, Darien.

For best 5 acres of Clover, or Timothy and Clover, $3 00
Second best 5 acres, 1,50
Third " " Wisconsin Farmer.

Persons wishing to compete in this class, must give notice, as in the foregoing class, in time to have the crop examined before maturity.

GRAIN AND ROOTS.

Best five acres of Winter Wheat, $3 00
Second best, " " " 1 50
Third " " " " Wis. Farmer
Best five acres of Spring Wheat, 3 00
2d best " " " " 1 50
3d " " " " " Wis. Farmer

Best five acres of Corn,		3 00
2d best " " "		1 50
3d " " " "	Wisconsin Farmer	
Best five acres of Oats,		2 00
2d best " " "		1 00
3d " " " "	Wisconsin Farmer	
Best five acres of Barley,		2 00
2d " " " "		1 00
3d " " " "	Wisconsin Farmer	
Best quarter acre of Potatoes,		2 00
2d best " " "		1 00
3d " " " "	Wisconsin Farmer	
Best ⅛ acre of Carrots or Beets,		1 00
2d best " " "	Wis. Farmer	
Best 1-16 acre of Onions,		1 00
2d best " " "	Wis. Farmer	

The articles exhibited must be accompanied by a detailed description of the soil, mode of culture, expense, and the land measured; also, the grain and roots must be measured. Proof of the statements, satisfactory to the Committee, must be made. Samples of all of the above crops must be presented at the Fair, of at least ½ a bushel each, in boxes.

On motion, the Committee adjourned, to meet again at the same place, on the 16th day of June next.

H. LATHAM, Sec'y. J. C. MILLS, Pres't.

QUACKERY IN AGRICULTURE.—We have received a copy of an address delivered at the late Fair of the Mercer Co.' (Pa.) Agricultural Society, by James Gowen, Esq., of Mt. Airy. Mr. G. has been long and extensively known as an intelligent farmer and as an enthusiastic zealous friend of agricultural improvement; and his address is what might be expected from such a source—sound, practical and pointed.—Among other things, he is very severe upon the self styled Professors of Scientific Agriculture—men "who will presumptuously overwhelm you with strange terms of agricultural chemistry, taken from Liebig and Johnston, of which they know not the import themselves."—That his censures are in the main just, we do not doubt, for there has been, as Mr. G. says: "Too much of this plating and gilding, of late. Men who never tilled a piece of land, planted a tree, raised or exhibited an animal in all their lives, are now, by false coloring and idle pretensions, transformed into Tulls and Loudons; leaders at Agricultural clubs and Societies, where their twattle and profession pass frequently for sense and experience, with those that know no better. Some of these are ever displaying their operations over a vast and soundless field:—while others of them are busy at cutting out work in the Moon or in the Isle of Sky. To use an old salt, or sailor's expression descriptive of a fresh water sailor, they are always found in everybody's mess but in nobody's watch. The end of all this will be, if not timely checked, that the true Disciples of improvement will become lukewarm when they see the position assumed by mere professors and pretenders."—[N. E. Farmer.

The Legitimate Profits of Agriculture.

We take the following remarks from the Hon. W. C. Rives' Address before the State Ag. Society of New York:

Having glanced in a rapid, and, I am sensible, a very imperfect manner, at some of the circumstances in our national genius and character that appears peculiarly auspicious to the progress of Agricultural improvement in the United States, allow me to say a few words on the subject of great practical concernment to all who are engaged in the pursuit of agriculture,—I mean its fair and legitimate returns in the form of profit. Agriculture, as we speak of it here to-day, is not a mere pastime or amusement. It is a branch of the national industry on which a large majority of the people of the United States rely as their means of support, and to bring up and educate their children. Like every other branch of the national industry, therefore it ought to yield an adequate return, for the labor and capital employed in it. An opinion has somehow or other gained ground that the agriculturist ought to be content with much smaller profits than those to be derived from other employments because he leads, it is immagined, an easier life, and his pursuit is supposed to be less liable to hazards and vicissitudes. Whatever political views may be entertained of a farmer's life by those who have never tried it, the farmer himself knows that there is no pursuit well followed, that demands more untiring industry and more ceaseless vigilance, and none more precarious in its results, from the necessary effects of the uncertainty of the season on the the fruits of his labors. Burke, in the remarkable paper to which I have already alluded, speaking experimentaly as a farmer as well as from a wide survey of human life, says that "It requires ten times

more of labor, of vigilance, of attention, of skill, and of good fortune also, to carry on the business of a farmer, than what belongs to any other trade." A famous school of political philosophers, the French economists, have contended that no kind of labor but that employed in the cultivation of the earth properly deserves the name of productive, however useful they may be in other respects, because no other species of industry, over and above necessary expenses of continuing itself, contributes any new value, as that does in the shape of rent, to the mass of the national wealth. Adam Smith, the great oracle of modern economical science, while denying this doctrine of the French economists, yet maintains that agriculture is, in its nature, the most productive of all the branches of national industry, "adding," to use his words, "a much greater value to the annual produce of the land and labor of the country, to the real wealth and a revenue of its inhabitants, than any way in which a capital can be employed." Without going so far as Adam Smith or the French economists, the agriculturists may at least claim equality with other pursuits in a tendency to promote the national wealth, and fairly aspire to a measure of remuneration for his labor and capital, to be determined by the same rules of proportion and the same principles of equity.

Whether this measure has been yet fully attained in practice to any considerable extent, either here or elsewhere, is, I apprehend, a matter of great doubt. Still, the standard of agricultural profit in some parts of Europe, where both skill and capital have been largely applied to the cultivation of land, is, I am persuaded, much higher than is generally imagined. When that shall be made manifest, the American agriculturist, enjoying so many peculiar advantages in his position, will not, I trust, be content to rest in any degree below it. Edmund Burke, writing in 1795, and in that same representation to Mr. Pitt, which contains so much matter for the instruction of both the agriculturist and the statesman, says that "a farmer in England, who cultivates twelve hundred acres, cannot proceed with any degree of safety and effect, with a smaller capital than ten thousand pounds, and he cannot in the ordinary course of culture, make upon that great capital of ten thousand pounds more than twelve hundred a year." This is a profit of twelve per cent. Sir John Sinclair, twenty-five years afterwards, speaking from reports made to the board of Agriculture, by farmers in a large number of the counties of England, says that "the profits of farming on arable farms rarely exceed from ten to fifteen per cent. on the capital invested," which, it is added, is little, considering that few employments are more subject to casualties than farming, or require more unremitting attention. These profits, too, it must be borne in mind, are the profits of the tenant farmer, after paying rent to his landlord. That the profits of farming in England have not diminished since the time of Burke, and Sir John Sinclair, may be safely assumed; and that they are not less on the continent, in all cases where a like system of liberal and intelligent husbandry has been steadily pursued, admits of but as little doubt. The able and experienced director of the model farm at Crignon, in the neighborhood of Versailles (Monsieur Bella) informed me, a few months ago, that the agricultural profits of that establishment were 14 per cent.; und as it is the property of a Joint Stock Company, and all its accounts are regularly audited at the close of the year, there can be nothing of the vagueness of the conjecture in this result.

I have desired to present these facts to your consideration, and to that of other agricultural brethren generally, because I am convinced that much mischief has been done to the cause of American Agriculture by the erroneous notion that has so extensively prevailed in regard to the natural and just rate of agricultural profit, and which has placed it, by some supposed and inexorable law of the social economy, so much below the profits of other employments of labor and capital—even as low as two and a half and three per cent. The efforts and the energies of agriculturists have, in too many instances, been dwarfed by the influence of this widely propogated dogma. We see how little foundation it has in principle or experience. In agriculture, as in all other pursuits, industry and skill are entitled to their reward, and perseveringly exerted, rarely fail to secure it. If the English farmer makes his twelve per cent., after paying rent to his landlord, the

American agriculturist, who, in a large majority of cases, is his own landlord, and in saving gains his rent, should make yet more. Let him always keep before him the highest standard of profit, and, in proportion to the elevation of that standard will be the degree and success of his agricultural improvements.

Happily there are living examples in our own country to show that agriculture, here and elsewhere, may be made to yield a fair and adequate revenue to those who are engaged in it. Men must be able to live by their calling, whatever it is; and in this age of free competition and active industry, no business that, in the significant language of the day, does not pay, can or ought to be long pursued. It is but a poor and puerile ambition to be a proprietor, unless one can make his property avail for his support, education, and comfort of his family. To such of us, therefore, as may not have been equally fortunate in the career of agriculture, it is a great consolation and encouragement to known that there are those, and in every part of our great and happy country, (I am proud to say that there are such in my own State) who, by their industry and skill, their intelligence and liberality, and a happy combination of science with judicious practice, have achieved the highest success. Their example is a beacon light to cheer and direct us. One of the most useful offices of State Agricultural Societies, such as that over which you, Mr. President, have now the honor to preside, and which has taken so noble a lead in the cause of agricultural improvement, is to make these guiding examples known to all. History has been called philosophy teaching by example. but there is no branch of human knowledge in which so much is taught by example as agriculture. The practice of the best farmers, it has been well said by the leading agricultnral writer of England, Mr. Pussey, is the accumulated and varied science of ages. Acknowledging as I do with gratitude, and in the most unreserved terms, the obligations of agriculture to professional science, I must yet say that farmers are in the main the best teachers of farmers, and that through the medium of agricnltural societies and agricultural journals they have been organized into a grand Lancasterian school, in which the system of mutual instruction has received its highest development and most useful application. And when in this mutual fraternal school we shall have learned from each other the true secret of agricultural success, so far as depends upon human agency—that to untiring industry must be added knowledge; to knowledge a vigilance that looks into every thing; to vigilance a prompt activity that is ever beforehand in its work, and has no such day as to-morrow in its calendar; and to activity a provident and predisposing foresight that has everybody and everything in its place, prepared to take advantage of the fortunate fugitive moment; to foresight an indomitable perseverance that knows no discouragement, but like that son of the earth who is the true type of the farmer, gains fresh strength from eaery fall, and acquires new vigor in every conflict with difficulties; and perseverance a sound and judicious liberality, that does not withhold expense when it will be returned in abundant production and permanent improvement, remembering "there is that which scattereth and yet increaseth, there is that which withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth te poverty;" when we shall have learned all these indispensible lessons of the farmer's craft, we must not forget that even with them all the fruits of the husbandman's labors depend at last for their consummation on the favor and blessing of Heaven; and that in this as in holier things, "Paul may plant and Apollus water, but God giveth the increase."

Corn Stalk Harvester.—The Richmond *Enquirer* thus describes the model of a machine for harvesting corn stalks:

"Between two wheels there is an axle, to each end of which is attached a knife for cutting each row of corn. To the axle is also attached shafts for the horse which pulls the machine. The horse walks between the rows of corn, and the knife just on the inside of each wheel cuts the corn, which falls on a bed or place to catch it, in a manner resembling the operations of a wheat reaper. The bed which catches the corn, opens to the centre at the pleasure of the operator, to discharge the corn in bundles. We are informed, that with one man and a horse, the machine will cut 20 acres of corn per day. It is the invention of a citizen of Illinois."

Stock Register.

Sheep Husbandry.

Large numbers of sheep are being brought into our State and the West the present season, and among them there are some very fine animals. It has now become a well settled question, that we can here, at the West, have, and keep at less expense, as good sheep, all points considered, as there are in the world. Feed can be furnished in greater quantity and better in quality, than at the East; while our climate, though to some extent severe in winter, is not so much so as in Vermont where the best sheep and in the greatest numbers are found. It is also quite a well established fact that sheep introduced here will improve in carcass and amount of wool, while the fineness of the staple is but slightly if at all affected. It is quite important at this period of sheep husbandry in Wisconsin and the West generally, that all who intend to have any thing to do with the business of sheep raising and wool growing, should become thoroughly versed in the qualities of the various kinds of sheep, and be able to judge of their fitness from the possession of certain qualities for our climate, markets, &c.

Although we think very highly of the long-wooled classes, such as the Leicester, Cotswold, &c., and the middle-wooled Southdowns and Bakewells for mutton, and some qualities of their wool; yet we are confident that the kinds of sheep for the great body of our farmers, are the Spanish and French Merinos, with their crosses. Of the respective value of these two classes there will, as a matter of course, be a difference of opinion. We think well of both of them, and regard the farmer fortunate who is in possession of a flock of either, though their number be small. We have not had, perhaps, sufficient experience with both of these kinds, in respect to all their several qualities, to speak very authoritatively with regard to their respective merits, or to decide the question of superiority. Yet we have given some considerable attention to the subject, and have arrived at the conclusion rather in favor of the French Merino, or of a cross between the French and Spanish, leaning towards the French rather than the Spanish.

The following account of the French Merinos and their produce bred in this country, which was prepared by the editor of the American Agriculturist, after having spent much time in examining them, corroborates our own observations and conclusions:

"1. They possess as good constitution, and are as thrifty and as hardy as any native or imported sheep whatever.

"2. They attain a great age—having been known to reach twenty years—and may be depended on as good breeders till twelve or fifteen years old.

"3. They have large, loose skins, full of folds, especially around the neck and below it, on the shoulders, and not unfrequently over the whole body; the wool thickly covering its surface, the forehead, cheeks and legs, clear down to the hoofs, giving the fleece, when shorn and spread out in its ample dimensions, the appearance of having been taken from the carcass of a huge buffalo, rather than so small an animal as the domestic sheep.

"4. The fibre of the wool is very fine, quite equal to the best Merino in Spain (?), and is the very antipodes of that of which so much complaint is made by the manufacturer, of being harsh, dry, crispy and wiry. The fleece opens of a briliant creamy color within, on a skin of rich pink, and is soft, glassy, wavey, and very even over the whole body; is exceeding close and compact, and has a yolk free from gum, and easily liberated when it comes to be washed, but which protects the wool from the weather and keeps it free of the dead ends that are so objectionable. It becomes of the purest white when scoured by the manufacturer, and still retains its mellow, oily touch, so grateful to the handling of good judges. Its felting properties are beyond dispute, making it a choice material for the manufacture of fine cloths."

A strong prejudice is too apt to exist among the Spanish wool-growers against the French Merinos. We have felt this prejudice or fear ourselves, especially in regard to their constitution and capacity to thrive, without extra feed and care. Our fears, however, are all dissipated by a familiarity and experience with them.—We never have seen hardier or healthier sheep than the French Merinos. It is doubtless a fact that the best breeds of Spanish Merinos will shear as much wool as the French, in proportion to the size and, perhaps, of a finer fibre; yet the French are far superior in their noble appearance, and in some of the qualities of their fleece.

The cost of raising a pound of wool of these two kinds, we think experience will show to be the same. The greater weight of the fleece of the French would, in the view of some, give hem the preference.

The present high price, however, of the French Merinos, especially the pure blooded animals, we fear will be an obstacle in the way of their very abundant introduction into the West.—We are happy to know, however, that a few of the very best animals of this kind have found their way into our State.

We have taken some considerable pains to learn the true value of this breed and the first costs of Bucks and Ewes, selected from flocks in France. Mr. Jewett's letter, which will be found below, embraces nearly all the results of our enquiries. Mr. Jewett has made frequent trips to Europe, as also J. A. Taintor, and know well their original cost.

In connection with this article we wish to call the attention of our wool-growers, and those interested in sheep, to the State Sheep Shearing, to be held at Whitewater on the 31st of the present month. Some fine sheep will there be exhibited, and perhaps opportunities offered for purchases and sales.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Sheep—French Merino—Cost, &c.

Friend Lathrop:—I only arrived home on the 11th, from a tour of four months through several Agricultural districts in Europe.

I was much interested in perusing your kind letter of the 18th ultimo. I have not time now to reply to your several questions which you have made to me, on many leading points connected with the rearing and management of live stock, &c.; but I hope at some future period to take them up in detail, and give you my experience quite fully.

I have made three voyages to Europe within four years, and within that period shipped about 750 pure Merino sheep from Havre. At this time I only bought sixty-nine, most of which have arrived, or are on their passage over, to land in New York.

Sheep of all descriptions have advanced considerably in price in France, as well as in England. You ask, "What should an extraordinary Buck, such as Mons. Gilbert has used upon his own ewes, be worth here?" You can better judge than myself, what a good animal of that class is worth in Wisconsin. Mr. Gilbert asks from 2000 to 3000 francs ($400 to 600) for his best Rams; and some of my best cost me over $400 each. The difference between a very good Ram and an "extraordinary one," may be several thousand dollars. I have one Ram that tups 200 ewes each year. He adds $50 value to each lamb, over several other Bucks which I have used. The value of the Buck depends upon the number and quality of the Ewes, and quality of the stock which his progeny may maintain.

We have several millions of sheep in the United States, and I am quite satisfied that the improved Merinos from France are to be introduced among nearly all the flocks of our country, in a very short period of time; and those who enlist first in these improvements, are first to meet with success.

I made a purchase of several fine pigs, bred by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, also a collection of poultry—a part of them from the Aviary of her Majesty the Queen—which I brought along with me. I paid for 24 of them, in England, $538, and this was considered very small prices, when compared to what many were sold for. I saw several sold from $100 to $260 a single bird. The pigs which I have are of the Windsor or Suffolk breeds. The best breeds sell from 20 to 50 guineas a pair, in England. I have, also, Merinos direct from Spain, shipped at Lisbon.

It has been ascertained that more rain fell in England, during 1853, than for any one year during the last 200 years. This large fall of rain is the cause of the failure of the wheat crop of England and France. Many sheep were dying off with the rot in Great Britain, caused by the long continued wet. Wool is sure to sell well another year. Let Europe do the fighting, and we will furnish them with bread and clothing. S. W. Jewett.

Middlebury, Vt., March 14th, 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Scab in Sheep and Cure.

Messrs. Editors:—I have long predicted that our broad Prairies would be covered with vast herds of sheep. This is already being realized by the hundreds and thousands which are annually being imported hither. With them we may expect the importation of various diseases, particularly the scab and foot-rot. As these are more contagious and more fatal than most any others; and as the scab has burst forth amongst us from imported sheep, I send the following as a preventative to such as are liable to take the disease, and as a remedy to those which have taken it.

A sheep infected with this disease may be known by its restlessness and violent rubbing

against any thing in its way, together with the frequent application of the hind foot in scratching the neck and shoulders; also, the biting and tearing of the wool with its teeth. On examining the sheep an eruption of small, red pimples or pustules will be found—and if time sufficient has elapsed since the disease has appeared, some of the pustules will have been broken, and the matter thus discharged will form a crust or scab, from which its common name was derived. The fleece of the animal will be seriously injured both in its growth, by the matturated infection, and by the loss of wool. If long continued, the health of the animal declines, it pines away rapidly, and death speedily seizes its victim, and relieves it of distress.

CURE.—Take from fifteen to twenty-five lbs. of tobacco to a hundred sheep, according to its strength and size of the sheep; cut it fine, and boil thoroughly; pour a portion of the liquor into a forty gallon cask with one head out, or what is about the same thing and more convenient, take a common molasses hogshead and saw one end off about one quarter of the length of the hogshead, and use the largest part for the liquor. Take a trough sufficiently long and wide to receive the longest sheep, with one end open placed upon the top of the hogshead, with long and strong legs in the other, to sustain it and also to give it a proper pitch towards the hogshead. When the liquor is cool enough, pour in a gill of spirits of turpentine, and then commence by taking the sheep by the head and fore legs and souse it in till almost up to the very eyes, moving it about until you are sure every part is saturated with the liquid; then lift it out carefully into the trough and rub off the liquor till it will not drip. The trough will convey it back into the hogshead, that nothing will be lost.

Fresh liquour should be added every 10 or 12 sheep, and also another gill of spirits of turpentine. The turpentine will float upon the surface and, consequently, will principally adhere to the first ten or twelve; the liquor, also, will be diminishing and weakening! therefore both should be replenished.

The flock should be carefully watched every week, and if any remaining appearance of scab is to be seen, they should be dipped again.—The remedy is effectual, if thoroughly applied

SEWELL N. HAWES.

Fond du Lac, Merch, 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Doctoring Domestic Animals.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I understand that you did not receive my former communication, and therefore send you another. I wish those gentlemen who think it worth their time to read the Wisconsin Farmer closely, to understand that they can always obtain any information they may desire, in respect to the diseases o horses, cattle, sheep, or other domesticated animals, by applying for it through your journal; and we premise them that the information shall not be old, exploded ideas and nostrums, but founded upon scientific principles and long practical experience.

The recipe now desired is to cure Scab in sheep, which is as follows:

Strong Mercurial Ointment, 1 oz.
Hog's Lard, 10 oz.

The above is sufficient for twelve sheep, and it is better to divide it into twelve parts, so that there shall be no mistake in using it. Go into your sheep fold, with help; divide the wool thoroughly, beginning at the nape of the neck, straight aloug the back and tail, down each shoulder, and half way down each hip; apply the ointment equally along all the lines. Having done this, separate this sheep from the others, so that none may be missed—for if one sheep is neglected, all you have done is in vain, for, although that sheep does not appear to have any disease, depend upon it, if it has been with those that are diseased, it will certainly carry contagion either in its skin or wool, and will surely affect the whole flock.

When you have carefully dressed the whole flock, be careful *to keep them warm and dry for ten days.* Give them bran mash, with a little sulphur and salt mixed with it. Be careful not to use more ointment upon one sheep than prescribed, and not to repeat it within ten days. There is little doubt but all will be cured with one dressing; but I would recommend that all be examined in about two weeks from the time of dressing, and should there be any doubt respecting them, dress them with the following ointment:

Flower Sulphur, 1 oz.
Spts. Turpentine, 1 drchm. } for one sheep.
Olive Oil, 1 oz.

This ointment requires no particular attention after using, but may be repeated if necessary

C. LOFTUS MARTIN.

Beloit, April, 1854.

Small vs. Large Horses.

The following on the comparative value of large and small horses is from the New England Farmer:

The arguments may all be in favor of great size, but the facts are all the other way. Large horses are more liable to stumble, and to be lame than those of middle size. They are clumsy, and cannot fill themselves so quick.

Overgrown animals, of all descriptions, are less useful in most kinds of business, and less hardy than those of a smaller size. If theory is to be resorted to in order to determine such questions, we suggest to the lovers of overgrown animals, the following: The largest of any class is an unnatural growth. They have risen above the usual mark, and it costs more to keep them in that position, than it would were they more on a level with their species.

"Follow Nature," is a rule not to be forgotten by farmers. Large men are not the best for business. Large cows are not the best for milk. Large oxen are not the best for traveling. Large hogs are not the hogs that fatten best, and large hens are not the hens to lay eggs.

Extremes are to be avoided. We want well formed animals, rather than such as have heavy large bones. Odd as it may seem to the theorist, short legged animals invariably prove to be better travelers than any. Short legged soldiers are better on a march, and officers say they endure hardships better than those of longer limbs

On choosing a horse, take care by all means that his hind legs are short. If they are long, and split apart like a pair of dividers, never inquire the price of the horse dealer; run for your life and make no offer lest you be taken up.

Horses that are snug built are not always fast travelers. It is no easy matter to select a horse that is perfect in all points. Snug and tough horses are not fast on the road. The fastest trotters are not always made for very hard service.

The Horse in the United States.—The Boston Transcript says:

The first horses brought into any part of the territory at present embraced in the United States, were landed in Florida by Cabeca de Veca, in 1527, forty-two in number, all of which perished or were otherwise killed. The next importation was also bro't to Florida by De Soto, in 1529. In 1608 the French introducedthe horse into Canada. In 1609 the English landed at Jamestown, in Virginia, having seven horses with them. In 1629 Francis Higginson imported horses and other domestic animals in the colony of Massachusetts Bay. In 1625 the Dutch Company imported horses into New York. In L650 the French of Illinois were in possessson of a considerable number of horses.

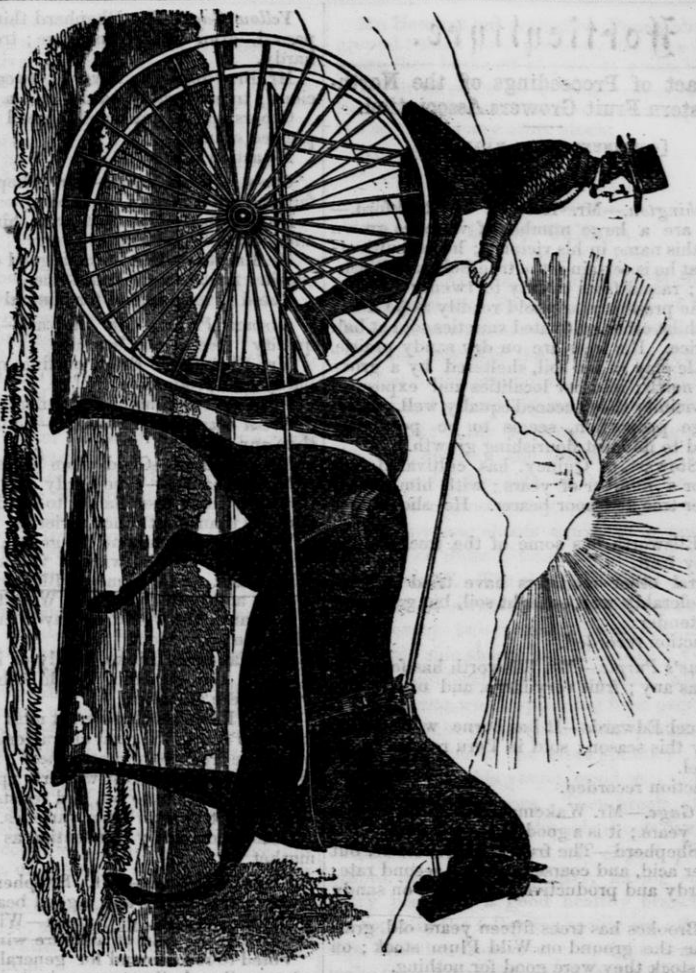
According to the census returns of 1h50, there were 4,335,358 eorses in the United States, exclusive of those cities which were not returned. The four and a half millions of those animals in the United constitute a proportion of one to five of the inhabitants. New York has one horse to seven persons, Pennsylvania one to six and six-tenths; Ohio one to four, Kentucky one to three free inhabitants. In Ohio and the new States of the Northwest, the increase of horses has kept pace with that of the population.

The number of horses in the United States is more than three times as large as that in Great Britain. A recent report in France shows that there are in that country 3,200,000 horses.

Fattening Hogs on Wheat.—On the 4th of October last, I shut up nine small hogs, weighing on an average 160 pounds each. I commenced feeding them on swill of wheat meal, and fed 10 bushels, ground without being bolting. I then had my wheat bolted, and saved the head of the bolt, and fed the balance, made into swill, till I had fed out the coarse feed of 148 bushels; and then fed 20 bushels damaged wheat, and killed them, and found, after selling my flour and pork, and deducting the value of the hogs, when I commenced, at $3 per hundred, (the price of hogs at that time,) and the damaged wheat at 56 cents per bushel, that my wheat brought me over 90 cents per bushel.

F. Danforth, *Olivet, Mich.*

There can be no doubt that damaged wheat is good for fatting hogs, but that it is superior, weight for weight, to peas, corn or barley, we are disposed to consider somewhat doubtful.—[Rural New Yorker.



YOUNG BLACK HAWK.

The above is a pretty good likeness of a fine horse owned by Potter & Miller, of Rockford, Winnebago Co., Ill. This horse is a good specimen of the old Black Hawk's get, and very much resembles the old horse. We have long known the old Black Hawk, and have seen many of his colts, and doubt whether we have ever seen a better fac-similie of him than is found in Young Black Hawk. Black Hawk, still owned by Mr. Hill, of Bridgport, Vt., has probably attained the greatest celebrity of any living horse in the country. This has long been *our* favorite breed of horses, and, being a Vermonter, we feel a kind of personal interest and pride in it. Young Black Hawk's dam is also well known to us, and is of Messenger blood. She is black and weighs 1050 lbs. and has often measured her 12 miles in an hour.

☞ In Italy you will see the farmer breaking up his land with two cows, and the root of a tree for a plow, while he is dressed in skins with the hair on! In Rome, Vienna, or Dresden, if you hire a man to saw your wood, he does not bring a saw horse. He never had one, nor his father before him. But he places one end of the saw upon the ground and the other against his breast, and taking the wood in his hands rubs it against the saw. In Florence, a city filled with the triumphs of art, there is not a single augur, and if a carpenter would bore a hole, he does it with a red hot poker!

Horticulture.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 88.]

PLUMS.

Washington.—Mr. Holmes, of Rockford.—There are a large number of varieties grown under this name in his vicinity; he is cultivating what he is certain is the true Bolmar's Washington; raised from twenty to twenty-five bushels the present year; sold readily at $1 a bushel, whilst other cultivated varieties sold at half that price. His trees are on dry sandy prairie, but little clay in the soil, sheltered by a grove on the north; in other localities and exposures in his vicinity they succeed equally well. Sand in large proportion, seems to be peculiarly adapted to its most flourishing growth.

Mr. Stewart, of Quincy, has cultivated it a little for a number of years; with him proved a tender tree and poor bearer. He should reject it.

Mr. Ellsworth has some of the trees; never gets any fruit.

Several other members have tried it; succeeds tolerably well on light soil, but generally tree is tender.

No action recorded.

Duane's Purple.—Mr. Ellsworth has found it hardy as any; fruit very large, and of fine flavor.

Samuel Edwards—It has borne well in his vicinity this season; sold in Peru readily at $6 a bushel.

No action recorded.

Red Gage.—Mr. Wakeman has cultivated it severel years; it is a good bearer.

Mr. Shepherd—The fruit is of good size, but is rather acid, and coarse texture; second rate; tree hardy and productive; does best on sandy soil.

Mr. Brookes has trees fifteen years old, grafted near the ground on Wild Plum stock; on Peach stock they were good for nothing.

Passed without action.

Prince's Imperial Gage.—Mr. Brewster—Is a profuse bearer, fruit fair, and of good flavor.

Mr. S. Edwards—With him has proved very productive; fruit of good quality; tree not as hardy in severe winters as Lombard or Huling's Superb.

Mr. Hathaway—Experience in regard to flavor and productiveness, the same.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Huling's Superb.—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy—The tree does not flourish; becomes black at the ground; soil, rich upland prairie.

Other cultivators' experience the same.

Mr. S. Edwards thought they must cultivate in unfavorable soil; with him the tree is one of the hardiest; fruit good.

No action recorded.

Italian Damask.—Passed as too little known at the West.

Yellow Gage.—Mr. Shepherd thinks it unsurpassed, even by Green Gage; tree tolerably hardy.

Mr. Brayton—The flavor is sweet and delicious; tree tolerably hardy, and a good bearer.

Others, names not noted, agreed in above expressed opinion.

No action taken.

Coe's Golden Drop.—Mr. Shepherd—Fruit fair and good; tree a tolerable good bearer.

Mr. Hanford—Has fruit with him one year; a moderate bearer and grower.

Mr. Brayton—Has borne a good crop in Wisconsin; fruit beautiful and fine.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

German Prune.—Mr. Stewart—Fruit of fair quality; tree a good bearer.

Mr. Shepherd—Fruit of fine quality; tree hardy and productive.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Green Gage.—Mr. Stewart—Better with him than any other.

Mr. Shepherd—Good when he can get it.

Mr. Hathaway—Tree hardy and productive; fruit very fine; less liable to be destroyed by curculio than most other varieties.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Lombard.—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy, thinks he cultivates it under name of Bleeker's Scarlet a prolific and hardy variety. Would recommend this, if any, but would not favor cultivation of Plums to any extent.

Mr. Wakeman thinks highly of it; has seen it escape the curculio, beside other varieties, which were all taken.

Mr. S. Edwards considers it most profitable of market Plums. Several characteristics recommend the tree above most others; it is perfectly hardy in our severest winters, a profuse bearer, fruit less liable to rot, and resists attacks of curculio better than other varieties.

Recommended by Convention as first rate for market.

Smith's Orleans.—Mr. Shepherd—Esteems highly; tree hardy and a good bearer.

Mr. S. Edwards, of Bureau—With him does not endure the cold of a severe winter.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation, where soil and climate are adapted to it.

PLUM CULTURE.

Was called up by Mr. Stewart, of Quincy.

Mr. Harkness would offer an inquiry as to how far south the Plum could be successfully cultivated. He thought it should not be recommended for cultivation south of latitude 41 degrees; beyond that let the Peach take its place. Some twelve years since, a neighbor of his enclosed a Wild Plum thicket, as a yard for swine; trees bore full crops every year; never troubled by curculio, whilst other thickets about had fruit nearly all destroyed by them. Four years since the hogs were turned out, and the ground appropriated to other uses; the first year after the fruit was mostly destroyed by curculio.—He moved that the Plum be not recommended for cultivation south of latitude 41 degrees.—Lost.

Mr. Hathaway asked Mr. Harkness if the Plum was healthy in his locality?

Mr. Harkness—Tolerably.

Mr. Hathaway—In his section it is not healthy; if cultivated at all, some remedy must be adapted against the curculio. He has cultivated them some eight or ten years; bore well at first for one or two years; after that were all taken by curculio, until two years since commenced the jarring process, catching curculio on sheets, and destroying them; finds this remedy effectual.

Mr. Knowles has cultivated the Green Gage successfully; he prevents the curculio from ascending the tree by winding cotton batting about the body of the tree, near the ground.—Fruit was good on trees thus protected; destroyed on those not wrapped.

Mr. Stetson has tried the same plan with success; thought it best to place the cotton near the branches of the tree.

Mr. Stewart, of Quincy, has known the curculio to be killed out cold winters; thinks if every other winter was severely cold, we could raise Plums successfully.

Mr. Edwards, of Bureau, has tried the plan recommended by Mr. Brewster last year—putting soapsuds, refuse whitewash and urine about the roots of the tree frequently in the curculio season; has found it entirely successful; thinks it perfect protection.

Mr. Brewster said that the tree he spoke of as bearing so profusely, had done the same this season. He would recommend to apply the wash frequently and liberally on the ground, as far as the limbs extend.

Mr. Hanford—A few years ago made an enclosure for hens, unintentionally enclosing two or three Plum trees. These trees produced perfect fruit, while the fruit on the balance of his trees was destroyed by curculio. The next year he enclosed the balance of his Plum trees in his poultry yard, and thus had a good crop from all. He has since tried the experiment of placing a single coop, with hen ond chickens, under each tree, on the south side, with the same result.

Mr. Bellangee has placed a hen and chickens under each tree, and the Plums have escaped the curculio, whilst fruit on other trees was destroyed by them.

The Poesident—Does not succeed when grafting on sections of roots; do not well on the collar; has had trees suffer from leaf blight; inquired if others have been troubled by it.

Mr. Hathaway has had some leaf blight on cultivated stock; much less on the wild stock.

Mr. Edwards, of Bureau, grafts at the collar on wild stocks; trees thrive well, much better than on cultivated stocks.

Mr. Galusha wished to know how the Plum succeeds when cultivated on the Peach stock; often thus propagated in his vicinity.

Dr. Warder thought it made a good stock when grafted or budded below the surface, banking up as the scion grew, thus getting roots from the Plum.

Mr. Stetson has grafted below the surface, and banked up to the top bend of the scion, using no wax; the Plum took root, when the Peach root died.

Mr. Hanford has grafted on Peach above the ground; trees bore profusely for one or two years, then broke off at point of union.

Mr. Brookes has fifteen years' experience with the Wild Plum stock, and prefers trees propagated on that to any other stock.

No action recorded.

[To be Continued.]

Grape Culture.

Matthew Atmore, of Pennfield, Mich., gives, in the Michigan Farmer, his plan of training the grape vine, thus:—"I place a row of posts the whole length of the vine, eight feet high and two feet in the ground, three feet apart; across these I nail splints 1½ inches wide and 18 inches apart; I lay a strong and long shoot of the vine, down in the ground about two inches deep, by the side of these posts, bringing it out against every post. Thus inlaid it produces young shoots against the posts—the best one of these I tie up to the post, the other I break off. The shoot thus tied up, must be broke off on reaching the top of the post, about every two weeks. Break off, also, all the small side shoots, the next season you may expect considerable fruit. Clusters will come on the young wood, sprouting from every knot on the upright piece, (tied to the post, tie these young branches to the cross splints.) Almost every piece of this young wood will produce 3 or 4 bunches of grapes. Then break off—and keep breaking off all the side shoots during the entire summer, thus you may expect plenty of grapes, and of good quality, having supplied every post with a good healthy branch from the root; in the following spring cut off all the side branches from every upright branch, to make room for next spring's growth. A grape vine may be carried out in length ten or fifteen feet every year. Plenty of manure should be dug in every spring, (early,) and keep down all weeds, &c. Soap suds is excellent during the summer, applied to the roots."

German Prunes.—Mr. Fredricka Peeifer, of Indiana county, Pa., has succeeded in bringing this fine fruit to a great state of perfection in this country. He raises immense crops without any difficulty. The value of this fruit, either green or dried, is not second to any of the plum variety.

☞ Flowers in all ages have been made the representatives of innocence and purity.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Houhton's Seedling Gooseberry.

Messrs. Editors:—In the March number of the "Farmer" I perceive you have given a representation and description of Houghton's Seedling Gooseberry, obtained by you from Mr. Cahoon, of Kenosha; and you take the opportunity of recommending it very highly. I am led to suspect that you are in error respecting the identity of Houghton's Seedling and the root which you obtained from Mr. Cahoon. Five or six years ago I obtained a Houghton's Seedling which had originally come from Downing's Nursery under that name—and the bunches of berries exactly correspond with your *pictorial* representation; whereas the fruit, and wood, and habits of the tree I procured from Mr. Cahoon under the name of Houghton's Seedling Gooseberry, correspond with your *letter-press* description.

I herewith send you a three-year-old bush of Downing's Houghton's Seedling, and a branch of Cahoon's, rooted. I have found a great difference between the two—as to growth of wood and fullness of crops. The berries on Cahoon s are shorter and rounder, the clusters not so large, the leaf thicker and more glossy, and makes more wood than the Eastern kind.—Both are very hardy.

I hope you will be able to grow a full crop of berries from the bush I send. You may do it, I think, by heading-in the top some. You can then compare the two, and give the result to me, or, which would be better, to the readers of the Farmer.

I also beg your acceptance of a Yellow Egg Plum tree. The scion was cut from the tree, for the fruit of which I have obtained four premiums, viz.: two at State Fairs, and two at the Horticultural Exhibition and County Fair respectively. Also, I send a Moorpark Apricot—one year old from the bud, and full of blossom buds, but which were killed by the extreme cold of January last. I had not taken the precaution to protect them. The last mentioned is budded upon a Wild Plum stock.

Yours, with respect, Geo. P. Peffer.

Pewaukee, Wis., March, 1854.

Remarks.—We tender our thanks to Mr Peffer for the present referred to. The articles came safe to hand, and have been carefully planted. We are inclined to the opinion, that the bushes procured from Mr. Cahoon will take the same form of tree as represented by the specimen from Mr. Downing's stock, if properly trained. This we are now trying to do. It will be observed, by reading our remarks in the March number, that we do not claim the accompanying cut as an exact representation of the fruit grown upon our bushes. We say, something like it.

Our bushes have all been transplanted this spring, which gives the one sent us by friend Peffer an equal chance. We will observe the growth of both and report the result.

Dwarf Pears.

There is probably no branch of Horticulture more justly claiming the attention of farmers and market-men generally, than the cultivation of Pears on Quince Stocks; the maxim that trees will not succeed well for any length of time where they are grafted on any other than their own species, does not apply here as many varieties of the pear grow vigorously, and bear abundantly of delicious fruit and more exquisite flavor than on their own roots. The impression that had prevailed to some extent, unfavorably to the cultivation of the Pear on the Quince, has rapidly disappeared before the solid arguments contained in the large dishes filled with luscious fruit, thus grown on trees but recently transplanted and exhibited at our late Agricultural Fairs. One of our enterprising farmers, John Chambers of Burlington county, being sensible of the scarcity of pears and the facility with which they can be produced on dwarfs, set out an orchard of one thousand trees about two years since, and at our late Fair at Mount Holly exhibited of his crop thirty-nine varieties of pears of great beauty, reflecting much credit on his energy and good treatment, and for which he obtained the highest premiums, and after the show was over, to convince the spectators that they possessed real worth, as well as beauty, he offered them at public sale, the finest being Duchess d' Angouleme, went off readily at four dollars per dozen, the next in value, St. Michael Archange, Louis Bonne d' Jersey, and other choice varieties, descending in price by regular gradations, until those of least value were closed out at fifty cents per dozen.

The inoculation should be near the ground, so that when transplanted, union may be the place below the surface. It may not yet be ascertained how long they will last, but we have records of them over one hundred years old.

and still healthy. My own trees that have been standing in the orchard about five years, have borne half a bushel each at a time. In New England it is stated that pear trees on the quince root, which are twenty-five years old, produce annually a barrel or more of fruit each, and appear destined to survive as long as any on the pear root. As they admit of close planting and mature their fruit within one or two years from the time they are transplanted in the orchard, large profits may be taken from an acre of ground before any return could be obtained from them on pear stocks. In planting an orchard for myself, I have set the trees 8 by 12 feet apart, which give plenty of room for driving a wagon between the rows to apply manure, and will require 453 trees per acre.

Since the peach crop has become so uncertain in this vicinity, and the dearth of choice fruits in our markets, I know of no other fruits so easily raised in the open field, giving as fine a prospect of a rich reward to farmers and market men as Dwarf Pears.

—[Farmer's Jour. WILLIAM PARRY.

HORTICULTURAL HINTS.—To preserve plum trees from black knots or excrescences, cut them off several times a year—cut and keep cutting.

To prevent the cherry crop from being spotted by the curculio, keep the ground from grass.

The best remedy for bugs on melons and squashes, is a cheap square box covered with gauze ornetting.

To transplant evergreens, one point attended to will result in success—neglected in failure: this is, removing plenty of earth with the roots.

Mulching and watering the raspberry on light soils will usually double the size of the

Banking round trees a foot high in autumn, is an infallible remedy against mice.

Mulching young fruit trees is one of the best operations for this country, but the litter must be removed eary in autumn or the mice will play havoc.

ROSE.—Professor Agassiz, in a lecture upon the trees of America, stated in regard to the family of the rose, which includes among its varieties not only many of the most beautiful flowers which are known, but also the richest fruits, such as the apple, pear, peach, plum, apricot, strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, &c., namely, that no fossils or plants belonging to this family have been discovered by geologists! This he regarded as conclusive evidence that the introduction of this family of plants upon the earth was coeval with, or subsequent to the creation of man, to whose comfort and happiness they seem especially designed by Providence to contribute.

HOW LONG WILL SEED RETAIN VITALITY IN THE GROUND?—Innumerable instances of vitality of seed being retained a long series of years, when buried sufficiently deep to be beyond the germinating influence of sun and air, are given.

The wheat found in the hands of the mummies dug out of the pyramids of Egypt, are often cited as instances of the long endurance of this vitality. Other instances may be cited, and the experiment tried by throwing up earth from considerable depths, when plants of different kinds will often spring up, frequently of a species not then growing in the neighborhood. The Boston Medical Journal quotes from the Philadelphia Examiner an instance of the long keeping of the germinating powers of tobacco seed when deposited deep in the earth, the principal facts of which are these: Dr. Stoakley, of Northampton, Va., relates the fact of a gentleman in his neighborhood, who, in plowing his land, last spring, deeper than usual, came in contact with a brick wall, which on examination he found to be the ground work of the cellar of a building which had formerly stood there, and had been before unobserved by him, though he had cultivated the place for a number of years.

Supposing that he might find something that would make a good dressing for his farm, he dug into the place and came to a lot of lime and earth. This he carted out on his field. In a short time he observed where he placed his manure, a beautiful and thrifty plant, which, on examination, he found to be tobacco. Now this plant had not been cultivated in that section for more than a hundred years, and it is fair to infer that this seed had lain dormant as long as a century, retaining all its vitality and germinating powers until this time, when, being planted in a situation where all the requirements were at hand, it started up and grew as thrifty as if it were but a year old.

This is an interesting fact in vegetable Physiology. Nature, ever careful to keep up the different species of organized bodies, in the first place, makes all the arrangements necessary for continuing the species in the perfection of the seed, packing within the smallest compass all the material required. These elements thus arranged and deposited, will remain dormant until called

into action by the united influences of heat moisture, electricity, &c.—[Maine Farmer

The Dairy.

The milk cellar should be deep, well ventilated and dry, the bottom covered with stone flagging; well rammed clay is preferable to brick, unless they are clinkers—soft common brick absorb milk and other liquids coming in contact with them; from which they cannot be cleansed; which will soon contract must and mildew—the smell of which, like all other foul air in the room, will be imparted to the cream and butter. Over this cellar should stand the Dairy room, with shelves to set milk upon in cool weather; the cellar to be used during all the extremes of heat and cold.

Set-kettles should not stand in the Dairy room; neither should churning, cheese making, or cleansing milk vessels be done there, but in a convenient room near by.

Cream may be kept most perfectly in a white oak vessel with a tight cover, and a faucet or tap near the bottom to draw off the milk before the customary daily stirring.

Butter will come quickly at any season of the year, if the cream be at the temperature of from 65 to 75 degrees.

The kegs for packing butter should be made of white oak, bilging in the form of casks for the more perfect exclusion of air, and convenience of transportation. If the butter is not to be sent to a warm climate, or a foreign or distant market, the bilging kegs should have moveable covers, to accommodate inspection; they should be soaked in a strong brine made from pure salt, in order that justice may be done to the purchaser, in tare, and to save the butter from being spoiled to the depth of one or two inches all round, from its contact with dry wood. The best of family butter should be put into kegs of from 25 to 50 pounds, as an extra price will be obtained for it. Large kegs are only suited to retail business. No salt should be put on the sides or bottom, between the layers of butter.

In the manufacture of cheese, a preference is sometimes given to that kind of salt which is rejected for butter. We have remarked that glauber salts—the salts of lime and magnesia, (which constitute the principal impurities in common salt) prevent butter from hardening; they have the same effect on cheese, which gives it the appearance of richness, and the pungent bitter taste which they impart to it, is an improvement in the estimation of some. If firm cheese is desired, rock salt should be used.—[Northern Farmer.

Cost of Living in Paris.—The Paris correspondent of the New York Express, says:

"I begin to understand why people are economical here; they would be ruined if they were not. Why, butter is 56 cents a pound, coffee 49, beef 40, sugar 20, and every thing else in proportion."

Statistics of Minnesota.

Total population in 1850, 6,077

Born as follows, viz.:

Maine,	365	England,	84
N. Hampshire,	47	Ireland,	271
Vermont,	100	Scotland,	39
Massachusetts,	92	Wales,	2
Rhode Island,	3	Germany,	141
Connecticut,	48	France,	29
New York,	488	Spain,	1
New Jersey,	115	Belgium,	1
Pennsylvania,	227	Holland,	16
Delaware,	3	Italy,	1
Maryland,	31	Austria,	1
District Columbia,	3	Switzerland,	22
Virginia,	59	Russia,	2
N. Carolina,	6	Norway,	7
S. Carolina,	4	Denmark,	1
Georgia,	4	Sweeden,	4
Alabama,	6	Prussia,	5
Louisiana,	4	British America,	1,417
Arkansas	11	Other Countries,	4
Tennessee,	21		
Kentucky,	71	Total Foreign,	2,048
Ohio,	241	Unknown,	22
Michigan,	41	Deef and Dumb,	0
Indiana,	35	Blind,	0
Illinois,	38	Insane,	0
Missouri,	90	Idiotic,	1
Iowa,	81		
Wisconsin,	301		
California,	1		
Territories,	7		
Total Native.	4,007		

Acres of improved land,	5,035
Acres of unimproved land in farms,	23,846
Total,	28,881
Cash value of land, impreved and unimproved,	$161,948 00
Average cash value per acre,	5 61

Horses,	861	Asses and Mules,	14
Milch Cows,	607	Working Oxen,	655
Other Cattle,	740	Sheep,	80
Swine,	734		

Value of Live Stock, $92,859.

This table of statistics will, perhaps, be less valuable for Minnesota than a table of the same kind for most any of the other Western States, as in the three last years since the Census was taken, there has been as great an increase of all items mentioned in the table, and probably more, in proportion, than in the other States. It is fortunate for Minnesota, if she has yet only *one* fool. We hope the Census Report is not in error here.

☞ A farmer in California, whose farm is located on the American river, last year sowed 160 pounds of wheat, and obtained therefrom 170 bushels.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

This is the last spring month, and many little things, but of great consequence in their results, are to be thought of and promptly attended to. It is important as well for the *health* of the family as the cleanliness of your domicil and the good looks of your premises, that all remnants of roots,, vegetables and waste matters accumulated in your cellars during the winter should be removed. Your potatoes, designed for cooking through the summer, should be sprouted and the decaying ones assorted out, and all things in the cellar be looked over and newly arranged, swept out and thoroughly whitewashed. Some of you, by so doing, will save a fit of sickness of some of the members of your family, and a doctor's large bill—the most unprofitable of all bills—into the bargain. Rake up your yards, clean out the privies, put down drains to carry away the slops from the kitchen to some place where they can be mixed with other fertilizers and used upon the garden. See that abundance of *deodorisers* —as they are called—such as charcoal dust, plaster of paris, &c., are sprinkled about where there are any offensive odors.

The accommodation of the family having been looked to, the pig-stye, hen-house and cow-yard should all be put in good condition. There is no animal, unless it be a degraded man, that does not appreciate proper arrangemennts for health.

We have already urged the raising of as large quantities of small grains as possible, and of as good varieties. It is no less important for our farmers to do their best with their corn crop and their potato crop, and their root crops.—We hope many of our farmers will try the raising of corn for fodder, and that they will try to get the Stowell Evergreen, as it is so well charged with saccharine matter, and will give a greater quantity per acre, and is more relished by cattle than any other kind. We see it exposed for sale at the stores, and we [Dr. L.] have a few ears to spare to our friends. This can be planted for the above purpose quite advantageously on sward land, though, of course, this is not the best way to get the greatest crop.

We would urge the importance of cultivating a variety of root crops—they are so valuable for feeding to stock in winter, and especially the spring. Put in abundance of beets, carrots, rutabagas and turnips.

We would suggest the importance of soaking all seeds in water, and rolling them in plaster before planting. Plant some potatoes and corn for early use, and get the best kinds. Plant plenty of beans and squashes, radishes and tomatoes, cucumbers and melons—and fight the bugs as you would the Russians, with all manner of dust and ashes, tobacco and turpentine; but, which is best and surest of all, seize by the throat and choke to death every *lug-ger* of them which has the audacity to show himself on your premises. Every morning, and noon, and night, have a regular family gathering around each hill, and teach every baby of a child, from the mother downwards, to pinch 'em to death. This is our way, and its effective as well as affective. Although a Naturalist by *nature* and by profession, we do hate all kinds of bugs, whether they inhabit the beds of our house or of our garden; whether they suck the blood of our children or of our cucumbers. We give every soul of them that we can seize a dwelling place in *spirits*.

In planting potatoes do not select the small ones, nor cut them, nor cover them with too great depth of soil, nor hill them up in cultivation. Had we room, we could give our reasons for these suggestions.

In the cultivation of all your crops, don't forget the Fairs next fall. The Premium Lists will soon be out, and you will see what a glorious chance there is for every one of you.

Keep the calves, lambs, pigs, colts and chickens all a growing; put down carefully that May and June butter, that is to get that round premium next fall, and remember that *we* intend to buy it and eat too, if it is right. It is our custom to live upon and to possess these fixings that take the first premiums. This is what makes us so fat and flourishing.

☞ An agriculturist who has tried the experiment satisfactorily, says that a few seeds of the tomato dropped into the hill with cucumbers, or a tomato set out, which he says is the better mode, will keep off the black fleas and stripped bugs, as they dislike the flavor of the tomato.

☞ It is said that a few drops of kreosote on brown paper, put in the holes of rats, will drive them away.

Eds. Farmer:—Do you know any remedy for the swelled throat in hogs. I have some sick—throat seems swollen—loss of appetite—difficulty of breathing, and die. What is the disease, and what will cure? Robert Isted.

Wawkau, Allamakee Co., Iowa.

Remarks.—We have heard of the same complaint among hogs before. As to what it is called, or what the causes are which induce it, we can get no enlightenment. One tablespoonful of saltpetre, two of sulphur, and a quart or two of charcoal, mixed in a pailful of swill and given to four or five hogs, has stopped the disease in some cases within our knowledge. We think the disease contageous. We know of nothing better to keep hogs in a healthy and thriving condition, than to always give them free access to ashes or charcoal, or both—a dose of sulphur occasionally is good. We have often seen hogs, which were kept in a close pen, leave a trough of corn to feed upon a shovelful of ashes and coal thrown in to them.

Cure for the Bite of a Mad Dog.—The Platteville American has been favored by Rev. A. Bronson, of Prairie du Chien, with a cure for the bite of a mad dog, which, from its simplicity, if effectual, should be in the possession of every person. It consists of nothing more than a strong tea made from the bark of the root of the black ash, to be given as soon as possible after the bite, and continued for several days. Mr. Bronson gives an instance of a sheep and of two boys being cured by this remedy, after having been bitten by a rabid dog. A single half pint of the tea had been given to the sheep after it had "laid down in stupor, apparently never to get up." And such was its effect, that in half an hour after, the sheep was grazing, apparently as well as ever. One gill at a time, three times a day, was given to the boys for about ten days. Mr. B. says they experienced no evil from the bite, and 18 years after they were enjoying good health. Mr. Bronson further adds, that the same remedy is infallible in snake bites, whether in man or beast, as he has tried it and never knew it to fail. The remedy is simple and within the reach of all.

☞ One of the best things for dinner is an unsullied table cloth. We care not what the viands may consist of, if they are not served up on "pure linen as Cordelia's voice," they lose their attractiveness and become nix.

Broccoli—*Brassica Aleracea.* var.—This is a species of cabbage with long leaves and cheese-like heart, which is very tender and delicious. Sow in drills half inch deep and six inches apart, in June; transplant into rows thirty inches apart each way in August, and use the hearts when they become full grown, which will be in October and November. The leaves are not for use. Broccoli delights in rich loam, and is best in wet seasons.—[Cottage Garden.

Washing Barns.—The Horticulturist gives the following as the best for this purpose.:—Hydraulic cement, one peck; freshly slacked lime, one peck; yellow ochre, in powder, 5 lbs.; the whole to be dissolved in hot water, and applied with a brush,

To Preserve Strawberries in Wine.—Put a quantity of the finest strawberries into a bottle, and strew in three large spoonfuls of fine sugar; fill up with good sherry.

To Wash Mousseline de Laine.—Boil a pound of rice in five quarts of water, and when cool enough, wash in this, using the rice for soap. Have another quantity ready, but strain the rice from this and use it with warm water, keeping the rice strained off for a third washing, which, at the same time, stiffens, and also brightens the colors.—[Lady's Book.

Cure for Grubs In Horses.—Add a pint of strong vinegar to a cubic inch of chalk; when the effevescence ceases, drench the horse with the liquid from a bottle.

To Extract Paint or Grease Spots.—Dip a pen in spirits of turpentine, and transfer it to the paint spot, in sufficient quantity to discharge the oil and gluten. Let it stand some hours, then rub it. For large or numerous spots, apply the spirits of turpentine with a sponge, if possible, before it becomes dry.

To Extract Stains from Silk.—Essence of lemon, 1 part; spirits of turpentine, 5 parts.—Mix, and apply to the spot by means of a linen rag.

Sugar Vinegar.—Water, 1 gallon; sugar 1¼ pound. Dissolve with heat, (say about 75° Fahr.) then add yeast, 1 ounce. Ferment, decant the clear, and add cream of tartar, 1 oz.; bruised raisins, 1 oz. Let it stand until sufficiently sour.

Essence of Violets.—Alcohol, 1 pint; orris powder, 4 ounces. Mix.

Editors Table.

To Subscribers.—We find upon our subscription books the names of several Post-offices, where the number of subscribers to each is large enough to entitle them to premium seeds, but where there appears to be no Agent, to whom we can direct them for distribution.—The names have been sent in by several individuals in each place—no one acting as a general Agent. Seeds have been done up for all such lists, and will be forwarded whenever ordered by persons who will receive and distribute them.

Seeds.—Our supply of the Jersey Squash seed has come short of supplying all the Clubs entitled to them—but all who do not receive them this spring, shall have them next fall.—Clubs entitled to first premium packages, and receiving but one kind of squash seed, will understand that to be the Boston Marrow. It is considered the best of the two, and hence supplies the place of both. We have not sold a single squash seed of either kind, but have distributed nearly a bushel amongst our patrons. The demand has greatly exceeded our expectations.

G. & C. Union Railroad.—We have just passed over this road, to the Garden City and back, and though not known as an editor of the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer, and not being laid under obligations by any courtesy usually extended to the corps, till our return, we are happy to say, that, aside from the Beloit branch, (and this was in as good order as could be expected,) we found the road in fine order, and every thing managed in a gentlemanly and business like manner, and with despatch. The conductor on the way down—Deacon Harvey—is justly a favorite with passengers, and an honor to the station he occupies. At Chicago, we were introduced to Mr. W. L. Newbery, who gave us some idea of the amount of business and travel there is now being done upon their road. It is immense. We have not room for statistics.—We called upon our brother editor of the Prairie Farmer, and found him all and just what the lively, but conservative, columns of that paper, full of good common sense and reliable teachings, had indicated to us. We conceived the idea, from what we gathered, that the Prairie Farmer is paying well, as well as doing a good work. On our return we were made happy by the very gentlemanly attentions of Conductors Hunter and Valentine, and a company of agreeable and cheerful ladies from Janesville, We would like to mention their names, but we have not their permission. We will say this much, however, that they gratified "all aboard" by their fine singing, sweet voices and rich jokes. They are each of them worthy of being a good farmer's wife. Some of them, alas! we learn, have missed that chance. We hope the others will meet a better fate. Did circumstances permit, we should feel inclined to realize that hope! Ahem.

Esculents in the time of Charles I.—The bud of the sunflower before it expands was then dressed like an artichoke, and eaten as a dainty, and the pounded seeds of the nasturtium were thought preferable to mustard. Evelyn praises the milky or dappled thistle, either as a salad, or baked in pies like the artichoke; it was then sold in our herb markets, but probably for a supposed virtue in consequence of its name, *Carduus Mariæ*, or our lady's milky thistle, which made it to be esteemed as a proper diet for nurses. The burr, also, he calls delicate and wholesome, when young. The young leaves of the ash were a favorite pickle.

Cultivators.—We cannot do better than recommend Ball & Post's Cultivator. If you want an implement that will take out the weeds, root and branch, and at the same time give the ground an all-fired stirring, call upon Pixley & Kimball, of this city, and buy one of these Cultivators. See advertisement.

Shovel Plow Cultivator.—Those who prefer the Plow to the small-toothed Cultivators, for corn and other crops, should use this implement. It will do three times the work of a single plow, and much better. We have heard it highly recommended by those who have used it. See advertisement on page 119.

Wheeler, Melick & Co.—We would call the attention of farmers to the advertisement of this company. Judging from what we have heard from those who have used this Horse Power and Thresher for four years past, we should think it the best now in use. We can conscientiously advise our Western farmers in want of such machinery, to purchase of this company.

Manny's Mower, manufactured at Rockford, Ill. The advertisement of this machine will be found in the advertising columns. We believe it ranks among the first machines now in use for reaping and mowing.

Godey for May, is already on hand, and just as attractive as ever, *only a little more so.*

SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812.—A soldier who enlisted July 28th, 1812, for five years, and was honorably discharged on the 19th of May, 1814, a private in Capt. Paxton's company, enlisted at Louisburg, Virginia—desires to learn the address of the surviving members of said company, officers or privates, as he wishes to prove his identity at the Pension office. His name is Jacob Snell. Address him at Hartford, Washington co., Wis, or his Attorney, George E. H. Day, Milwaukee.

☞ Papers friendly to an invalid soldier, who served his country faithfully on the field of battle, please publish this card.

THE HORTICULTURIST AND JOURNAL OF RURAL ART AND RURAL TASTE: Edited by P. Barry, Rochester, N. Y.; Published by James Vick, jr. $2, in advance. This is one of the Journals which, as the Nurserymen say, "is true to name." It is conducted by one of the ablest Horticulturists, and published by one of the most liberal publishers. Its beautiful and tasteful pages please the eye, whilst their contents feast the soul. In this work we find Science, Art and Rural Taste beautifully combined, shedding each its glory over the others, forming one perfect whole. We could not do without the Horticulturist. It is essential, almost, to our good humor, and certainly to our correct taste.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WIS. STATE AG. SOCIETY.—We are indebted to A. C. Ingham, Esq., the active, intelligent and gentlemanly Secretary of the Society, for the 2d Vol. of the above work. This is well got up, cleanly printed on good paper (we wish it was a little clearer,) by Beriah Brown, State Printer, and handsomely bound in muslin, all made to correspond with the 1st volume. It is a volume of nearly 500 pages, and though not so large as the Volume of transactions of some State Societies, yet we hazard the opinion that there is not another of the issue for the year 1852 that can equal it in the value, importance or ability of its contents. We have here the Report of the Executive Com; the Address of the Hon. Levi Hubbell at the Annual Fair; Reports of Committees and statements of Competitors at the Exhibition; Accounts of different Co. Ag. Societies; Communications of great value on various subjects pertaining to Agriculture, to the number of twenty-two; a valuable catalogue of the Fauna and Flora of the State by the distinguished naturalist, I A. Lapham, Esq., of Milmaukee; and finally, several Meterological Tables from observers in different parts of the State.

The volume is illustrated with four lithographs of animals and several cuts of fruit; a very excellent lithograph of "Bishop," a Devon Bull belonging to A. P. Lyman, Esq., of Sheboygan, which serves as a frontispiece to the volume; a pretty good one of "Kate, a Short Horn cow belonging to Harvey Durkee, Esq., of Kenosha; a fair one, one of two draught horses belonging to Simeon Ruble of Beloit, and one which we think does injustice to the horse, "Badger Boy," belonging to A. F. Pratt, Esq., of Waukesha. We take this occasion to say, that in our opinion, the poorest possible way of obtaining a *good* portrait of an animal is by daguerotyping and lithographing. We commend this volume to the people of the State with a degree of pride and congratulation to our farmers that our State, so young in its settlement, is yet so advanced in its agricultural progress.

THE FARMER'S LAND MEASURE.—This is one of the most convenient and cheap little works for the farmer to carry in his pocket, that we have seen. Much time and trouble can be saved by cousulting it. It is one of those things that soon saves trouble, travelling and trotting enough to pay for itself a dozen times. We are indebted to Messrs. Cook for a copy of the work.

THE WESTERN FRUIT BOOK:—ELLIOTT.—We are indebted to the enterprising house of D. & B. Cook, Chicago, for a copy of the above work. We have long waited for it with high anticipations, for its author had the means and the ability of making a better book for the horticulturists of the west than any other person; and what is most gratifying to us is, he has done it. In our opinion it is the *best* book for us who wish to grow fruit at the west. It is exactly and entirely adapted in its instructions to our climate and to our wants.

☞ The Louisville Journal of the 2d inst,, says: "It is now pretty well ascertained that the crop of 1853–54 will little if any exceed that of 1852–'53.

THE CASKET for April is received. This is the most attractive little Monthly, for children, that can be found. Address, E F. Beadle, Buffalo. 50 cents per annum.

HORTICULTURAL REVIEW AND BOTANICAL MAGAZINE.—We have received the Februaray

number of the above work—too late, however, to notice in our March number. We have not seen the January number, and hope we shall be put in possession of it by the publisher.—This work, though a *metamorphosis* of the far-famed and favorite Horticultural Review, can hardly be considered as having entered into a higher state of being, as in the case of most metamorphoses, for, instead of laying aside, it has acquired a tail thereby, which we hope will be cumbersome only in name. The truth is, the *Horticultural Review* needed a metamorphosis, not in the editorial department and cognomen of the concern, but in the publishing province. The Review was already in its perfection, and winning not only favorite buds and odorous blossoms, but golden fruit for its editor—for all of these are associated with the name of Dr. J. A. Warder, and will ever be.—We confess to a degree of squeamishness to the tail part of the cognomen—*Botanical Magazine.* It may be owing to our M. D. peculiarities.—At any rate, we wish, for the dignity of the long revered name of Horticultural Review, that the Doctor will forthwith hold a counsel of the *regular* faculty and decide upon the immediate operation of amputation. The number before us bears all the marks of the surpassing ability of the old, and sustains well the fame of the new editor. J. W. Ward, Esq., has been known to us for some time as an able Botanist and a gentleman of science. His descriptive catalogue of the Plants of Ohio, when complete, will be a work of great value. We predict for the Review, under the management of its present editors and leading publisher, nothing else than the complete success it so richly merits. It has our decided approbation.

Journal of the U. S. Agricultural Society, Nos. 3 & 4: By W. S. King.—We thank the editor for a copy of the above work. In many respects these are valuable numbers of a work which we have anticipated would excel in its merits. Our anticipations have not as yet been fully met. This is not a fault to be attributed to the present editor. Our wonder is how he contrived to collect, arrange and prepare this amount of matter in *thirty days!*—We hope, for the honor, progress, and permanency of our National Agricultural Society, that early and suitable arrangements will be made to secure papers of the highest value and of a national character for the future numbers. We shall draw upon these numbers for some valuable material.

Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society—1852.—We are indebted to our kind friend, B. P. Johnson, Esq., the indefatigable Secretary of said Society, for duplicate copies of the above work. These annual volumes are becoming a standard work of reference, and are invaluable for this purpose.—In the present volume we have an interesting and faithful sketch of the progress of agriculture in the State, a full account of the exhibition of the Society, and of the interesting and important trial of the implements at Geneva. A peculiar characteristic of these volumes, as far as we have seen them, is an Agricultural Survey of some one of the counties of the State. We cannot forget the interest with which we perused the survey of Seneca county by the lamented Delafield. The donor will please accept our thanks.

To my Friends and Correspondents.—After the middle of this month my connection with Beloit College will cease, and I shall enter upon the duties of the Professorship of Chemistry and Natural History in the University of Wisconsin, located at Madison, to which I have been lately appointed. My friends and correspondents, and those who exchange with me, will therefore please direct their communications to me at that place. S. P. Lathrop.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

REAPERS & MOWERS

For the Coming Harvest of 1854,

MANUFACTURED BY

J. H. MANNY & CO., Rockford, Ill.

MANNY'S IMPROVED PATENT ADJUSTABLE REAPER and MOWER combined and SINGLE MOWER.—Six First Premiums awarded this Machine the past year, and Medal at the World's Fair, N. Y. First Premium at the Illinois State Fair for reaping and mowing, in connection with eight other Machines. First Premium of Silver Cup, at the Indiana State Fair, for mowing, in competition with six other Machines. First Premium at the Missouri State Fair. First Premium at the McHenry County Fair, Ill. First Premium at the Putnam County Fair, Ill.—First Premium for reaping, in competition with Hussey's and McCormick's Machines, at the great trial in Mt. Holly, N. J., in July. In 1852, awarded at the New York State Fair, First Premium of $50, for mowing in the great trial at Geneva, N. Y., in competition with eleven other Machines. At the Ohio State Fair, First Prize, a SILVER MEDAL; and at Chicago, Ill., on trial with other Machines, a GOLD MEDAL, for the best Reaper and Mower.

This Machine has been subjected to the most rigid tests and thorough trials possible to be made during the last two years, and in various parts of the country; and, though all other Machines of any note, without an exception, have endeavored to compete, yet in every trial many have proved worthless, and others very inferior, while this Machine has triumphed with entire success over all its competition, and the indisputable testimony in its favor from more than

EIGHT HUNDRED FARMERS,

who have used the Machine; all fully corroborating the high awards made to this Machine in 1852 and '53: and now what may be expected for 1854?

Having made valuable improvements the past season, and now with still increased facilities for manufacturing, the Machine will *keep ahead* and far surpass all others the coming season—A large number will be made—probably TWO THOUSAND—yet it is feared that this number will come short of the demand. The improvements made in the above Machine the past year, added to its heretofore valuable construction, and with its previous good success, gives to farmers now the most reliable assurance of its being the most perfect, practicable and valuable Machine invented, and it continues to stand as it has ever stood, the *only complete and successful combination of REAPER and MOWER in the world!* as well as being the best SINGLE MACHINE for either purpose, excelling in simplicity of construction and of operation, in facility of management, in convenience, in lightness of draft for two horses, in having no side draft, in its adjustability to uneven ground when Mowing, adjusting itself to all the inequalities, and perfectly adjustable to any height when reaping by means of a lever at the driver's seat, can be lowered to cut within an inch of the ground, or raised to cut to the height of 18 inches when moving along, excelling every other implement in cutting lodged and tangled grain, and all kinds of grain as well as grass, wet or dry, without clogging; will cut Flax close to the ground, or gather the seed, and also Timothy and Clover seed.

Two Knives are furnished with each Machine, either of which may be used as required—one a Sickle, the other a smooth edge—the latter being introduced for cutting very short and fine grass, and will avoid the use of the Reel in cutting any kind of grass. A Reel is furnished with each Machine.

The PATENT GUARD FINGERS in this Machine are the most scientific thing of the kind ever made use of, affording greater protection to the knives as well as by their shape and sharp edges assisting the cutters materially; by their double caps, and the recesses, together with my PATENT LOZENGE-SHAPED SICKLE and KNIVE BLADES, produces the greatest facility in cutting, and renders clogging under any circumstances impossible. Though the Machine is more simple and of less weight than many others, yet it comprises greater strength and means of durability, occupying but little room it is easily stored when not in use. *One minutes time is sufficient to convert it from a Reaper to a Mower, and vice versa.* All the change necessary is to insert or remove a loose platform which holds itself to its place without bolts or substitutes. The driver is furnished with a good comfortable seat and foot piece, his position is nearly over the driving wheel, thereby placing more weight upon the wheel and causing it to run with increased power; his position is also favorable for observing the entire operation of the Machine, and seeing the grain being cut for the binders and the grass cut and spread uniformly over the ground, and all this at the rate of from ten to fifteen acres per day. The cut grain is delivered sufficiently far from the standing, so as to leave ample room for the team in making a succeeding cut, so that a whole piece may be cut without taking up any. The platform is made over four feet wide, thereby giving abundance of room for the grain. By the use of the NEW OBLIQUE PLATFORM great advantage is attained in the discharge of grain, far surpassing all other modes heretofore in use; even lodged and tangled grain can be delivered in good shape for binding. The Machine can be moved from place to place, upon its own wheels, without having to be loaded upon a wagon or other vehicle, as is the case with Ketchum's and some other Machines. The weight of the combined Machine is 800 lbs, single for mowing, 650 lbs.

The Machines are made under our own supervision, of the best materials and workmanship, and WARRANTED to cut all kinds of grass as well as can be done with the Scythe;

and to reap all kinds of grain as well as can be done with the Cradle, *or any other implement.*

TERMS—Same as heretofore. Machines delivered where ordered, with transportation added. Cash price, $125; half cash and the other half on the 1st December following, $135.

☞ To meet the wants of those who have on hand certain kinds of Reapers that will not *Mow;* or who may only want a MOWING MACHINE, we will furnish our Machine adapted *simply and exclusively for Mowing*, at a Cash price of $110; half cash, and the other half on the 1st of December following, $120.

Dealers supplied by wholesale. Farmers within reach of *Waddam's Grove, Ill.* can be supplied by P. MANNY, of that place.

J. H. MANNY & CO.

Rockford, March, 1854. May:3t

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

FORKS, Scythes, Snaths, Rakes, Scythe Stones, Rifles, Grain Cradles, Plows, Axes, Grind Stones, Cauldron Kettles, Agricultural Furnaces, Shovel Plows, Hoes, Hay Knives, Shovels, Spades, Picks, Mattocks, Crowbars, Wheelbarrows,

HORSE RAKES,

Patent Steel Cultivator Teeth. Also, a general assortment of

Shelf and Heavy Hardware,

Iron, Steel and Nails; Glass, Sash and Putty; Stoves and Tin ware, for sale at wholesale and retail, by A. P. & D. WATERMAN.

Beloit, May, 1854—6m

BALL & POST'S
PREMIUM CULTIVATORS.

THE undersigned having purchased the right of making these Cultivators for this part of Wisconsin, is now prepared to fill all orders for the same, on short notice.

These Cultivators have been thoroughly tested, both in this and the Eastern States, and pronounced the best article of the kind in use. Having taken the first Premium, at every State and County Fair, at which they have been exhibited.

PIXLEY & KIMBALL are my Agents at Janesville, and will have them for sale through the season. ISAAC ATWOOD.

Lake Mills, April 1, 1854.

Beloit Nursery and Garden.

THE Proprietor has now on hand a choice collection of FRUIT and ORNANENTAL TREES and SHRUBS. Among them are

Standard and Dwarf Apples, Dwarf Pears, Plums, Cherries, Peaches, Quinces, Grapes,

and a good assortment of GOOSEBERRIES, RASPBERRIES, CURRANTS, STRAWBERRIES, &c. Also, a good variety of Evergreens, Roses and other Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, all at very reasonable rates.

March, 1854. H. T. WOODWARD, Jr.

Premium Shovel Plow Cultivator

THE subscriber having been engaged for the past two years in the manufacture and sale of the two and three Shovel Plows, and having received the first Premium at the County Fair of each year, would say to the Farmers of Rock county and vicinity, that he is manufacturing a large number this spring, and, with the fullest confidence, would recommend them as being the best kind of Cultivator in use, being constructed so as to scour and keep perfectly bright in any tillable soil—having given entire satisfaction to all who have used them.

For sale by J. A. Wood & Co., Janesville; Fisher, Cheney & Co., Beloit; S. Harlow, Bradford; and at the residence of

B. B. OLDS.

Clinton, Rock Co., April 1st, 1854.

THE People's Patent Office.—This well known establishment is still carried on under the personal superintendence of the undersigned, by whom all the necessary drawings, specifications, and documents, for Patents, Caveats, Designs, Foreign Patents, &c., are prepared with the utmost fidelity and dispatch, on very moderate terms.

Persons wishing advice relative to Patents or Inventions, may at all times consult the undersigned *without charge*, either personally at his office, or by letter. To those living at a distance, he would state, that all the needful steps necessary to secure a Patent, can be arranged by letter, just as well as if the party were present, and the expense of a journey be thus saved. When parties wish to be informed as to the probability of being enabled to obtain Patents, it will be necessary for them to forward by mail a rough outline sketch and description of the invention. No fee or charge is made for such examinations.

Private consultations held daily with Inventors from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. All consultations and business strictly private and confidential.

Models from a distance may be sent by express or otherwise.

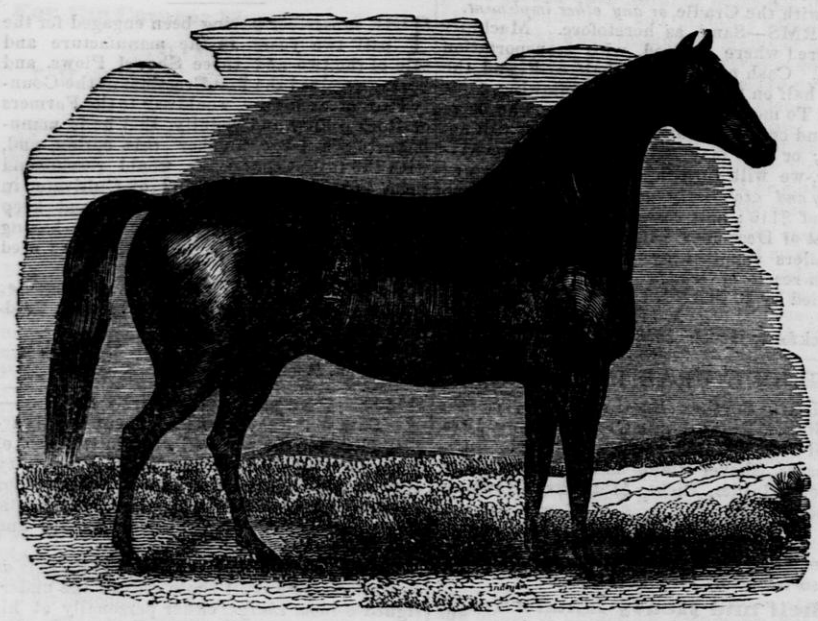
For further information apply to or address, post paid, ALFRED E. BEACH,

Editor and Proprietor of the People's Journal,
Solicitor of American & Foreign Patents.
People's Patent Office, 86 Nassau st., N. York

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL, a record of Science, Mechanics, Invention and Agriculture. Published Monthly. Every number contains 32 pages, beautifully printed on fine paper, and *profusely illustrated with splendid engravings*, forming at the end of every year two fine volumes, comprising nearly 400 pages, with about six hundred elegant engravings. Terms only ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, sent by mail. Specimen Copies 12½ cents. Address as above.

May, 1854—3m

ARABIAN BLOOD HORSE,



YOUNG ST. PATRICK.

The above engraving is a very true likeness of YOUNG ST. PATRICK, who drew the First Premium at the late Rock County Fair; also, the Sweepstake Premium over all other horses exhibited from other parts of this State, and a number of fine horses from other States.

This high-bred Horse is 5 years old; stands 16 hands high, and is of a dark chesnut color, most beautifully dappled, and was got by the celebrated imported horse St. Patrick, grandson of the English Eclipse, who was the best horse of his day, and produced more winners of the Turf than any other horse. Eclipse was bred by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, and was got by the White Turk, son of the Godolphin Arabian. St. Patrick's dam was the famous mare got by Col. Houston's celebrated imported horse Scipio, out of the famous Eclipse mare owned by Judge Morgan, of Virginia. No horse, therefore, can be of purer blood.

This fine and high-bred horse will stand for breeding purposes, during the present season, commencing April 10th, and ending July 1st, as follows:

Mondays and Tuesdays, at the stable of N. Olmstead, Cottage Inn.

Wednesdays and Thursdays, at the stable of Col. T. Stevens, Western Hotel, Dodgeville.

Fridays and Saturdays, at the stable of T. K. Blodgett, Central House, Mineral Point; at the following rates:

$5 the single leap; $10 the season; and $15 to insure a mare with foal.

Parting with insured mares, before known to be with foal, forfeits the insurance money.

Public days and a reasonable time for moving the horse reserved.

Care will be taken to prevent accidents, but no accountabilily for any that may occur.

☞ The well known horse, YOUNG BELL FOUNDER, will also stand in connection with St. Patrick, at reduced rates.

April, 1854. GEO. S. RUBLE.

HORTICULTURAL.

FRUIT TREES, Shrubs, Plants, &c.; Dwarf Pears, Plum, Cherry, Quince, Apple, Grape, Gooseberry, Currant, Raspberry, Strawberry, &c.

CAHOON PIE PLANT, which has produced single stalks weighing over *five pounds*—price from 3s. to $2 per root.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs.

80 varieties hardy Roses, choice Prize Dahlias, Herbaceous Flowering Plants and Bulbs, Phloxes, Verbeneas, Petuneas, &c., &c.

We will fill any order beyond our own choice selection, which can be supplied from the yards of Dr. J. A. Kennicott, Chicago, and B. P. Cahoon, Kenosha.

Yard south of R. R. V. U. R. R. Depot, near Monterey, Janesville.

March, 1854 GEO. J. & S. H. KELLOGG

WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., JUNE, 1854. NO. 6.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $3,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

State Geologist's Report.

It will be remembered, that under an act of the Legislature of 1853, authorising a Geological Survey of the State, Prof. E. Daniels, a gentleman well known to the people by his previous lectures, received at the hands of Gov. Farwell the important commission of State Geologist. In our opinion, no late act of our Legislature is more intimately connected with the commercial and agricultural interests of the State. Not only is its physical condition determined by its Geological character, but the pursuits and the habits of its people. A correct Geological map of the State would be the best possible index of the relative value of its different districts for particular economical purposes. The processes of *Mining, Engineering* and *Agriculture*—the three great operations which are to be carried on in the State—can be prosecuted to their greatest perfection only when the Geology of the Siate is best known. We have, therefore, felt more than an ordinary interest in the prosecution of this enterprise, and have looked forward to the appearance of this First Report of the Geologist, with earnest longings. Though at a late date, we have, thro' the kindness of the Geologist, been favored with the wished for document. We have greedily devoured its contents, and are ready to lay before our readers its most important parts, principles and precepts.

According to the provisions of the bill authorizing the Survey, the attention of the Geologist has been confined, thus far to the Lead Region. The time from his appointment to that when it become necessary to make his report to the Governor, was not of sufficient length to allow of any very great amount of work being done, or researches being made, yet the Report contains much that is of interest and importance, especially to those living in the region of the mines and others interested generally in the Survey.

The previous and valuable Government Surveys of Dr. Owens had determined the kind of rocks and their order of position, so that our State Geologist has little to do in this direction, and can enter directly upon the important and practical part of the work—the investigation of the mineral contents and the organic remains of these rock formations—on the one hand rendering the Survey of economical, and on the other of scientific value to the State. The former object has thus far very properly occupied the attention of the Geologist.

The Report is a duodecimo of some 80 pages, written in Prof Daniels peculiarly easy style and plain manner, containing chapters on THE GEOLOGY OF THE LEAD MINES, LEAD VEINS OF WISCONSIN, SURFACE INDICATION OF VEINS, WORKING OF THE LEAD VEINS, PRODUCTIVENESS AND VALUE OF THE LEAD VEINS, ZINC ORES, AGRICULTURAL CAPACITY OF THE LEAD REGION, MINERALOGY, &c.

We are somewhat surprised at the amount of matter which the Geologist has contrived to compress into so small a space. The chapters are literally a series of both Plutonic and Neptunian rocks, all of whose fissures and crevices are crowded with rich metaliferous veins, injected by the force of a vigorous mind, or studded with crystals sublimed from the crucible of a glowing fancy.

In the first chapter we find that the lead region of Wisconsin comprises an area of 3500 square miles, in the S. W. part of the State, including the counties of Grant, Layfayette, Iowa, Greene, and the western portion of Dane.

The rocks of this region are all stratified in their character, and are arranged one above the other, in an invariable order, in the following manner:

1st. Clay, from 10 to 60 feet thick.
2d. Thin bedded hard, white limestone, 300 feet thick.

3d. Shole, of blue or brown color, called the Nucula Shale.

4th. Thick bedded gray limestone, 200 feet thick.

5th. Thin bedded blue or brown limestone, 50 feet thick.

6th. Yellowish thick bedded limestone, 25 ft. thick.

7th. Sandstone of various colors, 40 ft. thick.

8th. Limestone intercollated with sandstone.

This whole series of rocks has an inclination south-easterly, at the rate of 10 ft. to the mile.

The Report contains a colored and very instructive section of these formations, and also one of their inclination.

The origin of the first stratum, or the clay, is attributed to the decomposition of rocks, which formerly occupied its place, which view is thought to be corroborated by the occurrence in it of flints and lead ore. We should be inclined, however, to attribute its origin to the deposition of matters at the bottom of the fresh water lake, whose existence, the Geologist thinks, is indicated by the fossils which are found imbedded in it. It is in this clay that the bones of so many extinct animals of gigantic structure are found.

A remarkable fact, respecting the lead region, is the absence of *drift*, so abundant in nearly every portion of the North-west.

It is to the 2d formation, or layer of rock, that the mounds, so called, which consist of rock, owe their origin and are produced by the wearing away of the rock about them by aqueous and other agencies, these being preserved by two causes—their greater hardness and higher elevation. This limestone is rich in fossils, the most common of which are the *chain coral, petrified nut*, and *petrified honeycomb*, as they are commonly called.

The 3d formation is that of the Nucula Shale, and is one that has been brought to light by the survey,and is of a very interesting character to the Naturalist. It is generally rich in fossils of various kinds. A singular fact in regard to all these fossils is, that they are very small as compared with the same species and types found in the rocks below. Huge chambered shells of the lower rocks, often six feet in length and two feet in diameter, are here represented by forms rarely exceeding three or four inches in length.

It is the 4th formation, however, which forms the prevailing surface rock in the lead region. Its upper layers consist of very hard, whitish limestone, the most common fossil of which is Owen's *lingula*. The fissures in this rock are sometimes expanded so as to form large cones, for which the region of the Mississippi is so much noted. These fissures are the great repositories of lead. This is the true lead bearing rock, and i s characteristic fossil is the well-known circular, or sun-flower coral (coscinopora sulcata).

The 5th formation is that of the blue limestone, and, according to the opinion of the Geologist, is the equivalent of the blue limestone, so abundant at Cincinnati, Ohio, and identical with the Trenton limestone of New York. The fossils are abundant and well preserved. The Seminary at Platteville is constructed principally of this stone.

No. 6—the buff-colored limestone; and No. 7—the sandstone of various colors—have nothing particularly worthy of note in them.—The texture of the latter varies from the softness of incoherent sand to that of the most solid rock. It is exposed in the valleys of the principal streams and crops out at various places between Madison and Mineral Point.

The last formation—No. 8—which is mentioned in the Report, called the Lower Magnesian Limestone by Owen, is exposed only in the deepest valleys of the lead district. A remarkable concretionary structure is observed in some of the layers of this formation—often three ft. in diameter—which have been mistaken for "petrified logs." Small cavities, lined with minute crystals of quartz, are of frequent occurrence and peculiar to this formation. One of the most interesting, as well as important, questions in the Geology of Wisconsin is, whether this rock will be shown by the Survey, now going on, to be a lead bearing rock in workable quantities, according to the conjecture of Mr. Owen. Its texture and position are favorable to the presence of lead. Special attention has been given to this formation by our Geologist, and discoveries have been made which corroborate the views of Dr. Owens.—Should the further researches of the State Geologist realise the present hope, and metamorphose our *faith* into *substance*, a sufficient addition will have been made to the present value of the lead district, to pay the cost of the Survey some half a dozen times. The Geologist will show himself to be well entitled to the enviable cognomen of Subsoiler; for, like the originator of subsoiling, by which a large portion of our land is doubled in value, he will

have just doubled the value of the lead districts. This is indeed one of the steps in the great process of *subduing the earth.*

[*To be continued.*]

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Chess Again.

Messrs. Editors :—I noticed in some of your late numbers, a short discussion on the subject of Chess, and from its importance I was flattered with the hope of seeing it continued. Assuming that your columns are open to enquiries and the investigation of all subjects pertaining to agriculture, I will take the liberty of offering some opinions derived from observation and reason upon this subject—and, I must say, there are few that pass so commonly the observation of the farmer, clouded in so much mystery, as this ; and none, perhaps, that more particularly develope opinions and prejudices as diametrically opposed to theory and science—and hence it is desirable to hear what may be said in relation to it, for in establishing an agricultural truth as commonly opposed by error, results in more good to our race, and aggregate benefit to our country, than would be the discovery of another California.

Chess—in Botany *Bromus Secalinus*—is described as a grass which commonly grows among wheat, and having in many respects the peculiarities of that grain, but is adapted to a greater range of climate, and prevails more or less, under all circumstances, where other grasses grow.

It may be found in our timothy bottoms bearing a single seed on a stalk not longer than your finger. It is also found in the most distant wilds where wheat has never been, and also in our common woodlands, where deer and cattle have ranged, in a larger or lesser stage of growth ; and there are few grasses more hardy in their nature, and are more influenced by circumstances, than this, retaining at all times its distinctive features, from the size of a darning needle to that prolific growth under more favorable circumstances of cultivation found in our wheat fields.

The grain itself, like every other perfect grain, possesses a complete germ, and consequently is capable, as it does, of producing its kind.

It has a hard and brittle encrustation, that makes it almost impervious to water, which renders it not so liable to vegetate under the ordinary circumstances that attend the growth of wheat, as well as prevents its digestion by cattle, and hence is deposited by them through their ranges.

It is owing to this quality that so many opinions are had about its origin. It will lie in the ground for years without vegetating—and one very important process to this end is, that it should be thoroughly and repeatedly frozen—the more saturated the soil during the winter the better. This process we all know kills wheat, while at the same time it is necessary to develope the germ of the chess.

It is found near shade trees, where cattle habitually collect and tramp the ground hard, which, retaining the surface water, is favorable to its growth. The same may be noticed near the fences where are cattle tracks, and where the soil becomes packed by the turning of the teams in plowing. And where in the fields I have generally found it in the foot-prints made by the team when dragging—although filled up by the drag, yet a portion of the soil remains hard packed at the bottom—and the seed would remain, as it were, in a cup inclined to retain water, and consequently is under the most favorable circumstances for its growth.

That chess will produce chess, I know.

That it has been found growing on the same stool with wheat, I have heard, but never seen.

That it does no harm when sown with wheat, I do not believe.

These things, in connection with the confidence we must have for our reasoning basis, in those fixed laws which control and direct the organism of plants, I can see no reason why this plant should be an exception ; and when, also, from an examination of its habits, it is found to possess no peculiarities distinct from its class, but, on the contrary, produces its kind, and is produced by no other. A. B.

Beloit, March, 1854.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Messrs. Editors :—As there has been much controversy among the farmers, regarding wheat turning, or changing, to chess, I will state that I have in my possession a well filled head of wheat, with plump kernels, and on the stem of which, about in the middle of the head among the wheat, and attached to the same stem, a bunch of chess, containing four plump kernels; which any one can examine by calling on me, in the village of Whitewater, Walworth county, Wis. The wheat was raised by True Rand, in the town of Lagrange, in said county. Prosper Granuth.

Whitewater, Wis., May, 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Double Plastered Walls and Ceilings.

Messrs. Editors:—As yours is a journal through which all are invited to give their experience in relation to Agriculture, Horticulture, and, in fact, all matters pertaining to the well-being of society, I will give you a few facts connected with my experience in relation to the subject heading this article. When I speak of "double plastered walls and ceilings," I mean one or more coats of mortar upon each side of the laths.

In the spring of 1853, I had occasion to remove the siding from the front side of my house, thereby exposing the plastered wall upon that side of the building to the weather. As I had suffered somewhat severely from the cold winters of Wisconsin, having emigrated from a Southern climate (Mississippi), I determined to try an experiment, which, in my opinion, would promote the comfort of myself and family during subsequent winters. And, as I believe, the practice of that principle which my single experiment, instead of a series, has in my opinion, established, will promote the happiness of the citizens of our northern climate generally, I freely submit the facts to your perusal and for publication, if you think proper.

Upon the outside of the laths which had been plastered upon the inside, I put a heavy coat of common plastering mortar, making a solid wall about an inch and a half in thickness.—The splits in the lath allowing the inside coat to clinch upon the outside, to which the outer coat firmly adhered, thereby not only strengthening the wall, but rendering it tight and warm. Having satisfied myself upon the point of strength, I afterwards—more by negligence than design—had an opportunity of testing the comfort of the experiment. Having built a piazza upon that side of my house, which protected the wall from the storms, I permitted the wall to remain without siding during the whole of last winter; and was much surprised to find that the side spoken of was equally as good a protection against the cold as any other side of my house with siding and inside plastering.

I do not wish to exaggerate the benefits of my experiment, as I have no inducement so to do. It can be very easily tested, when erecting new buildings or repairing old ones. When the two coats of mortar are on and thoroughly dry, no jarring in the further completion of the building can injure it, as the two coats firmly adhere to each other, and cannot easily be broken off without breaking the lath between them.

I believe it to be a cheap and easy way of rendering dwellings and other buildings warm and comfortable, as any person can apply the outer coat, it being between the studs and entirely out of site when the siding is on. Ceilings may, no doubt, be rendered strong and warm in the same way, if done before the floors are laid down.

In erecting new buildings, it would be an improvement to apply the outer coat before the inner one is entirely dry, as the adhesion would probably take place more speedily, and the wall be more firm. Nor will storms, under ordinary circumstances, injure the wall after it becomes dry. Some portions of mine has probably been wet a hundred times, and the effect is only a few small cracks or checks. The wall is still bare, and can be seen and examined by any person until covered, which will probably be done in a few weeks, by lathing and plastering upon the outside of the studs. I should prefer, however, to have my siding or other outside covering, prepared and put on as soon as the plastering is dry. This plan is perhaps not new to all persons—to some it may be;—and I shall be satisfied to give even one person a new idea, if it tends to the promotion of his comfort and happiness; as he who possesses the means of benefitting his fellow-men, and withholds those means, fails to discharge his duty to mankind.

Solomon Lombard.

Greenbush, Wis., May, 1854.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Threshing Machines.

Messrs. Editors:—In your worthy "Farmer" I noticed an inquiry from a Fond du Lac correspondent, in relation to Two-Horse Tread Power Threshing Machine and Cleaner, manufactured by Mr. J. I. Case, of Racine, and in reply to such inquiry I will say, that I purchased one of said Machines in 1848, and have used it every season since on my farm and for my neighbors, and find it a very durable, economical and labor-saving machine.

The amount they will earn in a season depends upon the grain, and the manner in which they are run. I heard of some that made from $1200 to $1400, last season, with the Tread Power.

Mr. Case is also manufacturing Lever Power Threshing Machines of the largest size, which I consider the best Lever Power now in use. WM. G. ROBERTS.

P. S. When I have more time, I will write for your intelligent paper relative to the time of letting Bucks run to the sheep; and I hope it will be fairly discussed, as I think the subject a very important one, on account of our late Wisconsin springs. W. G. R.

Mt. Pleasant, Racine co., May, 1854.

The Farmer's Low Estimate of his Calling

We take the following from Judge Bate's letter to Bronson Murray, Esq.:

It seems to be a very common opinion that agriculture is as natural to man as eating and sleeping; or, if not exactly so, that it may be caught by simple contact, as men catch diseases and bad habits; that it needs no study, no learning, no talents. And hence the pursuits of agriculture, (except as an occasional amusement and costly plaything of the rich,) has been unwisely and unjustly consigned to a low place in the scale of social life. We cannot cast off from ourselves this folly and injustice, and saddle it upon our government rulers, as we do most of the public evils that beset us. The fault is at home. It is a noxious weed that grows spontaneously in almost every garden. Let us look into the domestic circles that surround us, (to examine our own might be a rather painful search,) and we shall be very apt to find that nine men in ten—unconciously it may be, without any premeditated wrong—place agriculture below most other respectable occupations.

Observe the worthy farmer—he is a man whose good sense, sound judgment and skilful industry have made him the owner of broad fields, fat cattle and the breeds of sheep, hogs and horses. He has earned a high reputation for practical prudence and wisdom, by the good management of his own affairs. He has three sons—Tom is a very smart fellow, quick of thought and prompt of action, with a confident manner and a ready gift of gab. Now, a hundred to one, the misleading vanity of the doating father will overcome the prudence of the wise father, and he will make Tom a lawyer, with the confident hope of seeing his brilliant son, after winning the honors of forensic warfare, shining in a higher sphere, as a flaming patriot and an office holding politician. Dick has not the taking way of his brother Tom; he is not so quick to perceive a thought, nor so ready to speak it, but he is a clever promising boy of excellent parts, and in the opinion of his kind father has too much talent to be wasted on corn and cattle—so Dick is made a doctor. Harry, poor fellow, is a good humored dull boy, who never thinks until his mind is jogged, and is very slow to get his lessons: in short he is an oaf, and his good father comes to the conclusion that he is not fit for any of the other callings, and so he will let him follow farming. No attempt is made to educate him for the business of his life, and in all likelikood he will never learn more than the crude elements of his profession, and that he will live and die without a higher thought than to talk of oxen, and delight in the goad.

Men seem to forget that there is as much difference between a mere plowman and a well-taught farmer, as between a wood chopper and a master builder. As a trade to live by, agriculture is surely the best and safest of all occupations, for by it even ignorance and dullness, with moderate application, can ensure a decent livelihood. And if, in the pursuit of that calling, taste and learning were added to industry, we might well hope to witness in another generation, as many and as great improvements in the cultivation of the earth, as the present generation has witnessed in the thousand wonders of chemistry and mechanism, and in the subjection of steam and electricity to the common uses of man.

FEEDING POULTRY.—Prof. Gregory, of Aberdeen, in a letter to a friend, observes: "As I suppose you keep poultry, I may tell you that it has been ascertained that if you mix with their food a sufficient quantity of egg-shells or chalk, which they eat greedily, they will lay twice or thrice as many eggs as before. A well-fed fowl is disposed to lay a large number of eggs, but cannot do without the materials of the shells, however nourishing in other respects her food may be; indeed, a fowl fed on food and water, free from carbonate of lime, and not finding any in the soil, or in the shape of mortar, which they often eat on the walls, would lay no eggs at all with the best will in the world."

CLAY SOILS.—Many people have a great repugnance to a "clay farm," on account of the adhesive character of the soil and the difficulty of working it at all seasons of the year, it being cold and clammy in the spring, and hard and unyielding in the summer plowing. Those objections are measurably true; yet, from long observation, we are convinced that *naturally good* clays, particularly those based on lime, are among the very best and most durably productive soils we have. For *permanent* grazing and mowing, none are so retentive of the grasses, or furnish so many varieties of *good* grasses together, as clays. For wheat, the strongest clays generally produce the surest crops, and the plumpest, brightest berry; clay *loams* produce good barley, oats, Indian corn, beans, and all the different families of roots. When properly worked, clays are as easily managed as the light loams, and they greatly outlast them in original fertility, and retain for a much longer period the manures which are applied to them. Deep fall plowing, in "lands" not more than two rods wide, is the true method of cultivating clays for spring crops at the North; and if summer fallowed for wheat, the breaking up should not be deferred longer than the early part of June, and that should be done in the most thorough manner. The after cultivation is comparatively easy. It is true, that this operation requires a stronger team than to plow light land, but the additional expense of this is only a small per centage upon the increased value of the coming crop, over that of lighter soils. The tenacity also with which clays hold on the soluble parts of manure, permitting nothing to escape with the percelating waters passing downwards, is an invaluable property, not belonging to the lighter sandy, or gravelly loams; and when thorough under-draining is added, they become, in reality, the very best lands we have for general agriculture.—[Alabama Planter.

HINTS AS TO MANURE.—Hoofs, hairs, feathers, skins, wool, contain more than fifty per cent. of carbon, and from thirteen to eighteen per cent. of nitrogen, besides sulphur, salts of lime, of soda, and of magnesia. These substances hold, therefore, the first rank, as it were, among manures; and as a long time is required for their decomposition, their action may often last for seven or eight years. They yield excellent results, especially when made into a compost for potatoes, turnips, hops, hay, and, generally on meadow land. Hairs spread upon meadows, are said to augment the crop three fold; and the Chinese, we are told, are so well aware of the very great value of that manure, that they carefully collect the hair every time that they have their heads shaved—and the operation is performed every fortnight—and sell it to their farmers. Now, the crop of hair which every individual leaves at the hair-cutters yearly, amounts to about half a pound; reckoning, therefore, at thirteen millions, the number of individuals who in Great Britain and Ireland, are undergoing the process of shaving and hair-cutting, we have a production of about three thousand tons of hair—that is, of manure of the most valuable kind—since it represents, at least, one hundred and fifty thousand tons of ordinary farm yard manure—which might be collected almost without trouble, but which on the contrary, such is our carelessness or indolence in those matters, is, I believe, invariably swept away in our streets or sewers, and utterly wasted.—Farmer's Manual.

AMOUNT OF LIME CARRIED OF BY VARIOUS CROPS.—It is calculated that the amount of lime carried off the soil by ten bushels of grain and the straw on which it is grown, is as follows:

10	bush.	Wheat and the straw,	5.18 lbs.
10	do.	Rye do.	6.47 "
10	do.	Corn do.	6.14 "
10	do.	Barley do	4.84 "
10	do.	Oats do	3.87 "
10	do.	Field Peas do	44.74 "
2000	lbs.	Potatoes,	1.03 "
2000	do.	Turnips and tops,	5.92 "
2000	do.	Flax,	14.85 "
2000	do.	Red clover,	43.77 "
2000	do.	Meadow hay,	22.95 "
2000	do.	Cabbages,	9.45 "

☞ J. M. Congdon, Chelsea, Mich., has three last spring chickens, that are *without feathers* but well covered with stiff down, which, at a little distance, has the appearance of coarse hair. The wings and tails have quills, which appear as if they had been stripped of the feather. They are healthy fowls and part of a brood of pure Shanhais.

Stock Register.

Rock County Stock.

We have lately looked at some very good cattle and sheep, owned by different persons who are giving some attention to the improvement of their herds and flocks. Dr. G. W. Bicknell, of Beloit, has lately introduced into the county near a dozen head of very fine Short Horns, consisting of the well-known Bull TREMONT, formerly owned by J. P. Reynolds, Illinois—and one of the best stock-getters known—and some six or eight thorough bred Heifers, and several grades. The Dr. will be pleased to show these cattle, which we regard as a great acquisition to the stock of old Rock, to those who would be pleased to look at them.

Mr. Jeremiah Roberts, of Rock, has shown us three full-blooded Devon Heifers, and a yearling Bull of the same breed, together with some nice calves; also, a fine brood mare and two nice Spanish ewes. These improved cattle and sheep show well by the side of *aboriginals*.

Mr. Bostwick and Mr. Henderson, in the north part of Beloit, have also shown us some good sheep, especially the latter. One of the best Merino bucks that we have seen we found in his flock. The wool of some of Mr. Henderson's sheep is very good. With a fair infusion of French blood to give it moisture, softness and weight, it would be difficult to surpass it in excellency. Esquire Noggle, of Janesville, has also lately introduced into the county some excellent sheep, of both the French and Spanish Merino. Mr. Fletcher, of Johnstown, has also some very excellent Spanish and improved Spanish Merinos. We have not, however, examined Mr. F.'s flock, with the exception of a few ewes, which passed through our hands to him, but speak from samples of wool shown us. Their wool is certainly very good.

It is our intention to look at and notice all efforts of our farmers to improve either their farms or their different kinds of stock; and if any of our readers, or others, have any thing nice in these or other lines of improvement, just let us know and we will certainly go somewhat out of our way to take a look at it, and rejoice with you in the same.

☞ **Do not feed your pigs sour milk, if you can spare sweet.**

Why we do not Wash our Sheep.

The sentiments of the following letter are so much in accordance with our own views, that we take it from an old paper, and present it to our sheep owners. We believe this washing of sheep, since the introduction of manufactures where the wool is almost entirely worked, is one of those routine practices to be laid aside the moment we take a proper view of the subject:

EDITORS ALBANY CULTIVATOR:—Our fathers practiced the cleansing of wool while it yet remained on the sheep's back. In those days, as soon as the fleece was shorn, it was delivered up to the mother and daughters to be first wrought into rolls upon the knee, by hand-cards, or more subsequently this labor was performed by machinery. Then the farmer made his own cloth. But now we sell the wool we produce, to be handed over to the manufacturer; and can therefore wisely dispense with the unpleasant task of rolling our sheep about in the water, to wash the coats upon their backs, subjecting them and their offspring, in many cases, to the exposure and risk of life; and lasting injuries are frequently contracted by the men who are thus exposed to the cold elements of a sheep-washing.

This race of animals are not constituted to be exposed to the wet, unlike most any other, and studiously avoid walking through or standing in the water, though ever so shallow.

The dense fleece, supplied with animal oil, wise nature has very necessarily provided them to protect them in the cold, and shelter them during storms. Pour six quarts of cold water along the back of a sheep immediately after being shorn, and he will die.

As we view it, it would be as consistent, and more so, to lead an army of soldiers into the water, one by one, to wash his clothes while remaining upon him, as to partly cleanse a fleece of wool while growing upon those animals.

We have dispensed with washing our wool upon the sheep for the last three seasons. The manufacturer deducts one-fourth, or more, to make it equal to the average of washed fleece wool. We give it as our opinion, that *this habit* will not be continued through another generation.

Last season, and the year previous, I imported from France 583 of the pure merino stock. The cost of them is so considerable, that we do not care about undergoing the risk of health and life, nor the continuance of an unnecessary and disagreeable habit of plunging them into water every spring, to partly wash the fleece, inasmuch as it does not save the manufacturer the task of a more thorough cleansing. In fact, these imported sheep are so large and strong, it would be attended with great difficulty and fatigue to handle them in the water.—The reasons which we have presented, are, I

hope, sufficient to explain why we do not pay the annual tax in continuing the habit of soaking ourselves and our valuable sheep, simply for the purpose of washing the fleece.

I might further say, that there is at present a bounty offered to those who half wash their wool, or let it run three or four weeks before it is shorn, after washing, to obtain weight.—Those who make this a practice, will obtain as much, or within a cent or two per pound, for their wool *as it is*, as their very conscientious neighbor, who puts up his wool in a clean state.

Weybridge, Vt., Jan., '53. S. W. Jewett.

National Cattle Convention.

We have received the following Circular from the Local Executive Committee of the National Cattle Convention, to be held at Springfield, Ohio, on the 25th, 26th, and 27th days of October next. It is our intention to be present, if we can arrange our matters so to do, and shall take pleasure, as far as in us lies, of contributing to the interests of so laudable an enterprise. Ohio has no mean reputation for the quality of her cattle, and her citizens have exhibited a most commendable spirit and liberality in the present arrangement for a National Exhibition of cattle. We can anticipate nothing else than a most pleasing and profitable result of their magnanimous efforts. We would urge the importance of as many as possible of our citizens attending this Convention, and of contributing their quota to the Ehibition Wisconsin, though young, has some very fine stock, and she ought not to fear to show her hand. A great and a lasting benefit would accrue to her citizens generally, should there be a good representation from their ranks. We hope soon to be able to publish the list of premiums offered, which amount to $6000:

"Springfield, Ohio, May 3d, 1854.

"The 25th, 26th, and 27th days of October next have been fixed by the United States Agricultural Society for holding its first Cattle Convention, in the city of Springfield, Clark county, Ohio.

"Six thousand dollars will be distributed in premiums for the best stock of the various breeds of Cattle subject to competition, without territorial limit.

"The Executive Committee of the United States Agricultural Society have been careful to select a time that will not, so far as they are aware, conflict with any of the State Fairs or other meetings of general interest; and after due deliberation have selected this place as the most eligible for holding the Cattle Fair.—Springfield is centrally located as regards the cattle region; it is most convenient of access by railroad from almost every point of the compass. The means for accommodating, at very moderate charges, a large number of persons are ample. Private houses will be opened for the reception of guests. There are also eighteen cities and towns within reach by an hour's ride on the railroads, on which extra trains will be placed to accommodate such as wish to go elsewhere for lodgings,

"About twenty acres of ground have been enclosed, and more than three hundred stalls will be prepared for the shelter of cattle during the Convention.

"It is expected that very liberal arrangements will be made by all the railroad companies, both for the transportation of cattle and the conveyance of passengers to and from the Fair.

"We respectfully solicit your attendance on the occasion, and that you will furnish us with such aid as you may feel disposed in making known the objects, time, and place of the Convention; and if you have improved stock of cattle, of any description, we cordially invite you to enter them for competition.

"A List of Premiums and a copy of Regulations will shortly be published.

"Very respectfully, yours,

J. T. Warder,
C M. Clark,
Chandler Robbins, } Local Ex. Com."

Farm Horses.—Since in the Blood Horse is found the peculiar attribute of the horse, in its highest perfection, too much can hardly be said of the importance of a *liberal dash of blood* in all grades of horses. On the road it is necessary, and at the plow or the truck it will tell wonderfully. The farmer, with half or three-quarter bloods, can plow his half acre a day more than with common farm horses. He can safely reckon that his *blood* will haul his load some miles farther in a day than a common team. This is so. Theory points to it, and experience has proved it; and if the farmer can actually increase the value and efficiency of his native power, without increasing the number of animals or expense in rearing and keeping, is it not as much a matter of good policy and good husbandry so to do, as to improve his land, and raise large crops by extra manure, and extra tillage? Certainly it is; and while it is expensive at the outset to improve land, it costs no more to raise a good horse than a poor one.—[N. Y. State Ag. Society's Transactions, 1851.

"TEN THOUSAND"—French Merino Sheep.

The French Merinos originated from a flock of sheep selected for the purpose of a present to the King of France, by the Queen of Spain, in 1786, from the very best Merino blood in Spain. These were divided into two flocks, and intrusted to the care of the most skillful cultivators, and no pains were spared by gentlemen interested in the production of the finest quality of wool, in perfecting this breed, till now, after the lapse of near sixty years of cultivation, they are, perhaps, unequalled by any sheep in the world.

The quantity of wool produced by them in a year is very great. In a flock belonging to Mons. Victor Gilbert, and which received the great gold medal from the Ministers of Agriculture in France, the produce from the best sheep was from 20 to 27 lbs. each of fleece wool. This wool is long, fine, and silky. From this same flock there have been several bucks and ewes imported into the United States by S. W. Jewett and J. A. Taintor, and one or two others with whose importations we are not so familiar.

The Buck "Ten Thousand"—of which the above portrait is a faithful representation—is two years old, and received the highest prize at the Vermont State Fair last fall. He is owned by S. W. Jewett, Esq., of Middlebury, and Hon. Henry S. Morse, Shelburn, Vt.

Carrots.—Besides its nutritive properties the carrot contains Pepsic acid, and promotes digestion. Carrots are also capital winter feed, and the best winter medicine for the horse.

Farms Improved by Keeping Sheep.

To some extent, keeping sheep is found to improve a farm, as they consume much feed that is left by other stock and lost, and at the same time enrich the ground, and give it a better and smoother appearance. This is shown by instances quoted in the Transactions of the Norfolk Agricultural Society, which we relate in brief:—

A man having a small farm, formerly kept 40 sheep, four cows and one horse, and had food enough for them the year round. The price of wool falling, he sold his sheep, and for a number of years has kept other stock altogether.—He now keeps but three cows and one horse the year round, and pastures two cows extra thro' the summer, sells very little hay—not half enough to keep another cow; he has the same amount of pasture and mowing as when he kept the forty sheep in addition to the other stock, and yet his farm does not look near as well as then. He used to raise turnips among the corn for his sheep to eat in the winter, and gave them besides, a few bushels of grain. The lambs, however, more than paid for his extra feed.

Another farmer, for a great number of years kept about sixty sheep, eight or nine cows, (or other stock equal,) one pair of oxen and one horse. After keeping the sheep for a number of years, he found he could then keep as large a stock on his farm with the sixty sheep, as he could keep without them before; showing that they had improved the farm to furnish their own support. To stock a farm entirely with sheep would not be so profitable as to keep a limited number—yet it would pay as well as other stock. The object is to keep enough to consume that part of the vegetation, peculiarly fitted to sheep, and which other stock will not

eat, adding at the same time enriching elements to the pastures and yards by their manure. It is the opinion of many farmers, that pastures for other stock may be improved by keeping a small flock of sheep upon them a portion of the time, and the opinion seems fairly supported both by reason and experiment.—[Wool Grow.

RAISING CALVES—A NEW METHOD.—While on a short visit to the farm of Mr. D. M. Crowell, of this town, a few days ago, our attention was drawn to a plan of raising calves for early sale, which, to us in this section of country, has the appearance of novelty, and seems worthy of the consideration of stock growers.

Mr. Crowell took his calves (all heifers) last spring, and commenced feeding on sour milk at a few days old, keeping them on the same kind of food during the summer, taking good care to feed them uniformly, but not very abundantly, so as to keep them growing thriftily, without forcing them too rapidly. In the fall they were put in the stables, and fed on hay, and a little meal, increasing the quantity of the latter gradually, with a view of fitting them for "Beef," in the spring, at one year old or a little under.

These ten calves look like young oxen, and are estimated to weigh about 300 pounds each, alive. They will probably be sent to market soon, say next month, when we shall see how such "Beef' will sell, and it will be relished by the lovers of good eating. For ourselves, we should hardly find it in our hearts to decline a dinner from one of the best of them.—We understood from Mr. C., who is making this trial by way of experiment, that he is quite satisfied thus far with the present attempt to raise Beef in one year, and that he intends to renew the experiment another year, when he thinks some improvement can be made. —[N. Y. Farmer.

LIGHT FOR ANIMALS.—We are often impressed with the gross neglect of otherwise intelligent men, in not securing abundant light for animal life. To the animal and plant alike and to each and every human being, light, as well as warmth, is absolutely indispensable. Put a plant in a cellar and it will grow up colorless, flexible, healthless. Put it in a dark place, and yet give it air, and it will hardly do better.—Yet people will attempt to bring up animals imprisoned and housed. In some public remarks we had occasion to make, we stated that a pig would not grow, if deprived of light. We soon after met an old gentleman, and he had lived sixty years without discovering the fact, and the first words he addressed to us were:—"Well, you told me why my pigs would not grow. Two years ago I put in a snug place in my barn, six pigs. It was warm but dark, and they were fed through the floor. In the spring I took them out, and they looked like rats. They hadn't grown a pound."—A farmer of our acquaintance was some time since driving a fine mare. We asked him how she became blind. He told us that he put her and two other three year old horses into a perfectly dark stable in the fall, and in the spring, soon after they came to light, they went stone blind.—These illustrations show conclusively, that light is necessary to every living and growing thing. Our barns are not light enough. Our houses, too many of them, are too destitute of light. Parents pursue a blind and benighted course, when they encourage their children in living housed and imprisoned, when they encourage them in enveloping their faces under impenetrable veils, lest their cheeks should blister. You cannot blister the cheek of a cherry or a peach. Better remember that the ruddy glow of priceless health, and the life and animation that irradiate beauty, can never exist in perfection, unless in full and free exposure to air and sunlight.—[Toledo Blade.

FINE HOGS.—A few days ago we saw at stall 70, Quincy Market, eight of the finest porkers of the season. They were the property of J. Fogg, Esq., of Deerfield, Mass.—¾ Suffolk, but one year old, and the lot weighed 2,428 pounds. They were fed on equal parts of broom corn seed and Indian corn, both ground, until the first of January, and after that time on corn meal alone. The first premium was awarded these swine at the Franklin Cattle Show last fall. The weight given above was after the shrinkage had been deducted. We have never seen a finer lot of pork,—[N. E. Farmer.

HEN ROOST GUANO.—Every man who keeps a *hen*, has a small guano factory, which may or may not be made useful to him, accordingly as he uses his factory prudently or carelessly.

What is Peruvian guano? The droppings of sea birds that flock about the islands on the Peruvian coast. These droppings having collected there for hundreds of years, and there being but little rain to wash it away, an immense quantity of this material is there found, and is now being

brought to England and this country, by the ship-load. Were it not for the snows and rains on the coast of Labrador, and on some of the islands on our coast, the same material could be found in abundance there.

By keeping your *hen* on the roost, or keeping her *guano* under cover, you obtain as good an article, probably as the Peruvian.

Mr. A. Todd, of Smithfield, R. I., speaking of this "home made guano," in a recent number of the New England Farmer, recommends to empty the ashes from the stove and fire-place, into the hen-roost, and with the addition of plenty of sandy loam, mixed, as of course it will be, with the droppings of the hens, an excellent manure, equal to guano, would be made. He thinks, from a flock of thirty hens, half a cord of good manure could be easily made, which would be equal to a cord of stable manure.

FRAUD IN BUTTER.—The Boston Herald, in an article on this subject, says unprincipled speculators have been, and are still, at work adulterating butter prepared for the market—though the blame is generally thrown on the dairies. From evidence that has come to our knowledge, says the Boston Herald, we are persuaded that this adulteration is extensively practiced.—A correspondent who has purchased and tested the base article, writes as follows:—"A new fraud appears to have been discovered in butter-making. The fraud is this: The butter-maker adds a substance which appears to be of a vegetable nature, to the real butter. A dealer of whom I purchased a few lumps, told me that the expressman who delivered the butter to him from Greenfield acknowledged that when they churn the cream, it is now an almost universal custom to put *rennet into the butter milk* to turn it to a cheese, and so work it with the butter for market, increasing the quantity about thirty per cent. I discovered the fraud by melting the butter in the oven, and found that the substance equal to one-third the original weight was left.—The person of whom I purchased the butter says that this fraud is very extensively practiced, especially for the New York market."

HOW TO MAKE THE BUTTER COME.—*Mr. Editor:*—I noticed in your valuable paper of Feb. 18th, 1854, an article headed "Why don't the Butter Come?" I have waited until now to see if some one would not give the information which Mr. Joseph H. Welles, of Columbus, Ohio, inquired for. I would inform Mr. Welles that I suppose it is a species of garget that troubles his cows. I have been in trouble like his several times, and have as many times found that a little nitre, commonly called saltpetre, administered to my cows occasionally, has been an effectual remedy; in a dose not more than a tablespoon even full, given every other day, for two or three times. It is equally effectual in summer as in winter. Pulverize it and give it in grain or meal. E. MARSH.
—[N. E. Farmer.

SPADING *vs.* PLOWING.—The use of Digging-machines is now being agitated, and we find many English farmers advocating their use strenuously. We have made arrangements for trials of some of these machines, and hope at an early date to be able to place the results before our readers.

It is well known that when the price of labor is low in England, farmers find it to their advantage to preserve spade-culture. The crops are larger from a spaded acre than from a plowed one, and the rate of this increase is so well understood among many of the English farmers, that they have a price at which they will always spade in preference to plowing. This is doubtless due to the fact that all the action of the spade is upward, and it does not tend to compact the soil; whereas, with the plow, a certain amount of force compressively applied, must always be acting upon the rolling furrow; and an equal amount in the form of friction compacts the face of the soil on the land side of the plow; and it is for these reasons that spade culture leaves the land in better heart.—Machines then which imitate more closely the action of the spade, than that of the plow, may possibly be so made as to become valuable implements. They are at least worthy of fair investigation.—[Working Farmer.

☞ Brazoria, Texas, exports annualy nearly million dollars worth of produce.

Horticulture.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 109.]

GRAPES.

Isabella.—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy, deems it unworthy of cultivation in this section of country; has a tolerable crop this season, the first time for four or five years; generally an abundance of fruit sets, but is destroyed by the rot.

Mr. Loomis—It is every thing that could be desired in his vicinity,

Mr. Brayton—Fruit good in his section of country; young vines need protection in winter; when advanced to bearing, they flourish well.

Mr. Ellsworth—Has vines four years old, which have not been protected winters, nor suffered for want of it; even the severe cold of the winter of 1851 and '52 did not appear to injure them; soil, ordinary prairie, with admixture of clay.

Vice President, Bryant—His experience has been similar to Mr. Stewart's; thinks it of little use to try to cultivate them, except on dry soil.

Mr. Brayton strongly urged the importance of under-draining in soils naturally too wet; thinks most of our land in the North-west is rich enough for the successful cultivation of the Grape.

Mr. Montague has grown the vine for several years; proves tender with him; never succeeded in raising any fruit; clay soil.

Mr. Galusha—Thrives finely in his vicinity; considerable sand in soil; gravelly subsoil.

Mr. Holmes—Needs no protection with him; succeeds well; soil sandy; on clay substratum amounts to nothing.

Mr. Brayton—The fruit ripens later on clay soil.

Mr. Arthur Bryant—Any fruit ripens earlier on sandy than on clay soil.

Mr. Stetson—The Isabella is the best variety with us, and thrives well.

Mr. Herrick cultivates them on prairie soil, clay subsoil; sometimes rot, but generally gets a good crop.

Mr. Truesdell—It is good with him; in very cold winters may need protection, but generally none is necessary; soil sandy, very little clay.

Mr. Finley considers it quite inferior to the Catawba.

Mr. Edwards, of Bureau—With him on common prairie soil, no sand, the Isabella succeeds much the best, vines are hardier, produce much more fruit, which ripens earlier and better.

Voted to recommend Isabella for general cultivation.

Catawba.—Mr. Brayton has cultivated for several years; have ripened well this year for the first time; vine is hardier with him than Isabella; thinks when we have a long warm season, they will ripen in his section (latitude 43°); from his proximity to Lake Michigan, frosts are late.

Mr. Montague has raised some Catawba vines, but the fruit never ripens enough to be of any value.

Mr. Ellsworth—It ripens with him ten days later than Isabella; never loses any on account of not ripening; decidedly valuable in his locality.

Mr. Holmes—It does not ripen as evenly as the Isabella.

Mr. Ellsworth proposed to remedy this by removing the leaves so as to expose fruit to the sun. Has practiced it; believes the flavor of all varieties is much improved by it.

Mr. ——— has received vines from Cincinnati, which did not succeed well; since raised vines from cuttings, which are much better.

Mr. Edwards has brought many trees from the South; thinks them more tender in winter than when raised as far North as we wish them permanently; has seen a single vine of Catawba at Cincinnati, that is never pruned, bearing annually ten bushels of fruit.

Mr. Colby has seldom seen the Catawba come to perfection two weeks later than Isabella; when perfect, considers it the best of the two.

Voted as best, where soil and climate ripen the fruit in perfection.

Clinton—Mr. Truesdell thinks unworthy of cultivation where the Isabella ripens.

Mr. Holmes has raised it several years; when fully ripe, considers it equal to Isabella; very hardy vine; fruit rotted this year.

It was passed with the *Diana*, as not sufficiently known for the action of the Convention.

GRAPE CULTURE.

President thinks it will be an important crop in many parts of the West, where soil is favorable to their cultivation; called on Dr. Warder to give the Convention a synopsis of the mode of culture at Cincinnati.

Dr. Warder—The important first principle is a dry soil; if not so naturally, must be made so by underdraining. When growing in its native state, with the ground covered with leaves, the roots are near the surface of the ground, but are not when cultivated.

In the vicinity of Cincinnati, vineyards are planted largely on hill sides, land is trenched and thrown into benches nearly level. On level land would plow deeply with common plow, and follow with subsoil plow. Holes are made from three to six feet apart in the row: rows six feet apart: two cuttings are planted in each hole, with the tops inclined toward each other, the lower ends some eighteen inches apart, with the upper eye barely covered; keep ground cleared, but prune none, the first year; if both grow, remove one of the plants.

The second year, in early spring before sap starts, cut back to one eye, and force the growth into one main shoot, which is tied to a stake, but cut off no wood at the main shoot, merely shorten the ends of other prominent shoots.

The spring of the third year, just before the buds swell, cut back to two eyes; after these have put out shoots pinch in one, to form a spur to raise bearing wood on the next year; let the other grow.

The fourth year cut back main shoot to good sound wood, and lay it in a bow to the next stake; the spur is cut back to two eyes; if they offer to bear, let them.

The fifth year the bearing shoot is from the spur left the year before, and so on, *ad infinitum*.

If a spur sets too high, becomes sickly or is lost, one is raised from a water sprout which is suffered to start from near the ground.

Pinch shoots with thumb and finger, in summer pruning; go over the vineyard just before blossoming: pinch shoots off, two buds above upper bunch of Grapes. Some *vignerons* pinch off immediately above the upper cluster of Grapes; he does not approve this plan; Grapes do not ripen as well; believes healthy foliage very necessary for the growth of the vine.—Care is necessary in pinching to not tear out the bud, but to pinch it off a little distance from the bud. Pinch in the laterals to where you wish the bud to start next year; take off the very inferior bunches of Grapes early in the season, The superfluous wood is tied in a bunch to the top of the stake with a wisp of straw; as it grows beyond this, it is thrown across the top of the next stake.

The Germans use a very heavy two-pronged hoe in loosening up the ground deeply in vineyards in early spring.

[From the Doctor's illustration of the laborious nature of the operation, all present readily admitted the superiority of the following plan recommended by him.]

As soon as weeds get fairly started in the spring, he would take a small, or medium-sized plow, and throw the dirt away from the vines; in a couple of weeks, with the same plow throw the dirt to the vines. The balance of the season would use the cultivator instead of the common hoe, which the Germans use. Cultivation should be shallow in July and August.

[*To be Continued.*]

MANURE FOR STRAWBERRIES.—While on this subject, we may as well give those of our readers who wish to cultivate a bed, only, of strawberries, the following mode of manuring them, as practiced by a cultivator in Philadelphia, and communicated to the "Friend's Review," published in that city. The writer had a very productive bed 30 by 40 feet. I applied, says he, about once per week, for three times, commencing when the green leaves first began to start, and making the last application just before the plants were in full bloom, the following preparation:—Nitrate of potash, (saltpetre) glauber salts and sal soda, (carbonate of soda) each one pound, nitrate ammonia, one quarter of a pound—dissolving them in 30 gallons of rain water. One third of this was applied at a time: and when the weather was dry, I applied clear soft water between the times of using the preparation, as the growth of the young leaves is so rapid, that unless supplied with water, the sun will scorch them. I used a common watering pot, making the application toward evening. Managed in this way, and the weeds kept out, there is never any necessity of digging over the bed, or setting out new. Beds of ten years are not only as good, but better than those two or three years old.—[Maine Farmer.

The Strawberry Question.

At a meeting of the Horticultural Society of Cincinnati, April 15, 1854, Dr. Warder made the following report upon the Strawberry question, which was ordered to be placed on file and entered upon the minutes:

FINALITY ON THE STRAWBERRY.

Wild or cultivated, the Strawberry presents in its varieties, four distinct forms or characters of inflorescence.

First: Those called *Pistillate*, from the fact that the stamens are abortive, and rarely to be found without a dissection of the flower. These require extrinsic impregnation.

Second: Those called *Staminate*, which are perfectly destitute of even the rudiments of pistils, and are necessarily fruitless.

Third: Those called *Hermaphrodite* or perfect. having both sets of organs, stamens and pistils, *apparently* well developed.—These are not generally good and *certain* bearers, as we should expect them to be.—With few exceptions they bear poorly, owing to some unobserved defect, probably in the pistil. One tenth of their flowers generally produce perfect and often very large berries.

Fourth: A rare class—a sort of *subdivision* of the preceding, has not only hermaphrodite flowers, but also some on the same truss that are of the pistillate character; and sometimes in the same plant, a truss will be seen, on which all the flowers are pistillate.

Now these four divisions are *natural* and *real;* they are also founded upon permanent characters, so far as we have been able to discover, after a most thorough investigation, extending through a long series of

years, during which millions of strawberry blossoms have been examined with the severest scrutiny. Other forms may exist, and it is not claimed to be impossible that we may yet find a seedling which shall have the general character of a *pistillate*, that may show an occasional perfect or *hermaprodite* flower, as a peculiarity of that individual, but we have never yet observed such a variety; and further, we believe, that whatever impress, as to peculiarities of foliage, pubescence, habit, inflorescence, or fruit, each distinct seedling may receive with its origin, it will be retained in its increase by runners, so long as the variety remains extant. Seedlings may vary from the parent, but off-shoots will not be materially different, except by accidental malormation or by development of unimportant organs.

On motion, adjourned.

JOHN A. WARDER, Sec'y.

ROOT PRUNING.—Some experiments that have been made in this mode of pruning fruit and other trees, have proved very successful. Trees that have not borne for some years, have been rendered productive by shortening their roots. The process is, to dig a trench around the tree five or six feet from the trunk, sufficiently deep to expose the roots, and then cut them off carefully. Fill the trench with a compost formed of muck, chip manure, slacked lime, charcoal dust, old pickle, &c., covering it with earth to prevent evaporation.

A friend informed us that a valuable pear tree of his, that had nearly ceased to bear, was made to produce a fine crop last year by digging the earth away from it, for three or four feet around the trunk sufficiently deep to expose the roots, and filling in with the cinder and dust from the blacksmith's forge, and covering it with earth.—The body of the tree was scraped and washed with strong potash water.—[Farmer & Artizan.

☞ A certain remedy for bugs may be found in simple yellow Scotch snuff—just sprinkle it on their leaves—it will not injure them, and there will be at once a general stampede among the bugs. I have tried it twenty years without fail.

—[N. E. Farmer. C. GOODRICH.

American Pomological Society.

The fifth session of this National Association will be held at Horticultural Hall, in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, commencing on Wednesday, the thirteenth day of September next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

It is intended to make this assemblage one of the most interesting that has ever been held in this country on the subject of Pomology. All horticultural, agricultural, and other kindred associations, of North America, are therefore requested to send such number of delegates to this convention as they may deem expedient.

Pomologists, nurserymen, and all others interested in the cultivation of good fruit, are also invited to attend the coming session.

Among the objects of this convention are the following:—

To ascertain from practical experience, the relative value of varieties in different parts of our widely extended country. To hear the reports of the various State fruit committees, and from a comparison of results, to learn what fruits are adapted to general cultivation; what varieties are suitable to particular localities; what new varieties give promise of being worthy of dissemination; and especially what varieties are generally inferior or worthless, in all parts of the Union.

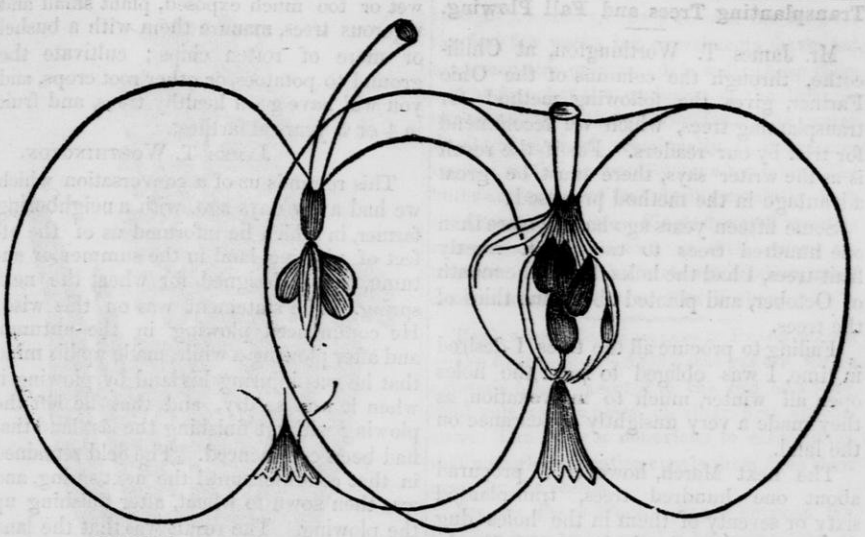
In order to facilitate these objects, and to collect and diffuse a knowledge of researches and discoveries in the science of Pomology, members and delegates are requested to contribute specimens of the fruits of their respective districts; also papers descriptive of their art of cultivation; of diseases and insects injurious to vegetation; of remedies for the same, and whatever may add to the interest and utility of the association.

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has generously offered to provide accommodations for the Society, and also to publish its proceedings free of expense.

All packages of fruit intended for exhibition may therefore be addressed as follows:—"For the American Pomological Society, Horticultural Hall, School street, Boston, Mass.;" where a committee will be in attendance to take charge of the same.

All Societies to be represented will please forward certificates of their several delegations to the President of the American Pomological Society, at Boston.

MARSHAL P. WILDER, Pres't.
H. W. S. CLEVELAND, Sec'y.
Boston, Mass., April 1, 1854.



RAMBO. DOMINE.

APPLES—Domine and Rambo:

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I send outlines of two Apples which are sometimes confounded together—the *Domine* and *Rambo*. The following is Downing's description of the *Domine*:

"Fruit of medium size, flat. Skin lively greenish yellow in the shade, with stripes and splashes of bright red in the sun, and pretty large russet specks. Stalk long and slender, planted in a wide cavity and inclining to one side. Calyx small, in a broad basin moderately sunk. Flesh white, exceedingly tender and juicy, with a sprightly pleasant, though not high flavor. Young wood of a smooth, lively, light brown, and the trees are the most rapid growers and prodigious bearers that we know—the branches being literally weighed down by the rope-like clusters of fruit."

Rambo.—Size medium, form round, flattened; skin, yellowish green—in the shade, streaked and marked with red, in the sun, with numerous rough gray dots; calyx closed in small specimens, open in large specimens; flesh white, or yellowish white, tender, generally a rich sub-acid flavor, a little variable in quality; granular. Season from October to January—may sometimes be kept through the winter; holds on to the tree until hard frosts, but is injured by being permitted to hang later than the first of October. The fruit should be carefully picked by hand, as the fruit spurs are very brittle, and are apt to break off with the fruit stem of the fruit if the fruit is shaken off, which destroys the blossom buds for the next crop.

The tree is a free grower and good bearer here, thus far—generally worthless when root-grafted, but is an excellent variety to work by budding or grafting at standard height.

The *Domine* does well root-grafted. The bark does not burst in my Nursery, even when young. A very promising variety for general orchard culture—keeps well through the winter. Seeds in a somewhat hollow core.

J. C. BRAYTON.

Aztalan Nursery, April, 1854.

REMARKS.—Such articles as the above are of great value to those who are paying any attention to the culture of fruit. The observations of discreet and unprejudiced Horticulturists are of vastly more value than long-winded and useless dissertations on topics foreign to the interests of most farmers.

PRUNING ORNAMENTAL TREES.—If a tree has plenty of sunshine and air, with a congenial soil, its beauty will be perfect, and the pruning knife should never touch it. What can add to the grandeur of a tree standing alone in a yard, or a field, or by the roadside, where it has had opportunity to develope itself in all directions. Could symmetry and proportion be more complete? Let the man who has a passion for trimming and *spoiling* trees, study these models. The limbs are none too many, nor too long, and hang none too low, notwithstanding he may think otherwise. Pruner, "spare that tree; touch not a single bough."—[Ohio Farmer.

Transplanting Trees and Fall Plowing.

Mr. James T. Worthington, at Chillicothe, through the columns of the Ohio Farmer, gives the following method for transplanting trees, which we recommend for trial by our readers. For if the result is as the writer says, there must be great advantage in the method proposed:

Some fifteen years ago having more than one hundred trees to transplant, mostly fruit trees, I had the holes dug in the month of October, and planted about one third of the trees.

Failing to procure all the trees I desired in time, I was obliged to leave the holes open all winter, much to my vexation, as they made a very unsightly appearance on the land.

The next March, however, I procured about one hundred trees, transplanted sixty or seventy of them in the holes dug the fall previous, and the remainder in holes dug in the spring. A few of the trees planted in October died, but all of the trees planted in the spring lived; and I observed that all those planted in March, in holes dug in October, made a much more vigorous growth than any of the others. I have repeated the experiment on a larger and a smaller scale almost every year since, and with uniform success; the trees not only growing better the first year, but continuing far to outstrip in growth and vigor, trees planted in holes not exposed to the frosts and atmosphere of a winter, which seem to prepare the ground for the roots better than any mechanical means whatever.

One word more, as the orators say, and I have done. It is not desirable to plant fruit trees more than an inch or two in diameter, they will have fruit but little if any sooner, and in after years are apt to become unsound. I have now an apple orchard planted in March, 1849, holes dug in December, 1848, nearly all the trees of which bore fruit this season, and many of them bore last year, though the average size when planted was not greater than ¾ of an inch in diameter; and another apple orchard of 70 trees of the same size and similarly planted in 1844, bore this season several hundred bushels of choice fruit. I would say then, dig your holes in the fall or early winter in a proper situation, not too wet or too much exposed, plant small and vigorous trees, manure them with a bushel or more of rotten chips; cultivate the ground to potatoes, or other root crops, and you will have good healthy trees, and fruit in 4 or 5 years at farthest.

JAMES T. WORTHINGTON.

This reminds us of a conversation which we had a few days ago, with a neighboring farmer, in which he informed us of the effect of plowing land in the summer or autumn, that is designed for wheat the next spring. The statement was on this wise. He commenced plowing in the autumn, and after plowing a while, made up his mind that he was injuring his land by plowing it when it was so dry, and that he left the plowing without finishing the last land that had been commenced. The field remained in that condition until the next spring, and was then sown to wheat, after finishing up the plowing. The result was, that the land plowed in the summer dry weather, yielded at least *ten* bushels to the acre more than that which was plowed in the spring; and he concluded by telling us that he thought he was making as good as ten bushels of wheat by a day's plowing in summer or early autumn.

The statement of Mr. Worthington in the Granite Farmer, is quite analagous, and is abundantly worthy of attention.—The effect of the atmosphere, of the sun, rain and frosts upon the land after it is opened, will unquestionably be productive of great results, and should be tested.—[Walworth County Reporter.

PEACH TREE WORMS.—A correspondent at Perry, Wyoming co., N. Y., in reply to the inquiry of "K," in the Rural New Yorker of March 25th, says:—"My father has peach and apple orchards in Indiana. To preserve the roots of the trees, he is in the habit of putting about half a bushel of the stems of tobacco around each tree. He lays the stems around the root of the tree on top of the ground, once in two years. This plan has never failed to protect the roots from all insects, &c."

☞ While boring the Artesian well in New Orleans, the augur struck upon the trunk of a cypress tree lying at a distance of 150 feet below the surface of the ground, and also, below several beds of firm blue clay, one of which was over thirty feet in thickness.

Hyacinths in Pots and Glasses.

The prettiest way of growing Hyacinths in windows, is that represented in the cut—in glasses, without earth, and allowing them the nourishment of pure water only. Fill up the glasses with rain or river water, until the bottom of the bulb will touch it, and constantly fill up the glass as the bulb absorbs it. It has been thought necessary to keep them in the dark for the first few weeks, but experiments have not confirmed this opinion. It is well to keep them cool at first, but the exclusion of the light is not necessary to their perfection. The water should be changed occasionally, as it becomes impure, which is readily done by taking the bulbs and roots out and rinsing carefully both the fibres and glasses. Single flowered varieties are generally preferred, as their colors are brighter and their bells, though smaller, much more numerous.—[Rural New Yorker.

To Destroy Caterpillars & Peach-worms —*For Caterpillars.*—Apply coal-gas tar, with a painter's brush, inserted in the end of a long, light pole, to the nests, on their first appearance. The tar is so obnoxious to caterpillars, that a single application expels them from their nests for the season.

For the Peach-Worm.—Apply common tar, that has been boiled until it becomes pitchy, to the stalk of the young peach trees, *before the worms have entered the bark.* In planting a young orchard, the tar should be applied before the trees are put in the ground, from the junction of the root and stalk, some nine or ten inches upward. This application should be repeated annually, by removing the earth near the body of the tree, and applying the tar, not hot, but warm enough to put on with a brush or swab. * * * * * The tar forms a pitchy coat, that effectually prevents the worm from entering the bark. It also averts those slight casual bruises near the root, from which the gum exudes that nourishes and protects this mischievous pest in its infancy. This application of tar will also prevent mice and rabbits from eating the bark off young fruit trees.—[Plow, Loom and Anvil.

Discovery of Coffee.—About the year 1258, a dervish, named Hadji Omer, was driven out of the community of Mocca. Hunger induced him to roast the *Kahlva* berries which grew near his hiding place. He roasted and ate them, as the only means of sustaining life.—Steeping them in the water which quenched his thirst, he discovered very agreeable qualities, and also that this effusion was nearly equal to solid food. His persecutors, who had intended him to die of starvatien, regarded his preservation as a miracle. He was transmuted into a saint. Such are the facts relating to coffee. There are now supposed to be 3000 coffee rooms in Constantinople.

Bees and Fruit Trees.—A writer in a literary journal of Paris, states that the bees greatly improve the fructification of fruit trees. Orchards in which several hives are kept, always produce more fruit than those in which there are none. In the Provinces on the Rhine, the fruits are more abundant and finer than in any other part of Germany, and there it is the custom to keep large quantities of bees.—Plants, too, which bees visit, thrive better in the neighborhood of hives.

Winter Flax.—The Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, has received from a Russian gentleman by the name of Falkersabork, a sample of the seed of a variety of winter flax. A larger quantity is promised, which is expected to arrive in the fall. The same gentlemen also promises to send some of "the seed whose weed furnishes the persiese powders for killing insects of all kinds."

The advantages claimed for the winter flax, are set forth as follows:

a. Besides it has the advantage to be sown in the fall, nor subject to be sown either too early or too late, as this is often the case with the spring seed, and has always a failure of the crop in its train.

b. That the winter seed shoots sooner, yet before the weeds come out, which latter are kept back by it; it is early ripe, and can be brought in before the hands are wanted for other agricultural operations.

c. In order to prevent the shooting in the fall the seed must be worked in by the plow, as late as possible, and then the seed is not damaged neither by 20 degrees of cold (Reaumur). In the spring, as soon as the field is dry, it must be lightly harrowed. It shoots with the first rays of the warm sun, and is already in flower when other spring seed is sown, and before the insects can do it any harm.

d. This winter seed is glossy, but dark and mixed with black grains, yet all shoot. It is a great deal more oily than the common seed.

Wagon Grease.—What a curious calculation it would be, to ascertain the different amount of force required to draw a loaded wagon with the boxes supplied with each of the different preparations in turn now used for greasing them! Every farmer knows that a well greased wagon runs much easier than one imperfectly greased, and that different lubricating materials have more or less beneficial effect, but no one seems to know the precise mixture that should be used. A very slight difference in this material would save a larger amount in the cost of the power used to transport agricultural and other products, than has ever been appropriated by the general government for the benefit of agriculture.—Stearine, one of the constituents of fatty substances, is now made in Ohio and elsewhere, in large quantities, and is as hard as spermaceti, withstanding the sun's heat in summer, and presenting at all times a lubricating surface when heated and attaching itself firmly to surfaces. Might not this material be mixed with grease, varying the proportion according to the season of the year, so as at all times to secure the presence of a lubricating material more lasting than the ordinary mixtures, and at an eventual cost scarcely greater, while its increased efficiency might render its use profitable?—Working Farmer.

Things to be found out.—Nature is not exhausted. Within her fertile bosom there may be thousands of substances yet unknown, as precious as the only recently found gutta percha. To doubt this would be to repudiate the most logical inference afforded by the whole history of the earth. Corn and Grass excepted, nearly all our staples in vegetable food are of a comparatively modern discovery. Society had a long existence without tea, coffee, cotton, cocoa, sugar and potatoes. Who shall say there is not a more nutritious plant than the sugar cane, a finer root than the potato, a more useful tree than the cotton? Buried wealth lies every where in the bowels of the earth, which needs but the true divining rod of organized action for its discovery.—[Athenium.

A New Cart has been discovered, by which a horse can be made to draw a load one-half heavier than by carts as at present constructed. It has four wheels; when the horse is harnessed, the foremost pair come to about the middle of his body.—The weight is thrown on the axles, and the vehicle is constructed so that part of it covers the horse up to the neck.

Ingredients of Different Parts of Corn.

We have all noticed that when a rat, mouse, or squirrel gets hold of a kernel of Indian corn, he eats out the chit and lets the rest alone. It has generally been supposed that this was done by them because the chit was the softest part. This may be one reason, but a recent chemical analysis by Dr. Salisbury, of Albany, shows that it is also by far the richest and most nutritious portion of the kernel.

If, therefore, a mouse gets into a full bin of corn, he is a fool to be spending his time in cracking the harder parts of it, when the softer and richer parts of it can be had for a tenth part of the trouble which it requires to grind the whole.

A writer in the Plough, Loom and Anvil, says: "In composition, the chit differs materially with the rest of the kernel, in containing a very large per centage of oil and albumen, and a small per centage of starch. The oil amounts to from 26 to 30 per cent, and the albumen to from 17 to 20 per cent, of the dry matter, while the starch ranges from about 10 to 12½ per cent.

In the corneous or flinty part, the oil does not exceed 3 per cent, and the albumen 1½ per cent, while the starch amounts to about 52½ per cent. The farinaceous or mealy portion affords a little over 3 per cent of oil, and a little less than 2 per cent of albumen, while it gives of starch nearly 59 per cent. The gluten exists more largely in the flinty than in the mealy portion. We make an abstract of the analysis in a tabular form, as follows:—

The corn experimented on is the small white flint variety.

	Flinty part.	Mealy part.	Chit.
Oil,	2 38	2 85	28 50
Gluten,	5 62	0 55	2 45
Starch,	43 96	54 65	11 80
Sugar,	16 96	21 50	17 70
Gum,	8 56	3 80	8 00
Fibrin,	4 74	4 50	7 05
Albumen	1 26	1 60	16 40
Casein,	0 08	0 40	1 30

A Patent has been taken out in England for making *artificial leather*, by subjecting to a peculiar process any of the substances having the properties like those of such a hydro-carbon as gutta percha.

Is the First Milk Poison?—A friend informs us that Mr. H. B. Wyman, of Sydney, lost a valuable sow not long ago, in consequence of giving her the first milk of a cow after calving, and asks if it invariably causes such trouble if hogs are fed on it? We believe that it does. We one year gave some such milk to a sow that was with pig. It made her sick and she cast her pigs before her time, all of which were dead. We were told that such would be the result if we fed her with it, but were faithless. The next year we fed it to another under the same circumstances, and the result was the same—all the pigs being dead. We found that rather costly experimenting, and have never tried it again.—Last spring one of our neighbors who had a very fine sow, fed her with a pretty generous portion of such milk, she immediately became sick and came very near dying.—[Maine Farmer.

Melon Bugs, Turnip Fly, etc.—The daily dusting of choice melons, cucumbers, early turnips, etc., with powdered charcoal or other black powder, will materially prevent injury from the above insects, as they will not frequent plants so treated. Later in the season, when grubs annoy cabbage and other small plants, slices of turnips may be placed on the beds between the plants, and the grubs will be found on these at daylight, and may easily be removed.—Slight salting of the beds before planting, will also deter grubs from annoying the plants, or rather will remove them altogether from the beds.—[Working Farmer.

Badger State Shawls.—*Home Manufacture.*—Mr. Burke, of the firm of Walter Burke & Co., proprietors of the Milwaukee woolen factory, exhibited to us yesterday a specimen of the handsome shawls manufactured at that establishment on the water power. It was of fine, soft texture, and tastefully colored. He informed us that the company have already made some 200 of these shawls, and find a ready demand for all that they can turn out.—[Mil. Sentinel.

"The Burden of Her Lay."—A Shanghai hen in Cleveland, laid twenty eggs in fourteen consecutive days.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

This is an important month in its operations, to the Farmer, Gardener, or Horticulturist.—Grain, vegetables, and fruit trees of all kinds, will, if the present fine growing weather continues, be making rapid growth, and with them noxious and pestilential weeds of various kinds will vie with each other to gain the ascendancy, and unless checked by the timely and thorough application of the hoe and cultivator, will soon claim and take possession of the soil.—Crops of ruta-bagas, carrots, beets, and other roots, will this month require special attention, and if they do not receive it, will be worthless. Every possible destroyer of weeds should be put in active operation now—the plow, drag, cultivator, rake and hoe should each do well its part this month. A victory over the weeds now gives the crops the ascendancy through the remainder of the season.

The gardener, or whoever has a garden and wishes to gather from it things new and old through the summer and fall, will this month plant corn, beans, peas, cucumbers and melons, in order to have that pleasant succession so gratifying to the palate, and so pleasing to the good wife. Few things contribute more to make a good-natured housewife than a *succession* of good things from the garden. See then that she has abundance of crispy lettuce, tender radishes, sweet beets and golden carrots.—Beets for winter use should be sown this month, and cucumbers for pickling—and be sure that they are all picked when they are the size of your finger, or else *we* wont buy them. You must now trim the tomato vines and stake them up, and cut off their ends, that they may ripen well and soon. Bush the peas and pole the beans; and, remember, if it is dry weather, that a good hoeing is equal to a small shower.

To the wool-grower this will be a lively month. The sheep must be nicely and properly *docked*, or tagged, then well washed—unless you think as we do, that it is a poor practice for fine sheep—then sheared and the wool well done up and arranged handsomely in a double row of fleeces, so that it can be examined without its being necessary to pull over the whole mass. The lambs must be made minus their tails, and something more—unless they are ewe lambs, or are desired to be kept for future use. The tails of ewe lambs and those made wethers, should be left two inches in length; and those of the lambs saved as bucks, three inches.—Enough of the tail should be left to the animal to protect the parts from the weather and flies, and *to be decent*. After the sheep have been sheared—especially if they are fine sheep—we should, by all means, recommend *smearing* them. Many feel a prejudice against this process, which we believe will be done away by more enlightened and just views. It is a great protection to the sheep, and cure for, and prophylactic, or preventative of skin diseases of any kind; while the quality of the wool is improved, or at least kept in its primitive and natural excellency.

This is the month when most of the cows and brood mares should be served by the male for next year's offspring. We hope farmers will spare no pains or money to see that their horses and cows—especially the better portion of them—are served by improved stock. It is gratifying for us to know that quite a different and a better spirit and view than formerly is coming to prevail in this respect, and important are the results.

One word to the boys; you who are to be farmers—and we hope much better ones than your fathers—you must not forget that you have something to do. Just see what fine beets, carrots, cabbages, or tomatoes, what fine chickens, or nice calf, or colt, or lamb, *you* can bring to the Fair next fall. There is a great chance for every one of you. We hope you read the Farmer and will profit by it. We want you all to surpass as cultivators of the soil and as producers of good stock.

Curing Butter.—We find the following recipe for curing butter, in a Prize Essay by Mrs. Thrail, of Canada West:—"To 32 lbs. of well worked butter, add 3 oz. of the following mixture: 2½ lbs. salt, rolled fine; 6 oz. saltpetre; ½ lb. loaf sugar, rolled fine;—these ingredients to be well rubbed in a mortar, or rolled, till they are thoroughly mixed. The butter, after having been well worked, to be put down in stone jars; over the top a strong brine to be poured, and the jar to be kept well covered.

JUDGMENT NECESSARY IN COOKING.—A person devoid of judgment and palatial taste cannot serve a savory meal, however abundant the material may be, or of whatever richness. A well prepared dish will recommend itself to the fastidious appetites, though plain its ingredients, when one of luxury may be set aside from mismanagement in cookng. All the "cook books" ever written, of themselves, never made a good cook; and these, joined with the requisite articles, in the hands of inexperience, cannot produce a good dinner, the first and most often overlooked requisite for which is, that the food be healthy. As a community, we have a horror of consulting physiological demands in regard to what and when we shall eat; and the consequences are that health—sound, vigorous health—is rarely to be met with. When grains, fruits, vegetables or meats are used, let them be of good quality, neatly prepared, cooked the proper length of time; the intensity of heat being of great importance, and served when "just right;" on these points there will be but little variation among good cooks, however much they may differ with regard to seasoning. Many dishes are rendered indigestable and unpalatable by cooking too slowly, or being overdone, or being kept warm when ready for the table, in consequence of too early preparation. The importance of having each dish ready in season is known to all in the habit of serving good meals. Many things are equally palatable, whether eaten warm or cold; in fact, this depends almost wholly on habit, whereas there are few articles but what are greatly injured in the fineness of their flavor by being "kept warm." I think were more food eaten cold, more brains at least might have an occasional meal. A full view into the culinary arrangements of our homes would in a measure solve the problem of the apparent famishing condition of the female intellect. When the palate is the worshipped idol, the mind must bow subservient to it, and soon becomes a degraded, famished slave.—Not only the female intellect suffers, man's does scarcely less; he must first labor uselessly hard to procure dainty articles and he then over-eats, which produces mental stupefaction by the demand the stomach makes on the vitality to enable it to discharge its heavy burthen.

As a relish among farmers, where it is usually to be found, I know of nothing more pleasant than sweet cream; and in the vast array of dishes to which it is adapted, I place it at the head. In use with sugar, it forms a more dainty dressing for puddings, "short cakes," fruits of various descriptions, and various forms of prepared ferina, than any or all other combination of sauces, and as a seasoning for vegetables it is almost indispensable. In the preparation of fish it is equally good. It is far more healthy than butter, into which it is rendered after much fatigueing labor, and therefore much cheaper. Remember, I am writing for farmers, else I might feel guilty in holding a tempting bait to those who cannot reach it. For pies and cakes I would never use lard, and seldom butter; could cream be obtained, not strong cream, but fresh sweet cream—*sweet sour* cream when necessary.—[Correspondent Mich. Farmer.

KEEPING QUINCES.—A new fact in domestic economy has been communicated to us by Mrs. B. Shutleff, of Chelsea. At the usual time of gathering quinces, they put into barrels filled with water and placed in a cellar. A few days since they were opened, and the quinces found perfectly sound—not having decayed in the least. We are indebted to Mrs. Shutleff for a specimen of the fruit which has thus been kept through the winter, and had just been prepared with sugar in the usual way. It has the aroma, peculiar flavor, and all the qualities of fresh quinces. From Mrs. S.'s experiment, we should think this mode of keeping quinces an important desideratum.—[Boston Cultivator.

GAPES IN CHICKENS.—We do not vouch for the efficacy of the following preventative of the gapes, so destructive among young chicks, but it may prove of some benefit. We copy from an exchange. Lice changing to worms is something new to us.—[Maine Farmer.

"To prevent gapes in chickens, put some fine tobacco in the nests about a week before hatching, to drive off the lice, as it is the lice getting into their mouths and turning to worms, that gives chickens the gapes."

TICKS IN SHEEP.—A correspondent sends us the following remedy for ticks in sheep, which he has successfully tried for a number of years:

"Give the sheep sulphur with their salt thrice a week for a month before shearing;—say 2 lbs. for twenty or thirty sheep. Sulphur is very beneficial for sheep otherwise."—[Ex.

LEMON WATER.—Put two slices of lemon, thinly pared, into a tea-pot, a small piece of the peel and some white sugar, pour in a pint of boiling water, and stop it close two hours.

☞ A joker says, that cords of wood given to the poor, are re-corded above.

Editors Table.

PREMIUMS.—The award of Premiums will be made known in the next number,

CROPS IN GRANT COUNTY.—J. Lewis, of Patch Grove, Wis., writes us May 10:—"The winter wheat looks very well, what little was sowed. There was none sowed on the prairie lands.—We have nearly given up trying to raise it, on account of its repeated failures, except in some sheltered localities in the timber; but what little is sown this season has not been much winter-killed, and has quite a promising appearance. Spring grain looks very well now. It came up rather thin on the start, on account of the dry, backward weather; but the late rains are causing it to spread, and it has a fine, healthy appearance, and promises fair for another good crop. This is the greatest day's rain we have had for the last six or eight months; the ground is completely saturated with water."

MESSRS EDITORS:—In my communication to you last month, for tho Cure of Scab in Sheep, you have made an error in the second recipe.—I have sufficient confidence in the first, and do not expect that the 2d would be regarded, but I do not wish to be misrepresented. You have put "Flour of Sulphur. Spts. Turpentine, Olive Oil." This recipe would be perfectly useless—turpentine will not mix with oil, and would be useless if it did, as all men of medical skill are aware. You will find, by reading over my communication again, that it is *Spts. of Tar*, not turpentine, and I shall feel obliged by this error being corrected.

Some of my farmer friends may prefer Mr Hawes' cure of 25 lbs. of tobacco in solution, which I have no doubt would cure the Scab, but is a dangerous and poisonous liquid. I have seen many animals destroyed with tobacco in solution. Those who wish to try it should not begin with their French Merinos, but some animals of less value. C. LOFTUS MARTIN.

☞Taking the last census as the basis of the calculation, there are at this time about six hundred million dollars worth of live stock in the United States. Their value exceeds that of all the manufacturing establishments in the country, and it also exceeds the capital employed in commerce, both inland and foreign.

☞In 1850 there were in the State of Pennsylvania 24,340 weavers, while in all the other States and Territories there were only 8,532.

COMMERCE OF EUROPEAN NATIONS—*Who has the Greatest Stake in War.*—According to the Boston Courier, the value of the merchant navies of the *Continental* nations is valued at $150,000,000. That of the merchant navy of Great Britain is rated at double that sum. It is evident, therefore, that on the very rational supposition that a state of peace is conducive to commercial prosperity, no nation in Europe has so strong an inducement to abstain from war, as Great Britain. Russia has a coasting trade, giving occupation to upwards of 10,000 vessels, the merchandise composing their cargoes is valued at over ten millions of dollars. The Black Sea is the chief seat of the Russian coasting trade. France has upwards of 14,000 merchant vessels. Holland has about 1800 vessels, Norway upwards of 2000, and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies more than 10,000; but neither of these last, owing to the small size of their craft, equal the tonnage of Holland, Spain, Prussia, Greece and Austria, each having about an *eighteenth* part of the amount of tonnage of Great Britain.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The third annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society took place at the rooms of the Society, in Madison, on Wednesday, the 17th of May, for the election of officers and the transaction of other business. The following persons were chosen officers for the ensuing year:

President—ELISHA W. EDGERTON, of Waukesha.

Vice Presidents—
JAMES BURLING, of Marquette.
SAMUEL W. JOINER, of Iowa.
NATHANIEL B. CLAPP, of Kenosha.

Secretary—ALBERT C. INGHAM, of Madison.

Treasurer—SAMUEL MARSHALL, of Madison.

Executive Committee—
SAMUEL S. DAGGETT, of Milwaukee.
RICHARD E. ELA, of Racine.
H. N. SMITH, of Sheboygan.
A. F. CADY, of Jefferson.
MARK MILLER, of Rock.
TALBOT C. DOUSMAN, af Waukesha.
GEORGE O. TIFFANY, of Milwaukee.

An amendment to the Constitution was made, providing for holding the annual meeting of the Society hereafter, on the third Wednesday of December, instead of May.

Immediately after the election of officers the new Board met and perfected arrangements for the next Annual Fair, which will be held at

Milwaukee on the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of October next. The Premium List and Regulations will be ready for distribution in a few days.

Sheep on Shares.—A correspondent enquires of us where he can obtain one or two hundred sheep, for keeping on shares.

Stump Machines.—Richard Olive, of Moundville, Marquette co., Wis., inquires for a small Stump Machine—a machine that will draw a stump about a foot in diameter. A cut and description of the best Stump Machine we know of, may be found in the 3d vol. of the Farmer.

Provender Mill.—W. Emerick, of Crooked Lake, Marquette co., Wis., wishes to know where he can get the best kind of Mill for grinding provender, and what the price may be? We know of no better or cheaper Mill than Ross'. See advertisement in another column.

More Wisconsin Marble.—We were shown a few days since, a beautiful specimen of white Marble, found in Richland county, in this State. The quality appeared equal to any of the Marble brought from the East, and we are informed by R. M Miller—who had the specimen—that it may be obtained in almost any quantity, with but little labor. Some person, with a small capital, might find it profitable to go into the manufacture of marble in Richland county. —[Mineral Point Tribune.

Wisconsin Grass Seed.—The Fond du Lac Herald says, that Mr. Munger, of Albany, has shipped during the last six months, about 1,500 bushels of Grass Seed to the Eastern market. Wisconsin Grass Seed commands the highest price in the Eastern States, in consequence of its superior quality and freedom from all foul seeds.

Fine Blooded Horse.—The fine blooded horse, *St. Patrick*, owned by Mr. G. S. Ruble, may be seen at the stable of T. K. Blodget, in this village, on Friday and Saturday of each week. Farmers who desire to improve their stock, will do well to call and see him Few horses come nearer our idea of perfection than St. Patrick.—[Mineral Point Tribune.

Fur Trade.—The Berlin Mercury says that the fur trade of that section is quite an important one. During the past year $12,000 worth have been bought at that place, comprising Linx, Bear, Otter, Mink, &c. One firm ships these furs directly to Europe.—[Milwaukee Free Democrat.

☞ The Shawl Goat of Thibet, from the fleece of which the finest Cashmere shawls are manufactured, has been successfully naturalized in Chile. The Peruvian Government has recently concluded a contract for the introduction of about eighty animals of the pure kind, with the object of propogating the stock in the mountainous districts of Peru, where it is believed they will thrive as well as in the high table lands of Ladak and Thibet, the regions of their origin.

Tallow, Tallow.—There is now apparently a fine field about to be opened for the sale of any extra tallow that our tallow dealers may have on hand, or our farmers be able to raise during the war between Britain and Russia.—In 1852, no less than 64,578½ tuns were imported from the latter country by the former.—All this supply will now be cut off, and the soap and candle makers of England will have to look about them for supplies from some other quarters.—[Scientific American.

Fraud in Flour.—The New York Express advises purchasers of flour to have every barrel weighed, many frauds in the weight having lately come to light. In some cases the weight has been found to fall some twenty pounds below the standard. Just now, when prices are so extravagantly high, this is a consideration not to be overlooked.

Milwaukee Sentinel.—We would refer the reader to the Prospectus of the *Milwaukee Sentinel*. The Sentinel is one of the most desirable newspapers we know of. It always contains the latest news, both foreign and domestic, that can be obtained by telegraph or otherwise, up to the moment of publication,

Godey for May is received, which reminds us that one more number will complete the current volume. The next volume is promised with many improvements. *We* can't see wherein *any* improvement *can* be made; but depend upon it, Godey does, or he would not promise it; so, renew your subscription at once. Prospectus in our next number

Parlor Magazine, Cincinnati—Monthly—$2 per year: Jethro Jackson. The May No. of this decidedly popular work is received.—The contents are interesting, and evince a steady improvement in the work. A new volume commences with July. No one will regret two dollars paid for this Magazine. Prospectus next month.

JOURNAL OF THE U. S. AGRICULTERAL SOCIETY.—We are indebted to some one—we suppose the Secretary—shame on our postage laws, which makes it a penal offence to put one's name on a paper or pamphlet which he sends to a friend—for a copy of the first number of the above named work. It is valuable to us, as it contains the proceedings of the first meeting and has in several articles of much value. We have before noticed the very valuable Nos. 3 and 4. Will the Secretary send us No. 2, which we have not yet received?

We would solicit our readers to become members of this Society by paying to the Treasurer the sum of $2, by which they will be entitled to its Quarterly Journal.

PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.—This is one of our most valuable exchanges, for several reasons: The matter is very good; the engravings very numerous, (50 in the May No.,) and in the very highest style of the art—illustrating in a very faithful and beautiful manner, the several mechanical arts—natural and artificial,—agricultural arts and implements; fruits, flowers and grains; and animals, from the spider and iguana up to sheep, cattle, horses and men. $1 per year.

WHEAT AT TWO DOLLARS A BUSHEL.—Three times in the present century has wheat reached the high figures of two dollars a bushel in the valley of the Genessee—in 1816, by reason of a remarkably cold summer and a very short corn crop; in 1836, by a somewhat unpropitious season and neglect of agriculture for the purpose of trade and speculation, compelling the large importation of breadstuffs from Europe; and in 1854, by reason of short crops in Western and Central Europe and the war between Russia and Turkey.—[Rochester Amer

☞ The aggregate value of boots and shoes made last year in Massachusetts is $37,000,000, or more than all the other States combined—and far exceeding that of any manufacture in the Commonwealth.

SINGULAR STOCK.—Robert Smith, Esq, of Woodford county, Ky., who owns a splendid farm in that region, has a large pond of water upon his domain, by which he has half domesticated a flock of wild geese. He first procured eleven and cropped their wings, which reclaimed them for a season. They migrate northward in the spring with their full-fledged young. The flock numbers two hundred and eighty, and it increases annually.

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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., JULY, 1854. NO. 7.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

Geology of Wisconsin--Geologist's Report

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 123.]

LEAD VEINS.

In determining the value of a metalliferous district, the first point to be settled is the modes in which the ores occur. There are several ways in which the ore of different metals may occur in rocks, all of which may be included under two classes—those which are contemporaneous, and those which are not so. The former, although they give promise of an abundant yield, yet being usually of limited extent, never traversing different rocks, fail when pursued for any great length of time. Much time and labor have been lost in prosecuting mining operations upon such deposits. The latter usually reach through a great depth of different rocks, as well as horizontally, to a great extent. The most distinguished mines of the globe belong to the latter class. It is to this class of mines, according to our Geologist, that the lead veins of Wisconsin belong. This view is fully corroborated by other Geologists, and abundantly so by the facts in the case.

The general bearing of these veins, and of those which are found to be the most fruitful, is east and west—though there are north and south veins, as well as a few which are called "quarterings" or "ten o'clock ranges."

The horizontal extent of some of these veins is sometimes as much as four miles, and their width from a few inches to fifty feet, while their depth—the most important point of value—reaches *clear down* near to the *beginnings* of things—in other words, to almost an unlimited extent, or, through not only the Buff-colored Limestone, but even into and throughout the Lower Magnesian Limestone of Geologists.—We hope, and have reason to expect, that these views of the Geologist will be substantiated by further observation.

A noticeable fact in regard to these lead veins is what is called "grouping." A vein is rarely seen alone, but is usually associated with several others. Among these one is more productive than the others, and is thence called the "champion lode." The whole are known as a "gangue" of veins. Several of these gangues are often found near each other, and connected by cross courses, and form what is called the "body of mineral." Between these bodies of mineral are more or less wide spaces, which have been regarded as barren of metal. In the opinion of the Geologist, many of these spaces so regarded will yet be found to be rich in metal.

There are two well marked kinds of veins—the *perpendicular* and the *horizontal*. The first pursues its way downward by a series of throws, which give it a kind of zig-zag course. It varies in breadth, from a mere seam to an hundred feet. It is sometimes cut off by a tabular mass of rock, which is called the "cap rock." After cutting through the cap rock the fissure is found to be widened, and is thence called an "opening." These openings are not always filled with metal, but often are empty, in some instances forming large caves. The walls of these openings often come together again at their bottom, and the veins are then, in the expressive language of the miners, "pinched."—Other openings, however, are found beneath, and so on *ad finitum*.

The second class of veins are spread out in thin sheets between the layers of the rock and parallel to them.

Each of these kinds of veins seem to have a special Geological position—the first being confined to Gray Limestone, No. 4; while the second are rather characteristic of the Buff-colored Limestone, No. 6.

In the perpendicular veins the ore is accom-

panied by no material usually called "vein stone"; but the horizontal are generally associated with some mineral matter, which is the matrix of the ore. There is a great variety in the composition of this matrix, and the manner in which the lead is arranged with it. No particular kind of matrix or manner of arrangement, however, being characteristic of the ore's being either abundant or scarce.

In his observations the Geologist has made it his prime object to find out *what is*, rather than *how came it so*. The latter question we expect will occupy his attention more especially in the future reports, or certainly in the final one.

The next chapter of the report is occupied in giving the various theories of the manner in which the lead was deposited, of which there are four: *By solution; by injection; by sublimation;* and finally, *by electro-chemical action* —each of which, according to our Geologist, doubtless, had something to do with the matter.

Under the head of *Surface Indications of Lead Veins*, we find mentioned these, in the following order, the general character of the ground, such as being cut into frequent ravines or easy depressions; the presence of "float" or "shovel mineral"; veins, stones of any kind; the growth of vegetation in a linear direction; and the presence of the "masonic" or "lead weed." These are the ordinary, tangible and reliable evidences, founded upon well known relations of things—and experience has proved their genuineness. Our Geologist mentions other processes, such as the "divining rod," the "tinkembob," upon whose practical value, in the *"absence of all positive knowledge"* he could not venture an opinion. *Mirabile dictu!* No man could with less temerity and greater certainty, and more "positive knowledge," have *ventured* an opinion on the practical value of using the *divining rod* and *tinkembob* in the discovery of a lead, than our Geologist, and yet he did it not. It is a little remarkable that two of the most important publications of our State, and those which will be the most widely distributed among the agricultural and working classes—we mean the TRANSACTIONS OF THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY and the ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GEOLOGIST—should have lent the weight of their extended influence in favor of such oft and long ago exploded fallacies as the "Water philosopher," "water witch," "dowser," "divining rod," and "tinkembob"! Gentlemen, this will not do. *You* know too much of true philosophy thus to wink at error, and science has too great claims on your services to allow of such perversion of knowledge. He that *knows* his duty and does it not, shall be beaten with many stripes—and here is a *lick* or two for you, gentlemen!

There are other chapters in this valuable Report, upon the *Working of the Lead Veins, Productiveness of the Mines, &c.*, but what we have said must suffice. We could wish that each of our readers had a copy of this Report. It would well repay them for a studious perusal.

We would congratulate the Geologist if it is not too late, on the success of his labors and the appreciation given them by the people, and wish all success for the year to come, looking forward to the appearance of the second Report with the same interest as for this first.

Hay-Making.

The season of hay-making is near at hand, and a few thoughts regarding this most important process may not be out of place at this time.

The grass crop is one of our most valuable crops, and upon the use of it, during the summer and autumn, we are dependent in a great degree for the support of our stock; for our milk, butter, cheese, beef, mutton, wool, &c.; and during the winter months the food derived from grass, in the form of hay, continues to us, though in a modified form, all the above advantages.

The ingredients of these substances, however, do not exist in the grass or hay in the same combination as they do in the animal, but are separated and recombined by the digestive powers and other functions of the animal.

These nutritive principles exist in the form of sugar, mucilage, gluten, starch, &c. These alone are retained in the body of the animal for the purposes of life, while the bitter, extractive, and saline matters only assist or modify the process of digestion, and are voided with the woody fibre. The woody fibre seems only to give bulk to the food, by which the stomach is distended, and its muscles brought into more active exercise, and the process of digestion more perfectly accomplished.

The great art of hay-making, therefore, consists in so preparing the grass that it may not lose any of its soluble ingredients, but preserve them in their integrity. This involves a knowledge of several things, such as the age or period of the grass when it has in its composition the greatest quantity of these desirable in-

gredients, and the manner of curing the grass that these may be preserved—for the more abundant these nutritious materials are, the better is the fodder.

It has been found by experiment, that when the grass first springs from the ground, the chief constituent of its early blades is water—the amount of solid matter being comparatively trifling; as its growth advances the solid matter becomes more abundant—the saccharine and other nutritious matters existing in the greatest quantity and perfection at the time of flowering. If the grass should be cut at this period, and carefully dried, it will be found to have double the amount of nutritive matter, which it would have if allowed to attain its full growth, and ripen its seed.

It is obvious, therefore, that the proper time for cutting grass for hay, is when it is in flower. If the grass is cut at this time, the further change of the nutritive matters, which usually take place in the ripening of the seed, will be arrested and the hay will retain them in the best condition for feeding stock.

The next important question is, how to cure the grass so that these useful qualities shall be preserved in it.

The great trouble in the process arises from the difficulty of removing the water naturally in the plant, or which it may have absorbed from the atmosphere without washing out or decomposing these soluble constituents. This can be done *perfectly* only by artificial heat.—The quantity of water which usually remains in hay, even after it has been dried in the sun, varies from fourteen to twenty per cent. If the quantity could be reduced to the first mentioned amount, readily and quickly, in the sun, but little improvement could be made in the process of hay-making. But hay usually contains a much greater proportion of water than this, and when it contains as much as twenty per cent., it is very liable to ferment, and the result is, that its sugar, &c., are converted into alcohol and carbonic acid—of no sort of use as food to the animal. Could the grass be submitted to 120° of heat, the greater portion of the water would be removed, and all the constituents of the grass which render it valuable for fodder, would be retained in their integrity. This, however, cannot be done unless by Greely's method, by the use of steam, and that is hardly practicable with us at present. The question for us now is, how can we nearest approximate to the correct principle? If the grass is cut with scythes, it should be tedded or strewed out evenly over the ground, that it may all be equally exposed to the sun's rays. Hay is greatly injured by some portions being too long exposed to the burning sun, thus being browned and withered, while other portions are not sufficiently exposed. That mowed by machines is usually sufficiently spread. All the grass should be brought nearer and nearer together as it becomes more and more dried, and should never, when partially or thoroughly dried, be exposed to the night's dew, without being put into "windrows" or "foot-cocks." On the following day, if fair, these should be opened for a while to the sun, and frequently moved while drying. As soon as sufficiently *made*, it should be housed or secured in the stack.

It is not to be expected, however, that we can give rules applicable in every case for the farmer, but the following principles, from the Cyclopedia of Agriculture, will be found of the greatest importance to guide him:

"1st. He must remember that the chief point is to preserve the hay from dew and rain,—water washes away the soluble salts and other matters, and, when in the stack, will cause fermentation, and that injures the hay by destroying some of its most valuable properties; therefore, bring it into windrows, or make into foot-cocks at night-fall, and never open it in the morning until the dew has evaporated.

"2. Bear in mind that, if the weather is unfavorable, the less it is disturbed the better, and the longer it will retain its native powers. Hay has been found to preserve a great amount of its nutritive qualities for many days, nay, even weeks, when mown wet, or when saturated with the rains whilst lying in the swath; if, therefore, the weather be unfavorable, it will be better not to tedd the hay at all, nor even turn over the swath. If repeatedly dried and wetted again, it soon becomes valueless; this error of meddling with hay amidst frequent showers must, if possible, be avoided, for it is far better to have it somewhat tainted in the hay-cock than thus exhausted of its nutriment, and spoilt, by being repeatedly spread.

"3. Take care not to allow it to remain long under the hot beams of the sun without being turned; this will preserve the color and fragrance of the grass; so that, without baking it too much, (thus destroying its virtues) it may be so dry that as little heating or fermentation as possible shall occur in the stack, remembering also that coarse grass does not require so much 'making' as fine, succulent herbage."

Stooking Grain.

After grain is cut and bound, the next operation, preparatory for stacking, is to dispose of the sheaves so as to thoroughly cure the grain and straw in the best manner. For doing this there are various ways, some of which were described in the August number of the Farmer for 1853. There is another and still more expeditious plan, which, after seeing it tried, we think the best: that is, to place the sheaves two and two in a row, and left without capping—from twelve to eighteen sheaves in one shock. The workman should take one sheave in each hand, and chuck the buts firmly to the ground, leaving a space of eight or twelve inches for the air to circulate around; then bring the caps together, and the thing is complete. The ends should be to the north and south, so as to give to the sides an equal share of sunshine. We saw a great deal of wheat cured in this way last harvest, and the plan was universally approved by those who tried it.—Grain put up in this way will be ready for stacking much sooner than if done in the old way.

In Sweden they have a way of curing wheat, as illustrated by the above cut, and which will be understood without any other explanation.

This may do for the methodical Swiss, but it won't *du no how* for the go-ahead Yankee—he could n't stop to stick the pole if the sheaves would hang themselves on it.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Wheat, Chess, Suggestions, &c.

Messrs. Editors:—I have been very much interested in the discussion upon this subject, but it has been continued for some time without settling the question, and doubtless might be continued for a long time to come without effecting any special results. I have looked with interest for each new number of the Farmer, hoping to find something that would be conclusive, but have been disappointed. It is true, that "Prove All's" article amounts to almost positive proof, but he has not proved but that the chess might have been in the ground. So also in W. Lapham's article, strong testimony; but because his wheat did not turn to chess, it does not prove that it never does.

Now, brother farmers, I have a suggestion to make. I discover by some hints thrown out by our gentlemanly editors, that they are getting tired of this Chess business, and "a word to the wise is sufficient." I would recommend that every farmer that feels interested in this subject make a trial of this in the following manner: Sometime in the month of August or September, select a spot of ground, and scatter some heads of wheat on it. Mark well the place, and wait for the result. The fall rains will cause it to sprout and grow. That will settle that question. Then let us drop this subject until the result is known. Farmer.

Newark, Rock co., May, 1854.

Ashes on Potatoes.—A statement has been published from Mr. Barrett, of Cayuga, that he and his neighbors had prevented all rot in their potatoes for several years, by simply sowing ashes over them at the rate of from two to three bushels per acre, once a week for about six weeks, commencing immediately after the second hoeing. Rev. Lyman Smith, of Charlotte, Vt., confirms this statement in a letter to the New England Farmer. He says he has prevented the rotting of potatoes by sprinkling the tops with ashes as soon as they made their appearance, a tablespoonful to each hill; after a shower, or upon a heavy dew. After such application he has no rotten potatoes.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Council Bluffs and the Country About.

EDITORS FARMER:

This country is situated on the east side of the Missouri river, about one hundred and fifty miles immediately west of Fort Des Moines, the prospective Capital of Iowa, and includes the counties of Harrison, Pottawatomie, Mills and Fremont—all of which are bounded on the West by the Missouri river.

Fremont, the lowest down, is quite thickly settled, and most of the land is entered. Sidney is the county seat, and is a flourishing village of several hundred inhabitants. A newspaper is published in it, called the "Fremont County Journal."

Mills, the next in rotation, is a fine county.—Nearly all the land is entered—but some good entries could be made yet by a person acquainted with the country. Glenwood, a handsome village, rapidly improving, is the county seat.—St. Mary, a small, but enterprising place, is situated on or near the Missouri river. It is but a few months old. A newspaper is published in it, called the "St. Mary Gazette." The population of the county is about 2500.

Pottawatomie, the next, is the most important of all. Its population is between 4,000 and 5,000. It is a beautiful county—high, dry, rolling and healthy. The soil is very rich and deep, and a very loose, dark loam. It exceeds any thing, for pleasantness of cultivation, I ever witnessed. Wheat, oats, Indian corn, rye, buckwheat, turnips, potatoes, cabbages, and, in fact, any thing and every thing that will grow in any northern climate, grows here luxuriantly, as far as tried. Winter wheat sometimes winter-kills, owing to there not being much snow here in winter; but this spring, winter wheat is very promising, and yet there was not much snow last winter. The country, I said, was rolling, but not too much so for cultivation, except the Bluffs on the river.

Timber is rather scarce—and this is the only substantial fault any being in the world could find with the country; but this will, I think, soon be obviated by railroad facilities. Council Bluff City, the county seat, is the most important place in Western Iowa. It is situated about two miles from the Missouri river, with a smooth prairie bottom, from the city to the river; all, or nearly all, of which is laid off in city lots, 50 feet front by 192 feet back, and some larger, which sell at various prices—from $25 to $500. This is the world-renowned "emigrant's outfitting and starting point," "Council Bluffs," (though on nearly all of the maps it is located over the river, in Nebraska,) where thousands and tens of thousands have bid farewell to civilization, and started on their long and wearisome journey to California, Oregon, and Salt Lake.

This city possesses a Charter from the Legislature, and has its regular officers, Mayor, &c. It has a population of about 2,000, but in emigrating times it far exceeds this. It has usually about 25 stores, some of which are wholesales; but in the spring (emigrating times,) it greatly exceeds this amount. There are several groceries, politely called Saloons; but these nuisances are fading away, and they are not so numerous now as they were two years ago.

The Missouri river is navigable for boats to this city at all times, except when frozen over, and for hundreds of miles above this. A number of steamboats have been here this year.—A newspaper is published in the city, semi-weekly, called the "Western Bugle." There is also a U. S. Land Office here.

Several Railroads have been surveyed to this place, among which are the following: Fort Wayne, Lacon & Platte Valley Air-Line, and the Rock Island & Mo. River R. R.; and, I think, three others—two, certain. Some of the above have purchased land for depots. There is a steam saw-mill, water, grist and saw-mill in the city, and numbers out in the county elsewhere—it being well watered. The Nish-na-botna river, Mosquito creek, Pony, Pigeon, Indian, and several other streams, run through the county. There is a steam ferry at the crossing on the Missouri, at this place.

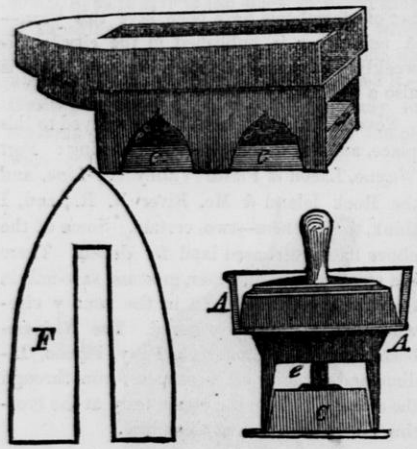
Harrison county, the last, is yet thinly settled, but is a good county, and tolerably well timbered. Magnolia is the county seat. Good homes, no doubt, could be got here at Government price, of timber and prairie; whereas, in the other counties, nothing but prairie is vacant, with few exceptions. Farther north than this is very thinly settled, yet the ground is capable of high cultivation, and efforts are now being made to settle the "Sergeant Bluff" country, about 120 miles above. Here is the spot where Sergeant Floyd, of Lewis and Clark's company, of many years ago. was laid in his wilderness tomb, far, far away from home, friends and civilization. All of this country was then an entire wilderness.

West of the Missouri river is the far-famed Nebraska, whose groves of timber, so beautiful,

and rolling prairies, can be seen from this side to great advantage. It is not open for settlement yet, but soon will be. WILLIAM A. SCOTT.

Flat-iron Heater.

The accompanying figures represent an improved heater for flat-irons, by F. S. Coburn, of Ipswich, Mass., and embraces a perspective view of the heater complete; a transverse section showing an iron in the heater, also a plan view of the cover, F. A is the shell, of cast-iron, into which the flat-iron is slipped to be heated. About one inch of space is left below the bottom of the iron, and a quarter of an inch at the sides. Through these spaces a draught of hot air, heated by the lamp, C C, circulates, and then escapes under the handle. *e e* are the tubes of the lamp, they pass through



the shell about one inch from the face of the iron. Alcohol is the fluid intended to be used, as it emits no smoke in burning and gives off a high heat. The apparatus weighs only about 3½ lbs. It is all cast in the foundry, excepting the cover, F, which is of sheet-iron or tin, the edges of which are clinched over the upper edges of the casting. It is a simple apparatus for heating flat-irons by a lamp for dressing clothes without the use of a coal fire. It can be set upon the same table on which the clothes are to be dressed; in this respect it is very convenient, and at the same time it obviates the great heat of a coal fire in the furnace, which is very oppressive in warm weather.—[Scientific American.

☞ **There were 24,000,000 lbs. of tea imported into this country last year.**

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Sowing Peas among Corn.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—There is a practice among Southern farmers and planters, of sowing peas among corn, often "laying it by," as the saying is. Their corn is worked principally by horse labor instead of human labor. That is, they use the plow and cultivator in their varied forms instead of the hoe.

Previously to the last working, they sow among their corn a variety of peas called the "Cow Peas," which are very fine for hogs, and cattle also. Working the corn with a cultivator or shovel plow covers the peas, and they are left to mature with the corn, when the hogs are permitted to partake of them, and are thereby kept in good condition, until near the time for killing, when a little corn, properly fed, will complete the fattening process.

Why would not the practice be a good one for our Wisconsin farmers, who live upon the prairies and openings, and cultivate their corn principally with the plow and cultivator?—Some varieties of peas would not, perhaps, mature, when sown in that manner, but I think others would. If so, it would be an addition of one crop in the season, with but little extra labor, besides the convenience of having the hogs feed themselves while the peas last, which is certainly a great relief to a lazy man.

I think the corn would not shade the peas enough to injure them, as crops in this climate certainly do not require more sunshine than in the South. The cow pea is of a reddish color, when ripe; and of a coarse quality, but very nutritious for stock.

The experiment would be worth trying at any rate. The labor and other expenses are but trifling. SOLOMON LOMBARD.

Greenbush, Wis., June, '54.

SOWING GRASS SEEDS.—To those who are about laying down land to permanent pasture or meadow, it is highly essential that the land should be worked as fine as possible, and rendered perfectly clean and free from weeds.—The seeds should be sown on a calm day, (or they will be irregularly distributed,) and be merely brushed in with a "light brush harrow," as the seeds of many natural grasses are so minute that if covered deeply they can not germinate. When the object is to obtain a fine close pasture in the shortest possible time, the seed should be sown without any other crop.—Permanent grass seeds should not be sown before the first week in April, (May here,) nor later than the first week in August, being easily injured by frost when coming through the ground.—[Farmer's Herald, Chester, Eng.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Bugs in Peas, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Being a subscriber to your paper, I take the liberty to propound a few miscellaneous questions for solution, thro' your columns:

1. What is the cause of bugs in peas?

2. Is there any remedy for them?

Last spring I procured a paper of Marrow-fat Peas—raised either by Risley or Parker, of New York—which were free from bugs. This spring nearly all of them were buggy. If you, or any of your correspondents, can furnish a solution of this, I shall be pleased to hear it.

3. What is the best grass seed to seed down a pasture with—with or without manure; and how will red clover do for pasture? Is clover and timothy good, to mix together; and, if so, in what quantities?

4. What is the best way to save and plant the seed of the potato? W. W. VIRGIN.

Emerald Grove, Wis., May, 1854.

REMARKS.—1. The cause of bugs in peas is owing to no fault of culture, or want of health and vigor in the plant, but simply to the fact, that an insect, directed by the instinct of its nature, deposits its egg in the germ of the new pea, which in due time becomes a bug.

2. The only practical remedy known is late planting or sowing. The insect is limited to a certain period for depositing its eggs, which closes, in this region, from the first to the tenth of June. All peas sown after this date will not be likely to be affected. We have raised peas for several years, and have had no bugs in them. Those who wish to eat early peas, must put up with eating the young *grubs* also, for they do not become *bugs* till late in the fall and winter.

3. We should recommend timothy and clover. We prefer the June clover to the longer variety, as it yields more and better feed.—With timothy and clover we should use eight quarts of timothy and four of clover to the acre. [See articles in the present number, on Grass Seeds and Sowing Grass Seeds]

4. Late researches and experiments seem to have demonstrated the fact, that under-ripe sets produce more vigorous and productive plants than perfectly ripe tubers of the same variety. We should select those, too, of medium size; plant whole, and manure only with well-rotted manure. The seed should be kept in a dry and cool cellar.

We would recommend our correspondent to read Mr. Townley's interesting and instructive article on the culture of the potato, in the last volume of our State Agricultural Society's Transactions, though he may not accede to all there taught.

Cutting Wheat Early.

The best time for cutting wheat, so as to secure the greatest weight and value of both grain and straw, has been found by repeated and carefully conducted experiments to be before it is fully ripe. About ten days before this period, is the medium pointed out by different trials in different countries. Mr. Hannam, of Yorkshire, England, some years since communicated to the Journal of Agriculture, a detailed account of wheat cut at five different times from "quite green" until "dead ripe" covering a period of four years. That cut a fortnight before it was ripe, gave an advantage in point of weight of gross produce of 13 1-5 per cent.; in weight of equal measures of nearly ½ per cent.; in weight of equal number of grains of 2½ per cent. It was superior in quality and value of grain above the other specimens 3¼ per cent.; and in weight of straw 5 per cent. That reaped ten days before it was ripe was nearly equal to that cut as above, which shows that the commencement of harvest should not be delayed later than a full fortnight before the ripening of the grain.

In the Transactions of the N. Y. Agricultural Society for 1849 we find notes of an experiment made by J. J. Thomas, of Macedon, who cut wheat at five different periods within a month, with the same result, so far as noted, as in the experiments of Mr. Hannam. The weight of one hundred kernels of wheat, cut when the "heads were mostly yellow, and still erect, with a few streaks of green in the chaff," exceeded that of the same number of seeds fully ripe, two grains weight—the one sample weighing 55 and the other 53 grains.

Many other experiments have confirmed the above, and proved that wheat cut from one to two weeks previous to its becoming dead ripe, is plumper, weighs heavier, has less bran and more nutritive matter, than when longer unharvested. As soon as the straw immediately below the head turns yellow—becoming hard and dry two or three inches in length—it is evident that

no more nourishment can be received from the root, and that both straw and grain must deteriorate instead of advancing in value. The straw becomes more wood-like in texture, and the skin of the grain acquires greater thickness, as do all such seeds at full maturity. The straw is worth nearly one fourth more as feed for cattle, than that which stands until bleached and dry.

In cutting wheat while a portion of the straw is yet green greater attention is necessary to curing, of course, than when it is fully ripe. It is a good plan to let it lie in the swath for a part of the day, and the bundles should in all cases be made smaller sized. It will need also to remain in the shock for a longer period, but if properly put up, little injury need be apprehended from occasional showers, For seed, it is thought wheat should become fully ripe.—[Rural New Yorker.

Grass Seeds.—We have frequent enquiries as te the quantity of seed to be sown per acre. The following article from Sanford Howard, Esq., Editor of the Boston Cultivator, answers the general enquiries which are made:

"A good mixture of grasses for hay, and the proper quantity for one acre, on soils of medium dryness, is the following:

Red clover,	8 lbs. or 4 qts.
Herds grass, or timothy,	8 qts.
Red-top,	1 bushel.

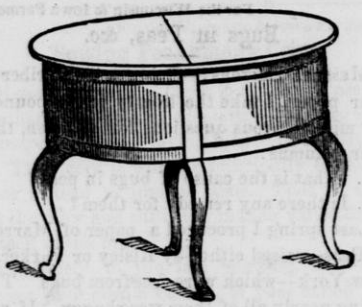
"In some instances clover is sown chiefly as an improver of the soil, and as it will only occupy the ground one or two years, it is best under these circumstances to sow no grass seeds with it, but to increase the quantity of clover seed to twelve or fourteen pounds to the acre. Where the land is unfavorable to clover, that seed should be omitted, and the herds grass seed increased to twelve quarts and the red-top to five pecks to the acre. Clover being biennial, dies out more or less after the first year, and the space it occupies is filled with the spread of the grasses.

"For pastures, on soils of medium quality and tolerable dryness, the following mixture has been found to succeed well:

Red clover,	2 qts.
White do.	2 do.
Kentucky blue grass,	8 do.
Red top,	2 pks.
Herds grass,	1 bush.

"The red clover should be omitted on wet land, and the red top increased."

Snow, in Santiago, Chili, is sold at two dollars per hundred pounds—and it is said that the contractors do not give good weight at that.



New Center Table and Desk.

The accompanying cuts represent a new article of furniture. It is a table, writing desk and chair combined. The "Banner of Industry," New York, speaks of it as a most desirable article of furniture adapted to offices, sitting rooms, parlors and schools.

After the occupant is seated, the chair is hooked to the desk part, and thus a very easy arm chair is formed. Underneath the desk is a drawer. The whole is on socket rollers, enabling the person occupying it to move about the room without rising. When it is in the form of a table, there is considerable space to store articles of clothing or books.

Walling & Hodges, No. 252 Ninth Avenue, are the Patentees and manufacturers.

We think they would be an acquisition to schools—not only in reference to convenience, but also to order and good government. They may require a little more space than some forms of desks and benches, and this may be a benefit, by preventing the crowding of too many scholars in a given space. This article is well adapted to legislative chambers.

Indian Corn.—The Toledo (Ohio) Blade estimates the Indian corn to be shipped from Toledo the coming season at 6,000,000 bushels.—The largest quantity ever shipped from that port in any previous season was 3,878,047 bushels.

Stock Register.

Wisconsin State Agricultural Society's Sheep Shearing Festival.

Being duly apprised of the interesting development in the history of our St. Ag. Society, as manifested in its having offered a handsome list of premiums to the owners and exhibitors of the most valuable sheep, at Whitewater on the 31st ult., we packed up our duds on the evening before, took lodgings at the hotel of T. Stevens, *Capitol*, for some half dozen considerations, was up at two A. M. and seated in the cars—started off at three under the lead of the iron steed, a new nag in these parts, was honorably passed as a *dead head* by a gentlemanly conductor who has vastly more courtesy than some of his superiors, was put *ashore* at Whitewater at 6 A. M. with several other gentlemen of like stamp and kidney.

As soon as *landed* we were accosted by C. M. Clark, a former pupil, and a worthy young man withal, was put on board of a double wagon and shortly set down at the door of his father, J. M. Clark, Esq. The family is a good specimen of what farmer's families *can* be and what they *ought* to be. After having filled an "aching void" from a well spread board and offered our morning orisons, we took a look at the farm, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry of our host. Mr. Clark has one of the best farms naturally and artificially that we have seen in Wisconsin. It consists of 800 acres with living water upon every quarter section, and a due portion of up, low and woodland to make it valuable both as grazing or a stock farm.—We were pleased to see a handsome flock of valuable Spanish Merinos, which Mrs. C. said had never failed to be profitable when all things else came short.

A barn 140 feet long and due proportioned, with a basement of stable room and shelter for stock, was being erected on the premises.—As we left this rural home and cast our eye back over the thickly clothed meadows and fields of living green, protected from invasion by substantial fences we sighed that we possessed so little of earth.

On returning to town we found all alive and bleating. Under the Society's capacious tent were gathered *sheep* and *bucks* not a few. There was hurrying to and fro and gathering crowds rushed around. The sheep were all cornered and the bucks tied. After they had been weighed and their downward tendency taken by the scales under the even hand of the worthy President—a true Arcadian—assisted by his noble compeer, the former Treasurer of the Society, of both of whom all Waukesha sheepdom may well be proud, the board was swept, the shearers were warned to make ready. Then there was a coming on of over-alls, a rolling up of sleeves, and a whetting of blades which put to silence every *bleating* tongue. Every shearer with his sheep, and glittering steel in hand, waited the summons. The flushed cheek, the quivering lip, the trembling hand and dew covered brow of those sturdy yeomen openly revealed the truth, *quorum magna pars fui*, inwardly and cordially felt by each of their number.

The word was given, and the knives of the *silver greys*, alias *shearers*, were put to the hides of the *wooley heads*. Soon they were disrobed of their fleecy mantles and returned to their wondering lambkins. The quick click of the shearer's blades was drowned in the merry laugh and joyous shout of youths and maidens gathered round and the soft undulations of the shepherd's lute drawn through the brazen pipes of a martial band pierced the upper air! Then came noon with the kind invitation from those interested to all present and the "gentlemen of the Milwaukee press," besides, to a *sum-to-us*-dinner prepared for the occasion and paid for by the partakers. To our rescue came several friends, each with his acknowledged claim for our presence and service at his table in discussing grave matters, such as beef, pork, and mutton, together with Pomona's gift. We were so fortunate as to find ourself at the well furnished board of our friend and patron, Mr. Starring, in company with such staunch friends of Agriculture, Horticulture, and fine stock, as Messrs. Webster, of Fox Lake, Willard of Janesville, and Gifford of Milwaukee. After strengthening the inner man we took a hasty look upon the outer world about us, when we found ourselves in a beautiful cottage embowered in ancient oaks and recent shrubbery with a *fruitful* and neatly cared for garden attached, in which we could easily see the workings of the tasteful as well as frugal housewife, and the practical Horticulturist and Pomologist. Mr. Starring shows much skill in fruit culture. His trees are very fine. His farm we did not have time to look at.

When we returned to the tent we found the committees earnestly engaged in the *weightier* matters of the festival, as they were weighing off the fleeces so white, so clean and so fine.—

The result and the basis of the decisions is published in another column.

This was a triumphant day for the Wis. St. Ag. Society, and honorable to its officers. Its influence on the sheep husbandry of the state cannot be otherwise than valuable and permanent. There was also a goodly number of fine horses, and several cattle present which were worthy of commendation.

The occasion gave us a good opportunity of seeing many of our patrons and witnessing the success of their efforts, and renewing our acquaintance with many old friends from Vermont, a State which has furnished Wisconsin with more *good blood sheep, and thorough bred Bucks,* than all the world beside. After taking tea with our respected friend and pupil, Mr. Rush Pratt, we took the evening train for Madison, paying our *full fare* to a *dead head* conductor, congratulating ourself on our arrival here that we purchased *our* ride on a *rail* with a few pieces of silver, and should advise all others to do the same rather than to be carried *gratuitously.*

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Desirable Points in a Good Milch Cow.

Messrs. Editors:—In your April number some very important questions were put to your correspondents, which I had hoped would have been answered in your May number. I will now endeavor to answer one of them, viz.:—"What are the desirable points in a great milker?"

She should have a long and rather a small head. A large headed cow will seldom either give much milk or fatten well. The eye should be bright, yet with a peculiar placidness and quietness of expression; the chops thin and the horns small; the neck should not be so thin as that which common opinion has given. The milc cow may be thin, but it must soon begin to thicken, especially when it approaches the shoulder; the dew-lap should be small; the breast wide, and should project before the legs; the chine, to a certain degree, fleshy and inclining to fullness; the girth behind the shoulder should be deep; the ribs should spread out wide, so as to give as globular a form as possible to the carcass, and each should project farther than the preceding one, to the very loins, and must be a little wider below than above, giving thereby as much breadth as possible to the most valuable parts. She must be well formed across the hips and on the rump—not *heavy,* but long and level; if she stands a little long on the legs, it must not be too long; the thighs somewhat thin, with a slight tendency to crookedness or sickle-hammed behind; the tail thick at the upper part, but tapering below; and she must have a mellow hide and smooth hair. Common consent has given to her large milk veins, and, although the subcutaneous or milk veins have nothing to do with the udder, but convey the blood from the fore part of the chest and sides to the inguinal vein; yet a large milk vein certainly indicates a strongly developed vascular system, one favorable to secretion generally, and to that of the milk among the rest. The udder should be inclined to be rather large in proportion to the size of the cow, but not too large; it must be sufficiently capacious to contain the proper quantity of milk, but not too bulky, lest it should thicken and become loaded with fat. The skin of the udder should be thin and perfectly free from lumps in every part. The teats should be of moderate size, at equal distances from each other every way, and of equal size from the udder to nearly the end, where they should run to a kind of point. When they are too large near the udder they permit the milk to flow down too freely from the bag, and lodge in them; and when they are too bread at the extremity, the orifice is often so large that the cow cannot retain her milk after the bag begins to be full and heavy. The udder should be of nearly equal size before and behind—if there is any difference, it should be broader and fuller before than behind.

There are some doggerel lines which I remember to have heard at the Veterinary College, London, England, and which struck me at the time as expressing the greatest number of good points of a well made cow, that I have not forgotten them, and am tempted to pen them.—Please yourself about printing them:

She's long in her face: she's fine in her horn;
She'll quickly get fat without cake or corn;
She's clean in her jaws, and full in her chine;
She's heavy in flank, and wide in her loin.

She's broad in her ribs, and long in her rump;
A straight and flat back, without ever a hump;
She's wide in her hips, and calm in her eyes;
She's fine in her shoulders and thin in her thighs

She's light in her neck, and small in her tail;
She's wide in her breast and good at the pail;
She's fine in her bone and silky of skin;
She's a grazier's without and a butcher's within.

C. Loftus Martin.

Turtle Grove, May, 1854.

Sheep Shearing Festival.—The following is the award of premiums:

Class A.

For 10 best ewes, Edgerton & McCarter, of Summit—Spanish Merinoes—$25.

For second best 10 do. Talbot C. Dousman, of Ottowa—same breed—$12.

For third best 10 do. E. M. Rice, of Richmond—same breed—$6.

For 10 best yearling ewes, James Davis, of Waukesha—same breed—$6.

For 10 best lambs. progeny of ewes exhibited, E. M. Rice, of Richmond, $6.

For second best 10 do. progeny of ewes exhibited, T. C. Dousman, $4.

Class B.

For best buck, 2 yrs. or over, E. F. Williams, of Cold Spring, $15.

For second best do. 9 yrs. or over, J. A. Fletcher, of Johnstown, $10.

For best single ewe, George Paddock, of Waterville, $10.

For second best do. Oliver Salisbury, of Lima, $3.

For best yearling buck, Geo. C. Pratt, of Waukesha, $10.

For second best do. S. N. Hawes, of Fon du Lac, $5.

Class C.

First premium for shearer, Chauncey Lewis, $6.

2d do. do. do. G. H. Canfield, $3.

3d do. do. do. H. Heminway.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Sheep on Shares.—*Messrs. Editors:*—I found in your worthy No. of June, a correspondent making an inquiry for sheep on shares. Will you please tell him and others, that I shall have from 400 to 600 sheep to let or sell. We have had good luck with our lambs this spring, so that our flock swelled to the number of 1200 head. Wm. G. Roberts.

Mt. Pleasant, Racine co., June, 1854.

☞ A practical and intelligent English farmer told me once that he put his cows to a large well-bred bull, and the following summer, his cows gave almost a third more milk than they did before. I have experienced the same result. Has not the law of nature something to do with it. Does she provide more liberally for a large offspring than a small one." This idea is quite new to us. Has it been observed elswhere? It is worthy of attention, for if such is the fact, another evil of using small worthless bulls is brought to light, and will help eradicate them from our farms. If any of our readers possess information on the subject, will they let us know?—[Farm. Comp.

How To Winter 100 Sheep from Two Acres of Land.—We have been accused of inducing farmers to try visionary experimeuts. We hardly know what meaning those who use the word visionary would put to it in this connection, nor do we care. We have faith in the following project of producing fodder enough on two acres of land to winter one hundred sheep. But, says Mr. Doubtful, it must be made very rich. Manure it generously—plough it thoroughly—harrow it fine—roll it smooth—put on the marker and mark it into rows three feet apart and sow Indian corn in drills. Hoe it twice, and after the second hoeing take your seed-sower and sow between each two rows of corn a row of flat turnip seed. After your corn has spindled, cut it up; let it wilt, then tie it into bundles and shock it up as you do corn-stalks which you have cut in the usual way, and let them stand until dry. It would not be strange if you had six tons of fodder per acre when they are sufficiently dry to put into the barn. This will be twelve tons, (from two acres.) Now, to winter one hundred sheep you ought to have twenty tons of fodder, You have got twelve of them and want 8 more, or four tons from each acre. The turnips ought to produce this amount. Let us see. Allowing a bushel of turnips to weigh 60 pound, in order to have four tons on an acre you should raise 133⅓ bushels. Will not your land produce this amount after taking away the Indian corn crop.

So you will have your twenty tons of food from two acres. But will the sheep eat the corn-stalks? Yes we have tried that. Just run the stalks through a straw-cutter and feed them out to the sheep, and they will eat them all up. We have tried it, and several others have tried it. Then run your turnips through a vegetable cutter, and they will eat them all up clean. The sheep should be young and hearty, and have good teeth. Who will try the experiment this year? We are bound to, for one.—[Maine Farmer.

☞ A Vermont ox is now exhibiting at Cleveland, Ohio, which is six feet three inches high, twenty feet from tip to tip, girths ten feet, is in ordinary flesh, and weighs four thousand pounds. The proprietor is taking him to the prairies of Illinois to *obtain room for him to grow.*

Horticulture.

The Locusts.

Messrs. Editors:—The locusts are unusually plenty in this locality this season, and many fears are entertained in consequence of their destructive habits. Can you inform us through the Farmer, of any means to protect our gardens and fruit trees from their ravages.

Rochester, June, 1854. S. Blood.

Remarks.—There are so many insects that commonly go under the name of *locusts*, that we are somewhat in doubt what insect is alluded to by our correspondent, without specimens before us. We would be obliged to Mr. Blood, and all of our correspondents enquiring any thing about insects, to send us samples in small vials, and tell us all they know of their habits. We can then join our knowledge with theirs and both together may be able to settle the question regarding them.

There are three or four kinds of locusts which have made their appearance in our country at different times. The same means of destruction are to be made use of for every kind. This is summed up under *decapitation:* Either by collecting them on sheets or cloths prepared for the purpose, and feeding them to fowls and swine, or by keeping a sufficient number of chickens and young turkeys to keep your grounds clean of them. Fowls and swine are very fond of them.

In France, the people make a business of collecting the insects and their eggs, a reward being offered by Government for their destruction. The locusts are taken by means of a piece of stout cloth carried by four persons, two of whom draw it rapidly along, so that the edge may sweep over the surface of the soil, and the two others hold up the cloth behind at an angle of 45 degrees. This gathers the insects into winrows, from which they are *sacked*, and afterwards dipped in hot water, to kill them, and fed to the swine. A similar mode has been employed in New England.

Heavy storms of rain often destroy them almost entirely. To catch them, they should be attended to this month, before their wings get sufficiently grown to enable them to fly easily, when, if disturbed, our game would take to themselves wings and fly away.

Most any method adopted must be *general* throughout the district to be of much service. We think the most favorably of employing fowls. They will convert the rascally grasshoppers and locusts into choice turkey and chicken meat. This is one of the grand secrets of living in this world, to convert our enemies into our friends; making those *originally* our *destroyers*, *eventually* our *supporters*.—Success to all efforts in this line.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Red and Black Ants.

I wish to inquire through the Farmer if you can prescribe a remedy to destroy both red and black ants? They destroy almost every thing in my garden. They destroy my rhubarb, gooseberries and currants, also leaves on the apple trees that I planted this spring. I notice a small bug about the size of a flea, that is very thick upon all the plants, and perforates the leaves. A remedy to destroy them will be thankfully received.

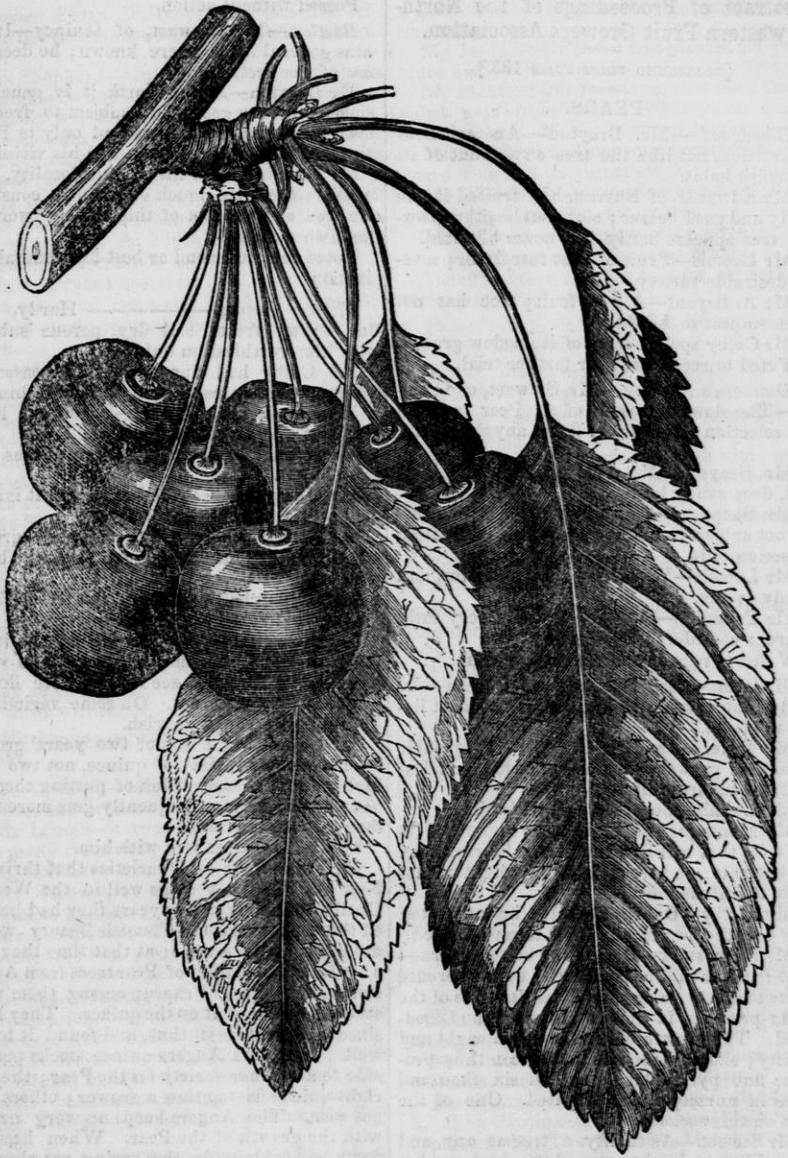
My wheat and oats look remarkably well.—Corn on the sod very good. Our valley seems to be a prosperous place, and promises a good return. Emigration is flowing in here every day, and thousands passing through for La Crosse and Minnesota Territory.

J. Nuttall.

Lisbon, Adams co., Wis., June, 1854.

Remarks.—We have never before heard of any such depredation upon vegetation by ants, as our correspondent here describes; nor have we ever known them to molest fruit of any kind, to any extent, except the strawberry.—They are roguish in doors, (like the rest of the children,) wherever they find sweetmeats.—Small bits of camphor gum strewed about places they infest will drive them away. To drive them from trees and plants, sprinkle the foliage with flour of sulphur, or a decoction of elder leaves, either of which are cheap. To kill them, apply the decoction (made strong) to their nests. To keep them from ascending trees, tie a piece of wool around the trunk.

The bug, from the description given, we are inclined to think, is a small insect generally found on the leaves of potatoes, and which, so far as we know, is considered harmless. To drive them away, try the same remedy as recommended for the ant. It may be that a sprinkling of ashes, when the dew is on, would answer the same purpose.



BIGARREAU MONSTREUSE DE MEZEL.

The Horticulturist speaks of this Cherry thus:—

"The *Bigarreau Monstreuse de Mezel*, of which we give a portrait, proves to be a large productive variety, and, as the fruit is firm, valuable for marketing. The tree is a very strong, irregular grower—more so than the Elton, or any other variety we know of, and, as far as we have observed, quite hardy. Fruit—very large, larger than Black Tartarian, obtuse heart-shaped, with an uneven surface. Stalk, long and slender. Color—dark mahogany. Flesh—firm, somewhat like the Tradescant's Black Heart, juicy, and agreeable, though not highly flavored. The fruit is produced in very large clusters. Ripe at Rochester, latter part of June and beginning of July—usually lasts to the middle of July."

Abstract of Proceedings of the North-western Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 133.]

PEARS.

Bloodgood.—Mr. Brayton—An excellent Pear; does not like the tree on account of its dwarfish habit.

Mr Edwards, of Bureau, has fruited it; an early and good bearer; slow, but healthy grower; tree appears hardy, has never blighted.

Mr Loomis—Fruit of first rate flavor; a very desirable variety.

Mr A. Bryant—A good fruit; tree has not been subject to blight.

Mr Colby spoke highly of it; a slow grower.

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Dearborn's Seedling—Mr. Stewart, of Quincy—The slowest grower of all Pear trees in his selection; despairs of doing any thing with it.

Mr. Brayton—Not a slow grower with him; soil, deep sandy loam.

Mr. Shepherd—With him a moderate grower, not subject to blight; small size of fruit an objection to it.

Mr Loomis—With him a fair grower, and hardy as any.

Mr Truesdell—A slow grower, a very early bearer; considers it desirable.

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Madeleine.—Mr. Edwards, of Bureau—An early bearer, but with him one of the most liable to blight.

Mr Truesdell and Mr Galusha—Very liable to blight: grows too fast on our rich prairies; will not endure winters.

Mr Loomis—Succeeds well with him.

Mr Montague thinks it more important to get trees that will live than those bearing very choice fruit; and trees liable to blight cannot grow the Madeleine.

Mr Colby—Of six varieties he cultivates, this does the best of any; has never blighted

Mr Fahnestock—One of the best growers.—The fruit should be considered with reference to its season. As an early Pear, it is one of the best; precedes, in time of ripening, the Bloodgood. The growth of tree is very upright and thrifty; should be headed back; can thus produce fine pyramidal trees. Of six thousand trees in nursery, none blighted. One of the best on this account.

Mr Stetson—As thrifty a tree as any, and not subject to blight; one of the best market fruits.

Mr Dunlap—May be a desirable variety in New York, but wont do here; is very liable to blight.

Mr Ellsworth—Succeeds well both on Pear and Quince, soil light or heavy, not subject to blight; handsome grower and good fruit.

Mr Coleman—More subject to blight than other varieties at Peoria.

Mr Brayton—Generally worthless in the North-West.

Passed without action.

Bartlett.—Mr Stewart, of Quincy—It obtains general favor where known; he deems it one of the best.

Mr Brayton—At the North it is generally considered very good, but subject to freezing down when young; fruit second only to Flemish Beauty, of varieties tested in his vicinity.

Mr Loomis—First rate in his locality, never fails; bears too much on quince; considers one tree on pear root of this variety worth a dozen on quince.

Voted to recommend as best for general cultivation.

Flemish Beauty.———— Hardy, very fine, showy fruit; soil dry, porous subsoil; with him worthless on quince.

Mr Colby had fine fruit this season on quince stock; succeeds well on it with him.

Mr Edwards, of Bureau—Somewhat liable to blight; does well on thorn root.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy, has large trees, free from blight.

Mr Humphrey—Trees hardy, and it is a very desirable variety in Iowa.

Mr Fahnestock—With them a good grower on quince; budded at the ground, makes a beautiful tree.

Mr Dunlap has a fine tree, ten feet high, on quince, this year bore one Pear.

Mr Ellsworth—Blights a little; has it on Angers quince and on pear stock; does well; has examined trees to see if they were double worked; they were not. On some varieties of quince no Pear will flourish.

Mr Loomis has Pears of two years' growth on unfavorable variety of quince, not two feet high; would as soon think of putting them on oak; on the Angers frequently gets more than four feet the first season.

Mr Colby—Does well with him.

Mr Fahnestock—All varieties that thrive in New York may not do as well in the West.—Until within four or five years they had believed the books: that the Flemish Beauty would not grow on the quince; at that time they received an importation of Pear trees from Andre Leroy, of Angers, France; among them were some fine trees of it on the quince. They have since propagated it thus, and found it to do well. Considers Angers quince stocks preferable to any other variety for the Pear; the Upright quince is too slow a grower; others die out soon. The Angers keeps up very nearly with the growth of the Pear. When heading down budded trees in the spring, cut close to the bud; the wound then heals, and the bud and stock form a perfect union.

Mr McWhorter had fifty varieties on pear seedling roots, nearly all lost with the blight.—Flemish Beauty promised well for a time since blighted; common dry prairie soil, clay subsoil.

Mr Truesdell never lost a tree on pear root; sandy subsoil.

Voted to recommend as best for general cultivation.

Louise Bonne D' Jersey.—Mr Brayton has found the tree too tender for his soil and climate.

Mr Shepherd—Cultivated as successfully in his section as any; grows well on pear, and remarkably well on quince.

Mr Loomis raises more trees of this variety than any other; fruit generally first rate, not as good this year as usual.

Dr. Warder—Admired much for its beauty; flavor not quite as delicious as White Doyenne; best on quince. At Flushing, L. I., saw many specimens, all cracked badly at the core.

Mr A. Bryant has seen the same difficulty when raised on trees two hundred years old; fruit so much injured that not one could be eaten.

Voted very good.

Seckel.—Dr. Warder has never heard any objection to it, except that when trees are old the fruit is too small; flavor unexcelled, if not unrivalled. Tree uncommonly hardy, one of the best on quince; has had growth first year on thorn of fifteen feet in the aggregate.

Mr Shepherd thought it a doubtful variety on quince; slow grower.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy—Good grower, perfectly hardy, none better.

Mr S. Edwards—One of the best varieties to resist blight.

Mr Loomis—Very fair in our locality.

Mr Fahnestock—Fine on quince; grows as freely as on pear.

Passed without action.

Washington,—Passed as not sufficiently known.

Beurre Diel.—Mr Shepherd—A luxuriant grower, and promises well as a good bearer.

Mr Loomis—Grows well with him on quince; has many trees two years from bud, four feet high, that have fine pyramidal heads.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy—With him quite subject to blight.

Mr Fahnestock—One of the best growers; has one tree two years from bud, which bore forty-five Pears, like a medium specimen he presented. Taking all its good qualities into consideration, they consider it one of the best varieties; never had it blight.

Mr A. Bryant considers it quite subject to fire blight; cultivates on rich, dry soil, clay subsoil; has tried mulching without success.

Mr Stewart—Experience same as Mr Bryant's.

Mr Loomis—A few years since the blight was very bad at Rochester, N. Y.; the Beurre Diel was entirely exempt; experience same in Indiana.

Mr McWhorter—One of the first to blight with him; nearly all his trees have died of blight.

Passed without action.

White Doyenne.—Mr Brayton—A slow grower on pear stock.

Mr Loomis—Thrives well on "oak openings"; thinks more money can be made from a given number of trees of this variety than any other.

Mr Jennison—From a tree planted six years since had a fair crop this year for the first.

Mr Hanford has four trees that bore freely third year from graft. (Query, on quince stock?—Sec.) No symptoms of blight.

Mr Shepherd had fine specimens on tree two years from bud on quince stock.

Mr Ellsworth—Experience same; a fine grower, both on pear and quince.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy—Has blighted with him, though not as bad as some others.

Voted to recommend as best for general cultivation.

Prince's St. Germain.—Mr S. Edwards—with him very liable to blight.

Easter Beurre.—Both passed as too little known in the West.

Winter Nellis.—Messrs. Brayton and S. Edwards—Very liable to blight.

Mr Loomis—Succeeds well with him; grafts at the collar; considers it one of the best varieties.

Mr Jennison has fruited it, and esteems it highly.

Voted to pass it as good, but will not succeed in all localities.

Passe Colmar.—Mr Brayton has fruited it; considers it very promising; generally objected to on account of overbearing.

Mr. Hanford—Experience same.

Voted to pass as very good.

Early Bergamot (probably local name).—Mr Brayton has a variety under this name; tree hardy, bears early, fruit fine, of sweet and delicious flavor.

Mr Coleman has known several Bergamots; all but one variety quite inferior; one—he thinks same as Mr Brayton's—is fine.

No action taken.

Hosen Shenk.—Mr Fahnestock introduced as one highly deserving cultivation; fruit, size of Beurre Diel; ripens about the middle of August; supposed a native of Pennsylvania. Voted as best by Cincinnati Horticultural Society.

Sheldon.—Mr Watts has been acquainted with it at Rochester some three years; is there highly deserving of cultivation.

Mr. Loomis—A fine grower with him.

Recommended for trial in the West.

Des Nones.—Dr. Warder called attention to it. The Cincinnati Horticultural Society had it presented by Thorp, Smith, Hanchett & Co., of Syracuse, N. Y. It created a great sensation there, on account of superior flavor, and was voted one of the best of Pears.

Mr Fahnestock—The fruit is of good size, beautiful golden yellow color, dotted with darker spots. The Societies at Boston and Pittsburgh had the same action on it as at Cincinnati. They came in possession of it four years since from France. After its exhibition at Cincinnati, they received orders from there, the same season, for one thousand of the trees; sent to France for them—could not be obtained.—

They have the only nursery trees of this variety in Europe and America.

No action taken.

PEAR CULTURE.

President—The Pear, like the Cherry, must have dry feet; wants better soil than the Cherry.

Mr Loomis—The Pear succeeds well in his section, seldom fails; soil loose, gravelly loam; by adding plenty of clay in the holes—which are made of large size—at time of transplanting, the quality of fruit is improved; cultivates mostly on the quince; knows of several orchards of trees on quince, planted for market. His soil does not naturally furnish enough moisture; mulches with compost of coarse yard manure, ashes and clay. Best way he had tried on stocks troubled with leaf blight was to graft them with good hardy kinds the following spring.

Mr A. Bryant thinks manure, as mulching, would force growth too much in our rich prairie soil, thus inducing blight. The leaf blight has discouraged him from trying to do much at propagating the Pear; his stocks have been completely destoyed by it; prefers hay or straw for mulching.

Messrs. Truesdell and Ellsworth—Mice had been troublesome with them, when they mulched with straw or hay; had not been with Mr. Bryant.

Mr Overman—Oak saw-dust best article he has tried for mulching; green saw-dust would be too sour.

Mr Truesdell likes saw-dust for summer; thinks it would prove injurious in winter, retaining the water.

Mr Galusha—How would we get rid of saw-dust?

A member stated it was no trouble: dig it in the soil.

Mr Loomis—We have too much vegetable mould already; would prefer leached ashes.

President and Mr Stewart, of Ogle, have used leached ashes with good success.

President has a tree of Buffum in clay soil, sandy subsoil: used ashes; bears better than others.

Mr Dunlap has a Buffum Pear tree in a moist location; has never been manured; is healthy and fine. This variety always succeeds with him.

Mr Kinney—It has succeeded well with him, both on Angers quince and pear stocks.

Mr Minkler has formerly lost many stocks by leaf blight; this year planted two hundred, on ground trenched two feet deep, mulched with straw; have done well; others of the same lot, planted on unprepared soil, have died with leaf blight.

Mr Negus has planted seed on trenched ground; used plenty of manure from poultry yard and ashes; no trouble from leaf blight; grafted first winter; are now one year from graft, four to six feet high.

Mr Shepherd has known a liberal dressing of leached ashes to cure a Peach tree of the "yellows."

Mr A. Bryant has found worked trees liable to leaf blight, contrary to statements commonly made in works on fruit culture; has trees six to eight feet high troubled with it; has also seen the same difficulty in the Eastern States recently, both on pear and quince stocks; lose their leaves in summer, the following winter they are killed.

Mr Colman has seen them blight as badly in New York on quince as on pear.

Mr S. Edwards has tried several thousand pear stocks; never been able to raise but very few trees ready for sale; finds it his best plan to purchase trees ready for the orchard at Rochester.

Mr Ellsworth has lost ninety per cent. of all pear stocks brought from the Eastern States.—Last year imported a quantity of stocks from France; many of them were in bad order when received; those that lived have grown finely, and look remarkably well; no signs of blight; soil was deepiy trenched, heavy loam.

Mr Overman—Imported stocks have blighted badly as any with him. A few years since raised a lot of seedlings that succeeded well from seed saved from seedling trees of thrifty growth.

Mr Stewart, of Quincy, has cultivated the Pear fourteen years; never had leaf blight or heard of it in his vicinity until recently; trees have suffered severely two or three years since from fire blight. Manuring is very injurious with him; appear to do best where there is considerable clay in the soil.

Dwarfing on the quince does not always make trees bear young; he has one tree, ten years old, worked a foot above ground, has tied limbs down: never borne. Has one Pear tree on ground formerly occupied by a cistern, grew well and was healthy; others near were destroyed by fire blight. With neglected cultivation in nursery, have blighted least.

Mr Hathaway—The only serious trouble in raising the Pear tree in his vicinity, is its liability to have the bark blight and crack in winter; has known trees fifteen years old to die.—Trees trained with low heads seldom die, but they do very often when the trunk is naked six or seven feet; bark bursts on south-west side of tree.

President—Sap blight, probably frozen.

Mr Loomis—Low-headed trees are much less liable to be affected by the blight mentioned by Mr H. than when trained high; on quince stock not as often affected as on pear.

Mr Galusha has the Bartlett manured very highly; no blight; Flemish Beauty manured with leached ashes, without blight; others manured are blighted.

Mr A. Bryant—On rich prairie soil has found manure to occasion blight; of his original orchard of Apple trees, eighty in number, he lost about one half by mulching trees with manure in the fall.

[To be continued.]

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

New Insects.

Messrs. Editors:—Enclosed are some twigs of apple trees, cut from my trees—some set three years, and some one year this spring—You will please examine them and the insect in them, which have entered the fork of the bud and stock. Yesterday, on examining my trees, I found a black bug borer, about three-eighths of an inch long, which bores into the twigs about the size of a goose quill, entering always in a fork, or just above a large bud, and descend about an inch. They bore the pith entirely out, and thus must destroy all the small branches above them. Some trees are very much injured by them. To what extent they will destroy my trees I cannot tell, as it is early in the season, and they are entirely new to me. Will you, or some of your readers, inform me, if they know any thing about them, what will prevent their apparent ruin to trees if they continue, &c., &c.? Also, what is the best method of destroying the bark louse and green-leaf louse? W. B. Ransom.

Remarks.—This insect has not been observed before in this region of country. Some twenty-five years ago some specimens were sent to Dr. Harris, the distinguished Entomologist, from North Carolina. He has also seen specimens from Pennsylvania and Ohio. Dr. Say, of Philadelphia, gave the name of *Apate bicaudatus* to one of the specimens from North Carolina. Most of the specimens from this region differ somewhat from the description given by him of the male insect, in Vol. III., pp. 320–321 of the Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences. Most that we have seen may, however, be females.

The habits of this insect are not much known to Entomologists. It is, therefore, very important that all who have an opportunity should watch them closely, and note down their observations. We are indebted to Bradford Colley, of Beloit, as well as to W. B. Ransom, of Fon du Lac, for specimens, and to the latter gentleman for the preceding valuable observations in regard to them. We hope to hear further from him, as also from every other one who observes them any where. We hope our friends will take special pains to collect them from all the different kinds of trees upon which they may be found—keeping those from the same kind of tree separate from the others;—these can be put into small vials—Homœopathic vials do well for the purpose—and forward by mail to us, and we will remit the amount of cost in postage stamps. Will our friends remember this request? Send to S. P. Lathrop, Madison, Wis.

The insect will be readily recognised by the hole it makes into the small limbs, just at the axil or crotch, made by the leaf bud or small branch, and by its dark, rusty, brown color, almost black, being from two to three-eighths of an inch long. They may be found lighting upon the tree, and frequently in their holes in the stem.

There are several species of the *Aphate*, such as the *Bassillaris*, described in the 2d edition of Harris' work on Insects Injurious to Vegetation, page 81, which sometimes greatly injures the shagbark walnut in New England; the *Bicaudatus*, *Bicornis*, *Serricollis*, and *Asperricollis*. These all very much resemble one another, and may yet be found to be only varieties of one or two species.

We can, as yet, propose no remedy for their ravages, but the *bottling* of them and their eggs, for the editor of the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer. We hope this will use them up, at least bring the *buggers* under our control, and we will distribute only to those who wish the *bores*.

By a later communication from Mr. Ransom, we learn that they are found abundantly on other trees.

Early Harvesting.—As to the philosophy of early harvesting, Prof. Norton holds the following language: "The time of cutting grain very sensibly affects the proportion of fine flour and bran yielded by samples of it. Careful experiments have shown with regard to wheat, that when cut from 10 to 14 days before it is fully ripe, the grain not only weighs heavier but measures more; it is positively better in quality, producing a larger proportion of fine flour to the bushel. When the grain is in the milk, there is but little woody fibre; nearly every thing is starch, gluten, sugar &c., with a large per centage of water. If cut 10 or 12 days before full ripeness, the proportion of woody fibre is still small; bnt as the grain ripens, the thickness of the skin rapidly increases, woody fibre being formed at the expense of starch and sugar; these must obviously diminish in a corresponding degree, the quality of the grain being of course injured. The same thing is true as to all of the other grains."

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

We have few suggestions to make this month, as most will be naturally and necessarily led to attend to those things most important. The corn which has not, but should have been wed out and finished before this, must of course be attended to, and death dealt to the weeds which have sprung up in their last struggle for the mastery before being doomed. Try the sowing of turnips between the rows of corn, after it has been cultivated for the last time. Some get a good crop so. All the land vacated by the failure of any crops should now be put into buckwheat—so desirable and so delicious in the form of griddle-cakes in the winter. Haying, by those who take time by the foretop, will be promptly commenced and zealously carried on till the barns are all well filled—by those who have them—and till the stacks stand around the premises of those who are yet without barns, to more than the number of your grown up horn cattle—a sure guard and impregnable rampart to about every attack from their enemies. Do not be satisfied with poor slough grass, whose juices have long since been steeped out and washed off and carried away by the waters, warmed and vaporized by the sun's rays. We should as soon think of growing fat on the grounds of some old maid's tea-pot, as of keeping cattle on such trash. Read our article on Hay-making, and just try this year and see what a nice lot of nicely cured hay you will put up, and next winter your cattle and sheep will smile on you as a benefactor. *Under Haymaking* we might have said, that timothy may as well be cut just *after* the seed is formed, between the milk and dough state. We prefer good upland prairie grass to that from the sloughs; but we prefer good tame grass to that of any other. Grain is now becoming an object to save for the market; it is therefore desirable to have more and better grass and fodder for our cattle.

Most of the wheat is also to be harvested this month. Please notice the article in this number, on the time for cutting wheat, and if your experience has not taught you better than the instructions there given, follow them. Try to avoid as much as possible the getting of it wet, by cutting too much at once with the reaper, to be garnered before it is injured. That is our greatest objection to these reapers—there is such a tendency, and almost necessity, of laying prostrate whole fields of wheat at once. The matter should be so arranged, by those using the reaper, that hands enough should accompany it to bind and stack certainly before rain, and, if possible, to stack or garner it in barns.—Take great pains in stacking. More wheat is lost by carelessness on this point than most any other.

Don't forget the sheep, cattle and colts while you are so busy haying and harvesting, but see that they are properly salted—certainly as often as once a week—but don't take Sunday for it, for we should be sorry to know that any of the patrons of the Farmer—all such good men and true—should do such a naughty thing.—Don't let the calves or lambs get poor when you come to turn them off from their dams but watch them closely.

Look well to the garden, and see that it is kept clean of weeds; move the dirt among the currant and gooseberry bushes, and water them with liquid manure, though not too strong.—Cut off the ends of the tomato vines, and you will have larger tomatoes, and sooner ripened than otherwise, and more actual tomato. It is thought 90 per cent of the tomatoes grow within 18 inches of the ground, while 90 per cent of the vine, if left to mature, grows beyond this point.

This is the month to plant pits and stones of fruit. Budding may be commenced this month, taking the different kinds of trees as they come into season, (*that is when the bark of the stock separates freely from the wood,*) in the following order: Plums, cherries, apricots, pears, apples, quinces, nectarines and peaches. Sow salt around trees troubled with the curculio. During the fore part of this month, the grape vines should be summer pruned, that the fruit may be properly ripened in the fall.

Withal, don't let youngsters forget the chickens, young turkeys and goslings—though of the latter, or their ancestors, we are no great admirers. A *goose* or a *quack* ever so well *dressed*, is a poor concern about a farm-yard, or any other yard. unless it be the jail-yard.

Counterfeit Apple Tarts.—As soon as the pumpkins are about half grown, they are fit for use. It you wish to make a green apple

tart, grate up the required quantity of raw pumpkin, sweeten and spice the same as apple, and add to each pie about a quarter of a common sized teaspoonful of tartaric acid, or one teaspoonful for four pies.

Make this and bake it as though it were apple, and if you do not name the fact, no one will detect the counterfeit when you bring it on the table.

Counterfeit Sliced Apple Pies.–Slice pumpkins thin, mix your sugar, and add about the same proportion of tartartic acid as for the tarts, with just water enough to dissolve it; pour the solution over the pumpkin after it has been laid in the crust; spice it and dredge with a little flour, and cover it with paste as though it were apple, and when you take it out of the oven forget that it is not made of choice summer pippins, and it will take a nice taste to discriminate between it and the genuine article.

Counterfeit Apple Sauce can be made in the same way; but we find that a very nice article is made by taking about a fourth the quantity of crab apples and slicing and cooking with the pumpkin, and a few frost grapes, give a rich color and add a still finer flavor, almost equal to quince. The "*detector*" is of no use in these cases.

Stewed Vegetables.—The following recipes for cooking vegetables we find in the "Cook's Own Book":

Stewed Carrots.—Scrape and wash your carrots. Scald them in boiling water; then drain them and cut them into long slips. Stew them in milk or cream, with a little salt, pepper and chopped parsley. When done, take them out, stir into the sauce the yolks of one or two eggs and a little sugar, and pour it over the carrots.

Stewed Beets.—Boil some beets. Then peel and cut them into slices. Stew them for a quarter of an hour with a piece of butter rolled in flour, some onion and parsley chopped fine, a little vinegar, salt and pepper, and a clove of garlic.

Stewed Cabbage.—Having washed your cabbage, cut it in four, and throw it into boiling water with some salt. When it has boiled quite tender, take it up, squeeze out the water, and put the cabbage to drain. Then lay it in a stewpan with butter, salt, pepper, nutmeg, a spoonful of flour, and a half pint of cream.—Stew it a quarter of an hour, and pour the sauce over it when you send it to the table.

Cauliflowers may be stewed in the same manner. These are the only kind of *stews* proper for housewives.

To Boil Tripe.—Wash it clean and put it on to boil in plenty of water, with four or six moderately sized onions. When the onions are quite soft, the tripe will be boiled enough.—Serve it with the onions in a hash-dish, with a little of the liquor in which it has been boiled, and plain melted butter in a cup.

It will be greatly improved thus; about ten minutes before it is done, strain off all the liquor and replace it with a cupful of milk, roll a lump of butter in some flour, add a little chopped lemon peel, pepper and salt; mix all well together, and let it boil gently for about ten minutes. This way of dressing tripe is both cheap and delicious.

Bread Cakes.—Soak some crusts of bread in milk, strain them through the cullender very fine, beat in four eggs and a little flour, just enough to thicken the substance; add one teaspoonful saleratus, mix all up to make a thin batter, and bake on the griddle.

To Fix Carpets on Floors.—The foreign correspondent of the Newark "Advertiser," in writing from Florence, says:

"Here iron rings are fastened in the floors when the carpets are laid, and they have large hooks in the binding, for which these rings are eyes; so that there is no taking out and nailing of tacks, and carpets are raised and laid as noiselessly and easily as bed-covers."

Pumpkin Sauce.—Take four ripe pumpkins, cut them in pieces and boil till soft; then press out the juice and boil it down to molasses; then peel one pumpkin and cut it in pieces an inch square; pour the molasses over them and boil till soft. It should be boiled in smooth iron kettles.

Essence of Celery.—Steep an ounce of celery seed in half a pint of vinegar. A few drops of this gives a fine flavor to soups, and sauce for fowls.

Fire and Water-proof Cement.—Pour a pint of vinegar into a pint of milk; when the latter has fully coagulated. clear it of the lumps and let it settle, then mix the whole well together; now sift into the liquid quick lime, till upon stirring the whole we obtain a thick paste. This cement will permanently unite marble, eaathenware, china, &c.

Editors Table.

MR. NEWLAND'S APPOINTMENTS.—Many of our subscribers, and others, at Beloit, Rockford and Freeport, were probably disappointed in not seeing Mr. NEWLAND, the Strawberry man, with his plants, according to his promise. The reason why Mr. N. did not fulfill his appointments at the places here named, was his inability to supply any further demand for plants before fall. He came short of supplying the demand here. Mr. N. will be among you in the fall with a full cargo. Of his coming we shall give due notice.

"TERRA CULTURE."—We have received from some source, a half sheet filled with notices, puffs, &c., &c., of Russel Comstock's *terra culture* efforts, with notices that he is about to visit some towns in Wisconsin and other portions of the West. We are sorry to see that our farming community in this region are to be troubled with these *developements*, which our Eastern friends have found to be nothing else than rank humbug.

We had intended to have nothing to do with this matter of "terra culture," or its author; but when we learn of his determination to practice his deceitful and delusive *disclosures* in the midst of our patrons, we feel called upon by a sense of obligation to our friends to warn them of listening to, or trusting in the least to the inducements or promises which this arrogant quack may hold out to them. We would not risk the first red cent for all he has to communicate. We speak from no personal acquaintance with this Russel Comstock, or his disclosures, but from testimony of the well-informed to whom he has communicated his "disclosures." We have before us not only the testimony of the best Agricultural journals East, but of many private and distinguished Agriculturists to the fact of the whole matter's being a downright imposition. We would sooner tolerate the Canada thistle, Johnswort, and white-daisy, than harbor such a pretender in our midst. We would warn our agricultural friends to look well to their pockets, and hold fast to their common sense.

Since writing the above, we have had an interview with this "Terra-Culture Comstock," which has fully convinced us that he is not only humbugging the public, but himself also.—His extravagant declarations in regard to his theme, made to us, would convince any sane man in half the time, that he is laboring under a wild hallucination. They were too silly to be repeated; and we look upon the man with pity rather than contempt.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOR ACCLIMATION OF ANIMALS.—A Society has lately been organized in France, with M. Iradore Gloffroy Saint Hilaire, as President, to promote, (1,) the introduction, acclimation and domestication of species of animals, either useful or ornamental.—(2,) The perfection or multiplication of new varieties introduced or domesticated.

Foreigners may unite with this Society, and we are happy to learn that some Americans have already united with it. We have several animals in the United States which should come under the tutelage of this Society. Let them be brought forward.

DIMICK'S COMPOUND OIL OR SHEEP'S COATING.—We have received a can of this oil, which we have distributed to our patrons, and await their report of its value. It is highly recommended to us by the best Eastern wool growers, and claims the following excellencies:

1. It will produce from one-half to one pound wool more, per head.

2. It is a sure preventative of the wool's becoming harsh and dry.

3d. It prevents the skin from becoming parched and dry, and diseased therefrom.

4. It will destroy ticks and other vermin.

5. It prevents attacks of cold and influenza, preserving to the animal its natural heat.

6. It is a cure for the scab and other skin diseases.

7. It enables the animal to endure a greater degree of cold without injury.

A compound claiming these qualities, and so highly recommended by those who have used it, is worthy of trial. MILLINGTON & DIMICK, manufacturers, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

PROFITS OF SUB-SOIL PLOWING—In Sussex co., Va., Mr. J. Steward plowed up an antiquated piece of pottery in the form of a jug, containing about $5000 in gold and silver! That is the sort of *jug*-lery for farmers, and greatly surpasses all the *cornstock* revelations of the *terri*-culture Comstock.

☞ Two thousand seven hundred and eighty-four tons of copper were received at Sault St. Marie from the Lake Superior mines during the year 1853.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—We would refer the reader to the new advertisements in this number: Edwards, of Troy, has Suffolk Pigs for sale. Godey's Lady's Book commences a new volume this month; also, the Parlor Magazine. Read the Prospectuses and subscribe for both. Ruble, of Beloit, can supply you with Threshing Machines. A. P. & D. Waterman, of Beloit, advertise an extensive stock of Agricultural Implements and Hardware. Their prices are low. It will pay to go some ways to trade with them, if you want any thing they have got. To those who intend to take a trip East, the Michigan Central Railroad Co. tell you how easy and comfortable they can carry you.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, MASSACHUSETTS.—We received a copy of the above work long ago, and are guilty of laying it aside for a "convenient season" for an examination of its excellent articles, and it slipped out of mind. It has, however, lately made its appearance, and by a close examination we find it as good as ever. The article on the Cranberry is the best we have ever seen, and exactly right. The Secretary's "Review of the Past and Present Condition of the Agriculture of Massachusetts," is what we would like to see done in every State in the Union. The suggestions for improvement are good, and the Reports of the Committees to visit the different County Societies, contain much valuable information. The article on the Climate of New England, by J. C. Gray, is invaluable, as having established beyond a doubt the fact, that the climate of New England, and it is probably equally true of the other portions of our country, has not changed a degree, certainly, for a period of over two hundred years.

This Report is a valuable document to the Agriculturist. We congratulate the farmers of Massachusetts and the Board of Agriculture, that they have so able, efficient and excellent a Secretary.

TOWER'S ELEMENTS OF GRAMMAR.—Such is the title of a little work on Grammar, of 125 pages, with which we have been favored by the Author. After giving the work a thorough examination, we have no hesitation in recommending it as *better* adapted to the wants of new beginners than any other work we have ever seen. Grammar is, at best, a dry study for the beginner; hence, the more simplified and free from abstraction it can be made the better.

The object aimed at by the author of this little work seems to have been (and we think he has been astonishingly successful,) so to develope the principles of Grammar as to exercise the understanding; to derive those principles, one at a time, in philosophical order, from easy and familiar illustrations; to make immediate and repeated practical application of each, for permanently impressing the use of the same; and so to call into active exercise all the mental powers as to make this too often dry and ill understood subject interesting to the learner. Daniel Burgess & Co., publishers, N. Y.

WALWORTH COUNTY INDEPENDENT.—This is the title of a weekly newspaper recently commenced at Elkhorn, Wis., by A. L. & E. J. FARNUM. The Independent is a well filled and well printed sheet; and if the editors live up to the plan marked out in their Salutatory, it will be an anomaly in Wisconsin, and should be patronised. It won't follow the fashions.—We quote as follows:

"In politics, we are emphatically what our name indicates, *Independent*, disclaiming all connection with cliques or factions, advocating the interests of the entire county, and the principles of Independent Democracy.

"We shall not descend to low personalities, Billingsgate, or slang of any sort, in treating our opponents; but shall endeavor to treat with common courtesy all of whom we speak"

☞ It is said that North Carolina produces within its boundaries the staple of every State in the Union, and is the only one that does it.

☞ There are in the United States 983 banks, including branches; their joint capital stock is $299,724,955, of which $6,688,996 is held by foreigners.

☞ Russia came in possession of her territory in North America by right of discovery, in the sixteenth century.

☞ There are now completed or under contract, in Canada, fourteen hundred and eighty-seven miles of railroads.

☞ The bottom of Lake Huron, where the water is 420 feet deep, is above the level of the Atlantic ocean.

☞ A bill is before the New York Legislature to compel the cows to give pure milk and not milk punch, and to punish the milk-men for leaving their cans open when it rains.

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SUFFOLK & ESSEX PIGS.

S. **B. EDWARDS,** of Troy, offers for sale a choice lot of SUFFOLK and ESSEX PIGS, bred from stock imported by Lewis G. Morris, of Morrissiana, N. Y. They will be delivered, if requested, at Eagle Centre Depot *free of charge.*

All communications addressed to him at East Troy, Wis., will be promptly attended to.

East Troy, June, 1854. jy

PARLOR MAGAZINE.

TO THE FRIENDS OF WESTERN PROGRESS.

The PARLOR MAGAZINE is not a work presented to the public for the first time. It is not a mere enperiment, to test the probabilities of success which await a first rate WESTERN LITERARY JOURNAL. It has now reached nearly the close of the second volume, and has attained a circulation as unprecedented as it is entirely beyond the expectations of its projectors.

We shall commence our THIRD VOLUME on the first of July, with *largely increased resources, PECUNIARY* and otherwise, and we are resolved that the Magazine shall not be excelled, either in the quality of its matter, or its mechanical execution, by any Literary periodical claiming the favor of Western readers.

In soliciting a comparison between the PARLOR MAGAZINE and similar publications issuing from other sections of the country, we would ask the friends of Western enterprise a pertinent question. Are they content that Eastern Magazines shall forever enjoy a monopoly of Western patronage, or will they not resolve that the TALENTS and LITERARY ABILITY of their own great and flourishing West shall receive the same share of encouragement and fostering care which is, with a just and proper pride, accorded to its COMMERCE and MANUFACTURES? And we ask the question not in the spirit of petitioners, but to awaken a serious thought or two upon our duties and interests as citizens of a vast and growing community, whose resources for self support are unequalled.

It is time that the West should produce intellectual as well as physical material sufficient for home consumption. Much of its literary products contribute to enhance the value of monthly periodicals published elsewhere.—Let us try if they cannot find a like appreciation in the pages of HOME publications, on which the labor and capital of the West are expended.

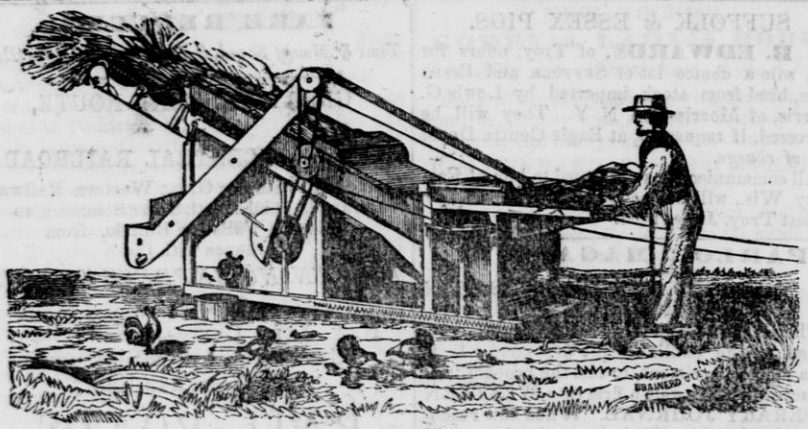
Look well into the pages of the PARLOR MAGAZINE. Examine the style and tenor of its articles; observe its size, its price, its objects; judge calmly of its claims to your support.

TERMS.—Two Dollars a year, in advance.

☞ We can furnish the back numbers of the present volume to all who may desire them.

JETHRO JACKSON.

jy 58 Fourth st., Cincinnati, O.



RUSSELL'S IMPROVED PREMIUM

THRESHING MACHINE.

The subscribers, for the last 16 years experienced Threshers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, would inform those engaged, or wishing to engage, in the business of Threshing, that they have for sale THRESHING MACHINES better adapted to the West than any ever before introduced. Together with the manufacturers we have improved from year to year, until we have the

Most Perfect Machine ever introduced in the United States.

The above is a cut of the Separator, which took the FIRST PREMIUM and DIPLOMA at the first Annual State Fair in Ohio, held at Cincinnati, October, 1850; also, at the second Annual State Fair, held at Columbus, September, 1851; and at the third Annual State Fair, held at Cleveland, in the fall of 1852, and at every County Fair where said Machine has been exhibited. In connection with these Machines, they offer for sale RUSSELL'S IMPROVED DOUBLE PINIONED CLIMAX HORSE POWERS—heavier and stronger than any Power heretofore introduced. Also, RUSSELL'S IMPROVED CARY OR PITT'S DOUBLE PINION PREMIUM POWER, which are greatly improved by new patterns one-third heavier than those heretofore manufactured. The shafts in both Powers are large and heavy, and are better calculated for the West, where Foundries are scarce, than any heretofore offered for sale. We will have patterns at Muscatine and Dubuque, Iowa, and Beloit, Wisconsin, should they ever be wanted. We will also have Woodbury's MOUNTED HORSE POWER. This Power, being mounted on wheels, saves the operator a great deal of time, as it don't require to be taken off the wagon. Unlike the Machines of other manufacturers, they are warranted not to throw dust in the face of the feeder, as it all passes out with the straw and chaff; the grain is conveyed from either side of the Machine with an Endless Augur; the Cylinders run on steel pivots ¾ of an inch thick, in brass boxes. All the Boxes and Binders, in both Power and Thresher, are lined with Babbitt's metal. In short, the subscribers are willing to test their Machines with any others manufactured in the United States. They are manufactured by C. M. Russell & Co., of Massilon, Ohio, who have been in the business 22 years. They have the very best workmen in their employ, and take all the pains possible in selecting their materials and improving their Machines. The Machines are all ready rigged for use, with belts, levers, rods and hooks. The subscribers will assist the purchaser in setting them in operation, and if they fail to give satisfaction in all respects when put in operation, the purchaser will incur no obligation to pay, and the Machine can then be returned. They will be sold on time by the purchaser giving approved notes, and can be had at G. R. WEST'S, Dubuque; C. WEED, Muscatine, Iowa; and at SIMON and HENRY RUBLE'S, three miles west of Beloit, Rock Co., Wisconsin. Any one wishing particulars, can address G. S. RUBLE, Dubuque, Iowa; SIMON or HENRY RUBLE, Beloit, wis. We might add hundreds of certificates and letters of recommendation from Pennsylvania, Ohio, &c., but deem the Machines themselves a sufficient recommendation. ☞ The above Machine will be shipped by Railroad from Chicago to Rock Island and Beloit, and delivered at any point on the Mississippi river, when ordered.

Beloit, June, 1854. G. S. RUBLE, SIMON RUBLE, HENRY RUBLE.

AGENTS.—J. P. ROGERS, Cedar Rapids; R. F. RINGER, Walnut Fork; A. H. MALLORY, Colesburgh; J. M. FRIDAY, Davenport, Iowa.

WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., AUGUST, 1854. NO. 8.

MARK MILLER, } Editors and Publishers.
S. P. LATHROP }

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

A Visit to Summit.

We have heard much in praise of the farms and farmers of Waukesha county, and of Summit in particular, and had long been wishing for an opportunity to visit them. This was granted us a few days since by an invitation from the President of our State Society, to witness the trial of a new Mower, which he was about to introduce upon his farm. Thanks to the railroad, by whose instrumentality we are made quite ubiquitus. A few hours ride thereon took us from the hot *musquito* kingdom of a feather bed in the University, to the cool hills and green fields of the valley of Rock river.—On our way, as the day dawned on us its grey light revealed to us the rich pastures, the broad meadows and fertile fields of Milton, Lima and Whitewater; while the fuller and more fervid rays of a brighter sun showed us the valley of the Scuppennury and the renowned Eagle Prairie, and the richer one just beyond—whose cognomen has broken loose from our memory's enclosure—when, lo! the neighing of our steed indicated our approach to the Genessee station, at which place we left the cars. Here we found our host, the President of the State Agricultural Society, all fresh in cool linen, putting aboard of the cars, to send off, some real Merinos. As we put our feet upon the landing, we noticed a large jar of fresh butter, and a couple of hams ticketed for Madison, which, upon inquiry, we found to have been brought from the *President's Mansion*—the "White House" in truth. After a salutation from our host, and a declaration on his part that the said Mower had not *arriv* according to expectation, we put our fixings aboard of his team, determined to *reap* some benefit of our trip, and had a pleasant drive of some half a dozen miles, passing thro' the neat little village of Waterville, and by the beautiful grounds and house of their district school, delightfully situated upon the banks of a pretty lake, having a nice carriage drive about it and among the trees. A gentleman is here employed as teacher, on a regular salary. Here, as our host rather archly informed us, he educated *his* children, which, to us, *then*, furnished a ready solution of his interest in the concern, and his proper appreciation of its importance. We afterwards, however, felt something of a twinging in the region of the midrib when, upon soberly enquiring of our hostess about the number, health, &c., of the younger members of the household, we were sedately informed, that no such personages had made their appearance on those premises! We, of course, who think as much of our children as we do of our lambs or our chickens (!) tried to commisserate their condition, and could but exclaim, how *sun*less!

After a thorough ablution and a round at the toilet, we sat down with our rural host and his excellent lady, to a dish of delicious coffee, enriched by the upper stratum of *Durham extract*, so different from the chalk mixture of city cans, and a plate of ham, well worthy of a farmer residence in some *quarter* of Suffolk or Berkshire, accompanied by Ceres' best gift—the whitened loaf—all served in enamelled pottery of the purest adamantine lustre, and upon a cloth of snowy whiteness, and in a room, too, of refreshing coolness, shadowed over by the clustering vines, and from which, by netting at the door and windows, were barred out all presentation of bills from representatives of the musquito tribe.

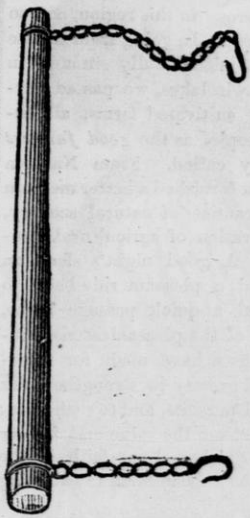
After a short *tete-tete* with the good lady of the house, and a female friend who was spending the day with her, and a pleasant introduction to a Mr. McCarter, brother of the partner of our host, and a well-informed gentleman withal, we doffed our beaver and laid aside our

ministerial Saxony, replacing them with the broad-brim Panama and the light grass-linen. Thus equipped as the law of nature directs, we commenced the tour of the farm, with our host as cicerone. The farm consists of a little over 800 acres, divided into fields of 40 and 20 acres. As we passed through the back yard, we observed the large piles of wood, all corded up near the wood-shed, in which were all the fixings for cutting and splitting the same for the stove and kitchen. Adjoining this yard was the garden, all fenced around and well attended to—proper regard being had in its arrangement for the table, furnishing it with the green vegetables of the season, and the small fruits so delicious to every well cultivated palate. How strange it is that so many of our farmers unwittingly deny themselves every good thing, and pertenaciously persist in feeding themselves and their families on dry husks, when their gardens and their farms, if they would but let them, would bountifully supply them with the choicest fruits and viands. In a corner of the garden we observed the "busy bee," hard at word, laying up its honied store for its magnanimous lord. This was on the right of the back yard. On the left was the dairy yard, in an extreme corner of which was the domicil of the *grunters*. This was very well arranged, being of two rather low stories, but of good size—the lower of which was divided off very well into pens for different purposes, each accompanied with proper feeding troughs, which were approached from the outside. The upper story was devoted to the storage of food, consisting of corn, meal, potatoes, &c. We were disappointed in seeing no arrangement for the cooking of food. We regard this a *sine-qua-non* to every feeding establishment, especially of swine. The hogs themselves, of which there were some twenty of different ages and sizes, were quite respectable looking, but would not have suffered, in our opinion, if there had have been a more liberal effusion of blood, from the high-bred Suffolk or Essex. Through a gate which moved easily on its hinges, with no "jarring sound" or "grating of harsh thunder," we entered the barn-yard, the great laboratory of fructifying elements to be used on the farm—superior to Mape's super-phosphate, and cheaper than Peruvian Guano, and more abundant and better for the farmer, if properly used, than either.—Here we saw the greater portion, (and all should have been, "but, &c.") was handsomely corded up and undergoing the desired fermentation, by which the course material will be reduced to a nice butryaceous or lardaceous mass, which will *cut fat* next fall or spring, and make the crops look "green."

We were much pleased with the arrangements of Mr. Edgerton's for his sheep, to whose care, it was quite evident, he had given more attention than to the other portions of his stock. From the barn-yard, north, runs a broad lane, in which his hay is stacked. From this there is easy access by the several small gates to the sheep yards, which are arranged, each with its shed, on the east side of the lane. The sheds incline downwards towards the yards, and are closed on the north and west by a close fence, while they are open to the south and east. The yards are separated from one another by high and close board fences. Between the yards open gates for the convenience of transferring the sheep from one yard to another when feeding. There are ten of these yards and sheds, each opening by its small gate to the lane, and each furnished with grain troughs, under the shed, and hay-racks, which are moveable, and by which, when it is desired, the sheep can be enclosed under the sheds. All of these yards are slightly inclined to the east. At the foot of these yards, by a side cut, pure and running water is brought from the Bark river, which runs near by. This never freezes, and to it the sheep have constant access. Mr. Edgerton wintered, last winter, 1100 sheep. These were divided into nine flocks, one yard thus always being vacant. At each feeding he always commences by putting the food in the vacant yard. This he can do without being troubled by the crowding about of the sheep. The sheep from the adjoining yard are then let into this first yard, when, with the same ease, he can place the food in the second yard, to which the sheep in the third are admitted, and so on through the ten yards. Each of these yards and sheds is abundantly large for one hundred or one hundred and fifty sheep. Each shed and yard cost about thirty dollars. On the opposite side of the yard is the sheep-house, where the sick may be attended to, and the various operations desirable with a flock of sheep, and all in a warm and comfortable place. During the winter, Mr. Edgerton feeds his sheep almost wholly upon clover hay, regarding it about as good fodder as can be given them. Out of this flock of 1100, we think he lost only five, and some of these killed by accident, scarcely any by disease.—We commend Mr. Edgerton's arrangements for his sheep, and his management of them, to the

consideration of all of our wool-growers. Mr. Edgerton's sheep are almost entirely Spanish Merinos, and those who saw his premium ewes at the late Sheep Shearing, need no farther notice of the quality of his sheep. We examined his ewes and stock bucks, and can say that we seldom see better. We never saw wool better put up, and in better condition, than Mr. Edgerton's, and any seldom of so good quality.

After having examined thus thoroughly this *sheepish* portion of the establishment, we made our way through the various fields of grass, grain, pasture, &c., &c., back to the house.—Most of the crops were looking very well indeed. We greatly admired a field of 40 acres of club wheat, which promises a very heavy yield, and one or two fields of very fine clover, just ready to be cut. The men were cultivating in one field 20 acres of corn. This was put in by a drill. Mr. Edgerton does not think well of this mode, from his experience. It can be cultivated only one way, and renders a great deal of hand work necessary. The color of the corn was a little too *golden* to suit our fancy; but our shrewd host remarked, that he planted *yellow corn*. This reminded us of the fellow's reply, when he was told that he would get only half a crop. He said he did'nt expect anything more, *as he planted to halves*. A couple of men were plowing, one with an ox, and the other with a horse team—both good specimens of farm teams. We were pleased to see that the best and most approved implements were used upon the farm. Of the plows used, the Double, or Michigan, Plow seemed to do the work best. Whose were the others, we do not now remember. We noticed a very simple contrivance for pulling stumps, which Mr. Edgerton says works very well indeed. It is so simple in its structure, that we commend it to those wishing any thing of the kind. It consists of a log of some strong timber, from ten to twelve inches in diameter at the larger end, and eight to ten at the smaller, and about sixteen or twenty feet long. To the larger end is attached a very heavy chain, about three feet long, with a very large and strong hook at the free end, while at the other there was a ring sufficiently large to slip over the larger end of the log or lever. To the small end of the lever a yoke of cattle is hitched. The manner of using it is as simple as the machine, and acts on the principle of some tooth hooks of the dentist. The large hook is caught hold of some of the stronger roots, and the cattle are then driven round the stump so as to wind up the short heavy chain, and then continue on in the even tenor of their way, till the stump gives itself and surrenders its position. Thus they are removed, easily and rapidly. A rough sketch of this "*cork screw*," as it was technically called, we here give. We are happy to know, that this is the only kind of "cork screw" found necessary to be used on these premises.



STUMP PULLER.

In our tour we saw some pretty good cows and brood mares, together with colts and young cattle. *Better*, however, might be introduced upon the farm, we think, with advantage.

Thus did we complete the circuit of the farm, and were well prepared to do justice to an excellent dinner, already upon the table when we returned. The time between dinner and tea was spent in discussing various agricultural questions, with a gentleman or two—*Otium cum dignatate* at full length upon sofas and lounges. We were wakened to a corporeal consciousness by a call to the tea table. We shall not soon forget those bouncing, blushing strawberries, *immersed* in delicious cream and sugar, of purest ray serene, and all dealt out in no stinted measures of hotel nicety, but in overflowing measures, pressed down and shaken together, which we hope will be meted to *us* again. After tea, in company with our host, his wife, and the lady above mentioned—to whom had been deeded on a former occasion, by our jocund host, quite a tract of land in section 37—we visited several other farms and places. That of Talbot C. Dousman, in Ottawa, seemed to be conducted much upon the same enlighteued principles of that of Mr. Edgerton. Mr. Dousman is also a distinguished wool-grower, and the improvements which are going on upon his farm, are of the highest order. We regretted that we had not time to look more into particulars. This we mean to do at another time. We also called

upon Mr. Worthington and his lady, who have a beautiful place and a small farm upon one of those lakes so numerous in this region, and so exquisitely picturesque. In going from thence round to Nashota, so delightfully situated in the embrace of the twin lakes, we passed several fine and highly cultivated farms, all belonging to white people, as the *good farmers* here are technically called. From Nashota home, dim moonlight furnished a better medium for admiring the beauties of natural scenery, than for exact observation of agricultural progress or prospects. A good night's sleep, an early breakfast and a pleasant ride back to Genesee station and a quick passage home, cleared up this, one of the pleasantest visits into the country that we have made for sometime. It has served greatly to strengthen our attachments to rural pursuits, and to rustic life; to enhance in our esteem the value and dignity of agriculture, and quickened our faith in the actual triumph of the husbandman in subduing the earth.

Wheat and Chess in one Head.

In the June number we inserted a letter from Prosper Cravath, (by a typographical error printed Granuth,) of Whitewater, stating that he had in his "possession a well filled head of wheat, with plump kernels, and on the stem of which, about in the middle of the head among the wheat, and attached to the same stem, a bunch of chess, containing four plump kernels."

When we were at Whitewater, at the Sheep-Shearing Festival, Mr. Cravath was so kind as to present us with this head of wheat, which seemed, certainly at the first sight, to settle the Chess question. We were desirous of submitting it to the highest authority in the United States. We therefore sent it to Dr. Asa Gray, Prof. of Botany in Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. We make no assertion in regard to *this* head of wheat, but submit to the perusal of our readers Prof. Gray's letter in reply, in full. At a late visit to Whitewater, Mr. S. Marsh, Esq., informed us that he saw last summer several heads of wheat of the same kind. We should be glad to be presented with other heads of the same kind for further examination.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., June 10, 1854.

My Dear Sir:—I have just examined the head of wheat you sent in your favor of June 3d. The "altered" florits are not *wheat*, but may well be those of the armless form of chess.

When I endeavored to trace the connection between this spikelet and the axis of the spike, it came off with its stalk, in a way that led me to conclude that it had been *artificially* or *accidentally inserted*, and had no organic connection with the wheat stalk. If you have any more specimens, examine them for yourself, under a lens; or, if you can, send me another specimen, and I will take care to conduct the examination in such a way as to make sure of the connection, if there be any, which I doubt.

Very truly yours,

Prof. LATHROP. ASA GRAY.

RAISING AND HARVESTING TIMOTHY.—I have often read questions such as these—best time to put in timothy, how to put it in, how much seed to the acre, when to cut it, and how to cure. 1st. Any time between the middle of September and the middle of October. I have raised good meadow by sowing the latter part of November. 2d. I never sow less than half a bushel of seed to the acre. 3d. I cut when the blossom is about to fall. 4th. What grass is cut in the morning, I turn over after dinner, provided the weather is fine with plenty of sun; if not, let it lay until the next morning or longer if the weather is not suitable. I will tell you how I do, if the weather is good. The next morning when the dew is off, I rake up into winrows that which was turned over the day before; after dinner I put it into cocks, say from 150 to 200 lbs. in a cock; the next morning I open them, and after dinner I stack it, or haul it in the barn.

I put in grass seed after oats or wheat; never sow any thing with it, as I have found out to my own satisfaction that it does better put in by itself. I sow no other kind of seed but timothy, as it brings the best price here. I plow my ground but once, 6 to 7 inches deep; harrow it once or twice according as it needs it, sow my grass seed and roll it in.

I should add, that I generally cut a first rate crop of grass the first season after the seed is sown, from $1\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 tons to the acre. I then let it lay three years and plow it up—put the land in with what you please; I put in corn the first year, then oats, and then grass seed again.

Quincy, Ill. JOHN L. MOORE.

A PAIR OF POLAND FOWLS.

"It appears probable," says Dickson, "that the Polish fowl is a hybrid between the Crested and the Spanish fowls. It is, however, quite unknown in Poland, and takes its name from some resemblance having been fancied between its tufted crest and the square-spreading crown of the feathered caps worn by the Polish soldiers. These fowls are exceedingly handsome, and remakably good for the table. The hens are excellent layers, and produce very large, finely flavored eggs."

There are three varieties of the Poland fowl—the *Spangled Polish*, the *Black Polish*, and the *White Polish*. "The *Spangled Polish*," says Bennett, "are birds of extraordinary beauty and extremely scarce." This fowl presents a symmetrical and regular combination of colors, namely,—a bright orange, a clear white, a brilliant green, and a jetty black, softened down with a rich and pure brown, every feather being tipped with white. The prevailing color of the hen is a golden yellow, with white spangles. In the cock the thighs are black, and are marked and spangled with black

and golden yellow. The *Black Polish* is the well known shining black fowl, with a pure white tuft on the crown. These are remarkably good layers, and have been styled by some, "Every day layers." The third variety is, in color, a brilliant white, with a jet black top-knot. These birds are extremely scarce,—Their qualities are the same as the black Polands, but they are esteemed more beautiful.

SAW-DUST AS LITTER.---The above material has been successfully introduced as litter for horses in Ohio, instead of straw, and may be profitably employed for this purpose when the latter article is dear.—The "Ohio Cultivator" contains the following remarks upon the subject: "Several bushels of dry saw-dust are thrown into the stall, upon which the horse stands during the night. In the morning it will be found that about a bushel has to be removed—one half of which is manure and one half saw-dust, so well saturated as to contain a large portion of amonia, performing the double office of absorbent and purifier; thus the air of the stable is kept pure, and the amonia saved for the compost heap. This compost Mr. Blake has applied to his stiff clay land, and reports that it operates like yeast, making the ground very light and mellow. In the morning that portion of the bedding which remains dry, is shoved up under the manger, to serve for an other night.

Another advantage from this material for bedding is that a horse which lies upon it is much easier cleaned off than one which lies on straw; the saw-dust entering among the hair brings away the secretions, when the curry comb and brush are applied, leaving a lively coat. In warm weather it has another great advantage, that of being much cooler than straw, so that a tired and heated horse can sleep pleasantly, without incitements to feverish restlessness. The establishment of steam mills in all parts of the country, renders the material easy of access to almost every neighborhood, and we doubt not, when its virtues are better known, it will be generally applied to stable use, as a means of comfort to the horse, and also of turning an otherwise useless article into profitable account."—[Scientific American.

☞ Put not off till to-morrow what should be done to-day.

HOME-MADE GUANO.—The following is from a communication to the N. E. "Farmer;" it will be useful to many of our agricultural readers :—

"Some years ago I thought I would try my luck in keeping a few hens. The house I keep them in is a rough concern. I put some crotches into the ground, boarded up outside and inside, then filled in by saw dust to make it warm. It is well lighted with glass windows, and well ventilated, and a small stream of water runs through it.—The roosts will accommodate about a hundred hens, that being the number I usually keep. Under the roost I throw three or four ox-cart loads of dry muck, chip dirt, &c., which I haul over two or three times a week with my manure hook. I bury their grain in it, and make them work for a living, which gives them exercise in cold weather. In the spring, I have a fine heap of home made guano. If there is anything imported that is better to make our crops grow, then I am mistaken."

ADVANTAGE OF WEEDING.—The following experiments, in England, show the advantages resulting from keeping the land clean:

1. Seven acres of light gravelly land were fallowed and sown broadcast; one acre was measured and not a weed pulled out; the other six were carefully weeded. The unweeded acre produced 18 bushels; the six weeded acres averaged 22½ bushels per acre—a gain of 25 per cent.

2. A six acre field was sown with barley, in fine tilth, and well manured. This weeding, owing to a great abundance of charlock, cost 12s. ($2 64) per acre. The produce of the unweeded acre was 13 bushels; of the weeded 28 bushels; difference in favor of the weeded, 15 bushels per acre, besides leaving the land in so much better order for the next crop.

3. Of six acres sown with oats, one acre plowed over and unmanured, produced only 17 bushels per acre. The rest plowed three times, manured and weeded, produced 37 bushels per acre. Of this increase at least 10 bushels may be attributed to weeding, and 10 bushels to the manure cultivation.—[Journal of West of England Society.

Stock Register.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Sheep Breeding, &c.,

Mr. Lathrop—*Sir*:—Being gone from home considerably of late, I have neglected answering your inquiries. To do justice to them would require a volume. I will answer them as briefly as possible:

As to the blood of the sheep you bought, I would say, that the Pedigree is *right*. Some twenty years ago, when *Merino sheep* were introduced *here*, they were of the Spanish breed; but by judicious breeding, a few of our farmers have succeeded in getting up flocks of a much better quality than their original stock. There is a great difference, however, in pure bred sheep. Two farmers buy ewes equally alike for goodness; one uses a small, light fleeced buck, worth $10; the other seeks to get a heavy shearer, *gummy fleece*, good constitution, &c., and an extra sheep—pays $300 for his sheep. Both are *pure* bred, male and female Let them breed in this manner ten years, what will be the difference in the looks and real value of the stock at the end of that time? It will be this: Their ewes at the commencement clipped 4 lbs. per head. The one that used the dry wooled, small buck, will have a stock that will shear from 4½ to 5½ lbs. per head. Not much improvement. The other has got up a much larger sheep, thicker wooled, better appearing, and one that shears from 6 to 8 lbs. per head. Now, one man's sheep is just as *pure* blooded as the other; but one sells his stock for $25 and $30 per head, while the other is glad to get $6 and $8. This, Mr. Lathrop, is the actual difference in blooded sheep.

I have been 20 years in improving my flock, and bringing them to their present *purity*, (if you please to term it so). The strict sense of the term, as it is often used, would be a hard matter to settle. I had rather speak of a man's *improvement* upon his original stock.

I think that our highest bred Spanish Merinos are superior to those that were formerly imported from Spain, &c. We have different classes of them, known by the names of the men that have improved them—such as Atwood's, Blakeley's, Hammond's, &c., &c. Some of their best ewes they hold as high as $100 each.

The first object, in order to raise a *good* animal, is good care and good *keep*. As a general thing, farmers do not half take care of their stock—sheep in particular. They get poor, die, and those that live through a long winter shear light fleeces, which makes the stock unsaleable; then the owner *curses* sheep, and calls sheep husbandry a *humbug*, when in fact he is his own punisher, and brings the consequences of his sin upon his own *head*.

I send you a circular about smearing sheep. I would advise it in all cases. Lambs in the fall, say September. A good dry shed to keep them from storms, and good keep, will pay you well. My Spanish ewes raised 125 per cent. of lambs last spring, and sheared me a little over six lbs. of washed wool per head.

M. Gilbert got his stock from Spain about 70 years ago, and has since that time been steadily improving on them. They breed for large carcasses, heavy fleeces, and medium quality of wool. I have been breeding full blooded French for seven years. I purchased the first that Mr. Taintor imported, and every succeeding importation, and think them the best sheep in America. I use a French buck on my Spanish ewes, and think it a desirable *cross*. They make good constitutioned, large sheep and heavy shearers, and good quality of wool.

I have sold quite a number in different parts of your State and Illinois. The purchasers in all cases are pleased with them. They are said to thrive well on your prairies. A sheep taken from here, when young, will be, when matured, from 25 to 50 lbs. heavier than if raised here. I believe that the mildness of your winters makes your State preferable for raising sheep to this.

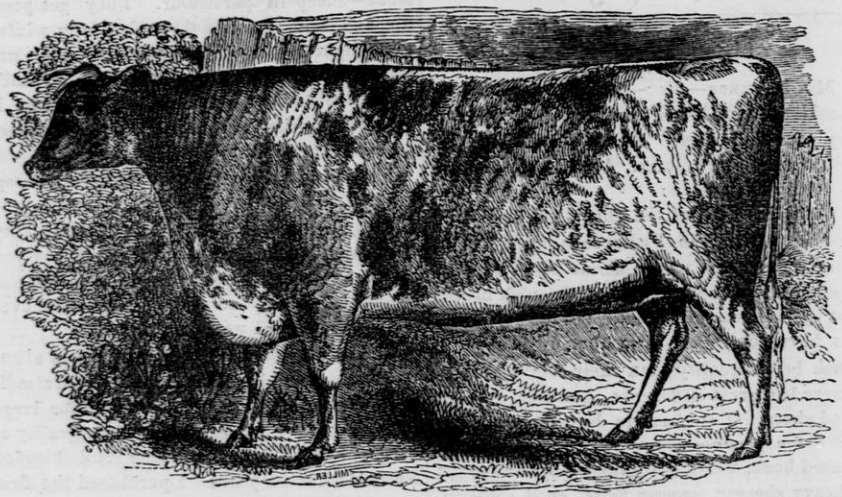
A good deal depends upon the proper management, care and crosses you make, to obtain a good flock and a reputation as a breeder. I should be glad to hear from you, and the prospects of your country in this branch of husbandry.

I am expecting a few choice bucks, from France, this spring, which I shall offer to the public, as I am raising and improving sheep continually. I am always ready to supply customers, or fill out orders. I am sending a good mady sheep to Illinois, Wisconsin, and all the Western States. Merril Bingham.

Cornwall, Vt., March, 1854.

☞ The chopping, or grinding of grain, to be fed to stock, operates as a saving of at least twenty-five per cent.

POINTS OF SHORT-HORNS.



A SHORT-HORN COW.

The Committee of the State Society, whose duty it was to report a scale of points to be used by the Society, at its Fairs, as a guide to the judges of the merits of different animals, have reported the scale adopted by the New York State Agricultural Society, of which the following are the points, with their numerical value, for the Short-Horns:

The numbers affixed to the points described, form the *maximum* that is to be allowed for each; and in proportion as the animal under examination is deficient in any point, so will the Judges decrease the number, even should nothing be allowed for that point.

Points which are characteristics, and therefore *common to a breed*, though very valuable in themselves, are marked comparatively low, because they are easily obtained and demand but little skill or attention on the part of the breeder; nevertheless, an animal not possessing the characteristics of *its own breed*, must of necessity be almost worthless. On the other hand, it will be observed that points of less value, perhaps, in themselves, but which are characteristic *deficiencies* in the breed, or at any rate difficult to sustain at their maximum excellence, are marked numerically high, as they go far to complete or perfect the natural excellence of the animal.

Again, for the above reason, it will be found that the *same* points, in *different breeds*, have different numerical values attached to them.

POINTS OF A SHORT-HORN COW.

PEDIGREE—Showing unbroken descent, on both sides, from known animals, derived from English herds, as found in the English or American Herd Books, and without this, an animal cannot compete in this class.

3 THE HEAD—small, lean and bony, tapering to the muzzle.

2 THE FACE—somewhat long, the fleshy portion of the NOSE of a light delicate color.

2 THE EYE—is of great significance, and should be prominent, bright, and clear—"prominent," from an accumulation of "adeps" in the back part of its socket, which indicates a tendency to lay on fat—"bright," as an evidence of a good disposition—"clear," as a guarantee of the animal's health; whereas a dull, sluggish eye belongs to a slow feeder, and a wild, restless eye betrays an unquiet, fitful temper.

1 THE HORN—light in substance and waxy in color, and symmetrically set on the head; the EAR large, thin, and with considerable action.

2 THE NECK—rather short than long, tapering to the head; clean in the throat, and full at its base, thus covering and filling out the points of the shoulders.

14 THE CHEST—broad from point to point of the shoulders; deep from the anterior dorsal vertebra to the floor of the sternum,

and both round and full just back of the elbows; sometimes designated by the phrase "thick through the heart." These are unquestionably the most important points in every animal, as constitution must depend on their perfect development, and the ample room thus afforded for the free action of the heart and lungs.

5 THE BRISKET—however deep or projecting, must not be confounded with *capacity* of chest; for though a very attractive and selling point, it, in reality, adds nothing to the space within, however it may increase the girth without. It is in fact nothing more nor less than a muscular adipose substance, attached to the anterior portion of the sternum, or breast bone, and thence extending itself back. This form, however, of the brisket indicates a disposition to lay on fat generally throughout the frame, and in this point of view is valuable.

4 THE SHOULDER—where weight, as in the Short-horn, is the object, should be somewhat upright and of good width at the points, with the blade-bone just sufficiently curved to blend its upper portion smoothly with the crops.

8 THE CROPS—must be full and level with the shoulders and back; and is, perhaps, one of the most difficult points to breed right in the Short-horn.

8 THE BACK, LOIN and HIPS—should be broad and wide, forming a straight and even line from the neck to the setting on of the tail, the hips or hucks round and well covered.

5 THE RUMPS—laid up high, with plenty of flesh on their extremities.

2 THE PELVIS—should be large, indicated by the width of the hips (as already mentioned,) and the breadth of the twist.

3 THE TWIST—should be so well filled out in its "seam" as to form nearly an even and wide plain, between the thighs.

5 THE QUARTERS—long, straight, and well developed downwards.

4 THE CARCASS—round; the ribs nearly circular, and extending well back.

3 THE FLANKS—deep, wide, and full in proportion to condition.

2 THE LEG—short, straight, and standing square with the body.

3 THE PLATES—of the belly, strong, and thus preserving nearly a straight under line.

2 THE TAIL—flat and broad at its root, but fine in its cord, and placed *high up*, and on a level with rumps.

2 THE CARRIAGE—of an animal gives style and beauty; the walk should be square and the step quick; the head up.

15 QUALITY—On this the thriftiness, the feeding properties, and the value of the animal depend; and upon the touch of this quality rests, in a good measure, the grazier's and the butcher's judgment. If the "touch" be good, some deficiency of form may be excused; but if it be hard and stiff, nothing can compensate for so unpromising a feature. In raising the skin from the body, between the thumb and finger, it should have a soft, flexible and substantial feel, and when beneath the out-spread hand, it should move easily with it, and under it, as though resting on a soft, elastic, cellular substance; which, however, becomes firmer as the animal "ripens." A thin papery skin is objectionable, more especially in a cold climate.

2 THE COAT—should be thick, short and mossy, with longer hair in winter, fine, soft and glossy in summer.

3 THE UDDER—pliable and thin in its texture, reaching well forward, roomy behind, and
100 the teats standing wide apart, and of convenient size.

POINTS OF THE SHORT-HORN BULL.

As regards the male animal, it is only necessary to remark, that the points desirable in the female are generally so in the male, but must, of course, be attended by that masculine character which is inseparable from a strong, vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible, but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

In contra-distinction to the cow, the head of the bull may be shorter, the frontal-bone broader, and the occipital flat and stronger, that it may receive and sustain the horn —and this latter may be excused if a little heavy at the base, so its upward form, its quality and color be right. Neither is the looseness of the skin, attached to, and depending from the under jaw, to be deemed other than a feature of the sex, *provided* it is not extended beyond the bone, but leaves the throat clean and free from dewlap.

The upper portion of the neck should be full and *muscular*, for it is an indication of strength, power and constitution. The spine should be strong, the bones of the loin long and broad, and the whole muscular system wide and thoroughly developed over the entire frame.

The Short-horns are heavy cattle, arrive early at maturity, fatten easily, and are small consumers in proportion to their size. The cows are generally good milkers, yielding a large quantity of rich milk, Their colors are "red or white, or a mixture of the two, combining in endless variety, and producing very frequently, most brilliant effect." Black, brown, or brindled, are colors which are not found among *pure bred* Short-horns; and whenever there is an appearance of *black*, whether it pertains to the hair or nose, it is a sufficient indication that the animal should be rejected, so far as it relates to its purity of blood.

Several fine specimens of this very desirable and excellent breed of cattle have, during the past year, been intoduced into the State. Beside those that we have noticed in previous numbers of the Farmer, Messrs. Ingham and Colvin, of Madison, have lately brought into the State some very excellent individuals of this kind.—We have not yet seen them, but others speak of them with much praise. We hope they will find further favor with our catttle breeders.

Dairy Cows.

Remarks made by F. S. Eldred, at the last Quarterly Meeting of the Rock Co. Agricultural Society.

The horse has been thought to be the most useful animal to mankind; but in this progressive age of Railroads and Telegraphs, it must be admitted that the cow is the more worthy of our attention. She furnishes us not only with the substantial comforts of life, but that without which our tables could be provided with but few delicacies.

If there is any part of farming that comes nearer than another to the old adage of the boy's eating his cake and having it too, it is the keeping of a *good cow*. She not only gives us the elements of our rich cheese and our golden butter, without diminishing in value, but she is continually adding fertility to our soil, which should not be lightly valued by any one who looks to the future prospects of our State as an agricultural district. If you admit that she possesses these qualities, how can we better spend a portion of our time, than by discussing the question how to improve the symmetry of her form and the quantity and quality of her milk, and the proper treatment by which it is turned to the best account.

I have not been led to regard the frame of the cow of so much importance as the form of the udder, the size of the milk veins, and other external marks, such as the quality of the skin, hair, &c. I am of the opinion that some breeds of cattle are far better for milk than others, and that any breed may be improved in the milking qualities by a proper course of treatment.

Probably there is no animal that has been so much improved in any one particular, by domestication, as the cow, in her capacity for giving milk. In a wild state her udder is small and shrinks into an insignificant compass when the duty of suckling is over. But when domesticated and kept for the sake of her milk—and that is drawn from her by artificial means—the milk-secreting vessels enlarge, and the udder expands, so as to become a prominent feature in the animal. In this manner, by constant exercise, the capacity of the cow for giving milk has been permanently altered and rendered more suitable to the demands which we are constantly making upon her. If we would still improve our cows as milkers, we must follow out what has thus been commenced. Failing to do this, in my opinion, many in this and other countries are failing to improve their otherwise choice breeds.

It is thought by many of our importers of stock, and by some of our best stock growers, that in order to raise a good calf it is necessary to let it run with the cow through the summer, and perhaps, in the meantime, suckle it on another nights and mornings. Others adopt this course for the reason that it is less trouble to let the calf do its own milking rather than do it for them. Most of those with whom I have conversed on this part of stock raising, justify their course by saying, it is the way that Nature designed, and that we must not attempt to improve the laws *she* has laid down for our guidance.

If this natural course is the best to make *large milkers*, why is not the udder of the cow as large in her wild state as when domesticated? I might add, that if this course, which is thought to be indicated by nature, should be practiced upon with any breed of cattle, I care not how high their reputation as milkers, through a few

successive generations their standing as dairy cows would be exceedingly low. I have no objection to this course, so far as the calf is concerned; but I lay it down as almost an infallible rule, that it is ruinous to the cow as a milker.

If butter and cheese are items worthy the attention of the Agriculturist, should not this part of stock growing receive more consideration at our hands? Some cows are better for yielding rich milk than others; and some give a large quantity, while it is poor in quality. The daryman then must first consider whether he wants quantity or quality. In general, near large towns, where the demand for milk is great, the object of the dairyman naturally is to keep cows which will give a large quantity, without so much regard of what sort it is. For those who go for this, and yet have some honest scruples left about resorting to the *pump*, the old-fashioned, large framed, big boned Holderness would be the best. But the manufacturer of butter and cheese wants *quality* and *quantity* both.

As far as my own experience goes, I have found our native cows, as milkers, full equal to the improved breeds; though *some* of the best milkers I have ever known were a cross of the full blood Short-horn Durham with our best native cows. I think that our full bloods, especially the Durham, can be greatly improved as milkers by proper management, and that in a few years they might be made to stand without a rival as cows for the *pail*.

Among our native cows are many superior milkers, and many individual cases have been found which were equal in yield of milk and butter, to any registered in the Herd Books.—For instance, the Cream-pot breed, built up by Col. Jacques, of Charlestown, Mass., whose calves are be-spoken at $100 each. The celebrated Oaks cow, of Danvers, that gave on evidence, satisfactory to the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, 484 lbs. of butter from the 5th of April to the 25th of September. And the wonderful prize cow Kaatskill, property of Mr. Danielson, of Blithwood, N. Y., which received the prize of the New York State Agricultural Society at Poughkeepsie, in 1844, on satisfactory evidence that she yielded, when kept on grass only, 38½ qts. of milk per day; and that from the milk given by her in two days, 6½ lbs. of butter were made—being at the rate of 22¾ lbs. per week. When such cases turn up, almost by chance, why may not a breed of superior milkers be established, and confidently *relied* upon, as it is known that *like* produces *like*?

The way of turning milk to the best account must depend, in a great measure, upon the situation of its producer, as regards market convenience and conveniences at home, &c. If an individual is so situated that he can sell his milk for two cents a quart, as taken from the cow, he will find it more profitable than to manufacture it into butter or cheese, at the present prices, or as prices have ranged for the last ten years.

Of the particular mode of manufacture of either butter or cheese, I do not intend to speak. It would take too much of your time, giving you little or no profit. Rules for the dairy should be very minute—and then we need the school of experience, to become proficient in this branch as well as any other branches of Agriculture. However, I do not wish to be understood that it is peculiarly difficult. It is not. With a little practice, a reasonable amount of judgment, and a *good sprinkling of perseverance*, you need not fear. I think that our Agricultural communities have not given this branch of business the attention it demands. As a State, we do not make our own butter and cheese, (or cheese, at least); and as to the quality, that it is not what it should be, most will admit. It would be well for us to *took*, *talk* and *think* more upon this matter. The importance of making good butter, that will keep for a long length of time, has been, I believe, entirrly overlooked by us, as a Society; and I would inquire, whether it would not be well to offer a large premium for the best May or June butter?

Brother Farmers, I leave this subject—having merely touched on its importance, and given a few general hints—for your consideration, hoping that it may fall into more competent hands, and be thoroughly discussed, so that it may prove a lasting benefit to our Society; and through this means our land be made to flow, not only with milk and honey, but with butter and cheese of the richest quality.

GRASSES.—The subject of grasses, which appears to have been hitherto neglected, is now attracting considerable attention. Plenty of good grass is at the root of all improved cultivation. "Without grass, no stock, without stock, no dung, without dung, no crops," says the Belgian.

☞ Punctuality in engagements, is as necessary to an agriculturalist, as it is to a merchant.

Horticulture.

A Few Hints on Pinching.

"Train up a child in the way he should go," is a venerable maxim, and one that all good parents endeavor to carry into practice. Trees, like children, require training in their youth; the wise and skilful cultivator should aim at giving every shoot and branch the right direction while young and pliable, and nip every defect or deformity in the bud. The practice of too many who plant and cultivate trees, is either to prune them once a year, say in winter or spring, or else leave them entirely to nature; the consequence is that unless in rare cases where nature has endowed a tree with remarkable qualities as to regularity of growth, they grow up without that balance and symmetry which is always pleasing to the eye and necessary to their vigor, longevity, and productiveness. It should be well understood by every man who plants a tree, that from the moment it begins to unfold its leaves and develope new shoots, it requires constant care. This is especially the case with garden trees, which ought always to be beautiful as well as useful. We do not mean that a man should continually busy himself among a few trees, or waste his time in frivolous operations, as though they were a hobby-horse which he had nothing to do but ride; we can countenance nothing of this sort, but we insist upon constant discriminating care, a look over the trees once or twice a week, in order that every defect of growth, attack of insects, accidents, or diseases may be timely discovered and the proper remedy applied. There is economy in this, if people but knew it, and all experienced cultivators do know it.

The chief remedy for defects of growth during the growing season is the operation termed *pinching*—nipping with the finger and thumb, [*Fig*, 1.]

(Fig. 1) the soft sheets. The practical part of this operation is plain enough, but the particular time at which it ought to be performed requires both judgment and experience, in order that it may accomplish the end aimed at.—Pinching is applied to all trees and plants to improve or modify their forms. The plant grower who aims at producing strong, bushy, well formed plants, arrests the tendency to grow tall and lean by commencing with his young plant when only a few inches high; and he follows up this pinching or stopping at regular intervals in the plant's growth, until he has secured such a profusion and regularity of lateral branches as to make his complete plant a wonder. Such plants are the most striking examples of the influence of the pinching process that we can find in the whole range of horticulture. But this plant grower applies the finger and thumb in season—he does not wait till his plant has grown tall and misshapen, and then go to work to reform it. As soon as he sees well formed buds in the axils of the leaves, he knows that by stopping the terminal growth these buds will be forced into growth, and produce lateral shoots.

In the management of trees we find it very common for one or more branches to start with an undue share of vigor, and weak- [*Fig*. 2.]

en all other parts of the tree by drawing and appropriating all the nutriment to themselves. A slight bruise or a bend, perhaps, will lead to the development of one of these branches at a point where no branch is required. Fig. 2 represents an instance of this kind. The tree became slightly bent, and this arrested the continuous flow of sap toward the summit; the consequence was the development of a very strong shoot, what the French dessignate very properly as a "*gourmand*." It controlled the whole tree, and left it at the end of the season in the misshapen condition represented in the cut. Now the careful cultivator would have observed the first symptoms of these results; that strong shoot pushing out with such undue vigor would at once have attracted his attention, and he would have placed his tree in an upright position, to aid the regular ascent and free circulation of the sap, and have checked this misshaped shoot, and thus secured an equal distribution of growth that would have

left him at the end of the season with tree something like fig 3.

[*Fig.* 3.]

In the management of trees trained as dwarfs, pyramids, or espaliers, pinching is an indispensable operation. In almost all trees there is a natural tendency to grow most vigorously towards the top and at the extremities of the branches, and this requires to be kept in continual check during the growing season, for if one portion of a tree be permitted but for a short time to grow more vigorously than the others, the balance is destroyed and much time and severe measures are required to restore it. In the case of young trees that have been cut back for the purpose of producing the pyramid form, it often happens that three or four buds at the summit push so vigorously as to draw all the sap from those below them, and a tree somewhat like fig. 4 is produced. Now if the uper shoots next the leader had been checked by pinching, the lower branches would have been favored, and we should have got a tree like fig. 5.

[*Fig.* 4.]

[*Fig.* 5.]

In this way, under a great variety of circumstances, pinching is applied to counteract the defects of pruning and of growth. At this time the young shoots of trees are pushing vigorously, and when they have attained say two inches in length, a selection may be made of such as ought to be preserved, and all others that have a vigorous appearance may be checked at once. All superfluous shoots, however, do not need pinching; there are a large number that never attain any considerable dimensions, and may be left entire. These are easily distinguised by the slenderness and smallness of their base. It would be improper to pinch these, as they do not affect the growth of leading shoots, and aid in maintaining the growth and strength of the parts where they are situated; besides they generally assume the character of fruit branches in a year or two, and may be pinched to good account.

It should be remembered, that pinching has always a greater influence when applied early. If we wait until we see plump, well formed buds on the shoots, the pinching will have comparatively little effect, as the buds rest, the pinched end will immediately push, and the prolongation of the shoots will be but little retarded. But if pinched before the buds are formed perfectly, it takes them some time to effect their growth, and by this time the flow of sap has been, in a great measure, diverted into other channels; and even if the buds do break, the shoot does not acquire much extension, as it most generally becomes a *fruit branch*. It is on this principle that pinching is performed to promote fertility; sometimes very bad results follow *late* pinching. Towards autumn a shoot furnished with well formed buds is checked, and immediately several of these buds push and make weak, watery shoots that are killed by the winter. These results are often produced by cutting scions for buds in the months of August and September. In some cases when the tree is naturally disposed to early fruitfulness, the buds become fruit buds; but in very many cases they start into growth. Grape vines are very often urged into this anticipated growth by stopping the canes at an improper period.—This is a point that demands particular care in the management of both trees and vines.

We have touched somewhat minutely upon this subject, in order to answer the queries of several correspondents. We should gladly give more ample explanations if space permitted, but we think the hints we have thrown out will enable intelligent amateurs to prosecute the summer management of their trees with some measure of success. One thing we must impress upon all who attempt to control the growth or forms of trees, which is, that they must study well the laws of growth in general, and the particular mode and habits of growth and bearing of both species and varieties. This will appear quite evident to all who will take the trouble to observe how much difference there is between the opening of both leaf buds and blossoms on different varieties of the same species. One variety of apple will have made shoots two inches long before another has opened a bud. The *Northern Spy* is as much as ten days leafless after many other sorts are green. The *Belle d' Orleans* cherry is in leaf and blossom ten days before many others. We quote these instances merely to draw attention to this interesting and important point.—[Horticul.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 160.]

PEACHES.

Mr. Brayton thought it the best plan for the Convention to dispose of them summarily, by passing different varieties without discussion or action—the crop is so *certain* to *fail*—budded trees more tender than seedlings. He made a motion to this effect.

Mr. Hanford differs materially from this view of the importance of Peach culture, living in a more favorable climate, where Peaches can be successfully cultivated; Snow Peach and some others more hardy than many seedlings.

Mr. Stewart—At Quincy the Peach crop is of much consequence, as all varieties succeed well.

Mr. Jennison hoped the motion would not pass. People in his section of country were deeply interested in Peach culture. Commencing July 25th with Crawford's Early, they have a full supply of fine luscious Peaches until severe frosts. During the severe winter of 1851–'52 many trees were killed, an occurrence that seldom takes place. Some budded varieties more hardy than seedlings. Sold budded varieties at $2 a bushel, when seedlings were ten cents.

Mr. Brayton withdrew his motion.

Mr. Hathaway—Peaches pay for cultivation with him; had many choice varieties, some of them seedlings, inferior in quality to none. Of budded varieties, had lost by winter killing all but Early York and Crawford's Early. Seedlings prove hardiest with him; recommended planting seedlings from choice varieties. Location of orchard formerly timbered, but similar to prairie; strong loam.

Mr. Loomis—In his section the cultivation of Peaches is one of the most important branches of Horticulture. Prefers budded trees; has seen no seedlings that will compare favorably with Grosse Mignonne, Crawford's Early and Late, Early Tillotson, or George IVth. The Grosse Mignonne is the finest fruit he is familiar with.

Mr. Hanford—There are trees in his vicinity twenty-four years old, in good condition; with him cultivated varieties hardier than seedlings. Thousands of bushels of seedlings were rotting on the ground in his vicinity, which, if budded, would find ready market at good prices. Grosse Mignonne one of the best. Would advise a slight elevation in selecting location for Peach orchards, to escape spring frosts.

Early Rose.—Has ripened with Mr. Stewart, at Quincy, the 12th of July.

But little known to other members.

No action recorded.

Crawford's Early.—Generally known, and all familiar with it speak highly of its good qualities in fruit and tree.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Early Barnard.—Mr. Coleman—A very productive and hardy variety; ripens second week in August at Peoria.

Mr. Stewart thinks he has the same variety, without name; esteems it very highly; under medium size, yet more deeply flushed.

Several other members concurred in above expression.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Early York.—Mr. Hanford—First rate; too profuse a bearer; its only fault; when it bears a full crop, had better be thinned out while fruit is small.

Above expression concurred in by many other members.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Early Tillotson.—President—A shy bearer.

Mr. Dunlap—Proves so with me.

No action taken.

Large White Cling.—Mr Dunlap—With him the *very best*, better than Old Mixon.—This and the Tippecanoe are the only clings he intends to cultivate.

Voted worthy of general cultivation.

No action was taken on the Tippecanoe Cling, as Mr. Dunlap was the only member in at the time who is familiar with it.

Early Strawberry.—Recommended highly by Mr. Dunlap and others.

Voted as superior to Old Mixon, free, which ripens at same season.

Mr. Stewart spoke highly of a Peach cultivated at Quincy, under name of "Heyworth;" always bears when seedlings do; sells for a dollar a bushel, when seedlings sell for a dime.

Crawford's Late.—Well known.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

George Fourth.—Mr. Dunlap believes that there are spurious varieties cultivated under this name; thinks his genuine; fruit angular, many of the leaves have no glands; a superior Peach.

Messrs Hanford and Jennison—Their fruit, and opinion of it same.

Voted as best for general cultivation.

La Grange.—Messrs Stewart and Jennison consider the best late variety.

No action recorded.

Heath Cling.—Mr. Stewart—Good at Quincy; ripens well; very valuable for preserving.

Mr. Hanford—Does not ripen oftener than once in six years.

Mr. A. Bryant—Bears as well as any budded variety; ripens late, if at all.

Dr. Warder—Had supposed it would not ripen north of Cincinnati; does not always mature well there; at Louisville is a superb fruit, thirteen inches in circumference.

Mr. Coleman has had it in perfection at Peoria; been offered four dollars a bushel for them, delivered at St. Louis.

Mr. Jennison—Late with him.

Voted too late in ripening for the North.

Mr. Harkness—In the winter of 1843, every Peach tree over two years old, in cultivated

ground, in Peoria county, was killed; in grass land were not materially injured.

Gov. Bebb—At Hamilton, Ohio, has found the hard-shelled Almond a more hardy stock to bud the peach on, than Peach seedlings; has known trees thus propagated to survive severe winters, when those budded on peach seedlings were all killed.

Mr. Dunlap—A word on the degree of cold the fruit buds may endure. A neighbor of his had a fair crop on trees in grass lands two years since; the winter previous, thermometer indicated twenty-two degrees below zero.

Mr. Shepherd has had Peaches on high location, sloping to north-east, when mercury had fallen to twenty-six degrees below zero; a tolerable crop when it had stood at sixteen degrees; though they were generally killed when it fell as low as twelve degrees. His trees are cultivated.

Mr. Harkness—Believes the severity of cold in winter, alone, has little to do with the loss of Peaches. Late and immature growth in fall, warm weather starting the buds prematurely, are, in his opinion, the chief causes of the failure in Peaches.

Mr. Ellsworth—Cold in winter has less to do with loss of Peaches than the state of the buds when they enter winter quarters; we must retard the swelling of the fruit buds in early winter.

Mr. Loomis—Peaches need cultivation in his locality; are as hardy and productive as in New Jersey; thinks ground should be kept as clean as for dwarf Pears.

President—Recommended Beans as a good crop to plant in Peach orchard.

[*To be continued.*]

☞ It costs no more to raise one hundred bushels of merchantable apples, than the same quantity of choke-pears or indifferent cider apples.

SALT FOR QUINCES.—If you wish your Quince bushes to bear plentiful crops of large and golden fruit, train them with a single trunk and a low bushy head, leaving no shoots or suckers to draw their nourishment from the main stem. Then dig up the ground well in spring or early summer, and scatter from two to four quarts of salt over the surface as far as the roots extend; after which, spread a thick layer of straw or forest leaves around them, and they will take care of themselves until the fruit harvest, when you will be amply repaid for all your trouble. It may be necessary, however, when the fruit is well set on the branches, to thin it out somewhat, leaving only the fairest and best formed specimens, evenly distributed, to prevent the limbs from breaking down with their burden.

Fine Fruits.

Our thanks are due Mr. Geo. Peffer, of Pewaukee, for a very liberal present of fruit, consisting of Gooseberries, Currants, and Raspberries The currants and gooseberries were fine; as to the raspberries, we cannot speak from a practical test, being from home at the time, and for several days after their receipt; but we have the assurance of our *better half* that they were nothing short of number one, *Red Antwerp*. Some of them measured 2¾ inches around. The amount received, (about a quart,) Mr. P. says, was the product of a single picking from ten stalks transplanted last spring.—Here we have an illustration of the ease with which every family, in possession of a square rod of ground, can supply their table with one of the most delicious fruits that grow. The raspberry will grow and flourish in any position, only give it a rich, dry soil—at the side of the garden fence—close up, where scarcely any thing else will grow—at the sides of the buildings, in or out of the shade.

Two varieties of the gooseberry, (cuts of which are here given,) Mr. P. says, are three years from the seed, sent from Germany in a letter. They are new to us.

Fig. 1. *Fig.* 2.

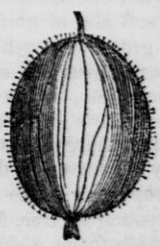


Fig. 1. Pale yellow, thin skin—smooth as glass, very transparent throughout; sweet flavor. There was also a purple specimen like the above, except in color.

Fig. 2. Deep purple, thorny; skin thick; rich flavor—much like that of the strawberry.

Both varieties were imperfectly ripened, having been picked from the bushes rather green, so their true qualities could not be determined. Houghton's seedling, sent on the bush, were shaken off before they reached us. Our bushes have not borne a single berry this season.

☞ In Buffalo, one firm alone sold and shipped over 4000 barrels of apples last fall.

How do the Trees Grow?

Mr. Editor:—We have had in this neighborhood, lately, quite a controversy, and we wish you to decide it. The question under debate is this:—Does the trunk of an apple tree grow any in length? Supposing a limb should be three feet from the ground, when the tree is five years old, will it be any higher at ten years old? Or will it ever be any higher? If you, or any of your correspondents, can settle this question, one mooted point will be cleared up.

Topsham, June, 1854.

Note.—We never could perceive any lifting up of limbs after the first year's growth. There are two kinds of growth in vegetables, one from within and the other from without. A cat-tail flag, Indian corn, &c., grow up from within. Cut one of these flags off now in the morning, and before night you will find it pushing up from the centre. A tree grows from the outside. It increases by layers placed by action of the leaves on the outside. The buds in the spring push out a growth from their centres, which is a growth of length. It has a pith, and wood, and bark, and from the pith push out eyes or branches. There is but one circle or layer in this,—the wood is soft and of uniform texture, and this year it grows in length and breadth, and at commencement of winter it stops. In the meantime, it has sent downward, over the last year's growth, a layer or circle of sap, which hardens into new wood, and thereby has increased the diameter of the tree in proportion to the amount deposited. Take a young fir tree, for instance, the body of which forms a sharp cone, and split it carefully through the centre. You will find the several circles showing themselves at the base, and coming nearer together until those of each year run together and come to a point, and the length of space between the spot where they meet and the point is the growth in length for that year, built up from the tip of the previous year's growth, which previous year's growth has remained stationary. Thus it is built up, cone upon cone, the interior cones becoming solidified and the pith obliterated.—[Maine Farmer.

Renovating Old Grape Vines.—The best mode of renovating an old grape vine, is to make bare its roots for several feet around the stem, remove the ground entirely, and then apply two or three bushels of bones, which should always be preserved about a place for this purpose, partially broken up; and on the top of these add from one to two bushels of wood ashes, according to the size of the hole to be filled, mixed with some hog manure and rich soil. In one year should this plan be pursued, a marked change for the better would be produced.

In pruning an old grape vine which has been allowed for years to take its own course, it should not be topped too short, the first year. About 12 or 15 feet, according to size, should be left to remain; the lateral branches should be thinned out to one or two feet apart, and at that distance tied to the trellis firmly. The fruit bearing twigs found upon these should be pruned down so as to allow about three buds to each;—and the work is done.

The best time to prune is at any period before the sap begins to circulate—say in January, February, and first half of March.

No external application to the branches will help their productiveness. Soap-suds applied to the roots plentifully, on washing days, are of great advantage.—[Germantown Telegraph.

California Wine.—Considerable quantities of wine are made in Lower California, and the article is manufactured from the *pure juice* of the grape, which is extracted something after the Madeira fashion. The San Francisco Advertiser says that the grapes are thrown into a small box, about the size of a candle box, perforated at the bottom with numerous small holes. An Indian steps barefoot into this box, and tramps out the juice, which flows thro' the holes into the receiver beneath. The wine thus produced is very sweet and good.

Currant Bushes.—Prune Currants in the winter to have them large; keep the heads open, and the roots clear of suckers and superfluous shoots; give a good dressing of manure in the autumn, at least once in every two years, and keep the ground clean and loose around the plants till after the fruit is ripe. This is something like the way to obtain large and fair fruit.—[Exchange.

☞ Duhamel asserts, that fruit grown on standard trees, is far superior, in all cases, to the same variety of fruit raised on espaliers or walls, or in any other way.

The Apple Tree Bark Louse.

Annexed we present a sketch of the Bark Louse, which is doing more injury to the apple tree than any other insect. Dr. Harris, in his treatise on insects, says:

"The limbs and smooth parts of the trunks are sometimes completely covered with these insects, and present a very singularly wrinkled and rough appearance from the bodies, which are crowded closely together. In the winter these insects are torpid, and apparently dead. They measure about one-tenth of an inch in length, are of an oblong oval shape, gradually decreasing to a point at one end, and are of a brownish color, very near to that of the bark of the tree.

The first account that we have of the occurrence of bark lice on apple trees, in this country, is a communication by Mr. Enoch Petley, of Bridgetown, Maine, written in 1794, and published among the early papers of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society. These insects have now become extremely common, and infest our nurseries and young trees to a very great extent. In the spring the eggs are readily to be seen on raising the little muscle-shaped scales beneath which they are concealed — These eggs are of a white color, and in shape nearly like those of snakes. Every shell contains from thirty to forty of them, imbedded in a small quantity of whitish friable down.— They begin to hatch about the 25th of May, and finish about the 10th of June, according to Mr. Perley. The young, on their first appearance, are nearly white, very minute, and nearly oval in form. In about ten days they become stationary, and early in June throw out a quantity of bluish white down, soon after which their transformations are completed, and the females become fertile, and deposit their eggs. These, it seems, are hatched in the course of the summer, and the young come to their growth and provide for a new brood before the ensuing winter.

Among the natural means which are provided to check the increase of these bark lice, are birds. I have also found that these insects are preyed upon by internal parasites The best application for the destruction of the lice is a wash made of two parts of soft soap and eight of water, with which is mixed lime enough to bring it to the consistence of whitewash. This is to be put upon the trunks and limbs of the trees with a brush, and as high as practicable, so as to cover the whole surface, and fill all the cracks in the bark. The proper time for washing over the trees is in the early part of June, when the insects are young and tender. These insects may also be killed by using in the same way a solution of two pounds of potash in seven quarts of water, or a pickle consisting of a quart of common salt in two gallons of water."

Strawberries Six Months in the Year.

A late number of the New York Tribune has the following description of a new kind of strawberries. The matter is of great interest to farmers, and indeed to every other class of the community.

"We have several specimens of this fruit lying upon our desk as we write, which were plucked from vines grown in the open air and fruit ripened without the aid of a hot house. The plants from which we plucked these berries were grown upon the plantation of George A Peabody, about five miles from Columbus, Ga., and sent to this city some weeks ago, where they have been blooming and ripening ever since. Mr. Peabody has five or six acres covered with strawberry plants—plants, not vines, for they have no runner—*from which he gathers fruit and sends to market regularly every day, for an average period of six months in the year;* making them, by his peculiar mode of cultivation, produce abundantly through the long hot summers, sparsely thro' three or four other months. The variety cultivated is the Hovey seedling, impregnated with the early scarlet and so changed in their character that they manifest no more disposition to throw out runners than the wild vines of the old pastures in their uncultivated state. Mr Peabody endeavors to conform his cultivation as closely to nature as possible. He sets the plant in rows two feet apart with a row of impregnators every sixth row, and in the fall spreads a slight coat of woods mould

and covers the ground completely with leaves, but never afterwards digs up the surface or applies any other manure. Grass and weeds are cut up with the hoe, and runners which only occasionally appear are cut away, unless the old plant is failing and then that is cut up and a new one started. Every day during the summer the vines are copiously watered by the assistance of a garden engine. This is the principal cause of success; of continued production and reproduction of fruit through such a long season.

We have seen upon these beds a growth of fruit ten times greater by weight or measure than all the vines and leaves producing it, and at the same time upon the same soil a few rods off, a growth of vines which would have afforded a good swath to the mower, upon which there was not a single berry. This bed was highly manured and bore vines. The other bed was highly watered and bore fruit. Dr. Hull, of Newburgh, has mulched his beds with spent tan bark, instead of leaves, and found it eminently beneficial, increasing the productiveness, richness of flavor, and length of time of bearing. The question which naturally suggests itself to the minds of all is this: Can we lengthen the bearing season of the strawberry plant in this climate by pursuing the same course which has proved so wonderfully successful with Mr. Peabody;

Oyster Shells for Fruit Trees.—A correspondent in the Germantown Telegraph, writing on the above subject says:

One of the most effectual applications I have made to fruit trees in an old barren situation, is a compost in which finely broken oyster shells were the principal ingredient. The oyster shells have generally a large per centage of saline matter attached to them in a fresh state, with some animal matter and much lime. By breaking them and mixing them with wood ashes, an almost immediate and decided improvement will take place.

A Peculiarity of Country—It is said that almost all fruits, grains and vegetables, which in the clear dry climate of New Mexico, are remarkable for their extraordinary sweetness. The common corn stalk abounds in the saccharine matter to such an extent as to furnish the native population with molasses, which although hardly as good as the inferior molasses of Louisiana, might doubtless be much improved by a more perfect mode of manufacture than that adopted by the Mexican population. This molasses is purchased there by those who do not supply their own wants, at a rate of $1,50 per gallon. The beet of New Mexico contains so unusual a quantity of saccharine matter, that the manufacture of beet sugar is said to offer strong inducements to gentlemen of enterprise and capital to embark in the business. The only sugar which is brought to Santa Fe now, is transported from the valley of the Mississippi across a desert of nearly 900 miles in extent —and the cost of transportation increases its price about ten cents a pound, so that the most inferior kind ranged from 19 to 25 cents in value. Labor in New Mexico is worth from four to eight dollars per month. The manufacture of sugar from beets has never been attempted there, probably because no one in the country has the slightest knowledge of the art.

Agriculture of the Indians.—It is well known, that most of the hard work necessary to supply their limited wants, fell to the lot of the women, assisted, sometimes, by old men and little boys. Among their thankless tasks was that of farming, which they carried on to an extent quite remarkable, when we consider the rudeness of the tools with which they worked, and the circumstances in which they were placed. They had no art of manufacuring metal, and of course could have no proper implements of agriculture. Their cultivation was not so rude, however, as one would naturally suppose. They made a kind of hoe by tying the shoulder blade of a moose, bear or deer, to a stick or pole.

The land, when selected, was cleared, by keeping up a fire around the foot of each tree till its bark was so burned that it would die. They then planted their corn. When the tree fell, it was burned into pieces of such length that they could be rolled into a heap and burned to ashes. In this way, by degrees, a piece covered with wood, was wholly cleared. An industrious woman could burn off as many dry fallen logs in a day, as a strong man could, at that time, cut with an axe in two or three. They used a stone axe, made much in the same way as

the hoe above described, to scrap the charred surface of the logs, and hasten the burning. This mode of clearing was common through the western part of the state. In the eastern part, the tree was sometimes girdled with the axe, and thus killed, was allowed to dry, and then burned by kindling a fire around it as above described.

They taught the settlers to select the finest ears of corn for seed, to plant it at the proper time, and in a proper manner, to weed it, and to hill it. They were accustomed to dig small holes four feet apart with a clumsy instrument, resembling the one described, which, in the eastern part of the state, was sometimes made of large clam shells. Those living in the vicinity of the sea shore, put into each hole a horse-shoe crab or two, upon which they dropped four, and sometimes six kernels of corn, and covered it with the implement with which they had dug the hole. In the interior, a few small fishes in each hill were used as a fertilizer. Beans were planted with the corn after it had come up, and grew up supported by it. Great attention was paid by them to the protection of their growing crops. Not a weed was to be seen in their fields, and the corn was carefully guarded against destruction by insects and birds. To prevent the loss by the latter, a small watch-house was erected in the midst of a field of corn, in which one of the family, often the oldest child, slept and early in the morning rose to watch the black birds. It was their universal custom to hill the corn about two feet high, for its support, and spots may often be seen at the present day, which were evidenly cultivated by them. The colonists very generally imitated this custom, and it has been continued down to our own times. The men planted and cured their tobacco, which was, ordinarily, the only plant they worked upon, the women managing all the rest.—[Flint's Report of the Mass. Board of Agriculture.

A Notable Historical Fact.—Wheat was first sown in the North American colonies in 1602, on the Elizabeth islands, in Massachusetts, by Gosnold, at the time he explored that coast. That has been just 252 years ago, and since that time so great has been the increase of this cereal, that in the year 1849, according to the census of 1850, the product amounted to 100,503,899 bushels. Up to 1610 and perhaps later, England supplied the colonies with the greater part of their breadstuffs. How changed is it now! All Europe is looking to us for bread. The cry of famine reaches with the arrival of every steamer, and we respond by sending cargo in the wake of cargo from our abundance to save them from starvation. The bread sent to the colonies in 1610 was not cast upon waters never more to return. Two hundred forty-four years afterwards it rolls back in a continuous stream to gladden the hearts of half famished millions in England, France and Belgium. The descendants of men originally lashed and scourged from their shores, and forced to make their future habitations beneath the shades of an almost boundless wilderness, bleak, desolate and uninviting, more human than the task masters of their fathers are now striving to return good for what was considered an evil, by supplying them with bread.

Recent Erected Houses.—The London Medical Times directs attention to the circumstance of many diseases occurring in consequence of newly built houses being too quickly inhabited. He says, that in various parts of the outskirts of London, a large number of new buildings are constantly being erected, and scarcely are they completed before they are occupied. Five cases of cholera which proved fatal to persons who had recently taken newly built houses, came under his superintendence, which he considered were produced by the exhalations from the damp walls and floors and the fresh paint. We believe that newly built houses, when to quickly occupied, exert a very baneful influence on the health of the occupants. From the fresh materials which compose the dwellings, deleterious exhalations arise, contaminating the air. Houses ought not to be inhabited for a certain period after their completion; and our medical brethren should caution those within their influence, of the dangers to which families are exposed by living in houses recently erected.

☞ All highly concentrated animal manures, are increased in value, and their benefits prolonged, by admixture with plaster, salt, or pulverised charcoal.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

Haying and harvesting will of course occupy the time of the husbandmen, for some time in the fore part of this month. In our travels we are happy to see that those portions of the West, especially Wisconsin, through which we have passed, give good promise of a heavy yield of wheat, and if the fall should prove favorable, there must be a very heavy crop of corn. Oats are also looking very finely. We hope the rains of the last few days (July 22d) will not materially injure the crops. It is all important, of course, that great care be exercised in the securing of the various crops. See that they are harvested in the proper time, (see last number,) and that they are properly garnered in well thatched stacks, or, what is better, gathered into good barns. We know, however, that few are able to have sufficient barn-room to shelter half of their crops, and therefore they *must* be stacked. See, then, that this process is well done. Lay a good foundation for each stack, either with rails or dry limbs, over which is spread some dry straw or wild grass, that the grain may be kept dry till thrashed. When you thrash do not suffer the straw to be wasted, but take care to see that *that* also be well stacked near by your feeding yards and barn, so that it may be freely used, not only for bedding your cattle, horses, &c., in the winter, and thus keep them comfortable, but also for cutting up with the straw cutter and mixing with meal, &c., for food. The straw will, in both of these ways, be turned to most important and useful purposes on the farm, while the elements it contains for new crops will be returned to the soil in the most available form. Do not burn any of your straw, as by this means you not only drive off from your premises all the volatile elements, but render the involatile portions *insoluble*, and thus useless, by the heat produced in the combustion.

Weeds, bushes, thistles, &c.,—if, unfortunately, these pests, under the "squatter sovereignty" idea, have located themselves on any of your fields,—may be destroyed pretty effectually by cutting them short off this month.

This is generally, too, a good time for cutting ditches for drains—and there are thousands of acres in Wisconsin that ought to be drained this year. More draining is going yet to be done in Wisconsin, in a few years, and more of the best land in the world is thus going to be redeemed than has, up to this time, been done, or redeemed, in all the world beside. Our lands, now too wet to be used at all, will soon, thus treated, be those which we esteem the most. Gentlemen, just lay your plans for redeeming these marshes, and adding thus largely to the wealth of your farm and to that of the State.

Now is a good time for carting swamp muck to your barn-yards, to spread over your manure heaps, that they may not waste their sweetness on the desert air. Remember, that manure heaps should never be allowed to *smell bad*—its a habit not to be allowed by any scientific farmer.

Fit your ground this month for the winter rye which you wish to sow early, to furnish feed for sheep this fall and next spring. It is worth while to sow quite largely for this purpose alone. Sow the latter part of this month, or the fore part of the next. In our late visit to Mr. Edgerton's and Mr. Dousman's farms, we saw very heavy and well headed fields of rye, that had furnished a large amount of the best of feed for sheep, up to nearly the first of June. The rye is really better for having been thus fed down, there being, consequently, less amount of straw, while there is an equal amount of kernels.

The garden will require much attention this month. Begin to select the earliest and best specimens of vegetables for seed, and place them in proper condition for safe keeping.—Early onions and early potatoes must be gathered. Attend to the gathering of your herbs, desired either as medicine or for seasoning meats.

Stock of all kinds must be looked to, that they are securing the proper flesh, and becoming fitted either for the market or for winter quarters. Lambs and calves, especially, should be kept in a thriving condition.

We would again remind our friends of the County and the State Fairs. We feel a deep interest in their prosperity, knowing as we do, that they do vastly more to stimulate our agriculturists, and put them in possession of the right spirit in regard to their duty and privileges, than most are accustomed to think. Do not forget, therefore, to attend these Fairs, and do your portion towards rendering them pleasing and profitable to all.

PIE PLANT PRESERVES.—Remove the outer skin, cut the stalk into inch lengths, put into the pan, and simmer for a quarter of an hour; add an equal weight of sugar; then boil for an hour. If a gill of best brandy is put in during the last quarter of an hour's boiling, the flavor is much improved. When done, it is the color of Greengage preserve, and is quite as good flavored, with about the same consistency.

KEEPING TOMATOES.—A correspondent of the Massachusetts Ploughman gives the following method for preserving Tomatoes for winter use: "Simply scald and peel them, put them on to boil in any thing convenient, boil until well scalded, break up with a spoon, have clean bottles, well heated in an oven or otherwise; then keep the tomatoes boiling and fill your hot bottles, corking each as soon as full and covering with wax, at the same time place them any where (except exposed to frost) wet or dry place; they need no further care.

"In tin boxes—fill and have them soldered up; drop one into water and see which side swims best; into the part out of water, punch a small hole, the size of a small shoe peg; place the boxes into a boiler hole uppermost, with cold water, and after beginning to boil let them do so 25 or 30 minutes; as taken out of hot water drive a peg into the hole, with a drop of sealing-wax, and place where the outside will not rust; the small hole prevents them bursting while boiling, or at least from starting the seams, which prevents their keeping.

"Raspberries, strawberries, and any kind of fruit, can be preserved in this way."

TREATMENT OF GAPES.—In one of the numbers of your useful publication, I see that a correspondent calls the gapes "an incurable disease." As I have yearly reared a large number of chickens, I think it right to state that I have found spirits of turpentine, if not a specific, at least an almost certain remedy for this complaint. I have administered it in two ways, and both successfully. First, with chickens of larger growth, by dipping a feather in the spirit and passing it down and turning it round in the throat of the patient, by which means the little worm causing the complaint is sometimes extracted, but nearly always destroyed; and secondly, with young birds, dropping a few very small crumbs of bread saturated with the spirit into their pens, which, if hungry, they will pick up quickly. I know a gentleman, a very large breeder of fowls, who always gives his chickens, at six weeks old, wheat steeped in turpentine. This is given to them *once* in the morning when fasting, and as a preventive against, instead of waiting for the arrival of gapes. I may trouble you again on this and other subjects relating to poultry, should you think further communication likely to prove interesting to your readers.—[D. B., in Poultry Chronicle.

LICE ON FOWLS—*Remedy.*—DR. FREEMAN, of Schoolcraft, Mich., a popular breeder of blooded fowls, writes us: "Should lice infest your nests, sprinkle in them cut tobacco, and they will slope to parts unknown instanter.—Take my word for it, when I clean my chicken coops, I sprinkle in them a strong decoction, and will give every chick that a louse can be found on. I have cleaned setting hens of them, where no tobacco had been used, that were covered with the tarnal critters—in four hours not one to be seen."

PAINT FOR BRICK HOUSES.—A correspondent of the Ohio "Farmer" has used a cheap and durable paint for the exterior of brick dwellings, which has already stood several years, and is now quite as fresh as when first applied. It consists simply of lime wash, with sulphate of zinc as a fixing ingredient. Any requisite shade is given by adding the colors used by house-painters. A clear and rich cream color may be obtained by applying yellow ochre to the common new brick. A livelier and warmer shade will be added by a little Venetian red. Burnt sienna may likewise be used. This paint is far cheaper than oil paint, and costs but little more than common whitewash.

ASPARAGUS FOR COFFEE.—A writer in the London Gardener's Chronicle was led to test asparagus as a substitute for coffee. He says: "The young shoots I first prepared were not agreeable, having an alkaline taste. I then tried the ripe seeds, and these, roasted and ground, make a full flavored coffee, not easily distinguished from fine Mocha. The seeds are easily freed from the berries by drying them in a cool oven, and then rubbing them on a sieve." In good soils, asparagus yields seeds abundantly; and if they are charged with "tauaine," and identical with seeds of the coffee plant, asparagus coffee may be grown in the United States at less than half the cost per pound of the article now so largely imported.

☞ A lump of wet saleratus, applied to the sting of a wasp or bee, will stop the pain in a moment, and prevent it from swelling.

Editors Table.

NORTH-WESTERN POMOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

The next annual meeting of this Association will be held at Burlington, Iowa, commencing on the last Tuesday (the 26th) of Sept. next, at 10 o'clock A. M, and continuing four days.

Communications on any or all branches of Horticulture solicited—which, together with any boxes of specimens, may be directed to the "N. W. Pomological Convention, care of Messrs Avery, Burlington, Iowa."

Editors friendly to the cause are respectfully requested to notice.

By order, F. K. PHŒNIX, Cor. Sec'y.

UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT.—The first Commencement of the University took place in the Baptist Church, on Wednesday, the 26th ult. The exercises of the students were of a high order, and commended themselves to the admiration of a large audience of the most distinguished gentlemen and ladies in the State.—The Baccalaureate Address of the Chancellor was most felicitous, and alike admirable, in the beauty of its style of delivery, and excellence of instruction.

The following is the scheme of exercises:

MUSIC.
PRAYER.
MUSIC.
SALUTATORY—Addresses in Latin, by Levi Booth.
ORATION—The Eastern Question, by James M. Flower.
Nature, Man's best Teacher, Sidney Foote.
MUSIC.
ORATION—The Ideal Man, by H. K. Smith.
The Legal Profession, by James Hickox.
MUSIC.
ORATION—Imperfections of the Social System, by Levi Booth.
The Course of Liberal Study; with the VALEDICTORY ADDRESS, by Chas. T. Wakeley
MUSIC.
DEGREES CONFERRED.
MUSIC.
BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS, by the Chancellor.
MUSIC.
BENEDICTION.

The next term of the Institution commences on the 20th of Sept. next. The course of instruction in the Chemical and Philosophical departments for the second or winter term, which commences the first week in January, will be arranged with special reference to the interests of the young farmer and mechanic.—Instruction will be given by recitations and lectures, illustrated by extensive apparatus, in those branches which are of the greatest importance in their application to the science of Mechanics and Agriculture. The attention of Prof. Lathrop, one of the Editors of the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer, will be particularly given to this department for the winter term.

The notice of farmers and mechanics is invited to this important feature in the organization of the University.

BELOIT COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.—We had the pleasure, in common with many others, of being present at the exercises of this favorite and favored Institution of the West, on the 12th ult. The exercises were of a very interesting character. The speaking was better than usual, with the usual exhibition of an high order of talent and culture. The *exquisites* according to our palate, were, the Rev. M. Goodwin's Address of the evening previous; the Salutatory, by Page; the Valedictory, by Brewster; and the Master's Oration, by Colley, of the class of '51.

The prospects of the Institution, we understand, continue most flattering. Beloit College! we can ne'er forget thee. Some of our most earnest, sincere, and affectionate emotions have been exercised for thee; and thou hast, and ever will have, a home in our regards.—May thou never prove barren, nor become the mother of an ignoble offspring.

THE BUFFALO MOWING MACHINE.—In the July number of the Farmer, a cut of our Suffolk Boar was inserted at the head of the advertisement of this Machine, instead of the cut of the Mower, which had been used before.—The change was made, not as a burlesque, as some have interpreted, but from necessity.—After printing the Farmer for June, the cut was sent East for the purpose of stereotyping an additional number, and did not return before we were compelled to print for July; hence the substitution. We had no other cut more convenient to fill the place. However, *we* think very favorably of *the machine* illustrated!!

☞ A letter, regarding the ravages of the Locusts, was received from T. D. Raine, of Dover, but too late for the July number, and out of date for the present one, as the locust season has passed. See our July number concerning these insects.

☞ Although in draining land thoroughly, your purse may be drained also, the full crops that follow will soon fill it up again.

Our Exchanges.—What's become of them all? We at Madison seem to have been *cut* by many of our friends. We can't farm it without Agricultural papers. The "People's Journal," the "New England Farmer," and the "Journal of Agriculture," do not reach us of late.

Personal.—There is a man out west so tall, that he is obliged to get up on a ladder to put his hat on; and when he goes to bed he is obliged to shut up his legs like a pair of pen-knife blades.—[Exchange.

We object to such personalities.

The Farmer's Companion, Edited by Chas. Fox, Lecturer on Agriculture in the Michigan University, is getting to be one of the best Agricultural journals published. Let *us* see what you teach in the American Ag. Text Book.

☞ An Association for the improvement of "that noble animal, the Horse," has been organized in Niagara co. N. Y. There is too little attention paid to the breeding of Horses in this country, and we are glad to see a movement like that in Niagara county.—[Rural N. Yorker.

Coal in Kentucky.—Eleven beds of coal have been discovered in Kentucky, in the recent geological examination of the State by D. D. Owen. The beds vary from two to five feet in width, and are in the south-western part of the State.

Vegetable Wax.—At a late regular meeting of the Farmers' Club, in this city, Judge Scott read a report on the wax and tallow plant. The myrtle tallow, or candleberry, has long been known in America, and occasionally collected for medicinal purposes, but never used as candles to take the place of spermaceti or tallow. If the subject was properly taken up, the writer had but little doubt but vegetable wax would grow into a manufacture of national importance. The bush is from three to eight feet high, It yields a supply of 25 per cent. of wax. The wax is obtained by boiling the berries in water until the wax floats, it is then skimmed off.—[Scientific American.

☞ At the celebrated clock manufactory in Connecticut 250 men are employed, and 600 clocks turned out per day. Each clock passes through about 60 different hands. More than one-half the clocks manufactured are sent to Europe.

A New Patent Wheelbarrow.—A new wheelbarrow has been invented. Do not laugh, for it is a good invention. It is very wonderful it has not been thought of before. The wheel is placed under the centre, so that none of the weight of the load rests upon the hands. A man can wheel twice the usual weight.

Fraudulent Dealing.—It is reported that Wisconsin millers are branding an inferior article of flour with Michigan brands, and thus selling it east as "Michigan flour." We advise our Eastern friends to be on the look out for these counterfeit brands, and ascertain to a certainty where the flour they buy is made.—[Farmer's Companion.

That's *Foxy; our* Miller don't do any such thing. We are not such *dough*-faces as to Michigander our flour.

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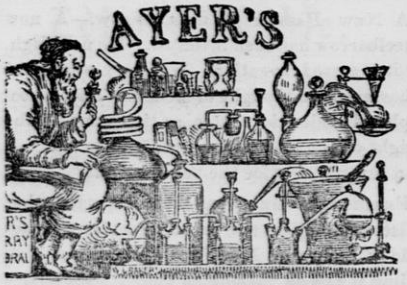


CHERRY PECTORAL,

For the rapid Cure of

COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, BRONCHITIS, WHOOPING-COUGH, CROUP, ASTHMA, AND CONSUMPTION.

Many years of trial, instead of impairing the public confidence in this medicine, has won for it an appreciation and notoriety by far exceeding the most sanguine expectations of its friends. Nothing but its intrinsic virtues and the unmistakable benefit conferred on thousands of suffers, could originate and maintain the reputation it enjoys. While many inferior remedies thrust upon the community, have failed and been discarded, this has gained friends by every trial, conferred benefits on the afflicted they can never forget, and produced cures too numerous and too remarkable to be forgotten.

While it is a fraud on the public to pretend that any one medicine will infallibly cure—still there is abundant proof that the CHERRY PECTORAL does not only, as a general thing, but almost invariably, cure the maladies for which it is employed.

As time makes these facts wider and better known, this medicine has gradually become the best reliance of the afflicted, from the log-cabin of the American Peasant, to the palaces of European Kings. Throughout this entire country, in every State, city, and indeed almost every hamlet it contains, CHERRY PECTORAL is known as the best remedy extant for diseases of the Throat and Lungs, and in many foreign countries, it is coming to be extensively used by their most intelligent Physicians. In Great Britain, France and Germany, where the medical sciences have reached their highest perfection, CHERRY PECTORAL is introduced and in constant use in the Armies, Hospitals, Alms Houses, Public Institutions, and in domestic practice, as the surest remedy their attending Phyisicians can employ for the more dangerous affections of the lungs. Also in milder cases, and for children it is safe, pleasant and effectual to cure. In fact, some of the most flattering testimonials we receive have been from parents who have found it efficacious in cases incidental to childhood.

The CHERRY PECTORAL is manufactured by a practical Chemist, and every ounce of it under his own eye, with invariable accuracy and care. It is sealed and protected by law from counterfeits, consequently can be relied on as genuine, without adulteration.

We have endeavored here to furnish the community with a medicine of such intrinsic superiority and worth as should commend itself to their confidence—a remedy at once safe, speedy and effectual, which this has by repeated and countless trials proved itself to be; and trust by great care in preparing it with chemical accuracy, of uniform strength, to afford Physicians a new agent on which they can rely for the best results, and the afflicted with a remedy that will do for them all that medicine can do.

Prepared and Sold by JAMES C. AYER,
Practical and Analytical Chemist,
LOWELL, MASS.

Sold by Carey & Gordon, Beloit; Holden, Kemp & Co., Janesville; J. K. Eilert, Monroe; John Wright, Madison; E. R. & F. A. Utter, Elkhorn; T. Mason, Dubuque, Iowa; E. E. Gay, Burlington, Iowa; and by all Druggists everywhere. v6n8:1y.

CHICKENS FOR SALE.

THE subscriber has for sale a large number of first class chickens, superior even to any he has ever bred heretofore, though always having taken premiums wherever exhibited in different States. The present stock are bred from recent choice selections of the first importations of the following varieties, viz.: Brahma Pootras, from a late importation, of mottled plumage, which attracted great admiration at the late poultry exhibition in New York City. They are of great size, perfect form, and beautiful plumage. Shanghais of Forbes, Periz, and Carrington importations. Black Cochin Chinas of a green metallic lustre—great layers; red Cochin Chinas—very fine; gray Chittagongs—very large; Hong Kongs from the premium coop at Boston last year; gray Dorkings imported by subscriber last year from Dorking, England; Sumatra Pheasant Games from Doct. Bennett's stock, and Sebright Bantams, all which are bred with the utmost care as to purity.

Persons forwarding orders with the money may rely on being promptly attended to; carefully cooped and delivered at M. C. R. R. without additional charge; also, fresh eggs carefully packed and delivered at depot for $3 per doz. Price of Brahma Pootras $8 per pair; all other varieties of Asiatics $6; well grown Dorkings $4. M. FREEMAN.

Schoolcraft, Mich., August, 1854.

WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., SEPTEMBER, 1854. NO. 9.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS. **50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

To the Farmers of Rock County.

The Premium List and the Regulations for the Fair to be holden at Janesville, on the 13th and 14th of this month, is published and widely distributed throughout the county, and we hope it will come under the eye of every farmer of the county, and awaken within him a just pride and a full determination not only to be present himself, with his family, but to bring something for exhibition. We never knew of a more liberal and magnificent List of Premiums offered in any county. About $1200 are offered in Premiums, to be paid in *cash*, and no mistake. Of course it is expected of every man to do his duty—his *whole* duty—regarding this Fair of the County Agricultural Society.—Let every man, woman and child present the proceeds of his or her labor to the view of the multitudes which we hope will be present.—We trust that the friends of Agriculture generally, in the county, will speak to one another upon the importance of sustaining this Society, which is doing so much to place the Agricultural interests so much ahead of most every other county in the State.

We know of many who expect to be present from other counties, and with animals and products for exhibition. Farmers of Rock! will you see to it, that you have on hand AS GOOD MATERIAL AS GROWS either out or in doors.

We should like to see copies of the Premium Lists from other counties, that we may speak of them, and give notice of the time when their Fairs will be held. It is our intention to be present to as many of them as is possible. We hope that a laudable ambition will be felt in all the counties of the State, to get up and sustain Fairs of this kind. Scarcely any thing will so stimulate farmers and others, and interest them in the several branches of Agriculture.

List of Premiums, &c., of the State Agricultural Society.

We are indebted to the Secretary, Mr. Ingham, for a copy of the Premium List for the present year. We have looked it over thoroughly, and feel bound to say, that we think it in every respect, superior to any of its predecessors. The amount of premiums and the consequent increased value of the individual premiums, and the enlightened discrimination exhibited in their distribution, indicate a just and high appreciation of the Agricultural wants of Wisconsin. Few State Societies can compete with our own in the value of their premium list, and none surpass it. The farmers of Wisconsin have presented to them by this premium list of the State Society, as fair a field for competition with one another, and of winning as valuable enconiums and prizes, as are offered to the farmers of any portion of the Union. We hope that a greatly increased interest will be felt this year in our State Fair, and that there may be an exhibition of all the branches of Agriculture and Mechanical arts, much superior to any yet held by the Society.

The place of holding the Fair is more convenient of access to a large portion of the State than any other place. We hope the Milwaukeans will exhibit an enlightened and proper liberality in their provision for the accommodation of the Society, and a just appreciation of the honor and the privilege which their fortunate position justly demands shall be conferred on them. Let the whole population of the State pour itself into Milwaukee on the 4th, 5th, and 6th days of October next.

SINGULAR CALCULATION.—Mr. Burnap, a well known agricultural writer, says that the fences in the United States cost more than twenty times the specie that is in it.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Double Plastered Houses.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your June number I noticed an article on double plastered houses. It may be first rate—I certainly have nothing to say condemning it;—but bricking I consider far preferable. I commonly, in framing houses, (if the proprietor wishes to brick them) put the studs 17 inches apart. Common brick being 8 inches long, two will fill from stud to stud, with the necessary quantity of mortar between them and at the ends. After the siding is on, I procure scoving or outside brick, as they answer every purpose, and can be had at the kiln for half price. If there is no kiln convenient, they can be easily and cheaply made with our clay sub-soil, by moulding them out and drying them in the sun. After the yard and vat is prepared, they can be made for about $2 per M, and two thousand will brick the lower story of a common sized house. They should, in laying, be set edgewise, and placed firmly against the siding, with all the mortar necessary to make tight work, and once in ten or twelve courses nail in a strip of board on top of the brick, to keep them in place in case of shrinkage. Breaking joints makes a stronger and better job than laying one above the other—that is, for the first course, lay two whole bricks, and for the next course two pieces and one whole one, placing the whole one in the middle, and so go on alternately. A coat of coarse lime mortar, plastered on the brick, will exclude all cold, so that when the house is lathed and plastered, it is too warm for health, unless it is well ventilated, for which purpose I prefer inserting a box through the floor and ceiling over head, with a good substantial cover, to drop in bevil with the floor. Some prefer dropping the top sash of the window, and let the heat pass off in the air. I prefer in a cold winter evening, to warm my chambers for the comfort of the young folks.

Tell friend Virgin, that I have the satisfaction of eating peas free of grubs, by scalding my seed before planting them in the spring—and plant them early enough to have green peas by the 4th of July.

FARMER & MECHANIC.

Metomen, Wis., July, 1854.

☞ Cuvier said that mankind was composed of hammers and anvils, and that it was much better to be a hammer than an anvil.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Osage Orange Hedge.

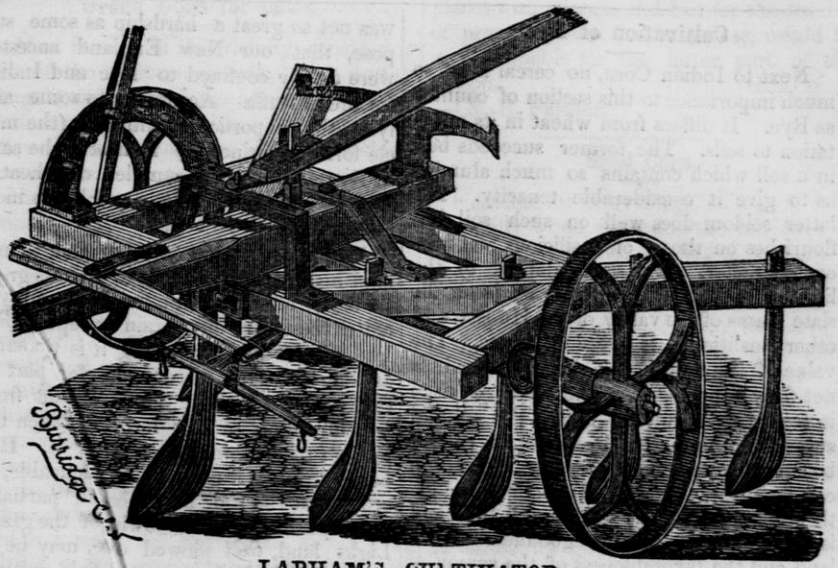
MESSRS. EDITORS:—I have been a subscriber of the Farmer since January last, and have not found any thing in its pages giving information in regard to hedge fence. I therefore ask information as to the best way of managing the plant after the transplanting. I have tried the experiment in this county, and find that it can be raised here, and that it bids fair to make a flourishing and lasting fence. I sowed two pounds of the seed, and raised about five thousand plants. Being a stranger in the business, I put about fifteen hundred in the cellar, packed in sand. The rest I left exposed in the bed. The plants put in the cellar generally all grew; but those left in the bed, about one third of them froze to death; and those that lived do not grow as fast as those that I kept in the cellar. When ought they to be cut off—in the fall, or spring, or in midsummer, or both of them? Instructions to raise an Osage Orange Hedge fence, will be thankfully received. REUBEN FREEMAN.

Boardman, Clayton co., Iowa, July, 1854.

REMARKS.—We would refer our correspondent to the February number, pages 30 and 31, for our management of the Osage Orange hedge. The practice of keeping the young plants of the first year's growth in the cellar, may prove a good one to follow, and there is but little labor attending the process, more than taking them up in the spring and re-setting.

LOCUST TREES AND FALL FEED.—A correspondent of the Connecticut Valley Farmer says, that several pastures within my knowledge, on which are growing hundreds of fair sized locust trees to the acre, have continued to yield fall feed for stock, none the less for the growth of locust. It was the opinion of Dr. Andrew Nicholas, late of Danvers, who was born and brought up on a farm abounding in this species of tree, that the feed of the pastures was increased and made better by their growth. The same idea has been put forward by Mr. Holbrook, of Vermont, one of the best writers for the Agricultural press in New England.

THE TREE.—The bark of a tree and the bark of a dog are considerably alike. One is formed on the bough, and the other on the bow-wow principle.



LAPHAM'S CULTIVATOR.

The engraving above represents LAPHAM'S CULTIVATOR, which is adapted to all cultivating purposes, and to all soils, whether level or uneven. By means of two long levers—one connected to the axle or shaft which supports the machine, and to which the wheels are hung, and the other to the tongue to which the team is attached—the cultivating teeth can be raised or lowered, to suit the unevenness of the ground, and the machine directed independently of the team, by the person driving and walking behind.

When a depression or elevation renders it necessary to change the depth of the teeth, by raising the lever which is attached to the axle, the teeth are lowered, or, by lowering the lever the teeth are raised; and when it is desirable to change quickly the direction of the machine, to avoid an obstruction, or a hill of corn or potatoes, by moving the lever connected with the tongue, the cultivator is readily turned, without the trouble and delay of guiding the team.

When it is desirable to use this machine for cultivating young corn, the front tooth is removed and mould board affixed, which will prevent the earth from covering the corn, while the teeth break the soil and destroy the weeds; or, by placing the boards in a different position, earth may be thrown around the corn.

Suitable devices are provided for retaining the levers in place, and for rendering their motion easy.

Any information respecting the Cultivator, can be obtained by addressing the Patentee, WILLIAM LAPHAM, West Liberty, Logan co., Ohio.

SOAKED CORN FOR HORSES.—One of the most successful and judicious farmers in the vicinity of Baltimore, effects a saving of from one-third to one-half of his corn, by soaking it thoroughly before feeding. His method is this:—two empty vessels, hogsheads, or something similar, are placed in his cellar where there is no danger from frost, and filled to the chime with ears of corn. He then pours in water till the recepticles are filled. When well soaked, the corn is fed to the horses. and when the contents of one cask is consumed, it is again filled, and the animals fed from the other. Even cobs, soaked in a similar manner, but in pickle instead of pure water, are eagerly devoured by cows, especially if the usual allowance of salt is withheld. The corn cob contains a large quantity of nutriment, and is by far too valuable to be thrown away. R. F.

Chester' Kent co., Md., Jan., 1854.

Cultivation of Rye.

Next to Indian Corn, no cereal is of so much importance to this section of country as Rye. It differs from wheat in its adaptation to soils. The former succeeds best in a soil which contains so much alumina as to give it considerable tenacity. The latter seldom does well on such soil, but flourishes on those of a silicious and porous character. It is well adapted to the light soils in New England, while on the slate loams of the valley of the Hudson and other localities it is quite at home. The value of the crop in this neighborhood is not fully appreciated. The great requisite in regard to its culture, is that the soil and sub-soil be properly drained. It cannot bear cold water about its roots. The crop can be cheaply raised. It requires but little preparation of the soil, though the yield is in proportion to the goodness of the land and the favorableness of the season—ranging from five to forty bushels to the acre. It is sometimes affected by blight or mildew, but less frequently than wheat, and on the whole is comparatively a sure crop.

The value of Rye per bushel does not differ much in the eastern markets from that of northern corn. The straw constitutes an important item, in the advantage of its cultivation. It is worth in this market an average of $15 per ton. A fair crop, say twenty bushels to the acre, will give a ton of straw to the acre.

We are informed that two tons to the acre have been obtained. The straw is used here chiefly as bedding for horses; but among the Germans of Pennsylvania, who generally understand the economical management of horses, the grain is ground and the straw cut, and the two mixed together forms the principal food of these noble teams, which always attract the attention of strangers. The Germans, too, make great use of Rye in feeding themselves. They are fond of the bread, and say it is stronger than that from wheat.—But good Rye bread is no despicable food in the best of families. When made from good sweet grain, properly ground and bolted, and the proper skill used in all the manipulations, it is not only palatable but wholesome, and our city bakers who make it right, dispose of large quantities. It was not so great a hardship as some suppose, that our New England ancestors were chiefly confined to 'Rye and Indian' for bread stuffs. According to some analyses, the proportion of nitrogen, (the muscle forming principle) is nearly the same in Rye as in average samples of wheat.—Rye bread contains sugar and keeps moist longer than wheat bread.

Rye is not a hard crop for land, though land may be exhausted by it. Grass grows far better after it than after oats, and even better than after any grain except barley. The proper time for sowing it is the same as that for winter wheat—the first part of September. Pasture land, or that from which a crop of hay has been taken the present season, may be used for it. It is better to plow it as soon as practicable, in order that the sod may become partially decomposed before the sowing of the grain. Light land, well plowed once, may be so worked with the harrow and field cultivator, as not to need another plowing. Six or seven pecks of seed to the acre, is the proper quantity. There is considerable difference in varieties of Rye. A variety called the multicole, introduced from France several years since, was unusually productive, but was not as good for bread as the white Rye.

On dry ground, not likely to heave by frost, clover and grass seeds may be sown with the Rye. But where the ground is not well drained, there is a liability to winter killing, and in such situations it is better to sow the clover and grass seeds just as snow is going off in the spring.—[Boston Cultivator.

Onions for Poultry.—Scarcely too much can be said in praise of onions for fowls. They seem to be a preventive and remedy for various diseases to which domestic poultry are liable. Having frequently tested their excellencies, we can speak understandingly. For gapes and inflammation of the throat, eyes, and head, onions are almost a specific. We would recommend giving fowls, especially the young chicks, as many as they will eat, as often as twice or three times a week. They should be finely chopped. A small addition of corn meal is an improvement.—[Rural New Yorker.

Green Corn for Cows.

Most farmers in this vicinity consider it one of the "*nacessary* evils," that, during August and parts of the adjoining months, their cows should be either half-starved or allowed to re-roam over the oft-trodden pastures, and be content with a supply of withered grass, or browze from the neighboring woods. The result is, of course, a *scanty abundance* of milk, butter and cheese, and instead of the cows gaining in flesh and preparing for their winter service, are reduced in flesh, and before dog days are past, too many of them become "spring poor,' and when they come to the barn for winter, look so much worse for the "wear," that one must conclude that the whole summer's feed has "*run to milk* and not to flesh."

In the spring of 1852, two bushels of the *southern yellow* flat corn were procured and sowed in the usual way, i. e. in drills 3 feet apart—manuring well, and taking care that the corn be so thick in the drill that no stalk should grow more than an inch in diameter. The season was unusually dry, and some farmers were obliged to feed out hay to their cows. Those who were prevailed upon to "try" the new notion had corn in plenty from the 1st of August to the 20th of September.

The result was, this "book farming" plan met with universal approbation, and in the spring of 1853, the procurer was requested to supply his neighbors with seed to the amount of *thirty bushels*. Most of this was sowed within two miles of this village.

After this fair trial during the season past, our farmers estimate the value of this feed to each cow, to be from three to five dollars, over the usual practice of *grass* feeding only. This is made up by the milk and condition in which the cows are found when coming to winter quarters.

As dry fodder, we think a larger amount may be raised on an acre than of any other substance we have been acquainted with. I have cured the growth on six square rods, and fed one medium sized cow, giving her all she would eat, (after cutting with a straw cutter) in thirty-seven days. Thus the crop from one rod kept the cow a little more than one week.

Our garden *sweet corn* is raised in some places with success, and but for the trouble of preparing seed for future use, would be more valuable for the latter part of the season. G. F. N.

—[N. E. Farmer.

Seed Corn.

"A time for everything," is a good rule, especially when applied to the collection of seeds, more particularly that of seed corn. How often do we see much loss of time and disappointment occasioned by neglect to secure proper seeds. Many farmers (?) in the West are so improvident as to store their corn crops in open cribs or pens in the field, thereby exposing the grain to the many changes of weather, causing mould and decay, and then in the spring resort to these damaged cribs for seed corn. The consequent loss of time and injury to the young crop is almost incalculable, as only an unhealthy germ can be expected from such seed, and all know that corn "started" in such a manner is in a great degree affected throughout the season. No weather, however favorable, nor tending, however carefully or skillfully performed, will restore the vigor necessary to ensure the crop.

"A word to the wise is sufficient." To secure good seed, it should be carefully selected while gathering the crop. Do not postpone the matter, because you have a good crib, as in this way seed is frequently used that is not fully matured. Corn that is fully ripened and perfectly sound, should be hard and tight upon the cob; by hard pressure or twisting, this is easily determined. Possessing these requisites, together with plumpness and weight, it may be safely set apart for seed the ensuing season. If left until spring, although stored in a dry crib, it will become so thoroughly dried, that it will present an appearance of perfect maturity, however loose on the cob it may have been when husked. Seed thus selected, will always germinate early, and to a *certainty*, insuring a strong and hardy sprout that will grow luxuriantly, even though it should be exposed to adverse circumstances, frequently resulting from drought or improper culture.

Seed should be carefully put away in a cool room, or other dry place, where it is not subjected to sudden alternations of temperature. A flour barrel or box may be

used to pack in, but should not be so tightly covered as to cause heat, in which case fermentation will ensue and the vitality destroyed.—[Frank, in Farm and Shop.

Seed Corn.—Now is the time to select ears of corn for seed. Go into the fields and pluck off the earliest ears and such as are well filled; and you will gain something by selecting from stalks that have two ears on them. It is important that you select in the field and before all the ears are hard, for thus you will gain several days in the ripening next year.

We think it probable that a majority of our farmers neglect to select their seed ears till the time of husking. But then they cannot determine certainly whether they take the earliest ears.

Corn is so important a crop, and so much of it is often lost by early frosts, that it is of much consequence to plant that which will ripen early. We cannot urge the planting of the small Canada corns in our latitude, for it is better to lose occasionally part of a large crop than to be always limited to a small one. We need not go north for seed ears if we will take a little care at the right time, and select the ears which first come to maturity. Many farmers know the importance or taking for seed what ripens earliest, but they are apt to forget and neglect.—[Massachusetts Ploughman.

Barley and Oats to lay down Land upon.—A writer in the New England Farmer says:—Much complaint is heard now-a-days of the failure of grass seed to catch or grow when sown with grain.—Now I have never known a failure, when good seed has been sown on good land, with barley. Two years ago this spring I sowed a field, one half with oats and the other half with barley, and stocked the whole with timothy and clover. At harvest, where the oats were grown, there was no grass, while beneath the barley there was a luxuriant growth of it. This experiment, with my former observation, satisfied me that *barley*, and not oats, was the grain to grow, when seeding land with grass.

☞ Periodical applications of ashes tend to keep up the integrity of soils, by supplying most, if not all, of the organic substances.

Circular U. S. Agricultural Society.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the United States Agricultural Society, held in the City of Washington, in February last, it was resolved that the Society would hold no Exhibition in any State having a State Agricultural Society, without the assent of the officers, or of the Executive Committee of such Society.

The citizens of Springfield, Ohio, having requested this Society to hold an Exhibition of Cattle at that place, during the current year, and generously subscribed about *ten thousand dollars* to defray all the expenses of the same, and to guarantee the Society against loss; and the Executive Committee of the Ohio Agricultural Society uniting in the request, the Executive Committee of this Society have concluded to hold a NATIONAL SHOW OF CATTLE, open to general competition, without sectional limit, on the 25th, 26th, and 27th days of October next, at Springfield, in the State of Ohio.

The friends of Agriculture in all the States of the American Union, and in the neighboring provinces of Canada, are invited to co-operate with us, so that this Exhibition may be the more extensively useful, and be alike creditable to the generous citizens of Springfield, with whom it originated,—to the contributors and visitors who sustain it,—and to the United States Agricultural Society, who are so deeply interested in its success.

In consequence of the holding of the Show of Cattle, the contemplated Exhibition of Horses, at Springfield, Mass., and the Show of Sheep, in Vermont, will be omitted.

The Journal of the Society, which the Executive Committee have concluded to issue once in each year—four numbers in one—will appear in January next; and will contain the Transactions of the Society at its last Annual Meeting, the Lectures and Addresses delivered at that time, a full and faithful account of the Springfield Show, with other valuable papers, by eminent members. This volume will be forwarded to all members who have paid their annual assessments for the year 1854.

Marshall P. Wilder, President.
Wm. S. King, Secretary;
Boston, August, 1854.

☞ Draining of wet lands and marshes, adds to their value, by making them to produce more and by improving the health of the neighborhoods.

Stock Register.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Fine Wool.

Messrs. Editors:—Being sensible of the deep interest you feel and take in Agricultural pursuits, and in stock breeding particularly, and the interest you manifested at the late Shearing Festival, and as you there saw a specimen from my flock of yearling bucks, I thought perhaps a few specimens of wool might be gratifying to my old friends. I therefore sent a small card for your inspection. You will see by the samples that they were all clean and well-washed fleeces; though I labored under some disadvantage, as I did not think of sending any samples when at home, and consequently did not save any. These were drawn from the fleeces after they had been rolled up more than a week, and therefore I cannot vouch from what part of the fleece they were taken.

The first sample at the left hand, is from a yearling buck, which drew the first premium at our County Fair last fall, when a lamb, and sheared 8 lbs. 7oz.; the second is from an eight year old ewe tha I brought with me from Vermont. She is one of a pen of five that has drawn a premium for two years in succession, at our County Fair, and sheared 6 lbs. 5 oz.—The third sample is from one of a pen of ewe lambs, which drew a premium last fall, at our County Fair. She raised a lamb and sheared 6 lbs. 14 oz. of wool this year. The fourth is from a two year old ewe, which, fall before last, was one of a pen of lambs that drew a premium, and also last fall was one of a pen of ewes that drew a premium. She sheared 8 lbs. All of these ewes have now lambs by their sides. With this explanation, I submit them to your inspection and good judgment.

Fon du Lac, June, 1854. S. N. Hawes.

Remarks.—We are greatly obliged to our friend, Mr. Hawes, for the samples of wool, accompaned by a letter, from which we take the above extracts. All these samples are of good quality of wool, being of good length of staple, and possessing proper fineness and a good degree of *crimp*. Should we seek to find any fault with them, it would be in the *want* of sufficient moisture to give a *profitable* weight to the fleeces; and yet, none of these, certainly, seem to be wanting on that score. These samples are thoroughly washed, and perhaps too much so, or too lately, to exhibit ther proper moisture. Whoever buys this wool, will lose nothing in the working of it. We have seen at different times, samples of Mr. Hawes' sheep, and are happy in being able to say, that he has some very excellent and profitable sheep, having good carcasses, heavy fleeces, and excellent quality. Our judgment did not coincide with that of the honorable gentlemen composing the committee at the late Sheep Shearing, by which the first premium on yearling bucks was given to Mr. Pratt's buck, rather than to Mr. Hawes'. *We* think Mr. Hawes' buck *shauld* have received the first premium. The committee, whose opinion we are bound to respect, however, thought otherwise, as it appears from their report. Our figuring turns up a conclusion differing from theirs. Success, however, to *all good* breeders of *good* sheep, and to Mr. Hawes, who sent us these samples, *i-n p-a-r-t-i-c-u-l-a-r.*

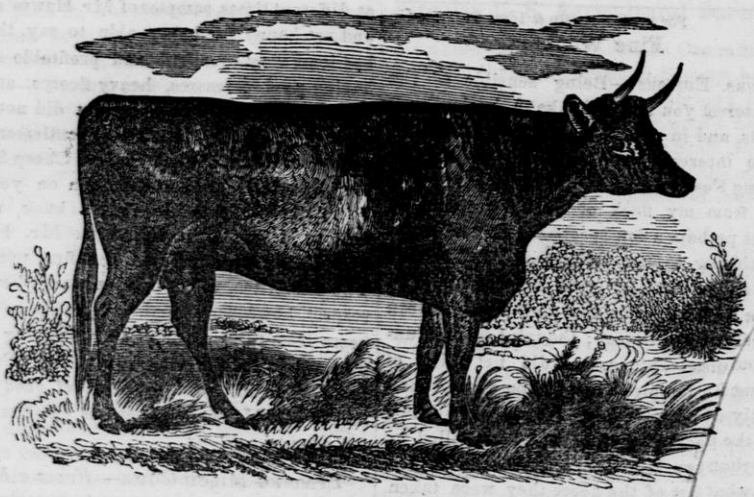
Spaying Milch Cows—*From a French work.*—Spaying of cows, at a certain period of their life, offers immense advantages to the agriculturist and consumer, in producing much augmentation of milk and meat. In this way, the animal escapes a host of ailments, and spares a host of losses, sustained in consequence of her bulling at times when it is either inconvenient or impossible to gratify her desires. Spaying of cows, Professor Bouley says, creates a new race, sterile for breeding, but productive and valuable for the purpose of yielding milk for the dairy, and meat for the butcher. Spayed cows yield, annually, for the first two or three years at least, a third more milk than they were in the habit of giving before the performance of the operation. A cow spayed thirty or forty days after calving, or at the time she is giving the most milk, continues to yield, if not for the remainner of life, at least for many years, the same large quantity of milk, and sometimes more than she gave at the time of performing the operation.

French veterinarians have, for many years, had their attention directed to this subject; and each year their experience, as well as that of agricelturists, leads them to speak more and more favorably of the practice.

(It is a subject worthy of attention among our dairymen here; and would lead to very important results, if successful here as it seems to be in France.)

[Journal N. Y. State Ag. Society.

POINTS OF THE DEVONS.



A DEVON COW.

PURITY of blood, as traced back satisfactorily to importations of both dam and sire, from known English breeders, or as found in the lately established Herd Book, for North Devons, and without this, an animal can not compete in this class.

4 THE HEAD—should be small, lean and bony, the forehead wide, flat, or from a fullness of the frontal bone over the eyes, somewhat dishing; the face straight; the muzzle fine; the nostrils open; the lips thin and rather flat.

4 THE NOSE—of a light delicate orange color.

4 THE EYE—should be bright, prominent, and clear, but mild and gentle in its expression, as indicative of that spirited, but tractable disposition so necessary to cattle that must bear the yoke; a beautiful orange-colored ring should invariably surround the eye.

2 THE EAR—thin; of a rich orange color within, of medium size, with a quick and ready movement, expressive of attention.

2 THE HORNS—light, tapering, of a waxy color toward the extremity, and gaily as well as symmetrically placed on the head; the occipital bone, narrow, thus bringing the base of the horns nearer together.

2 THE NECK—of medium length, somewhat light in substance, very clean, and well set up on the shoulder.

14 THE CHEST—deep and round carrying its fullness well back of the elbows, thus affording, by the aid of a springing rib, abundant internal room for the action of the thoracic viscera, the heart and lungs, and that too without an *extreme* width forward, and between the points of the shoulders, which might interfere with the action of the animal.

4 THE BRISKET—It being assumed that it adds nothing to the internal capacity of the chest must not overload the breast, but be sufficiently developed to guarantee a feeding property, attended with a full proportion of fatty secretion.

4 THE SHOULDER—is, in this breed, a very beautiful and important point, and should in a *degree* approximate in form to that of the horse. It should take a more sloping position than is found in most other breeds, with its points less projecting and angular, and the blade bone more curved, thus blending with and forming a fine wither, rising a little above the level line of the back.

3 THE CROPS—full and even, forming a true line with the somewhat rising shoulder, and level back, without either drop or hollow.

9 BACK, loin and hips—broad and wide, running on a level with the setting on of the tail.

5 THE RUMPS—lying broad apart, high, and well covered.

2 THE PELVIS—wide.

3 THE TWIST—full and broad.

6 THE QUARTERS—long and thoroughly filled up between the hocks or hip bones, and the rumps; with a good muscular development down the thigh to the hocks.

3 THE FLANK—Moderately deep, full and mellow in proportion to condition.

5 THE LEGS—not too short, and standing as square and straight behind, as may be compatible with activity The bone quite small below the hock and knee; the sinews large and clean, with the fore-arm well developed.

2 THE CARCASS—round and straight; its posterior ribs almost circular, extending well back, and springing nearly horizontally from the vertebra, giving, in fact, much greater capacity than would at first appear.

1 THE TAIL—at its junction, level with the back, long, very slender in its cord, and finishing with a tassel of white hair.

1 THE COLOR—in its *shades* and *degrees*, is more or less governed by fashion; but in the Devon is always red. Formerly a rich blood-red was the favorite color, and a test of purity; and now a somewhat lighter color is in vogue, approaching rather nearer to that of the *South* Devon, which is a larger, coarser, stronger animal. In all case the color grows lighter round the muzzle, while a dark mahogany color, verging almost to a black, and growing yet darker about the head, always was a very questionable color for a *true North Devon*, more especially when accompanied by a dark nose.

1 THE HAIR—should be short, thick, and fine; and if showing on its surface a fine curl, or ripple, it looks richer in color, and is supposed to indicate a hardier and more thrifty animal.

1 THE UDDER—should be such as will afford the best promise of capacity and product.

3 CARRIAGE—The Devons having, from their excellence in the yoke, another destiny besides that of the butcher's block, it is all important that the animal's carriage should indicate as much; but to obtain this, something of the heavy, inert, squarely moulded frame of the merely beefing animal must be relinquished for a lighter and more active frame.

15 QUALITY—On this the thriftiness, the feeding properties, and the value of the animal depend: and upon the touch of this quality rests, in a good measure, the grazier's and the butcher's judgment. If the "touch" be good, some deficiency of form may be excused; but if it be hard and stiff, nothing can compensate for so unpromising a feature. In raising the skin from the body, between the thumb and finger, it should have a soft, flexible and substantial feel, and when beneath the out-spread hand, it should move easily with it, and under it as though resting on a soft, elastic, cellular substance; which, however, becomes firmer as the animal "ripens." A thin papery skin is objectionable, more especially in a cold climate.

100

POINTS OF THE DEVON BULL.

As regards the male animal, it is only necessary to remark, that the points desirable in the female are generally so in the male, but must, of course, be attended by that masculine character which is inseparable from a strong, vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible, but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

In contra-distinction to the cows, the head of the bull may be shorter, the frontal-bone broader, and the occipital flat and stronger, that it may receive and sustain the horn—and this latter may be excused if a little heavy at the base, so its upward form, its quality and color be right. Neither is the looseness of the skin, attached to, and depending from the under jaw, to be deemed other than a feature of the sex, *provided* it is not extended beyond the bone, but leaves the gullet and throat clean and free from dewlap.

The upper portion of the neck should be full and *muscular*, for it is an indication of strength, power and constitution. The spine should be strong, the bones of the loin long and broad, and the whole muscular system wide and thoroughly developed over the entire frame.

Youatt thus speaks of the Devons:—"The qualities of the Devons may be referred to

three points; their working, fattening, and milking.

"Where the ground is not too heavy, the Devon oxen are unrivalled at the plow. They have a quickness of action which no breed can eqal, and very few horses exceed. They have a docility and goodness of temper, and stoutness and honesty of work, to which many horses cannot pretend. It is a common day's work on fallow land, for four Devon steers to plow two acres with a double furrow plow.—Four good steers will do as much work in the field or on the road, as three horses, and in as quick, and often quicker time, although farmers calculate two oxen equal to one horse. The principal objection to Devon oxen is, that they have not sufficient strength for tenacious clayey soils: they will however, exert their strength to the utmost, and stand many a dead pull, which few horses could be induced or forced to attempt. They are uniformly worked in yokes, and not in collars. Four oxen, or six growing steers, are the usual team employed in the plow.

"Their next quality is their disposition to fatten, and very few rival them here. Some very satisfactory experiments have been made on this point. They do not, indeed, attain the great weight of some breeds; but, in a given time, they acquire more flesh, and with less consumption of food, and their flesh is beautiful in its kind. It is mottled, or marbled, so pleasing to the eye and to the taste.

"For the dairy, the Devons must be acknowledged to be inferior to several other breeds.—The milk is good, and yields more than an average proportion of cream and butter; but generally it is deficient in quantity. There are those, however, and no mean judges, who deny this, and select the Devons even for the dairy.

"Such is not, however, the common opinion. They are kept principally for their other good qualities, in order to preserve the breed, and because, as nurses, they are indeed excellent, and the calves thrive from their small quantity of milk more rapidly than could possibly be expected.

"This aboriginal breed of British cattle is a very valuable one, and seems to have arrived at the highest point of perfection. It is heavier than it was thirty years ago, yet fully as active. Its aptitude to fatten is increased, and its property as a milker might be improved, without detriment to its grazing qualities.

"Those points in which the Devons were deficient thirty years ago, are now fully supplied, and all that is now wanting, is a judicious selection of the most perfect of the present breed, in order to preserve it in its state of greatest purity."

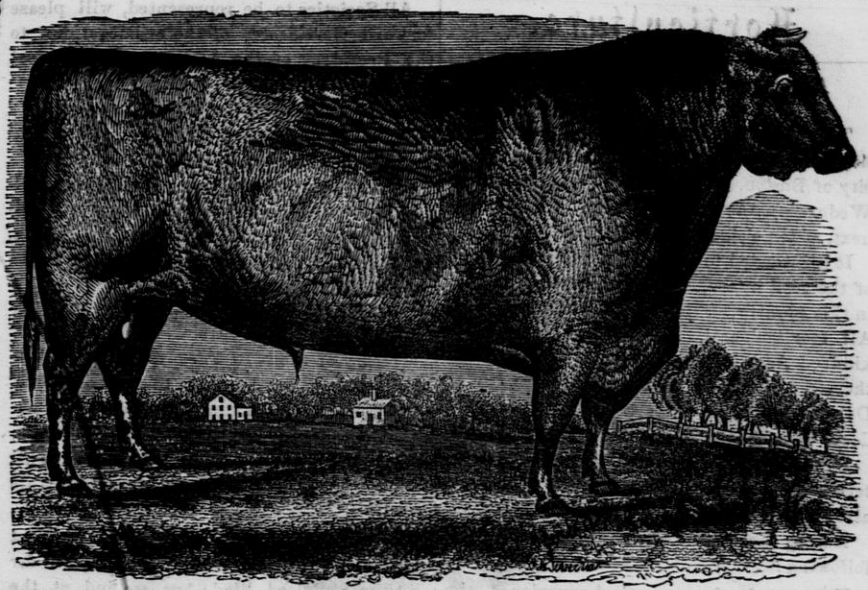
There are some fine individuals, also, of this kind of stock, in Wisconsin. Martin Webster, of Fox Lake, has formerly had some good specimens; and Judge Green, of Beaver Dam.—Messrs. Ingham and Colvin, of Madison, had an individual or two. We know of some others, but not thorough bred.

EXPERIMENTS IN FEEDING CATTLE WITH COOKED AND WITH FERMENTED FOOD.—Four heifers were selected, as equal in all respects as possible; and six pigs were also selected, from the same family; each lot was divided by the selection, alternately, of an animal. All were weighed, and at the end of each week during the experiment, each animal was weighed.

In the first week of the experiment the fermented food consumed was much less than the other, and the increase of the pigs in live weight is a considerable more; and the heifers also seemed to have made rapid advances. The second week, however, changed the scene entirely. Those on cooked food were making steady progress, while those on fermented food had produced scarcely an increase from the preceding week. It was then observed that the bowels of the lot using fermented food had been confined, and had become free in the second. The apparent success in the first week was the result of indigestion and accumulation of undigested matter in the intestines.

The experiment continued for twelve weeks—those on cooked food thriving and increasing, the others not. On slaughtering them, it was found that the intestines of the three fed on fermented food were full of worms—thus accounting for their not advancing. There was a difference in the return of the lots of pigs in favor of those fed on cooked food, of 1 7 3 lbs.—This experiment suggests great care and caution in feeding before a decided opinion is adopted in so nice and delicate a subject as the nutrition of animals, the health and constitution of which is so various.

☞ All stiff clays are benefitted by fall and winter plowings; but should never be plowed when wet.



SHORT-HORN BULL "FREMONT." Owned by Geo. W. Bicknell, Beloit, Wis.

Above we present a portrait of "FREMONT"—one of the finest animals of the Short-Horn breed we have seen.

PEDIGREE.—Fremont was calved in September, 1847. He was sired by the imported Brutus, out of Beauty, and Beauty by the imported bull Perfection. The dam of Beauty, Lady Washington, was imported in 1837. She was bred by Mr. Easton, Bridgewater, County of Somerset; her dam was got by Diamead; dam Purity by Brampton; gr. dam, Charity, by Wellington; gt. gr. dam, Dairymaid; gt. gt. gr. dam, by Sutton; dam Ruth by a son of Punch.

Brutus was imported by N. Whitaker, in 1839; sired by Holywell [2132]; dam Buxom, by Sir Walter [1459], a son of Fredric [1060]; gr. dam, Empress, [308,] a son of Herald [291]. Herald sold for two hundred and one guineas. Gt. gr. dam, Strawberry, by Count [170], a son of Young Countess—sold at Mr. C. Collings sale for 206 guineas. Gt. gt. gr. dam, Venus, by Badsworth [47]; Badsworth was half brother to Patriot, who was sold for 500 guineas; Gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, by Coats, son of the twin brother to Ben [660]; gt. gt. gt. gt. gr. dam, bred by George Strickland.

AUCTION SALE OF TROTTING HORSES.—In New York, on the 12th inst., the celebrated trotters, *Mac*, *Tacony* and *Frank Forester*, were sold at auction—*Mac* at $4,100; *Tacony* for $3,700; and *Frank Forester* for $2,350.—[Daily Wisconsin.

The above sale shows the importance to our farmers of breeding good horses. The expense of rearing a common pony is as much as that of a good animal. We may just as well raise a breed of horses that will bring at six years old from $500 to $5,000 each, as to raise those that will sell from $50 to $200. The above horses are all of the "Messenger" blood, which is supposed to be the best breed in America.—Waukesha Plaindealer.

☞ It is said, that if horses are liberally supplied with salt and clean wood ashes, they will neither be troubled with botts nor cholic.

Horticulture.

American Pomological Society.

The Fifth Session of this National Association, will be held at Horticultural Hall, in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, commencing on Wednesday, the thirteenth day of September next, at ten o'clock, A M.

It is intended to make this assemblage one of the most interesting that has ever been held in this country, on the subject of Pomology.—All Horticultural, Agricultural, and other kindred Associations of North America, are therefore requested to send such number of Delegates to this Convention, as they may deem expedient.

Pomologists, Nurserymen, and all others interested in the cultivation of good Fruit, are also invited to attend the coming session.

Among the objects of this Society, are the following:

To ascertain, from practical experience, the relative value of varieties in different parts of our widely extended country. To hear the Reports of the various State Fruit Committees, and from a comparison of results, to learn what Fruits are adapted to general cultivation; what varieties are suited to particular localities; what new varieties give promise of being worthy of dissemination; and especially, what varietes are generally inferior or worthless in all parts of the Union.

In order to facilitate these objects, and to collect and diffuse a knowledge of researches and discoveries in the Science of Pomology, members and delegates are requested to contribute specimens of the Fruits of their respective districts; also papers descriptive of their art of cultivation; of diseases and insects injurious to vegetation; of remedies for the same, and whatever may add to the interest and utility of the Association.

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has generously offered to provide accommodations for the Society, and also to publish its proceedings free of expense.

All packages of Fruit intended for exhibition, may therefore be addressed as follows:—"For the American Pomological Society, Horticultural Hall, School Street, Boston, Mass.;" where a committee will be in attendance to take charge of the same.

All Societies to be represented, will please forward Certificates of their delegations, to the President of the American Pomological Society, at Boston.

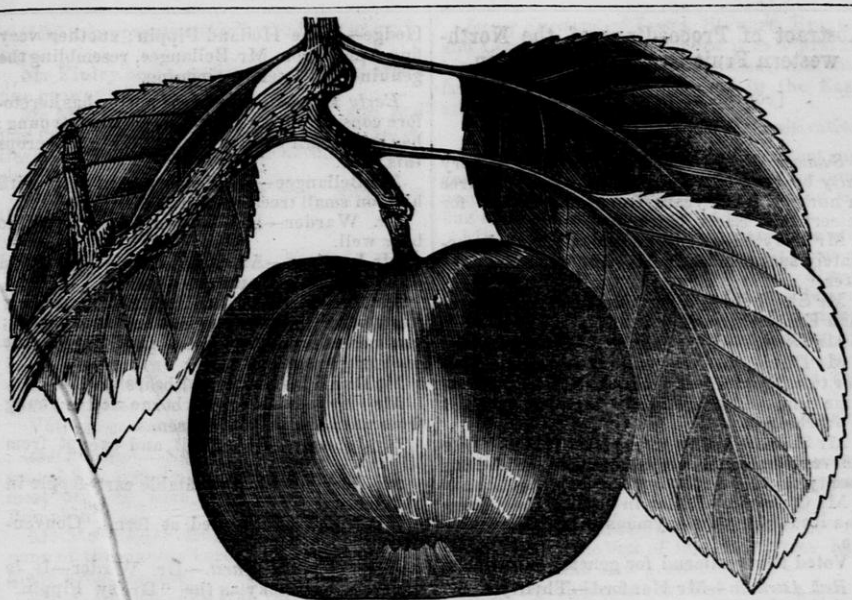
MARSHALL P. WILDER, Pres't.
H. W. S. CLEVELAND, Sec'y.
Boston, Mass., July, 1854.

☞ Editors of Horticultural and Agricultural periodicals and papers, desirous of advancing the objects of the above Association, are respectfully invited to give the above an insertion in their columns.

PEARS ON QUINCE STOCK.—B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, in his Notes on a recent tour thro' the West, says:—"I found at the West in many places the dwarf pears on quince stock, dead; the quince dying out. This extends all over the country; in the neighborhood of this city, very great loss has been sustained, especially on light soils. A gentleman in the West suggested that those on the light soils, so far as he was advised, died; but we find at the East, that they have failed on all varieties of soils. May not the difficulty be that the pear shoot being the more rapid grower, exhausts all the nutriment, and the quince can not secure enough to expand its roots. We have heard this suggested. But suppose they do succeed—at best they produce but little, and one good flourishing pear tree, like the French trees in Detroit, and others of our old varieties in this State, will produce as many pears as an 100 of these.

MANURE FOR STRAWBERRIES.—The following is from a communication to the Friend's Review, and may be very useful to many of our readers:—

"The writer had a very productive bed, 30 by 40 feet. I applied, says he, about once per week, for three times, commencing when the green leaves first begin to start, and made the last application just before the plants were in full bloom, the following preparation:—Nitrate of potash, (saltpetre,) glauber salts, and sal soda, (carbonate of soda,) each one pound, nitrate of ammonia, one quarter of a pound—dissolving them in 30 gallons of river or rain water. One third of this was applied at a time; and when the weather was dry, I applied clear soft water between the times of using the preparation, as the growth of the young leaves is so rapid, that unless supplied with water, the sun will scorch them. I used a common watering pot, making the application towards evening."



SUMMER ROSE APPLE.

Above we give a portrait of the Summer Rose Apple. Downing describes it as being a very pretty and very excellent apple, highly esteemed as a dessert fruit.

The fruit is small, roundish; pale yellow, striped and marbled with red; tender, sprightly, pleasant flavor. Later than Early Harvest, smaller and less productive. Adapted to the private garden, for which it is fine. Ripens early in August.

STORING APPLES IN DRY SAWDUST.—I have a dark closet in my house, or rather I live in a row with windows back and front The house is four stories high, and the length from front to back is so great, that we have three rooms on the floor, the centre dark. On the third story the floors are plaster, and I find the temperature so even that I use it for a wine-store in preference to the cellar, and have it fitted with bins. In this room I put some hampers of apples (like pearmains). I wanted one of the hampers and turned the apples in one of the bins, amongst the dry sawdust (pine sawdust). A fortnight ago we looked at them, having used up the others gathered at the same time, and from the same tree, all of which were much wrinkled; but on taking those off and from among the sawdust, I found them in a most beautiful condition; those covered with sawdust were as plump and fresh as when gathered; while those partially buried were only so to the extent covered with the sawdust, the upper portions being wrinkled. I am so pleased with the discovery, that I shall pack them in bins next year, for I have no doubt they will keep in this way till next Christmas.—[Ayr (Scotland) Advertiser.

EATING GRAPES.—This valuable and delicious fruit is now in season, and remarkably fine both in size and quality. One of the most scientific and popular cultivators, in answer to a question in reference to the proper method of eating them, states that it would be well to observe the following rules, namely: when in health to swallow only the pulp; when the bowels are costive, and you wish to relax them, swallow the seeds with the pulp, ejecting the skins. When you wish to check a too relaxed state of the bowels, swallow the pulp with the skins, ejecting the seeds. Thus may the grape be used as a medicine, while, at the same time, it serves as a luxury, unsurpassed by any other cultivated fruit. A man or woman may eat from two to four pounds of ripe grapes per day, with benefit. It is well to take them with, or immediately after, your regular meals.—[Scientific American.

PLANTING FRUIT TREES FOR OTHERS.—The Spanish have a maxim, that a man is ungrateful to the past generation that planted the trees from which he eats fruit, and deals unjustly towards the next generation, unless he plants the seed, that it may furnish food for those who come after him Thus when a son of Spain eats a peach or pear by the roadside, wherever he is, he digs a hole in the ground with his foot, and covers the seed. Consequently all over Spain, by the roadsides and elsewhere, fruit in great abundance tempts the taste and is free.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 183.]

APPLES.

Summer Rose.—Mr McWhorter—A very early bearer; but seventeen specimens on tree in nursery, three years from bud; rather for dessert than Early Harvest.

Mr Brayton—Fruit of fine quality; immediately succeeds Early Harvest, about six days later.

Mr Shepherd—With him three weeks later than Early Harvest.

Mr Loomis—Very fine, very early bearer.

Mr Dunlap has fruited it four years; superior to early Harvest; sells better; ripens at same time, and immediately after; is inclined to overbear.

Mr Stewart—Two weeks later than Early Harvest, and not very desirable in Adams county.

Mr Overman—Better in quality than Carolina Red June, synonymous with Glass Apple.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Red Astraean—Mr Hanford—Thrifty tree; fruit fine, but is much troubled by the birds.

Mr Finley—A good tree; fine fruit in season; is transient; rots very soon after ripening.

Mr Overman—Fruit spongy, and too acid.

Mr McWhorter—Too acid for the dessert; good for cooking; not troubled with rot.

Mr Truesdell—For his locality, one tree of Carolina Red June is worth six of Red Astracan.

Mr Loomis—Good in his section of country.

Mr Dunlap has planted largely for market; ripens from 1st to 15th of August; a good early bearer, and sells readily at high prices.

Dr. Warder questions its being permanently profitable.

Mr Harkness does not esteem it as very valuable.

No action recorded.

Early Joe.—Mr Shepherd is highly pleased with his acquaintance with this fruit; has not seen much of it.

Mr A. Bryant has fruited it two years; first rate in quality; an early bearer, but grows slowly, better from the root than when budded above the surface on seedling stock.

The President has not fruited it yet. The variety first obtained for it is another Apple, called "Luce's Early Joe."

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Benoni.—Mr McWhorter—At Muscatine, Iowa, found it very prolific, hardy, and of fine quality; an upright grower.

Not generally known to members in the West.

No action taken.

Drap d' Or.—Several Apples presented under this name; one of them—Drap D'Or of Hodge—is the Holland Pippin; another very fine Apple, from Mr. Bellangee, resembling the genuine, but later in ripening.

Early Harvest.—Mr McWhorter has heretofore considered it a poor bearer when young; has seen small budded trees bear good crops this year.

Mr Bellangee—Has borne a good crop with him, on small trees, root grafted.

Dr. Warder—Has known larger trees to bear well.

Mr Jennison—An early bearer with him, and in his section of country.

Mr Truesdell—A tree brought from New York several years since has not borne well; small trees propagated from that have borne good crops, on light soil.

Mr Dunlap—Grows and bears well.

Mr Harkness—Has not borne well on young trees until the present season.

Mr Johnson—Bears well, and exempt from blight.

Mr Loomis—Most profitable early Apple in his vicinity.

Has been recommended at former Conventions.

Early Red Margaret.—Dr. Warder—It is known in Kentucky as the "Greasy Pippin," from greasy appearance of the skin; stem is short.

Passed as too little known in the West.

Summer Queen.—Mr Loomis—Enormous bearer; one of the best early Apples for market.

Messrs. McWhorter and Jennison—Experience same.

Mr Overman—In his locality not very valuable; wanting in flavor; tree rather tender.

Mr Hanford—One of the most profitable; soil, rich prairie.

Mr Harkness—Wants a light, porous soil, suitable for the Peach; shy bearer with him; sells at high prices.

Mr Finley—A poor bearer with him, by the side of Fall Pippin and Golden Russet; soil, river bottoms, loamy.

Mr Shepherd—Moderate bearer; upland prairie.

No action recorded.

Williams' Favorite.—Mr Drake has fruited it two years; bears young; is beautiful, but insipid, and of leathery texture.

Messrs. Shepherd and S. Edwards fruited this year for the first; think it very promising.

Mr Richardson has had some fine specimens; a beautiful Apple, of much promise; vigorous grower; spreading head.

Mr Drake—His tree is a slow grower.

Dr. Warder—The genuine is of a beautiful brilliant red color, of good flavor. There are spurious varieties cultivated under this name.

No vote taken.

Alexander.—Mr Montague—Has fruited it several years; very large and showy; tree a slow grower, tardy in coming into bearing, very prolific after it commences to bear; difficult

variety to propagate, either by budding or grafting.

Mr Finley had a good crop this year; tree a fine grower with him.

Mr McWhorter—Fruit of large size and fair flavor; is acquainted with several varieties of large Apples, which he deems more desirable.

Mr Jennison—Has borne well with him this year.

No vote taken.

Duchess of Oldenburg.—Mr E. S. L. Richardson—A beautiful Apple, fine for cooking; acid; a prolific bearer.

The President—A large and handsome fruit, splashed and striped with red on yellow ground; sells readily at two dollars a bushel; has another variety resembling it thinks may be Rambour Franc.

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Golden Sweet.—Several specimens were presented from different sources under this name; most of them were decided to be Lyman's Pumpkin Sweet.

Mr McWhorter fruited it this year; sees none of the genuine here; thinks it impossible to keep it so late.

Mr A. Bryant—The true variety has rather a romantic flavor; an excellent Apple; tree a profuse bearer; his have been gone several weeks; can hardly keep them until the end of August; tree quite spreading.

Mr Stewart esteems it one of the best early sweet Apples; good and constant bearer; ripe middle of August; valuable to raise for swine; thinks it adapted to most localities.

Mr Brewster—Tree thrifty, hardy, and a good bearer; knows of no sweet Apple of its season that should supersede it; familiar with it from infancy; was raised on it.

After some discussion similar to that given above, voted to recommend the Golden Sweet of Downing for general cultivation.

Holland Pippin.—Mr Humphrey—Tree tender; winter kills it with him.

Mr Hathaway—With him a good grower and bearer; hardy; fruit rather acid, but good for culinary purposes; ripens in August.

The President—Free grower, good bearer; sells well; thinks many have the Holland Pippin under the name of "Drap D'Or."

Mr Harkness—Fine for display; does not deem it a profitable variety for the orchardist.

Mr Dunlap has many trees of it in orchard; received it under six different names; a rampant grower, good bearer, but does not hold its fruit well; sells well in market; coarse grained; fit only for cooking; could not recommend for general cultivation.

Mr Brayton—Opinion same as expressed by Mr Dunlap: would not utterly condemn it.

Mr Shepherd—Good Apples can be cooked as well as poor; markets may soon demand better fruits.

Voted (with its synonyms) unworthy of general cultivation.

Jersey Sweeting.—Messrs. Stewart, Brayton and Loomis each recommended it as a profuse bearer, tree a good grower; fruit sustains, thus far, its high reputation obtained in the Eastern States.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Lyman's Pumpkin Sweet.—The President suggested that varieties presented might be synonymous with *Pound Sweet.* The genuine is a fine fruit, sometimes watery at the core.

Mr Stetson has known the variety presented here under the name of Pound Sweet; tree an excellent grower; a fine, large fruit; always sells well for cooking, inferior for the dessert.

Mr Dunlap has raised the Pound Sweet several years; decidedly valuable for making apple sauce and baking.

Mr Brayton—There are others of its season which he prefers.

Mr Montague likes it for its good bearing qualities.

Voted to recommend the Pound Sweet for general cultivation for stock and culinary purposes.

Mother.—Dr. Haskell has fruited it several years; one of the best of its season; tree hardy, upright, and slow grower.

Mr Brayton has not fruited it yet; tree a fine grower in nursery; stock grafted.

Mr. S. Edwards—Slowest grower in his collection; thinks it too little known in the West to recommend for general cultivation.

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Brabant Belle Flower.—President—The tree is a straggling grower.

Passed as too little known in the West for an expression.

Detroit Red.—Several varieties under this name, and *Danvers' Winter Sweet,* passed without action.

Hubbardston Nonsuch.—Dr Haskell—The tree is tender; difficult to raise root grated.

Mr Brayton—With him worthless root grafted, but fine, thrifty grower and very productive when budded or stock grafted: has fruited in his neighborhood, of first quality.

Mr Montague received it as Oldtown Pippin.

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Lady Apple.—Dr. Haskell has fruited it several years; flavor delicious.

Mr Brayton—Difficult to propagate.

No vote taken.

Murphy.—Mr. Jennison has fruited it; a fine looking Apple, not of very good quality; tree a good grower.

Mr Dunlap has fruited it; of ordinary quality.

No action recorded.

[*To be continued.*]

☞ There are 1600 acres in the Ohio Valley, and 560 acres in the Mississippi valley, employed in the grape culture.

Premium List

For the First Exhibition of the WISCONSIN FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, to be holden at Milwaukee on Thursday and Friday, the 5th and 6th of Oct., 1854.

APPLES

For the best and greatest variety of good apples, not less than three of each variety, named and labeled,	$10 00
For the 2d best, do.,	5 00
Best six varieties of autumn apples, not less than 3 of each variety, named and labeled,	5 00
2d best do.	3 00
Best three varieties of autumn apples, not less than 3 of each variety, named and labeled,	3 00
2d best do.,	2 00
For the best six varieties of winter apples, not less than 3 of each variety, named and labeled,	5 00
2d best do.,	3 00
Best three varieties of winter apples, not less than 3 of each variety, named and labeled,	3 00
2d best do.,	2 00

PEARS.

For the best and greatest variety of good pears, not less than 2 of each variety, named and labeled,	8 00
2d best do.,	4 00
Best six varieties of good pears, not less than 2 of each variety, named and labelled,	5 00
2d best do.,	3 00
Best variety of pears, not less than two specimens,	2 00

PEACHES.

For the best exhibition of good peaches,	4 00

PLUMS.

For the best exhibition of good plums, named and labeled,	5 00
2d best do.,	3 00
Best three varieties of good plums, named and labelled,	3 00
2d best do.,	2 00
Best six plums of any variety, named and labeled,	2 00

QUINCES.

For the best twelve quinces of any variety,	3 00
2d best do. do.	1 00

MELONS.

For the best two watermelons of any variety,	3 00
2d best do. do.	1 00
Best two muskmelons, of any variety,	3 00
2d best do do.	1 00
Best collection of melons,	$3 00
2d best do.	1 00

GRAPES.

Best exhibition of good varieties,	5 00
Best 12 bunches of any variety,	3 00

RULES AND NOTES FOR EXHIBITORS.

Competitors for the premiums offered by the Association are required to present with their fruits, a card, on which shall be written the names of the varieties entered by them, which names shall correspond to numbers or other distinguishing marks affixed (when practicable) to the fruits themselves.

Fruits for which premiums are awarded will be considered as the property of the Association.

Fruits for exhibition only, will be received at any time; but those for competition *must* be delivered in charge of the Executive Committee on or before noon of the first day of exhibition.

Fruits entered *for competition* must have been grown by the competitor.

But one premium will be awarded on the same fruit.

Fruits intended for the exhibition should be very carefully packed in chaff, cotton, or other substance, to prevent bruising.

When the grower cannot accompany the fruit he intends for the exhibition, if it be directed "Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association, care of H. CROCKER, Esq.," and forwarded by express or otherwise, it will receive all possible attention.

Fruits donated to the Association will be distributed or exchanged among members, or sold at the close of the exhibition for the benefit of the treasury.

Certificates of membership may be obtained by enclosing one dollar (with name and address plainly written) to R. W. PARKER, Treasurer, Milwaukee.

The certificate is good for the year in which it is issued, and entitles the holder to free admission to all the exhibitions of the Association; the privilege of competing for the premiums offered; copies of all publications issued.

Conventions will be held in the forenoons of the days of exhibition, at which the merits of different varieties of fruits, and the modes of culture best adapted to the climate and soils of the State, will be discussed.

At these Conventions arrangements will be made by which members will be afforded the greatest facilities for the comparison and examination of the fruits on exhibition.

The second Exhibition and Convention of the Association will be held about the first of January next. The officers of the Association will spare no pains to render the occasion one of real utility to all concerned. They cordially invite the co-operation of the Fruit Growers throughout the State.

H. J. STARIN, President.
MARK MILLER, Secretary.

Regulations of the Rock Co. Fair.

The Fair will be held at Janesville, on Wednesday, and Thursday, the 13th and 14th of September, 1854.

All persons who intend to exhibit Animals or Articles at the Fair, must present them at the Show Grounds on Wednesday, the first day of the Fair. No Article or Animal can be *entered* the second day.

All persons before entering articles for competition, must become members of the Society, which they can do by the payment of one dollar at the time of making such entry, at the Secretary's office.

Members of the Society will be furnished with a Certificate and Badge, which will admit them and their families to the Show Grounds during the Fair.

Any person can become a LIFE MEMBER of the Society by paying Two Dollars and Fifty Cents on the first day of the Fair, and for three years thereafter, annually, the sum of Two Dollars and Fifty Cents, making the sum of Ten Dollars, as provided by the Constitution of the Society, and will receive a certificate of Life Membership and a corresponding Badge.

Tickets of admission to visitors, who are not members 12½ cents.

Members of the Society will be allowed to enter the Show Grounds in carriages with their families.

No carriages (except those of members of the Society,) will be permitted to enter the Show Grounds, without having paid an entrance fee of $1 00, and the inmates also having furnished themselves with tickets.

The grounds will be opened on the first day to members and exhibitors only, as it will be occupied in receiving and arranging articles for exhibition.

Animals or articles offered for competition, must be labeled with the names and place of residence of the owners, at full length—cards for which will be furnished by the Secretary when the article or animal is entered upon his books.

There will be no premium awarded to any animal or article, where there is no competition, unless the animal or article possesses SUPERIOR merit.

No animals or articles must be removed from the Show Grounds till the Fair is closed, but by the permission of the Superintendent.

Articles or animals not *enumerated* in the Premium List may be entered and *discretionary* premiums will be awarded, and reports made by a Committee appointed especially for that purpose.

Persons residing out of the County or State, may present their animals or articles for exhibition, and will receive such discretionary Premiums as the Judges may award.

All animals or articles presented for exhibition will be under the particular direction of the Superintendent of the several divisions, and the whole under the general direction of the Marshal.

The Board of Managers will take every precaution in their power for the safe preservation of stock and articles on exhibition, *after their arrival and arrangement upon the grounds*, but cannot be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. They request exhibitors themselves to give attention to their articles, and with the united co-operation of all concerned, it is believed that there will be no loss or damage.

A SPADING MATCH will come off on Thursday, at 10 o'clock A. M.—10 inches deep.

A PLOWING MATCH will come off on Wednesday, precisely at 11 o'clock A. M., in a field near the Show Grounds. Each team will be required to plow one-fourth of an acre.

The team may consist of one pair of horses, or one yoke of oxen, and must be managed by the plowman.

Each plowman will be required to mark out his land by plowing at least four back furrows from a strip for that purpose.

The excellence of the work to consist in leaving the furrow slice of uniform width, and in such a position as to dispose of the sod or other vegetable matter so as to ensure their speedy decomposition Also, the furrow should be comparatively straight and of uniform depth, and at least six inches deep.

Competitors for premiums under this head must become members of the Society, and have their names, teams, and kind of plow to be used entered on the Secretary's books on the first day of the Fair.

The PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS will be delivered at precisely 3 o'clock P M., on Thursday.

The successful competitors for premiums will be declared, and the Treasurer's report read, on Thursday at 4 o'clock P. M.

The Awarding Committees will meet at the Secretary's office at precisely 9 o'clock A. M., to receive their lists of entries, and instructions, at which time all vacancies in their respective Committees will be filled, when they will immediately enter upon the duties assigned to them.

The particular attention of ALL is called to the fact, that the Fair is not only intended as an Exhibition and Show of animals and articles of superior merit, but for the EXCHANGE and SALE of the same.

Safe pens and other appurtenances for securing animals or articles, will be in readiness at the Show Grounds.

Forage will be provided, consisting of Hay, Oats, Corn, &c., also, water; so that no animal need be removed from the grounds until the Exhibition is closed.

The Board of Managers take this opportunity to extend a cordial invitation to the people of Rock, and the counties adjoining, in Wisconsin and Illinois, to be present and unite in the exercises of an occasion fraught with so much interest to the Farmer and Mechanic.

S. P LATHROP, President.
C. R. GIBBS, Secretary.
JANESVILLE, June 5th, 1854.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

This and the following month, on some accounts, are the most joyous months of the gladsome year. We now hope in earnest to gather in the results of our summer's labors, and realize the income and profits of our investments. The golden harvest is finished and gathered into pyramids and cones around our homesteads, which rival in number and magnitude those of Egypt, while they surpass them in their contained wealth. The garden, that perennial fount of so many rich delights, from early summer to later fall, now furnishes its choicest gifts; and the orchard, so patiently waited for, now perfects its fruits, and fulfills its promises, and pours into the lap its delicious treasures.

The flocke and herds, dismissed in early spring from their narrow enclosures, to wander freely through wider fields, now gather round their master's home, joyous in their own enlarged dimensions and sleek apparel, and proud of their offspring. The fowls of the yard, the beast of the field, and the horses of the steed, all happy in the summer's prosperity, join in the chorus, "Here are we and the children thou hast given us."

Now, too, begin our County Fairs, those valuable and pleasing rustic festivals, to which gather the untold and too little esteemed yeomanry of the land; and where, too, are seen the choicest fruits, the choicest animals, the choicest men, and the handsomest women.

In this as well as the last month, it will be necessary to select seeds for the next year's crops. Let all read our articles on the selection and preservation of seed corn and seeds in general.

Some of the wheat will be threshed during this and the next month. We hope that proper care will be taken to clean the wheat well.—Wisconsin has lost something in not being sufficiently careful in cleaning wheat and corn of all foreign matter. We hope, too, that measures will be taken to secure the flouring of all our wheat in the State. We cannot afford to have any thing carried out of the State that we so much need here for feed or for manure.—Farmers should see to it that their wheat is floured at home, and that they have the coarse parts returned to them for feed, &c.

We would also urge the early digging of potatoes, and the proper storage of them in the cellar, before the long rains of the late fall.—We believe that thousands of bushels of this important tuber are annually lost from their being exposed to the late fall rains and frosts, and from over-ripening.

We repeat the remark of last month, that it is now time to look well to all kinds of stock which are to be wintered. See that they come into winter quarters in good condition. This should be the case, especially with all classes of young animals. It is time now, also, to commence the feeding of hogs for pork. Great advantage is gained by commencing early and using the warm and favorable weather of the fall, rather than to delay the matter till it is so cold that all the food that can be given will be required to keep them warm. Commence then as early as you can get material to feed. The same may be said of the cattle that are to be stall fed; the more flesh that can be got on before cold weather, the better and cheaper will it be.

We would urge upon our readers the importance of the early sowing of winter grain, and putting it in with the greatest care. Read our articles in the last volume, regarding the sowing of winter wheat. To those who keep sheep, we would advise as last month, the early sowing of winter rye for fall and spring feed—a practice abundantly sustained by the experience of some of our best farmers and flocksmen.

Before another issue of the Farmer, most of the Fairs will have passed. We therefore seize upon this opportunity to urge upon the farmers to exert themselves to the extent of their ability to render these occasions pleasing and profitable to all who visit them. Do your best to sustain them, and endeavor to profit by them.—They furnish excellent opportunities to cultivate your judgment, while they should stimulate you to the proper improvement of your flocks and herds, and lead you to the introduction of new and improved methods of cultivating your farms and managing your crops.

A Cure for Sore Teats.—Take some linseed oil, after milking, and wet the teats for a few nights. It will cure them and save the cow the trouble of kicking and getting kicked, and prevent spilling some milk.—[Maine Farmer.

ROUP IN FOWLS.—The following is said, by those who have tried it, to be a good remedy for this troublesome disease: Mix with about four ounces of fresh butter, one table-spoonful of finely pulverized sage, one of rue, and one of soot, and give each fowl a pill of about the size of a cranberry, once a day for three or four days.

CURE FOR PALPITATION.—A lady, about forty years old, says the Journal of Health, who has suffered severely from periodical attacks of palpitation of the heart, from the age of 12 years, has found immediate and permanent relief from the use of soda water. It appears from experiments since made, that carbonic acid gas is the active curative agent.

WALNUTS A FAMILY MEDICINE.—The New England Cultivator presents the following receipt for making a useful medicine from walnuts:

Get the green walnuts fit for pickling, put them in a stone jar filled up with sugar, in the proportion of half a pound to a score of walnuts; place the jar in a saucepan of boiling water, for about three hours, taking care that the water does not get in, and keep it simmering during the operation. The sugar, when dissolved, should cover the walnuts, and if it does not, add more, cover it close, and in six months it will be fit for use, the older it gets the better it is. One walnut is a dose for a child six years of age, as a purgative, and it has the great advantage over drugs, that while it is an excellent medicine, it is at the same time very pleasant to the palate, and will be esteemed by the young folks as a treat.

THE BITE OF A RATTLESNAKE.—The most simple and convenient remedy, says a correspondent of the Macon Messenger, I ever heard of, was alum. A piece the size of a hickory nut, dissolved in water and drank, or chewed and swallowed, is sufficient. I have good authority for saying it has been tried many times on men and dogs, and that they have invariably recovered. I know of some planters whose hands are exposed to be bitten by rattlesnakes, who always have them provided with it in their pockets, and they have several times found use for it.

TO SECURE BACON FROM THE FLY.—A writer in the American Farmer recommends as an infallible remedy against the fly: When your bacon is smoked early in the spring, before the fly has made its appearance, take quick lime slackened to a dry powder, and rub the meat thoroughly on every part with it, leaving it to adhere as much as possible; hang up your meat, and rest secure from any trouble from insects.

GREASE FOR CARRIAGE WHEELS.—This composition prevents friction to a great extent. Its cost is not comparatively greater than the materials often employed for the purpose; it is not changed by heat, and hence does not liquify and run away from its proper place.

Black lead, pulverised,	50	parts by	weight.
Hog's lard,	50	do.	do.
White soap,	50	do.	do.
Quicksilver,	5	do.	do.

Amalgamate well the lard and mercury by rubbing them together for a long time in a mortar, then gradually add the black lead, and lastly the soap, mixing the whole as perfectly as possible.—[Iowa Farmer.

LIQUID GLUE.—The following recipe, the discovery of a French chemist, is about the country as a secret, for various prices, from one to five dollars. It is a handy and valuable glue, as it does not gelantinize, nor undergo putrefaction and fermentation and become offensive, and can be used cold for all the ordinary purposes of glue, in making or mending furniture, books, broken vessels, that are exposed to water, &c.

In a wide-mouthed bottle, dissolve 8 oz. of best glue, in a half pint of water, by setting it in a vessel of water, and heating till dissolved. Then add slowly, constantly stirring, 2 oz. of strong aqnafortis (nitric acid). Keep it well corked, and it will be ready for use.

TAN BURNER.—Moses Thompson, of Richmond, Va., has invented a mode of burning tan and saw-dust as a fuel for steam engines, and has his invention now in successful operation. It secures a perfect combustion of tan, even when wet, and may be used so as to effect an important saving.

NEW CURE FOR BURNS.—Mr. A. Bronson, of Meadville, Pa., says, from fifteen years' experience, he finds that Indian meal poultice covered over with young hyson tea, softened with hot water, and laid over burns or frozen flesh, as hot as can be borne, will relieve the pain in five minutes. If blisters have not arisen before, they will not after it is put on, and that one poultice is generally sufficient to effect a cure.

Editors Table.

Sheep at our next State Fair.—J. J. McAllister, of Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y., writes us that he shall attend our next State Fair, at Milwaukee, and exhibit a small flock of pure blooded French and Spanish Merino Bucks and Ewes. If the portraits of Mr. McAllister's sheep which he has sent us, are faithfully drawn, he will not be allowed to take them back, if they can be purchased at fair prices.

Subscribers and Premiums.—According to the terms announced in our Prospectus for the present year, we have distributed packages of valuable seeds to different parts of the Western States.

The present subscribers (82) for this year, in the town of New Milford, Winnebago co., Ill., are entitled to the Farmer *free* for the year 1855; and the present subscribers for this year, in the town of Middleton, Dane co., Wis., are entitled to the Farmer at *half price* for the year 1855.

Some of the towns ranging the highest on our books, are the following: New Milford has 1 subscriber to every 7 persons; Middleton 1 to every 15; Beloit 1 to every 18; Stevens Point 1 to every 23; Lake Mills 1 to every 25; Whitewater 1 to 26; Milton and Albany 1 to 27; Linden 1 to 33; Iowa City 1 to 45, &c.

We find on our books a large number of places in Iowa and Minnesota, and some few in Wisconsin, where there are lists of from 20 to 30 subscribers, where it appears by the census returns there was nobody in 1850. In order to do justice to these towns, we propose to give the Farmer *free*, for the year 1855, to all the subscribers of the town not reported in the census of 1850, which gives us the largest list of subscribers for this year, the list to be completed by the first of November next; and at *half price* to the subscribers of the town furnishing us the next largest list. Now, ye new comers, show us your hand, and give us your names, and remember the conditions; and we say, success to every one of you!!

Drought in Kentucky.—The Louisville papers complain of the excessive drought in that State, which has proved of incalculable injury to the growing crops, and reduced the corn crop to less than half an average.

Fine Fruit.—We would tender our acknowledgements to H. J. Starin, of Whitewater, President of the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association, for a box of fine harvest apples—some twenty varieties of the choicest kinds known. Taken together, friend Starin has presented us with the finest collection of early apples that we have ever seen.

Mr. Starin commenced the cultivation of fruit, on his present place of residence, at an early day, and when the business was viewed as visionary in Wisconsin. His success has been the result of practical experience.

Among the varieties, we notice the Red Astracan, Red Margaret, Risley, Indiana, Summer Queen and Summer Pippin. The last four, Mr. S. says, are the finest growing trees in his orchard, and come into bearing quite early. We find some Seedling Sweets worthy of notice. We also find the Golden Sweet, Rennet, Sweet Bough, Sudbury Sweet, Spice, Risley, and many others. The collection of sweet apples is superb. We shall give outlines of some of these specimens in our next number.

Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association.—We would invite particular attention to the *Premium List* of this Association found in another column. The first Fair of the Society will be held on the 5th and 6th of Oct., at Milwaukee. We have not room, nor do we deem it necessary at this time, to explain the objects and aims of the Society, or to urge upon our readers the importance of sustaining it—all this we have done before. Very liberal premiums have been offered, considering the infancy of the Society. It will be observed that the time and place fixed for holding the exhibition is the same as that of the State Agricultural Fair—giving visitors an opportunity of attending both at the same time. We anticipate a good time, and hope the occasion will call together a large collection of the fruits and fruit growers of our State.

Key City.—This is the honorary name which the citizens of Dubuque have adopted. The name can be claimed by no other town on the Mississippi with more propriety.

☞ The number of acres of swamp lands lying in the State of Missouri, is reported to be 2,765,871, and in Illinois 2,370,635. Much of this land can and will be reclaimed, and in general, the soil is so rich as to make it very valuable.

STATE FAIRS, 1854.—Michigan, at Detroit, Sept. 26 to 29.

Ohio, at Newark, Sept. 19, 20, 21, 22.

Vermont, at Brattleborough, Sept. 13, 14, 15.

Illinois, at Springfield, Sept. 12, 13, 14, 15.

Pennsylvania, Sept. 27, 28, 29.

New York, at New York, Oct. 3, 4, 5, 6.

Connecticut, at N. Haven, Oct. 10, 11, 12, 13.

Indiana, at Madison, Oct. 4, 5, 6, 7.

Iowa, at Fairfield, Oct. 25.

Wisconsin, at Milwaukee, Oct. 4, 5, 6.

New Hampshire, Oct 3, 4, 5, 6.

Maryland, at Baltimore, Oct. 3, 4, 5, 6.

Georgia, at Augusta, Oct. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.

Springfield Cattle Show, Ohio, Oct. 25, 26, 27.

Missouri, at Booneville, Oct. 2 to 6.

Lower Canada, at Quebec, Sept. 12, 13, 14, 15.

THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR.—The American Institute and the New York Horticultural Society will unite with the State Agricultural Society, in the Fair to be held at Hamilton Square on the 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th days of October next.

COUNTY FAIRS.—Rock County, Wis., at Janesville, Sept. 13 and 14.

Walworth County, Wis., at the village of Elkhorn, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 26th and 27th of Sept.

JONES CO.—The Agricultural Society of this county will hold their annual Fair on the 20th and 21st of September. At a late meeting of the society, a resolution was unanimously passed that the inability of a wife to make good bread should be considered a good ground of divorce. Sensible Society that.—[Iowa City Reporter.

Alamakee county, Iowa, at Waukau, Oct. 18.

Dodge County, at Juneau, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 27 and 28.

Dane County, at Madison, Thursday, September 20th.

SEE HERE.—Where are the officers of the Green County Agricultural Society? Have they made any arrangements for the fall Fair? It is time that our Society was put in order, the several town committees appointed, and such arrangements made that the Fair can be held the forepart of October. What say you; are you ready for the question?—[Sentinel. We hope our agricultural brethren of Green county will not allow their County Fair to go by default. A Society has been formed, and a good deal of interest awakened, as we have been informed by one of its members. If the Society does not hold a Fair this fall, all that has been done is worse than if no movement at all had been made. Those who are desirous of sustaining a Society will become discouraged, if not disgusted, and be very likely to take little or no interest in a second attempt of the kind.

CALIFORNIA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A State Agricultural Society was organized by the Legislature, on the 14th of May, and $5,000 a year, for four years, appropriated, to be expended in premiums.

President—T. W. Macandray, San Francisco.

Seven Vice Presidents.

Corresponding Secretary—J. L. L. F. Warren, San Francisco.

Recording Secretary—C. V. Gillespie, San Francisco.

Treasurer—Judge David Chambers, San Francisco.

☞ A vein of coal, ten feet in thickness, has been opened in Jones county, Iowa, said to be the thickest yet discovered in the State, the average being less than four feet.

So says an exchange. Can any one tell us in what part of Jones county the said coal bed is located?—[ED. FARMER.

IOWA TRADE.—A writer to the Chicago Journal very truly says, you formerly had little or no benefit from the travel or trade of Iowa, now I notice that you command a liberal share of that business, and unless I am mistaken in my judgment, it won't be four years more before you command three-fourths of all the trade, travel and custom of that rapidly growing and rich young State.

CLERGYMEN.—John Adams being called upon for a contribution for foreign missions, remarked: "I have nothing to give for that cause; but there are here in this vicinity, six ministers, not one of whom will preach in the others pulpit; now, I will give as much, and more than any one else, to *civilize these clergymen!*"

☞ Paris, Ky., says the Cincinnati Atlas, is the greatest live stock market in the West.—The total amount of sales on court day, March 9th, was 105,944 80. The number of mules sold was 830. Many of them were brought from Missouri, Illinois and Indiana.

THE MAY PLOW.—We are requested to say to our readers, that this celebrated Plow is still in market. Those who wish to purchase, can find them at the Plow Factory of Clark & Powell, west side of the river, Beloit; also, at O. W. Norton's, west side the river, Janesville.

☞ We have received the following circular, which we publish more for the purpose of letting our readers know what is being done in this line, rather than because we expect that any of our ladies will wish to compete in such a course. We should be pleased, however, to see our young ladies giving their attention to Equestrianism, or the skillful management of the house:

GREAT DISPLAY OF FEMALE EQUESTRIANISM—$1,250 IN PRIZES will be contended for at the NATIONAL COURSE, near the City of New York, on Tuesday of the second week in October, 1854.

Ladies from all parts of the Union are invited to compete for the prizes, which will be distributed in various sums, according to the skill and grace shown in the management of the horse.

The Premiums will be divided in the following manner:

1	Prize of $500.	1	Prize of $100.
1	do. 200.	5	Prizes of 50 each.
	8 Prizes of $25 each.		

Ladies wishing to contend for the above Prizes, are requested to send their card of address, with reference, to W. W. Boyden, 88 Prince street, New York. Judges of the first respectability will be selected to award the Premiums, &c.

Names to be registered as competitors for the above Prizes, must be sent in before the 20th day of September.

The National Course, recently constructed at a cost of $260,000, is inclosed with a substantial Brick wall, 12 feet high, and the area contains 64 acres of a level and beautiful surface, and has been selected as being the finest place for a display of the kind in the United States.

WIDE LATITUDE.—A California paper, in speaking of the crops on the Ranche of Gen. Hutchinson, formerly of Kenosha, (and of whom many of the farmers of Kenasha and Walworth counties still retain a lasting recollection,) says: "The yield of barley, it is estimated by those engaged in harvesting it, will range per acre, from thirty to ninety bushels.

THE IMPROVED HOUSEWIFE.—We are indebted to Messrs. Wright, Merrill & Co., Booksellers and Paper dealers, of Beloit, for a copy of the above work. We have frequently refreshed our bodies by looking over its rules and recipes, all of which—great connoiseurs in the cooking line as we are acknowledged to be—we must say are decidely excellent. This is such an "Improved Housewife" as we would advise every lover of good things, and *pennies* too, to marry, as it is "a guide to those who would *cook well* and *please the palate* at *small expense*—considerations of no small importance *at all times*." W., M. & Co.'s establishment is one of the best in the State.

GODEY for Sept. is already on our table, filled, as usual, with a choice variety of reading. The Fashion plates and other illustrations in this number, are worth the price of a volume.

WEST AMERICAN MONTHLY.—The August No. at hand. This excellent work is improving, and bids fair to supersede many of its Eastern rivals. Address, Jethro Jackson, Cincinnati.

THE AMERIKANISCHE BANER.—Such is the title of an Agricultural paper, published monthly, at Harrisburg, Pa. in the German Language; —$1 per year. We cannot speak of its ability, as it is all Greek to us. One thing we can say, however, that there is not an Agricultural paper in this country more neatly printed, and illustrated with better engravings. We would recommend our German Farmers, every where, to subscribe for it.

LOOK BEFORE YOU EMIGRATE.—An Iowa man who was tempted off into Oregon, writes home for the benefit of the uninitiated in the Pacific States:

"In my judgmont this is no country for fruit, the sap remains in the trunk till late in the fall, then the winter sets in and kills them, and the fruit raised here is of an inferior flavor, very small and hard.

"Pork in this country is of an inferior grade and low flavor, so much so that I prefer that shipped from the States. In a word, what all this country is well adapted to in the line of agriculture, is raising wheat and oats. and not more of that to the acre than in the western States. As to vegetables, they cannot be successfully raised unless the land is manured and well cultivated."

SEEDS.—Our thanks are due Hon. C. Mason, Commissioner of Patents, for a package of imported Turnip Seeds. There are six varieties, all of which are new to us—*Sutton's Imperial Green Globe; Dale's Hybrid; River's Stubble Sweedish; Alcroft Sweedish; Sutton's Purple Topped Yellow Hybrid;* and *Linconshire Red Globe.* We regret that they were received too late for sowing the present season.

BROCKWAY COLLEGE.—We are in receipt of the first annual Catalogue of this Institution, located at Ripon, Wis. The Catalogue shows the attendance of 136 students—58 ladies and 78 gentlemen. The Preparatory and Normal Departments have been organized, and it is expected that the Collegiate Department will be soon. The Academic year is divided into four terms, of eleven weeks each, commencing on the 30th August, 29th November, 21st February, and 23d May.

Ripon is a pleasant, healthy location, in the midst of a beautiful farming country. We bespeak for this new Institution the attention of parents who have sons and daughters to educate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.—Hon. Benjamin C. Eastman will accept our thanks for Part 1st of the Patent Office Reports for 1853. From a hasty perusal, we judge this vol. to be very much ahead of any of its predecessors. It contains 510 pages, and printed on excellent paper. The subjects upon which it treats are profusely illustrated—numbering between six and seven hundred cuts.

PEOPLES' JOURNAL.—This compendium of Agricultural, Mechanical and Miscellaneous reading, appears upon our table regularly. It is an interesting work for the general reader, got up in a very attractive style.

☞ We are again publishing advertisements of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. This medicine is taking a very strong hold upon the good opinion of the people. It is regarded generally as a most excellent remedy for Pulmonary Complaints, Coughs and Colds.

Having found it an excellent medicine, we cheerfully endorse it.—[Miscellany, Detroit.

CARE OF KNIVES.—Never lay knives in hot water, it injures the handles and destroys the polish.

HARDWARE.—R. J. & E. S. Richardson can supply every thing in this line. They have a large assortment of Stoves—indispensables in every family. Read their advertisement, and above all, examine their stock and prices, and you will be pretty sure to buy.

FOWLS FOR SALE.—See Dr. Freeman's advertisement of blooded fowls. The Dr.'s long experience in raising fine fowls, entitles him to the confidence of all who wish to purchase—We would say to all who wish to buy, give him a call.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.—Farwell & Bro. will be found at their new store, next door to the Merchant's Hotel, ready to administer to all the ills that flesh is heir to. They have a fine stock of every thing in their line. Give them a call.

AYERS' CHERRY PECTORAL.—The advertisement of this popular medicine will be found in another column. Price per bottle, $1. We would also invite attention to the advertisement of Ogilvie & Barrows, which follows, on the same page. We can assure the reader that they sell the genuine article, though below the price of other dealers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

☞ An Italian proverb says, that "the smiles of beauty are the tears of the purse."

STATE UNIVERSITY.

THE first term of the next Collegiate year will open the third Wednesday of September; the Second Term, the first Wednesday of January; the Third, the fourth Wednesday of April;—containing each thirteen weeks.

Tuition fee for term, $4 00
Private rooms, fuel, &c, for term, 3 00
No additional charges for contingencies.

A full course of instruction in Agricultural Science will be rendered during the first two terms, by the Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, Dr. S. P. LATHROP, who is now East selecting the apparatus needful for the Department.

The members of the Agrioultural Classes will have the privilege of pursuing any other branch of study, in connection with the Preparatory and College Classes, without additional charge.

The thrifty financial condition of the State University, the liberal and practical views which characterise its administration, and the extremely moderate charges at which its advantages are offered entitle it to the confidence and support of the Agricultural public.

We are certain that we can do the young farmers of Wisconsin no better service than to enjoin it upon them, as we do most heartily, to prepare themselves for the Agricultural profession, by attending on the scientific instructions of the State University. We hope to hear of the entrance of a large class the coming fall.

WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., OCTOBER, 1854. NO. 10.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS,—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

Rock County Fair.

The Fourth Annual Fair of the Rock Co. Agricultutal Society took place at its grounds, in Janesville, on the 13th and 14th days of September. The Fair this year, in several respects, surpassed that of any previous year; while in others, it was quite inferior to some former exhibitions.

In the departments of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Swine, and Poultry, the exhibition can hardly be excelled, if equalled, by any County Society. The advance in these departments was most gratifying to every lover of good stock. We have given a good deal of attention to this branch of Agriculture, and in our late examination of Improved Stock at the East, we find few instances of better specimens, either of horses, cattle or swine, than were exhibited at this Fair. We have not room to go into particulars, and we feel less inclined to do so, when we see so good judgment and nice discrimination exhibited by the farmers in their selection of improved animals. If the farmers of Rock do not *have* good cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry, it cannot be because they do not *know* what they are.

We are sorry to see any falling off in the interest manifested in domestic manufactures, though we presume the late exhibition is to be taken as a true indication of the fact.

The exhibition of Farm and Garden Products, though not so good as last year and some other years, yet was quite respectable.

The exhibition of Fruit was a good one for this year, though much smaller in quantity than last year.

We have abundant occasion to congratulate the farmers of Rock Co. for the success that is attending their efforts for improvement. We feel a degree of pride when we contemplate the fact of their advanced progress, especially in stock, and that *we* have labored with them to attain this end.

The Future Price of Wheat.

We have watched with a good deal of care and interest, the market price of wheat and corn, for the last six months. From all we can gather, our opinion is, that prices for the year to come will rule considerably lower. It is now quite evident, that the local drouth in this country will have but little or no influence upon prices of wheat. The wheat harvest is not only abundant in England, our largest customer, but in all the wheat districts throughout the world. The surplus of Canada is estimated at 6,000,000 bushels—though we think it too high.

We advise those who are holding on to their wheat and corn for higher prices, to consider the following:

"The harvest prospects since the change of the weather, have become favorable. In the south of France, in Spain, in Italy, in the Southern States of America; the harvest has made considerable progress, and according to reports, is generally good. In Germany, too, the rye harvest has begun and promises well. A very unusual breadth of land has everywhere been sown with cereals, and there is no doubt but the quantity will be large, whatever the quality may be.

"Wheat growing is a very old and very extensive art, and from the high prices everywhere prevalent in the last year, we may infer that much wheat has everywhere been grown. We may speedily look for a change in the price of bread corn.

"Our own markets have already given way; from America, prices come lower; and we must now expect an aproximation to what will be

the ruling price in the markets of the world."—[Mark Lane (England) Express.

The New York Express says: "The wheat crop this year is believed to be the largest ever garnered; and, taking into consideration the Reciprocity Treaty, which will bring Canadian flour into our market free of duty, we look to see prices down to $5 (for common brands) before the close of Autumn."

The Senior editor of the New York Courier and Enquirer, Col. J. W. Webb, who is now in England, writes home a letter, under date of London, August 24th, in which he says that the British wheat crop is bountiful beyond all precedent, and predicts that wheat, which is now selling in London at about $1,65 per bushel, will fall before Christmas to nine shillings per bushel. He proceeds: "I have arrived at the conclusion, from all I can learn from the oldest inhabitant, that the wheat crop, now being rapidly secured, is not only the greatest in extent, but the most productive per acre that has ever been produced in the United Kingdom. February, March and April were the driest months remembered to have occurred in this country, and during this period more acres were sown with wheat, and it was altogether better sown and 'got in,' than on any previous occasion.—A good growing season followed, and now there are thousands of acres lying contiguous to each other, which will yield upward of sixty bushels to the acre!"

PRICES OF GRAIN.—The Jeffersonian, published at Jefferson, in this State, says:—"We hear of contracts being made for new wheat, at $1,25; of corn and rye, each 80 cts." We have heard of no such price as 80 cts. being offered for corn, in this or any other market in the West. Our opinion is, that the man hereabouts, who holds on to his corn, under the expectation of getting 80 cts. per bushel, will be glad to take 50, if not 40 cts., before the opening of navigation next spring. When the farmers of the interior of Wisconsin can get $1,25 for wheat, and 50 cts. for corn, our advice is, sell. Prices may range above this some times, for a brief period; but we will risk the prediction, that more than nine-tenths of this year's crop, in the interior, will be sold at prices below the above marks.

☞ The day is approaching when the cultivator of the soil will be ashamed to say to his neighbor, "I take no agricultural paper—I can beat the book farmers, &c."

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Farmer's Meeting—Foreign Currency.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I would like to inquire what has become of the resolutions passed at the late meeting of our Rock Co. Agricultural Society? I mean about taking the miserable trash which has flooded this State in the shape of money, from Tennessee and Georgia. Why have they not been published in the Farmer and the other papers of your city? I expected, as a matter of course, that the resolutions would be published; and my bump of inquisitiveness prompts me to know the reason why they have not been. A MEMBER.

Johnstown, Sept. 20, 1854.

REMARKS.—Why the resolutions referred to by our correspondent, have not been published in the Janesville city newspapers, we have no knowledge for saying. All we know about the matter is, that the resolutions were placed in the hands of the Secretary, and subsequently published in the Beloit Journal, from which we copy. The Farmer for September was made up and partly printed before the last meeting, hence *we* could not publish the resolutions at an earlier day.

At a meeting of the Rock County Agricultural Society and Mechanics' Institute, held at the Appollo Hall, in Janesville, on Monday, Sept. 4, 1854, the following preamble and resolutions were reported and adopted:

Whereas, A sound and healthy currency has been provided for by the Legislature of Wisconsin, and consequently no necessity exists for the circulation of any other; and, whereas, many banking institutions in our midst have put in circulation large amounts of foreign bills, which have proved worthless, or nearly so, to the great loss and inconvenience of our farmers, therefore,

Resolved, That we will not receive for our produce any thing in the shape of bank bills of the kidney of Memphis, Macon, Kalamazoo, Atlanta, &c., &c., and that we will use all laudable means to prevent the circulation of any bills which we do not believe to be as good and well secured as our own Wisconsin bank bills.

Resolved, Also, that those banking institutions which have put in circulation worthless bills, and then refused to receive them, are unworthy the confidence of the farmers, and ought to be shunned by all honest men.

C. R. GIBBS, Sec'y. C. L. MARTIN, Ch'n.

The Price of Wheat.

The following table, which we find in Hunt's Merchant's Magazine, is from the minutes kept at the office of the Van Rensselaer Manor, at Albany, where large amounts of rent are payable in wheat, or a cash equivalent, on the first of January of each year, and as two parties are deeply interested in the price, it is probably the most reliably correct of any record that can be obtained.

There is quite a lesson in these figures,—look at them.

Price of wheat per bushel, January 1st, at Albany, sixty-one years, viz.:

1793,	$0,75	1824,	$1,25
1794,	1,00	1825,	1,00
1795,	1,57½	1826,	87½
1796,	2,00	1827,	1,00
1797,	1,50	1828,	1,00
1798,	1,55	1829,	1,75
1799,	1,81¾	1830,	1,00
1800,	1,56¼	1831,	1,25
1801,	1,81¼	1832,	1,25
1802,	1,00	1833,	1,25
1803,	1,12½	1834,	1,00
1804,	1,25	1835,	1,00
1805,	2,00	1836,	1,50
1806,	1,43¾	1837,	2,25
1807,	1,37½	1838,	1,62½
1808,	1,12½	1839,	1,75
1809,	1,00	1840,	1,12½
1810,	1,56¼	1141,	1,12½
1811,	1,75	1842,	1,25
1812,	1,87½	1843,	1,87½
1813,	2,25	1844,	2,00
1814,	1,87½	1845,	93¾
1815,	1,62½	1846,	1,18¾
1816,	1,75	1847,	1,12½
1817,	2,25	1848,	1,81¼
1818,	1,87½	1849,	1,18¾
1819,	1,75	1850,	1,18¾
1820,	1,00	1851,	1,12½
1821,	77	1852,	1,00
1822,	1,12½	1843,	1,18¾
1823,	1,25	1854,	1,75

You will notice that only five times in all those years wheat has been $2 or upwards per bushel, while it was seventeen times at $1 or under—twice at seventy-five cents. Only once in thirty-seven years, that is since 1817, to wit in 1837, has it reached $2. The average price for the whole time, is $1,38. For the last thirty years, it is $1,25, and we give as a prophecy, which may be relied upon, that that will be the price next January. Those interested may as well make a note of that. The crop of wheat is too good, too wide extended, and the demand for export to Europe or California too limited, and flour dealers too hard up, to maintain the present prices.—[N. Y. Tribune.

The "Witch Hazel";

OR, THE PHENOMENA OF RHABDOMANCY.

Mr Editor:—In your journal of Feb 11th, I noticed a few remarks upon the Witch Hazel, and its utility in detecting the localities of water and precious metals in the earth; and I beg leave to lay before your readers a few additional facts, and some remarks thereupon.

A year or two since, I witnessed some experiments with the "hazel wand," and had an opportunity to test its action. A crotched stick was cut and carried in a perpendicular position, a branch of the crotch being held in each hand. The diviner, so to call him who carried the rod slightly stooping, walked slowly along; for a short time the rod remained upright; but suddenly commenced dipping, and continued so till it pointed directly to the earth below. This was repeated several times and it was found that in whatever direction this locality was approched, the same depressions of the rod would take place. but, in order to preclude the possibility of deception, two of those present held firmly in their hands the ends of the stick which was beyond the hands of him who carried the rod. In this manner the diviner approached the hidden water course, and the rod, as before, suddenly turned towards the earth; but so firmly was the stick held, that it was literally twisted and the bark was left in the hands.

This fully satisfied us that here was no deception, and further experiments proved, that in the hands of certain persons, the "hazel wand" would veritably indicate the localities of water in the earth.

The same diviner was requested to examine a certain piece of ground, and at what depth a supply of water could be found; after a few trials, he fixed the depth at eighteen feet. In the course of a month

or two, a well was dug and water was obtained as had been foretold.

Again, at a dwelling house situated on high ground, and where a scanty supply of water was obtained at a great depth, he made examinations, and according to his directions, a well was dug near the house, and a never failing supply of water was obtained at a depth of only eight feet.

Instances of highly successful experiments might be multiplied, but I forbear to weary any one's patience with miraculous predictions out of my own personal knowledge. I have seen several others try the experiment, but with no success, except in one case, and that only partial.—The rod, in all cases which I have observed, rotated in the same direction, that is to say, from before, backward; but upon mines of coal and iron, it has been ascertained, the rotary movement takes place in a contrary direction.

In the mining districts of the West, it is stated upon credible authority, that the veins of lead are discovered in this way, and that failures never occur, except in the hands of those whose nervous temperaments are apt to vary. But it is believed that the rod is attracted, not by the metal itself, but by currents of water flowing constantly over the deposits of lead.

With these facts before us, we must concede the existence of the divining power in certain persons. Rhabdomancy, or the method of divining as above described, has engaged the attention of the first philosophers from the earliest ages. It is not to be accounted for by any species of legerdemain or deception, nor solely by magnetism or electricity, though by these agents some plausible counterfeits have been producad. But, however nameless the invisible agent may be, we must concede that it emanates from certain localities in the earth, ready to act upon the organisms of all susceptible to its influence. Now this mundane agent must necessarily be developed by some action, chemical, material, or of the electric force, constantly going on in the earth. That such actions are taking place at all times, and that they are attended with a remarkable evolution of force, is beyond a reasonable doubt.—To quote another, "Force shows itself in every thing that exists in the heavens or on the earth. It pervades every atom; rules the motions of animate and inanimate beings, and is as sensible in the descent of a rain-drop as in the Falls of Niagara; in the weight of the air as in the periods of the moon. There is a physical power which not only binds satellites to their planet, and planets with suns, and sun with sun thro'-out the wide extent of creation, which is the cause of the disturbance as well as the order of nature, but it physically binds man to man, and man to nature."

This universal distribution of force, joined with the extreme susceptibility of the nervous system to mundane agencies, constitute a *cause* capable of producing an *effect* as wonderful as any of the anomalous phenomena of the present day.

Let every one who feels an interest in the matter, test the action of the "hazel wand" in his own hands, and ascertain whether or not his nervous organism is susceptible to the influence of this invisible agent. "Study Nature and her operations," and the tide of superstition will flow back from the shores of the civilized world, presenting a broader, clearer view of the hitherto unsuspected relation in which we stand to the universe. SPARTACUS.
—[N. E. Farmer.

DIVERSION OF IOWA TRADE.—During the last few days, over seventeen hundred sacks of wheat have been shipped from Muscatine, eastward, by the Rock Island Railroad. The disposition to ship produce in this direction, instead of southward, is manifesting itself daily more largely, at most of the towns above Desmoines Rapids. Produce comes both down the river and up the river, to Rock Island destined for eastern markets. This shifting of the channel of commerce is no trifle to St. Louis.—[Muscatine Jour.

The above is true, large quantities of produce are seeking this point from every direction. Yesterday a boat came up from Oquawka, ladened with corn, to be shipped east via. Rock Island Railroad. Messrs. Burrows & Pettyman tried to engage forty-six cars for next week, to ship produce, but were unable to effect it, the running stock of the road being insufficient to supply the wants of community, and the manufacturers unable to meet the demand for

locomotives and cars. If this be the state of things now, what may we expect when the new crops begin to appear.—[Davenport Gazette.

PROFIT OF FEEDING CORN TO HOGS.—It is estimated, from an experiment made by S. C. Anderson, that 100 bushels of corn will produce 1,050 lbs. of gross increase in the weight of hogs. 100 thrifty hogs were weighed and put in a pen. They were fed for one hundred days as much corn as they would eat. The average consumption was 100 bushels every six days. The average per hog for the hundred days was 175 lbs., or at the rate of 1¾ lbs per day.

It appears that one bushel of corn will produce a gross increase of 10½ lbs.—Throwing off one fifth to come at the nett weight, 8 2-5 lbs. of pork as the production of one bushel of corn. If 8 2-5 lbs. of pork are made by one bushel, or 56 lbs. of corn, one lb. of pork is the product of 6⅔ lbs. of corn.

From an experiment made by Samuel Linn, of this county, with 50 hogs, as reported in the patent office report for 1850, 6½ lbs. of corn produced one lb. of pork.

From the experiment of the Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, reported in the patent office report for the year 1847, it appears that 3 4-5 lbs. of cooked meal made one lb. of pork.—This experiment was on a small scale.

Assuming that it requires 6⅔ lbs. of corn to make one lb. of pork, the cost of its production will be seen by the following table. The labor of feeding and taking care of the hogs is not included in the estimate.

If corn costs	12½c.	℔ bu.,	pork costs	1½c	℔ lb.
" "	17c.	"	" "	2c	"
" "	25c.	"	" "	3c	"
" "	33c.	"	" "	4c	"
" "	42c.	"	" "	5c	"

The following table shows what the farmer realizes for his corn, when sold in the form of pork:

If pork sells for	3c.	a lb,	corn brings	25c.	a bu.
" "	4c.	"	"	33c.	"
" "	5c.	"	"	42c.	"
" "	6c.	"	"	50c.	"

—[Lasalle Herald.

☞ To preserve meadows in their productiveness, it is necessary to harrow them every second autumn, apply top dressing, and roll them in.

Keeping Poultry.

Having heard complaints that sundry persons, who had been induced to keep barn-yard fowls in large numbers, expecting to find it very profitable, from the accounts published in the agricultural papers, have been greatly disappointed in the result of their trials, as their fowls have cost them far more for their keeping than their eggs have sold for—I send for the information of such persons, to revive their hopes, and for the encouragement of others, to make trial of means which have been found so successful in cases where the trial has been faithfully made, the following account:

A man in my neighborhood has kept through the winter, twenty-five hens. Between the 1st of December, 1851, and the 1st of March, 1852, he has sold from what they have laid, fifty dozen of eggs, besides using in his family several dozen. As the winter has been a cold one, and the ground covered with snow, most of his neighbors who keep fowls, complain that they have no eggs. He informs me, (and he is a man who may be relied on with perfect confidence,) that he has for several years managed and kept his fowls in the following manner: A warm hen-house, where they can come to the ground daily—poles of Sassafras for them to roost on, which drives away the lice—a mixture of food, as corn, oats, and broom-corn seed, or cob-meal scalded, and in very cold weather a a little black pepper put into it. A little before they go to roost, give them as much corn as they will eat; give them daily some pounded bones, or pounded oyster shells; he considers bones the best; and if they omit laying for a few days, he boils oats, and puts into the mess a couple of red peppers, chopped fine, and the mess given warm. He says they will generally commence laying very soon after being fed in this manner. A regular supply of water is needful. He gives them fresh meat occasionally, when he can procure it without much expense. In his operations he is a man of economy, and has found it best to dispose of most of his fowls in the spring for the table, when they are always fat, and poultry high and eggs cheap. He has found the half-blood China fowls to be the most constant layers.—[Cor. of Cultivator.

Stock Register.

General Causes of the Diseases of Domestic Animals and Means of Preventing them.

We have not read an article for a long time, wherein may be found more common sense and valuable instruction to every one having the care of domestic animals, than is contained in the following remarks of Robert Nelson, in the Georgia citizen. Lack of proper attention to the wants of domestic animals is the direct cause of ninety-nine per cent. of all their complaints, and the consequent loss. The horse is oftener out of order than any other animal, and his ills more numerous and complicated; yet an attack may almost always be traced with certainty to the direct cause, which will be found in improper care and neglect.

"The many kinds of diseases peculiar to our domestic animals, horses, oxen, cows, sheep, &c., are almost invariably brought about by man's improper attention to their wants.

"If these animals were not treated unreasonably, they would be as little exposed to diseases as wild beasts are. Experience teaches that wild horses as well as sheep, continually left to themselves, and not fed in doors during the winter, are, even in cold climates, not only free from diseases, but they are, at the same time, stronger and live longer. What especially benefits the animals in a free state, and which, to their injury, they have to feel the want of under man's restraint, is the constant opportunity for *voluntary motion, the free and pure air, and finally the choice of such food* as is agreeable to them, and which they may partake of according as they desire it. Domestic animals are most injured in the stable; here they live in a close atmosphere, which is filled with vapors arising from the fodder, from the manure, and from their own bodies. As fishes die, when placed in small vessels, without receiving a frequent supply of fresh water, so the warm-blooded animals, and man too, would die, if obliged to live for any length of time in a close room, where the air cannot enter from without; and they would surely become sickly if they were to live in a room which, although not entirely closed, nevertheless is void of proper ventilation. People, therefore, who live on mountains and high-lands are more healthy and lively than those who live in valleys and on plains, where the air is more impure and filled with vapors. It is, consequently, of the utmost importance for the maintenance of health among the animals in the stable, that this is kept clean and airy. For this purpose, it ought to be provided with ventilators of some sort; and the floor should be furnished with gutters, which must be frequently rinsed. The stable is to be swept daily, the mangers cleansed, and no old fodder to remain in them. The animals should daily be taken from the stable into the free air, wherefore it is also a good plan to water them outside the stable.

The bodies of the animals, too, ought to be kept clean, and this is especially necessary as regards the horse. The latter perspires freely, wherefore also a great quantity of filth collects on the skin, and this filth prevents the perspiration, if not removed by means of currying, brushing and washing. It is likewise very useful to wash or shower the horse's feet with cold water every morning; especially when he has no daily motion. Horses that stand idle are, otherwise, exposed to swellings and other casualties in legs and feet. When the horse is pasturing he does not stand in need of this.

Oxen and cows, that perspire less, do also collect less filth in the skin, yet cleanliness is useful in their case, too, and may be kept up with much less labor. They ought never to be permitted to lie in a filthy stall; and it is very healthful to wash the cattle once a week.

The animals have no opportunity for motion in the stable. This is all well enough when we want to fatten the cattle for killing; but grossness is not health. Moreover, this stillness and want of exercise is less injurious to oxen and cows than to horses. The ox is, by nature, a slow sort of beast, which does not exercise much, and may indeed do without it. In its free state it seeks marshy and grassy places, where in a short time, it may fill its paunch and then chew the cud at leisure. The sheep in its free state exercises more than the ox; it roves about, continually changing its place of abode, and must, therefore, have room in the stable to move about in. A warm and damp stable is very injurious to the sheep. But no animal of the domestic kind is more quickly injured, from want of motion, than is the horse, and, therefore, it ought invariably to have a proper daily exercise.

The fodder should always be sound and dry, as all mouldy grain is very injurious to domes-

tic animals and promotes the most injurious diseases. Hay is injurious to the horse when not working, if it is to constitute its principal sustenance. Good straw and grain constitute the healthiest stable-fodder for horses and sheep. Hay should not be given to sheep until it is perfectly dry, and it is better to feed them on oat straw. It is the nature of hay to yield a great deal of juice to the body, and thus make the stomach weak, wherefore it is also more serviceable for such animals as we wish to fatten, than for those in whom strength and the maintenance of health constitute the chief objects.

Hay is very serviceable fodder for cows and oxen, which are by nature fitted for a juicy body.

Fresh cut hay, which has not fully evaporated, and still more, if suffered to become mouldy, has a most dangerous effect on the health of domestic animals; this also refers to straw-and-grain fodder. But if, for want of better, it becomes necessary to feed the animals with such fodder, then the best thing to be done, in order to prevent disease, is daily to put a hand ful of salt among the fodder for horses or cows, and half a handful for sheep.

Our domestic animals are abused, not only in the stable, but also in the pasture, where sometimes more cattle are placed than can find nourishment. They do not only suffer for want of food, but also on account of their being obliged to eat herbs which are injurious to their health. When horses and sheep are placed in low, marshy pastures, they then become obliged to feed on what they there can find, which is all more or less injurious to them, because it is contrary to the nature of these animals to live in such places and on such plants as there grow. These animals, on the contrary, are by nature destined to seek their food on the highlands, when they have their freedom; just as it is in the nature of the ox to seek low places, when in its state of freedom.

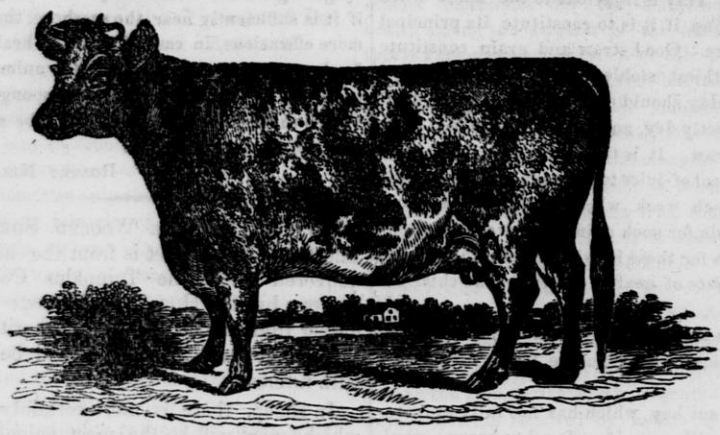
The animals are also injured in the pasture when they stand in need of shade trees or other covering to protect them from the burning heat of the sun, from wind and rain. They are injured, too, if obliged to drink from fens and stagnated waters, where insects and worms are bred in multitudes, promoting the putrefaction of the water. For this reason there is more sickness among the cattle in dry summers, where healthful water is wanting. Should this happen, the disease may greatly be prevented by giving the cattle salt every second day; but if it is sufficiently near the seashore, then it is more efficacious, in case of want of healthful, fresh water, once a day to drive the animals into the sea. The body will then, sponge-like absorb the requisite juice, the thirst be stilled, and the animals refreshed.

ROBERT NELSON.

COARSE AND FINE WOOLED SHEEP.—The following extract is from the address delivered before the Tompkins Co. Ag. Society, by the Hon. T. C. Peters. Emanating from one of our best authorities on sheep and wool matters, it will be read with interest.

In sheep, there is more certainty as to which breed will be the most valuable in any given position. Being divided into two distinct classes, fine and coarse, it is not difficult to decide upon their merits.—Coarse wooled sheep are more valuable for their mutton than for their wool, while the reverse holds good in regard to the fine wooled sheep. Therefore the farmer who can keep but a few sheep, say from twenty to fifty, or even one hundred, should by all means keep the large coarse wooled mutton sheep. With this breed of sheep, a farmer who can manage to have a few lambs early in January, and will provide a warm shelter and good food will find that his lambs will bring him four, and most likely six dollars, at six months old; paying him better for his care than any steed on the farm. Wethers of this breed, when well fattened, will at three years old often bring as high a price as $18 per head in the New York markets. But when there is a wide range and a large flock, the fine wooled kinds are much to be preferred.—There is one error into which many have fallen, on this subject, which should be pointed out; it is the idea of a breed of sheep which will combine the properties of a mutton with those of a fine wooled sheep. The attempt has been made in England, and failed, and will everywhere. A fine wooled sheep secretes a larger amount of oil in its fleece, while that of the mutton sheep is dry. The reason is obvious. In the coarse wooled sheep, the food producing oil is secreted in the fat, while the same food in the other is wasted in the wool.—

POINTS OF CATTLE—THE AYRSHIRES.



PORTRAIT OF AN AYRSHIRE COW.

PURITY OF BLOOD—as traced back to importations of both dam and sire, under such evidence as will satisfy committees.

4 THE HEAD—as in other breeds, small; the face long and narrow; the muzzle and nose variable in color.

2 THE EYE—placid and not strikingly large.

4 THE EAR—of full size, and of an orange color within.

2 THE HORNS—small, tapering, with an outward and upward turn, and set on wide apart; the face somewhat dishing.

4 THE NECK—of medium length, clean in the throat, very light throughout, and tapering to the head.

6 THE SHOULDERS—lying snugly to the body, thin at their top, small at their points, not long in the blade, nor loaded with muscle.

12 THE CHEST—must retain sufficient width and roundness to insure constitution. The lightness of the fore-quarter, and the "wedge-shape" of the animal, from the hind-quarter forward, arising more from a small, flat and thin shoulder, than from any undue narrowness of the chest.

4 THE CROPS—easily blend in with so thin a sholder and prevent all hollowness behind.

4 THE BRISKET—not over-loading the fore-end, but light.

8 THE BACK—should be straight, and the loin wide, the hips rather high and well spread.

4 THE PELVIS—roomy, causing a good breadth at what is termed the "thurl," or "round-bone," and between the points of the rumps.

6 THE QUARTERS—long, tolerably muscular, and full in their upper portion, but moulding into the thighs below, which should have a degree of flatness, affording thus more space for a full udder. The flank well let down, but not heavy.

8 THE RIBS—behind, springing out *very* round and full, affording space for a large udder, which, by Ayrshire breeders is considered very essential to secure the milking property; the whole carcass thus acquiring increased volume towards its posterior portion.

4 THE RUMPS—nearly level with the back, projecting but little.

1 THE TAIL—thin in its cord, of full length, light in its hair, and set somewhat further into the back than would be admissible with some other breeds.

3 THE LEGS—delicate and fine in the bone, inclining to be short, and well knit together at the joints.

12 THE UDDER—in this breed is of more especial importance, as the Ayrshires have been bred almost exclusively with reference to their milking properties. The great feature of the udder should be capacity, without being fleshy. It should be carried

squarely and broadly forward, and show itself largely behind. As it rises upwards it should not mingle too immediately with the muscle of the thighs, but continue to preserve its own *peculiar* texture of skin—thin, delicate and ample in its fold. The teats should stand wide apart, and be lengthy, but not large and coarse.

6 THE HANDLING—will show the skin to be of medium thickness only, moving freely under the hand and evincing a readiness in the animal to take on flesh, when a drain on the constitution is no longer made by the milk-pail.

4 THE HAIR—soft and thick, in the phraseology of the country, woolly.

1 COLOR. VARIES—a dark red—a rich brown—a liver color, or mahogany, running into almost a black; those very much broken and spotty at the edges on a white ground are the favorite colors at the present time. The light yellow is, however, a color sometimes found on very good cows, but these pale colors are objected to from an impression that such belong to animals of less constitution.

1 CARRIAGE—should be light, active, and even — gay; this latter appearance is much pro- 100 moted by the upward turn of the horn.

POINTS OF THE AYRSHIRE BULL.

As regards the male animal, it is only necessary to remark, that the points desirable in the female are generally so in the male, but must of course, be attended by that masculine character which is inseparable from a strong, vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible, but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

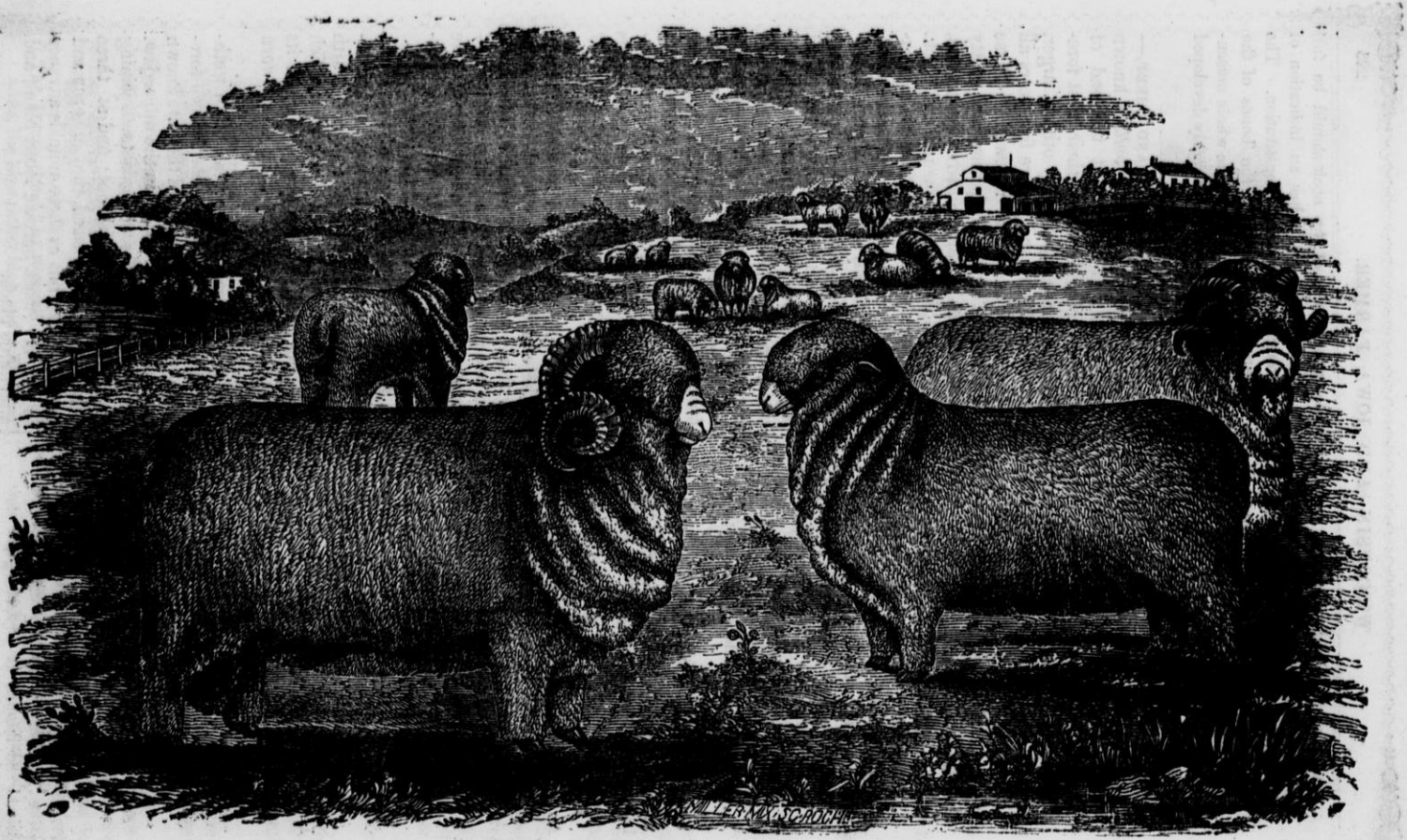
In contra-distinction to the cows, the head of the bull may be shorter, the frontal bone broader, and the occipital flat and stronger, that it may receive and sustain the horn—and this latter may be excused if a little heavy at the base, so its upward form, its quality and color be right. Neither is the looseness of the skin, attached to, and depending from the under jaw, to be deemed other than a feature of the sex, *provided* it is not extended beyond the bone, but leaves the gullet and throat clean and free from dewlap.

The upper portion of the neck should be full and *muscular*, for it has an indication of strength, power and constitution. The spine should be strong, the bones of the loin long and broad, and the whole muscular system wide and thoroughly developed over the entire frame.

AGES OF NEAT CATTLE AND SHEEP.—The age of *cows*, *oxen* and *bulls* is known by the teeth and horns. At the end of about two years they shed their first foreteeth, which are replaced by others, larger, but not so white; and before five years all the cutting teeth are renewed. These teeth are at first equal, long and pretty white; but as the animals advance in years, they wear down, become unequal and black. When three years old, neat cattle also experience a considerable change in the structure of their horns, after which period these appendages, like the second or permanent teeth, preserve the same character. During the first year of the animal's age, two small, smooth, pointed, and neatly formed horns make their appearance, attached to the head by a kind of button. This conformation continues during the first three years, after which the button moves from the head, being impelled by a horny cylinder. Thus the horns continue growing as long as the animal lives, as is indicated by the annual joints, which are easily distinguished in the horn, and by which the age of the creature may be easily known, counting three years for the point of the horn, and one for each of the joints or rings.—Dishonest dealers sometimes obliterate these rings by shaving or filing the horns, in order to conceal the age of the beast.

Age of Sheep.—The age of these animals is known by their having, in their second year, two broad teeth; in their fourth year, eight broad teeth before; after which none can tell how old a sheep is while its teeth remain, except by their being worn down.

About the end of one year, rams, wethers, and all young sheep loose the two foreteeth of the lower jaw; and they are known to want the incisive teeth in the upper jaw. At eighteen months, the two teeth joining to the former also fall out; and at three years, being all replaced, they are even and pretty white; but as these animals advance in age, the teeth become loose, blunt, and afterwards black.



A GROUP OF FRENCH MERINO SHEEP.

Valuable Sheep.

On the opposite page we give portraits of some French Merino Sheep, noticed in the Editors' Table for September. They were taken from a flock imported by the Messrs. Halls and McAllister, of Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y.

The Orleans American, published in the neighborhood of this firm, says :—"We have in this county a firm, consisting of Messrs. David Hall, J. J. McAllister, and H. S. Hall, who devote their attention exclusively to the importation and improvement of sheep. They secure the best stock, and export large numbers to the west. Their flocks comprise some of the best sheep in the United States. This firm has received a lot of thirty-four ewes and six bucks, full blooded French Merino sheep, just imported. The lot cost $6,500, the best Buck alone costing nearly $600. A better lot of sheep we never saw, and we are free to say that no more valuable ones can be found in the whole country. We understand that a small portion of these sheep will be put into the market the present season—the company taking some twelve or thirteen to the Fairs in the Western States. It is well worth a visit to their farm in Gaines to see them."

The Messrs. Halls & McAllister write us that they will be at the Wisconsin State Fair, with a part of their last importation of full bloods, together with about 200 half and three-fourth blood bucks and ewes.

We expect to see much valuable stock of all kinds, at our next Fair, from other States, and we advise the farmers of Wisconsin to go prepared to purchase. If you find the foreign stock better, or even as good as our own State can turn out, buy, if it can be purchased at fair prices. We want more stock.

We would say to our friends, that we shall be on hand at the State Fair, and offer our services by way of counsel or advice, to those who may wish it, in making their purchases of stock.

More Sheep.—Wisconsin bids fair to become not *one* of the greatest wool-growing States, but the *greatest one*. They have been brought into the State this season by thousands. The last flock we have seen passed through this place a few days since, and numbered 1200.—We were informed by the person having them in charge, that they were purchased in Illinois, at prices varying from $1 to $1,30 per head, and their destination near Lake Mills. They were a fair lot of sheep, mostly ewes. If the owner uses the right kind of Bucks, next spring's issue of the flock will cover the original investment twice over.

Wool Interest.—Some idea of the number of sheep that are kept in this section, may be formed from the fact, that the Carding Works in this town have, up to this time, received packages for carding from about 800 different families.—[Ripon Herald.

Process of making Shot.—The pig lead is carried to the top of the tower by windlass and chain, and worked by steam; it is then put in a furnace, kept constantly burning night and day, and attended by two sets of men, one for the fire and two to pour the melted lead in the strainers. After passing through the strainers it falls a distance of 150 feet, the passage thro' the air giving the shot their shape or form; they fall into a large tub or basin of water; here a man is engaged in dipping them out with a ladle and throwing them on an inclined plane, down which they run to a drum heated by steam and worked by machinery, so as to dry the shot; when dry they are passed into a revolving drum, which stops by actions of machinery every five minutes for polishing them; from this drum they are thrown into a hopper, and from this pass over a series of inclined planes, where the defective shot are carried off, and then through seives into drawers where they are assorted by the action of machinery on the seives; then into the large boxes from which they are taken and put in sacks, weighed, and are ready for use.

Prices of Potatoes.—This popular and almost indispensable article of food is destined to command, unless all signs fail, an extraordinary price throughout the ensuing year. The crop is generally blighted, and in many sections an almost total failure. At this early day, and when there should be abundance, if ever, prices are relatively higher than they were ever known at this season of the year. In New York they sell at $1,75 to $2; Philadelphia, $1,50a$1,75; Richmond, $1 a $1,50; Pittsburgh, $1,75 a $2; Cincinnati, $1.50a$1,75; Springfield, O., $1,40; Cleveland, $1.25; Columbus, Ohio, $2; Alton, $1 a $1,22; Springfield, Ill, $1; Peoria, $1,40; St. Louis, $1 to $1,25 per bushel.—[St. Louis Intelligencer, 7th ult.

☞ The farmer whose pigs got so lean that they would crawl through the cracks of their pen, stopped their 'fun' by tying knots in their tails.

Horticulture.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Frost Grapes.

Messrs. Editors:—Now-a-days nothing, in the stock or fruit-growing line, seems worthy of notice, unless it is one of the improved or imported breeds or varieties. The animals and vegetables which the Almighty has particularly adapted to our climate, are entirely overlooked, and exotics are permitted to occupy their places. To this I have no objection, when a decided advantage can be gained by so doing. If we of the present age can avail ourselves of the labor and experience of a dozen generations past, by applying their improvements to our immediate wants, it would certainly manifest a want of intelligence and refinement, upon our part, to neglect or refuse to do so, when, by adopting such a course, we should promote the happiness of the present and future generations. If European breeders have been engaged for centuries in improving their stock, and have produced, from the comparatively insignificant animals of a thousand years ago, the beautiful specimens of stock which are annually crossing the ocean, to fill the fields and the stables of American farmers and stock-raisers, it is but justice to ourselves to take up the work where they have left it, instead of commencing back in the tenth century, and travel over the same road to attain the same degree of perfection. Skill, capital, and patience are all requisite to perform such a task—and there is much danger of retrogression, since all ages of the world are not favored with the same facilities for improvement. If fruit-growers have brought the different varieties of fruit to a higher degree of perfection than any prior age of the world has witnessed, it would be folly in us to reject such improvements. We might, with equal propriety, reject all the improvements in the Arts, and cast ourselves back upon the earliest periods of the world, when printing was unknown, and the powers of steam, and the ubiquity of the telegraph, were in the womb of progression. But, to my subject:

Too much time and money are annually expended in fruitless efforts to acclimate foreign trees and plants. One season may prove favorable, while ten will prove unfavorable. The grape culture, for instance, engages much attention, if properly directed. But too many forget, or are ashamed to confess, that our forest affords many valuable varieties of shrub and vine fruit which, with half the care the improved varieties have received, would be far more profitable. I will mention but one at this time, and that is the one which heads this article.

Much labor and money are expended in propagating the Catawba, Isabella, and other varieties, many of which are short-lived and uncertain in their bearing, while our native, or "frost grapes" are seldom or never known to winter-kill, and never fail to produce an abundant crop. It is true, they are not so pleasant to the taste as some of the improved varieties; but for the manufacture of Claret wine, and for all culinary purposes, they are far superior.

A short time since, while at the residence of Mr. Coleman Gates, of Plymouth, I drank some wine manufactured by Mr. G. from the native grape, and found it superior to the improved Claret. It certainly possessed one quality which much of the so-called Claret does not—it was free from drugs and dye-stuffs. The expense of manufacturing is but trifling. Mr. G. explained the process to me, but as it may be of importance to him hereafter, I do not feel at liberty to divulge it; besides, I might lead your readers into an error in relation to the matter. I presume a trifle would purchase a written recipe. Mr. Gates has in contemplation the planting of an extensive vineyard, and entering somewhat largely into the manufacture of wine. The land upon the Potash Kettles seems peculiarly adapted to the growth of the vine, and ere long I hope to see them rival the vine-clad hills of Italy and France, in the quantity and quality of their vinous productions.

I am no toper, but a regular Maine Law man, and would be willing to adopt any reasonable measure to rid our country of the cursed rot-gut, which our citizens are in the habit of drinking, and which is annually carrying so many of them to the grave. Upon the amount of arsenic, strychnine, and other poisonous substances mingled with the wines and liquors manufactured at the present time, depend the amount of profits to the manufacturer; and, consequently, the life of the drinker. A combination of poisons has been found at the same time more powerful and more profitable. Even the wine used at the Sacramental board is deeply drugged with the same deadly principles; and

the small quantity used is the only protection against the fate of infamy which awaits the free drinker of the liquors which are peddled through our country. No Christian doctrine requires of its adherents a duty so fraught with injury to themselves and society generally. I do not say that the Sacramental table should be deserted. Far from it. But I say, that the preparation for such an occasion should be conducted with more care and discretion.—Let the wine for such a purpose be manufactured from the grapes which grow so luxuriantly upon our own hills, and in our own valleys, and by honest men, who have at heart the sacredness of the purpose for which it is to be used. If we are to make use of wine in any way, let it be pure—direct from the hand of the Almighty, unadulterated with the elements of destruction to the moral or physical system.

SOLOMON LOMBARD.

Greenbush, Sept., 1854.

REMEDY FOR PLANT LICE.—Mr. E. G. Mygatt, of Illinois, offers the following remedy for plant lice, so destructive in the early part of the season in the green-house as well as out of it. We commend it to our friends for a trial.

"If you have any species of the aphis in your nursery, please make a trial of the following decoction:—Get from a druggist ½ lb. of Quassia; boil it fifteen minutes in six quarts of water; pour off the decoction into a dish pan with handles. When cool, get an assistant to hold the pan while you carefully bend down and immerse the branches—giving them a little motion to wet all the insects. Look at the trees two days after, and if the aphides are dead, and the tender shoots uninjured, use and recommend the Quassia and let the whale oil soap perform some other office.

For young and tender buds or grafts, I use the spray from a nearly spent syringe, where it is not safe to bend them over the pan."

GERMINATION OF CHERRY STONES.—The stones should be washed from the cherries when the latter are fully ripe, and as soon as the surface has dried in the shade, mixed with more than their bulk of sand, and burried in a shallow pit in the earth, covered first with flat stones, and then with a few inches of earth.—Here they may remain through the winter; but the first moment that the frost disappears from the ground the following spring, they are to be taken out and planted in drills. They may be planted in autumn; but the soil settling hard about them, is apt to prevent their growth, unless it is of the lightest character. Freezing tends to remove the shell, and assist germination. The Mazzard makes the hardiest stocks, but the improved heart varieties succeed well in most cases.—[Alb. Cult.

Dwarf Pears.

As I have had a good deal of experience in raising dwarfs, and have a dwarf orchard of some 500 varieties, some years planted, I will give you some of my experience.

I find on the true Angiers quince almost all the varieties grow freely, while on the common quince only a few will grow. Still, many varieties do not continue to grow in a healthy state for any length of time. If a tree gets once stunted, there is little chance of its ever recovering so as to be a healthy tree, and nearly all the trees peddled about are more or less stunted.

Purchasers should examine the trees in the nursery rows themselves, before buying, when they could easily judge what trees and what varieties are perfectly good and suitable, or they should send their orders to nurserymen they can depend on for supplying a genuine and thrifty article.

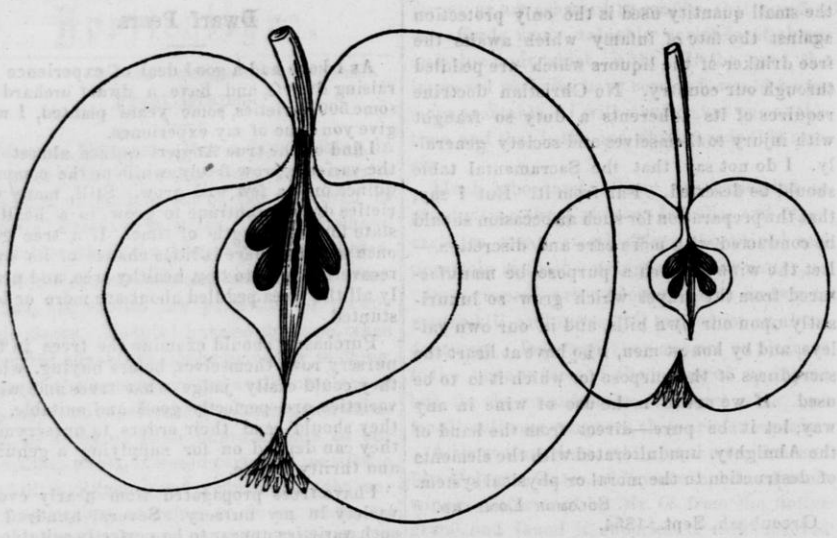
I have trees propagated from nearly every variety in my nursery. Several hundred of such varieties appear to be perfectly suitable to the quince stock, and many, more especially of the newer varieties, grow with the greatest luxuriance.

But to cultivate dwarf pears properly and with certainty in this climate, they must be mulched twice a year—once in June or early in July, digging it in slightly in October; second, in December, digging it in again in April. The roots of the quince are so much nearer the surface than the pear, that they are more readily affected with the drouths of summer and the frosts of winter.

Last winter was severe on unprotected dwarf pears. In wet ground those in nursery rows were nearly all killed, and the same in sandy soil. Strong clayey loam, sufficiently dry that water won't stand on it, is the best soil. On such there is little trouble in cultivating them, and they are much superior to standard pears. When planted on sandy soils, mulching is indispensable.—JAMES DOUGALL, in Mich. Far.

THE CRANBERRY CROP.—The yield of this delicious berry is large this season, and already they are to be found in great profusion in the various stores about the city. Since the removal of the Indians, epicures have to depend upon the whites for gathering them, and this makes them a shade higher than previous years. —[Minnesota Pioneer.

☞ The tomato is a native of South America, and was first introduced to cultivation in Europe in 1596. The French and Italians are said to have been the first to adopt its extensive use, and during the early part of the present century there were fields of the crops growing in the vicinity of Rome and Naples.



THE RED ASTRACAN.

The Red Astracan is a Summer Apple, and one of the most beautiful, as well as the best, that grows. Barry thus describes it:—"Large, roundish, nearly covered with a deep crimson, and a thick bloom like a plum; juicy, rich, acid. The tree is a vigorous grower, with large foliage, and a good bearer. Ripe in August.

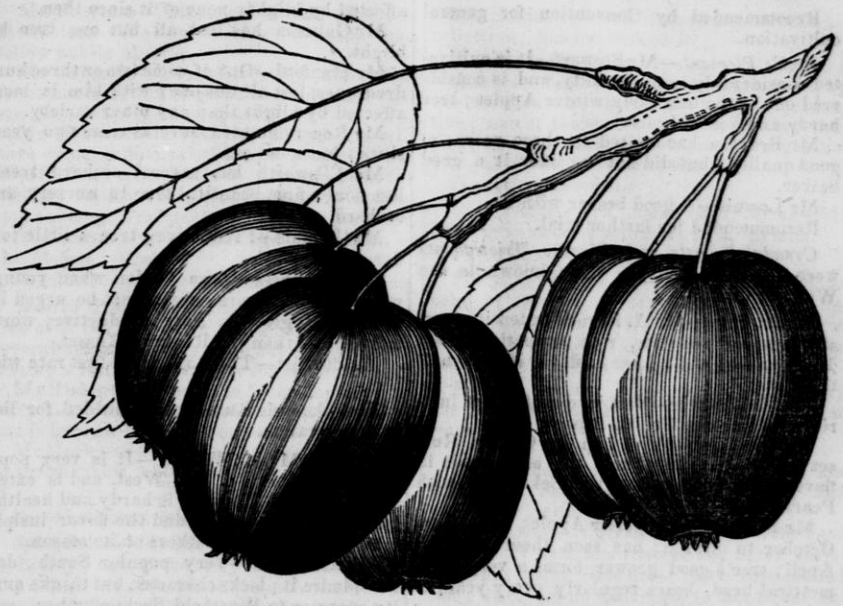
The above outline was taken from a specimen raised and presented us, with others, by Mr. H. J. Starin, of Whitewater. We found it true to name in every particular. We state this fact, that those who wish to get scions that are right, may know where to find them. The small outline on the right is also from a seedling of Mr. Starin's. Sweet, juicy, rich flavor, skin thin; pale yellow, streaked with rust.

CHEAP FRUIT.—We hear continual predictions of a glutted market of fruit—*when*, we ask, emphatically, will it come? At the present rate, with the millions of trees set out annually, it seems on the contrary, to be constantly receding from us, the supply increasing actually less than the still more rapidly increasing and enormous demand in every direction.

And so it will continue to be for *fifty years to come.* Fruit is yet to be substituted in part, if not mainly, for flesh meat as human food; and just in proportion to the plentifulness of fruit will the use of animal food be diminished. So plant fruit seeds, set out fruit trees. The "nursery business" is to become a great humanizing business, and for half a century a profitable business. No possibility of its being "over done." Young men and young women! here is a fair field for any amount of enterprize. A far more profitable investment than money in bank stocks, horses, hogs or cattle—Will you not, then, set out an orchard? Try it. Set out one thousand trees next spring; and as many more in the fall. More fruit is wanted, and *must be had for.* HUMAN FOOD.—[Water Cure Journal.

PROPAGATION OF CEDAR FROM CUTTINGS.—A correspondent of the Home Journal, writing from Louisiana, says:—"I observed in two late numbers of your paper, some speculations of yourselves and your two or three correspondents, on the subject of the propagation of the cedar from the seed. Now, the cedar, whether hedge or single tree, can sooner be grown from the cuttings than from the seed.

Cut from small trees or bushes, twigs from twelve to fifteen inches long (water shoots or sprouts are preferable,) trim about half way up from the stem, and plant in beds for a hedge, or wherever you may desire to rear a single tree, from six to eight inches deep. The beds should be well prepared, and the soil friable.—Plant any time before the parent tree begins to vegetate in the spring, in this latitude about the middle of February; in your more lazy climate about the middle of March, or as late as the first of April, I suppose. The beds should be kept well worked and moist during the succeeding spring and summer. I know that the cedar can be propagated from cuttings from actual experiment—at a loss of not more than ten per cent."



HAMPTON'S NEW SIBERIAN CRAB.

Hampton's New Siberian Crab is one of six seedlings from the Siberian Crab, all of which are different.

Size—large for a Siberian. Form—ovate conical. Color—a deep, rich crimson, blotched and indistinctly striped with clear orange and yellowish red. Blossoms—large. The tree presents a splendid appearance when in blossom, and when loaded with its dark, crimson fruit, is highly ornamental; and the fruit is excellent for preserving, being of a sweetish, astringent flavor. Season of maturity—October and November. Raised by William C. Hampton, of Dudley, Hardin co., Ohio. W. C. H. —Horticulturist.

FARMER'S CREED.—We believe in small farms and thorough cultivation.

We believe in going to the bottom of things —and therefore in deep plowing, and enough of it. All the better if with a small subsoil plow.

We believe that the best fertilizer of any soil is a spirit of industry, enterprise and intellig nce—without this, lime, gypsum, bone and green manure, marl and guano, will be of little use.

We believe in good fences, good barns, good farm-houses, good stock, and orchards, and children enough to gather the fruit.

We believe in a clean kitchen, a neat wife in it, a spinning piano, a clean cupboard, and a clear conscience.

Abstract of Proceedings of the Northwestern Fruit Growers Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 207.]

APPLES.

Herefordshire Pearmain—Mr Brayton—Is cultivated considerably in his neighborhood; unequalled in flavor by any Apple of its season—fall and early winter.

Mr Shepherd is familiar with it; considers it *the* best, A. No. 1; tree hardy, productive, and regular bearer.

Mr Loomis concurs in above statements.

Recommended by Convention for general cultivation.

Blue Pearmain.—Mr Shepherd—Fruit large and fine; tree hardy, a vigorous grower and good bearer.

Mr Loomis—A large, showy Apple; tree grows and bears well.

Dr. Haskell—The tree is of fine quality, one of the best, moderately productive.

Recommended for limited cultivation.

Pomme Gris—Mr Hanford—First rate table fruit.

Mr Rogers—A beautiful Apple, of fine flavor, but its small size is an objection.

Mr Coleman—One of the richest flavored Apples he has tasted; an early and constant bearer; thinks it should be highly recommonded.

Mr Wakeman has had it in bearing three years; bears full every year; quality of fruit unexcelled.

Mr Harkness—A very fine flavored fruit; not a late keeper.

Recommended by Convention for general cultivation.

Peck's Pleasant.—Mr Stewart—It is cultivated considerably in his vicinity, and is considered one of the best early winter Apples; tree hardy and a good bearer.

Mr Brayton has fruited it three years; of good quality; but did not consider it a good bearer.

Mr Loomis—A good bearer with us.

Recommended for farther trial.

Canada Reinette and *Rienette Triomphante* were introduced, but too little known in the West for discussion.

Roman Stem.—Mr A. Bryant tested it several years; of superior, rich aromatic flavor; does not keep well; loses its flavor if kept thro' the winter.

Mr McWhorter—Best in quality; not inferior to American Golden Russet.

Mr Shepherd—With him the Golden Russet and Roman Stem hold the same grade in flavor with Apples, that the Sekel does with Pears.

Mr Stewart—A superior Apple; in use from October to March; has seen them kept till April; tree a good grower, forms a very symmetrical head, bears regularly every year; is not subject to blight.

Mr Galusha—Tree rather delicate; an enormous bearer; has seen trees eight years in orchard bearing fifteen bushels.

Mr Overman—A tender, juicy and excellent Apple; tree a good grower; does not bear young.

Recommended as best for general cultivation.

American Golden Russet.—Mr Hanford is acquainted with a variety under this name, of fine qualit. ; a hardy tree; fruit keeps till May or June.

Mr A. Bryant—The tree of the true variety is too tender to raise root grafted.

Mr Kinney—There is a variety cultivated in New York as Golden Russet—not Bullock's Pippin; tree a good grower and hardy; leaves nearly round, of very light color on under side; wood of light color; fruit larger than Bullock's Pippin, of good quality, and a good keeper.

Other members familiar with it speak highly of its bearing and keeping qualities.

Convention voted to recommend for general cultivation.

Dr. Haskell—The Golden Russet of Massachusetts is a better Apple than the Roxbury Russet.

The Apple was presented by several; has a red cheek very frequently, which distinguishes it at sight from the New York variety.

[Different varieties of Russet were so mixed up in discussion, that is difficult to make out correctly from notes all that was said.—Sec.]

Winter, English, or *Poughkeepsie Russet,*—Mr Dunlap has had it bear heavy crops four years in success; three years since one tree was affected by blight; none of it since then.

Mr Galusha has lost all but one tree by blight.

Mr Hanford—Out of some two or three hundred trees, lost all but one; with him is more affected by blight than any other variety.

Mr Rogers planted several trees two years since; but none yet.

Mr Ellsworth has several orchard trees; lost none; fine, beautiful tree in nursery and orchard.

Mr Loomis—Productive; tree a little tender.

Mr Harkness—Tree tender when young; requires a little care; should not be urged into a rapid growth; very productive; worth more for us than the Roxbury Russet.

Mr Stewart—The Roxbury is first rate with him.

Poughkeepsie Russet recommended for limited cultivation.

Milam.—Mr McWhorter—It is very popular in many parts of the West, and is extensively grown. The tree is hardy and healthy, but the fruit is small, and the flavor insipid, compared with many others of its season.

Mr A. Bryant—Very popular South; does not admire it; lacks character, but thinks quality superior to Westfield Seeknofarther.

Dr. Warder—Very hardy and productive variety; always an abundance of them in its season in Cincinnati markets, at low prices—The tree, when on its own roots, is very liable to sucker, and vast numbers of these sucker trees were planted when the country was new, *because the trees were easily obtained.*

Mr Kinney can sell more trees of it than of any other variety, *of no better quality.*

Mr Ellsworth has a dozen orchard trees, bought for different varieties: all Milam; productive; does not esteem its quality.

Mr Stewart—This and Rawle's Janet are more popular in his section of country; is compelled to propagate it largely, to supply demanes of customers; difficult to introduce new varieties with which they are unacquainted—all want some Milams; is larger than specimens exhibited; it bears well, but much of the fruit often drops prematurely.

Mr Coleman—*Profitable;* always *sells* well in market.

Mr A. Bryant—The Small Romanite *sells well;* because, in its season, few of better varieties can be obtained.

Mr Shepherd considers Milam worthless.

As it is very productive, question was raised whether it was good for cider; none could recommend it for that use.

Mr Dunlap—It is frequently brought to the Chicago market; sells at a much lower price than other varieties of its season.

Mr Negus has never propagated it, and never would; quality too inferior.

The President—It is very common in the oldest orchards in his vicinity; one of the first that fruited, and obtained a good character *because there were no others to compare with it.*

Mr Brayton—Thinks we should condemn the Milam. We ought rather to LEAD, than follow public opinion.

Mr Overman—Thinks it would not reflect to the honor of nurserymen to condemn a variety they had sold so extensively.

Mr Harkness—Hopes this Convention will have some influence with the people of the West; fears we will lose it if we condemn the Milam; thinks we might make some concession to the general public opinion in its favor.

Motion made to condemn the cultivation of the Milam, Lost.

Resolved to pass the Milam without action.

Ribston Pippin.—Mr Shepherd has had a tree of it ten or twelve years; has blossomed several years, but they were cut off by spring frosts; a full crop this year for the first.

Mr Richardson knew it in Massachusetts; an early fall fruit; has borne in his neighborhood, and is here an early winter fruit.

Mr Harkness has fruited it several years; a handsome fruit, but could not recommend highly.

Passed without action.

Spice Sweet.—Mr McWhorter esteems it very highly; one of the very best; has a peculiar aromatic flavor, which is much admired by some; and disliked by others; tree hardy root grafted.

Mr Wakeman—It succeeds the Sweet Bough in time of ripening; lovers of that variety are fond of the Spice; tree a vigorous grower and first-rate bearer.

Mr Wylie—A first-rate bearer; requires thorough culture.

Mr Negus considers it the best sweet Apple.

The President—Popular in market.

Mr Hathaway received it under the name of Canada Sweeting; esteems it one of the best.

Voted to recommend for farther trial.

Winter Sweet (local name).—Presented by Mr Stewart, of Quincy—he received it from Ohio; sweetest and best winter sweet Apple of his acquaintance; keeps till January.

He also presented a seedling sweet Apple, keeps till April, received from Licking county, Ohio; he deems highly deserving of cultivation.

Red Gilliflower of Downing.—Mr Dunlap esteems worthy of farther trial; a profuse bearer.

No action recorded.

Belle Pippin, from Mr Ragan, of Ind.—Mr Coleman thinks worthy of cultivation.

No action recorded.

Perry Russet.—Mr Brayton—Is found in many of the Northern nurseries; an upright grower, firm wood; has borne two years in Wisconsin, and promises well; fruit is often brought to Chicago and Milwaukee from Western New York, and is sold under names of Golden Russet or Roxbury Russet. It retains its flavor perfectly until April; is more juicy than the Roxbury when grown in the West.

Mr Harkness—One of the finest trees in his collection; has not fruited it.

No action recorded.

Kentucky Apple (local name).—Introduced by Mr McWhorter; thinks it worthy of cultivation; one of the earliest bearers in his collection; is now a little past its season; could not now judge well of its true flavor.

No action recorded.

Shaker Apple and *Shaker Red Streak*—Mr Montague esteems valuable; from Indiana.

No action recorded.

Fulton.—Though recommended heretofore, being of recent introduction, was brought up, and recommended by all acquinted with it, as the best of its season; original tree this year bore its seventeenth successive full crop.

English Summer Pearmain.—Mr Shepherd has fruited several years; is very popular where known.

No action recorded.

Rhode Island Greening.—Mr Ellsworth has trees of it, root grafted, that are hardy and productive; prairie soil

Mr Dunlap—A given number of trees have borne more with him than of any other variety he has tested; has never lost a root-grafted tree; discovers no difference in hardiness between root-grafted trees and those propagated on seedling stocks; soil deep, sub-soil porous.

Mr Truesdell—Has not succeeded well with him; sub-soil, limestone clay; has seen it stock grafted bearing full crops, on sandy loam, sub-soil, stiff clay; should always be budded or stock grafted; does not bear well root-grafted with him.

Mr Loomis esteems it more highly than any other variety of its season; tree a vigorous grower in nursery and orchard; bears as abundantly, and tree as hardy, in his vicinity, root grafted as when worked on seedling stocks

Mr Finley—One of the best root-grafted trees; bears to excess; have to be propped up; deep alluvial soil.

Mr A. Bryant—Bears well stock grafted; root-grafted trees have borne better this year than ever before; thinks tree requires more age than many others to fully develop its bearing qualities.

Mr Fitch—Succeeds well with him; sandy soil, sub-soil limestone—gravelly.

Mr A. R. Whitney—Has borne well with him this year, for the first; orchard just seeded to clover; prairie soil.

Mr Galusha has one root-grafted and one budded tree; both bear full crops every year; soil, black, sandy loam.

Mr Harkness—Has never borne well in his vicinity until this year; does not think it desirable to cultivate south of latitude 41 degrees.

Mr Overman—Very tardy coming into bearing.

Mr Stewart—Bears well with us; fruit large and fine, but does not keep well

Mr Brayton has fruited it three years; quality this year equal to any he has seen at the

East; has formerly considered it unproductive when root-grafted. The tree is tender, and cannot be successfully propagated by root-grafting in his vicinity.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation North.

CIDER APPLES.

Harrison.—Mr A. Bryant has fruited it four years; has borne well this year; thinks it will prove very productive; keeps till spring.

President and Mr Stewart—Very productive with them.

Mr Dunlap—Bears well on old trees; does not bear well when young.

Vote to recommend lost by one majority.

Winesap.—Several members considered very productive; tree hardy, remarkably exempt from blight; valuable for other purposes, and one of the best for cider.

Voted to recommend for general cultivation.

[*Concluded.*]

ANALYSIS OF THE STRAWBERRY.—B. Kirtland gives the following analysis in the Family Visitor, showing a large amount of potash in proportion to other constituents, much silicia, and more magnesia and common salt, than are usually found in other fruits. One hundred and sixteen grains of the ashes were taken, prepared from the leaves and stalks immediately after they had borne a moderate crop of fruit:

Silicia,	6.117	grains.
Charcoal and sand,	3.101	do.
Perphosphate of iron,	1.515	do.
Perphosphate of lime,	26.519	do.
Magnesia,	8.908	do.
Sulphuric acid,	1.469	do.
Phosphoric acid,	6.970	do.
Chlorine,	.708	do.
Potash,	33.154	do.
Soda,	2.790	do.
Carbonic acid,	23.008	do.
Organic matter and loss,	1.739	do.
	116.000	do.

PLASTER AND ASHES FOR CLOVER.—The Hon. T. C. Peters says: One ton of the dried clover, or the crop upon an acre produces more of the necessary food for the perfection of the wheat plan, than is taken off in two crops, and hence it is that land upon which red clover can be grown well, has within it elf as it were, the means of its own perpetual fertility. Yet it is well to manure your clover, for a fat clover field will be sure to make a rich wheat crop. I have found leached ashes good, and the effect upon the succeeding crop very remunerative. Last fall I applied at the rate of two hundred bushels to the acre, upon my wheat, and the difference between the ashed and unashed was more than equal to the whole expense of the application. My first experiment was upon some clover, the previous spring, and the yield was more than doubled, and the wheat upon the clover sod was the best I had, though some had been heavily dressed with barn-yard manure. Nearly three-quarters of the bulk of wood ashes is lime in combination with phosphate, and hence is one of the most valuable applications that can be made.

PUMPKINS.—Large quantities of this vegetable are annually produced on most farms, and, while sound and good, are relished by most kinds of domestic stock, especially by cows and swine. They, however, last but a short time, and when desired for culinary purposes, are generally dried in the same manner as apples. This is unnecessary, as by adopting the following method, pumpkins may be preserved thro' the winter, and even late in the following spring, perfectly sweet and sound.

Deposite in some convenient place, from a foot to eighteen inches of clean, well-dried wheat, oat or rye straw, and place thereon a layer of pumpkins—the best and fairest of your crop; then another *stratum* of straw, and so on, till you have "stowed" your entire crop, or so large a portion of it as you may consider necessary for winter use. A gentleman in one of the inland counties of Massachusetts, writing to us under date of March 16, 1845, says:

"I am now feeding my milch cows and other stock, on pumpkins of last year's growth. They were carefully packed in straw as soon as harvested, and are in a fine state of preservation. The butter produced from the milk is of the finest quality and richest color, and the animals themselves are in much better condition,—more active and healthy than I have ever known them when restricted to dry and unsucculent food."—[Hallowell Gazette.

☞ Abundant crops cannot be grown for a succession of years, unless care be taken to provide, an equivalent for the substances carried off the land in the products grown thereon.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

The last of Autumn's golden months is with us, in which should be completed the gathering of our fruits, and the garnering of the products of the field. We hope all the readers of the Farmer will show themselves prompt in the garnering of their corn, so nicely ripened by the gracious delay of frosts, and carefully securing the stalks, which furnish such rich and delicious fodder for milch cows in late fall and early winter, and which are of so much importance this year, when farmers should save all their feed, that they may be able to dispose of as much grain as possible, while it is bearing such a good price.

It is now full late enough for securing your potatoes in the best manner. Potatoes of all kinds, in order to keep well and to be in the best condition for eating through the winter, should be dug as soon as their skins refuse to slide when hardly pressed upon by the thumb: this is regarded by good judges as being a better guide for determining when a potato is ripe, than to judge by the fading or dying of the vines. Potatoes will bear a high price this fall, winter and next spring. Great care should be taken therefore to secure and preserve them in as good condition as possible. When being dug they should not be long exposed to the sun's rays, as they are thus soon greatly injured. Let them be gathered up as soon as possible after being cast from the hill, if the dirt readily falls from them. They had better be put up in the dirt, than to be exposed to the light or sun for any length of time. Put them in a cool and dark place for the winter. The cooler, short of freezing, and the darker, the better. Some have recommended to distribute among them a small quantity of air-slacked lime.

Carrots, beets and parsnips will not need to be lifted till next month. *Cabbages*, also, can be delayed some longer

It is now time to commence in earnest the fattening of your pork. Notice the article in this number on the estimated cost of fattening pork at the different prices of corn, and exercise your judgment about the number of hogs it is best to fatten. It is to be remembered however, that much is lost in value to the farmer by carrying off all his produce, and not feeding it out upon his farm. We lose much every year by our wheat's not being all floured at home, and the coarse parts fed out here.—Try the cooking of all your food for hogs.

Select out the stock that you have determined to winter, and dispose of the remainder to the drover or butcher. Do not attempt to keep more stock than you have abundant means to winter well. If young animals are badly fed they will never thrive afterwards.

You will probably have abundant opportunities this fall and winter of purchasing sheep, cattle and horses, as they will be brought in from the East and South. Do not pay too high prices, but buy *only* good ones. Resist the introduction of poor stock of any kind.—There will be abundance of such to tempt you by their low price; but give them all the cold shoulder

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Restoring Leather.—The following recipe has been recommended to us as good for restoring the strength and pliability of leather which has become hard and stiff by age and use.—One pound logwood, boiled in eight quarts of water, down to three; when hot, add one half ounce hemlock oil, and apply it cold. To make it water-proof, ¼ lb. India-rubber, cut in camphine, by keeping warm three days; when milk-warm, mix with the logwood composition, or it may be mixed with tallow.

To make Beef Tender.—Those who have worn down their teeth in masticating old tough cow beef, will be glad to learn that common Carbonate of Soda will be found a remedy for the evil. Cut your steaks the day before using into slices about two inches thick, rub over a small quantity of Soda, wash off next morning, cut it to suitable thickness, and cook to notion. The same process will answer for fowls, legs of mutton, &c. Try it, all who like delicious, tender dishes of meat.—Southern Cultivator.

☞ A Mr. Wm. J. Fowler, of Henrietta, N. Y., writes to the N Y. Evening Post, that the plant called skullcap, which is generally found in low swampy ground, is a certain preventive of Hydrophobia. He mentions numerous instances in which its use has effected a cure.—We should like to hear from some competent physician on this subject.

Cooking Indian Meal.—A writer in the Boston Traveller, over the signature of Indicator on the culture and use of Indian corn, gives the following process for cooking the meal :

As almost all the various modes of using or preparing corn and the flour of meal made from it, for food, whether for man or beast, are familiar to the farmer and house-keeper, the following account of the Italian mode of preparation may not be uninteresting : The maize flour is taken quite dry and fresh, moistened with boiling water, and well mixed by stirring with a wooden spoon until the mass is reduced to a thorough paste of a consistence to admit of boiling. It is steeped just below a boiling heat, about ten minutes, stirring it the whole time, till it is perfectly homogeneous. It is now removed from the fire, and has added to it as much fresh butter, strong brown gravy, grated cheese, &c., as suits the palate ; grated ham is also excellent. It is then simmered ten minutes, stirred the whole time, and poured into a well buttered mould, and served up with brown gravy.

Another mode is, to stir in hot water and simmer till it will just run from the pan ; pour the mass on a board ; when cold, cut it into diamonds an inch square, the paste not exceeding half an inch in thickness. The squares are placed close to each other in a dish, but not to touch ; pile layer above layer, a little butter and grated cheese between each ; brown the whole over by fire, above and below, and bake in an oven, or steam until the cheese be softened, or the butter and sugar incorporated—the latter, together with pounded cinnamon, being used when it is to be eaten as a pudding ; molasses may be used instead of sugar.

Soldering Cast Steel.—I saw in a recent number of the "Scientific American" an answer to a correspondent relating to the soldering of cast-steel. For his benefit and that of others, I send you the following :—

Put one pint of muriatic acid in an earthen vessel that will hold at least one quart, into this drop small bits of zinc until it will dissolve no more ; then add half an ounce of muriate of ammonia, and boil the whole about three minutes. Apply a little of this solution to the intended juncture of cast-steel, and soft solder will flow over the parts as readily as on tin plate, providing always that the metal has been previously well cleaned of oxide. I believe this is commonly known among tinsmiths, tho' not generally with other individuals, whom it no doubt would benefit much. Cast-steel, cast-iron, or any other metal in common use, is readily soldered with this mixture. Marcus Mason, Coustoutan, Mich.—[Sc. Amer.

The way to spoil Potatoes.—It is a little singular that many who are otherwise excellent cooks, are ignorant of the rich, dry, mealy vegetables, theirs are invariably "soggy" and heavy as bread when the yeast is worthless.—Their method of spoiling potatoes after they are well cooked is wonderfully simple. They place over the dish containing them, hot and smoking from the boiler, a *tight cover*, and keep it there—any one can do it, and eat water-logged potatoes in consequence. Better put their cover out of sight, even if the contents of the dish should cool a few minutes sooner on that account. Boiled potatoes intended for the table should not be covered a moment.—[Norwich Examiner.

A Hard Cement for Seams.—A very excellent cement for seams in the roofs of houses, or for any other exposed places, is made with white lead, dry white sand, and as much oil as will make it into the consistency of putty.—This cement gets as hard as any stone in the course of a few weeks. The lead forms a kind of flux with the sand ; it is excellent for filling up cracks in exposed parts of brick buildings ; it is also a good cement for pointing up the base of chimneys, where they project through the roofs of shingled houses. We have made this cement and tried it, and speak about it from experience only, for we have no knowledge of its ever having been described in any work.—[Scientific American.

☞ We copy from Mrs. Hale's "New Receipt Book," the following novel mode of manufacturing carpets for bed-rooms and the like :

"Sew together strips of the cheapest cotton cloth of the size of the room, and tack the edges to the floor. Then paper the cloth as you would the sides of your room, with any sort of room paper. After being well dried give it two coats of varnish, and your carpet is finished."

Not quite *finished*, but will be after it has been in use about ten days.—[Exchange.

A Word to Boys.—Stick to your trade, boys, and learn how to work if you wish to be truly independent There is no more pitiable sight than a half mechanic applying for work. He is always at the foot of the hill, and labor as he may, unless he becomes perfect in his trade, he can never rise.

Editors Table.

Death of the Rev. Chas. Fox.—We are grieved to learn the death of such an active, able, and efficient co-laborer in the advancement of Agriculture and Science generally.—Mr. Fox had won for himself an enviable reputation by his unremitted efforts for the benefit of the farmer, and was truly what he entitled his paper, and what ha made it—The Farmer's Companion. Mr. Fox died of the cholera, on the 24th of July, in the 40th year of his age.

To Subscribers.—If any of our subscribers have failed to receive all their numbers of the current volume, or are short of any of them from any cause, they will be supplied as far as possible, by informing us of the fact. Some scattering numbers remain on hand, which will be sent out to supply deficiencies, if any, as far as they will go. We wish to be notified at once if any are wanted.

Banking—Foreign Currency.—Under the above caption, the Beloit Journal, of Sept. 14, concludes a well digested article, with the following quotation. Want of room only prevents our copying the whole. We are glad to see the press in different parts of the West speaking out and warning the public against these foreign swindling concerns:

"The recent failure of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Memphis, the bills of which have been somewhat extensively circulated in this region, has brought this question of tolerating a foreign currency in our midst before the community, in a very vivid manner, and has touched a very tender spot—the pocket. Those banks through which this worthless stuff has been emitted, and which now refuse to redeem what they have emitted, cannot, we suppose, be reached by law, but retribution will and ought to be meted out to the perpetrators of such atrocious swindling, in a way that they will feel. Public confidence will, and ought to, be withdrawn from such institutions. The result will be salutary for them and the public safety."

☞ Some farmers in Ohio complain that the severe drouth has completely killed and dried the roots of the grass, so that they will be under the necessity of sowing the seed to get their fields set with grass again.

Important Caution.—*Messrs. Editors:* A concern in this city called the "Janesville City Bank," in the plenitude of its philanthropy, cautions the public against a certain five dollar counterfeit. Better, by far, to have put the dear public on their guard two months ago, against the *genuine* bills of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Tenessee.

A Bill Holder.

Wonder if there is any counterfeits out on the Janesville City Bank? [Ed. Farmer.

One Ass.—A correspondent of the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, undertakes to enlighten his part of the kingdom, about the adaptation of Southern Wisconsin for raising wheat. Hear the fellow:—

"Wisconsin has a large crop, but was injured in harvesting, being much grown. It is a new State, not much of the soil natural for wheat, and will want nearly all its surplus to feed emigrants."

If this modern SOLON were to pass through Beloit and Janesville "about these days," he would find that he made one grand mistake when he penned the above.

Wisconsin has wheat enough at this time to feed her population two years, and as many millions for export.

False Alarm.—The Transcript, published at Peterboro, N. H., in the region of the prevailing drouth, says: "It turns out that we have been too easily frightened, and that there will be about an average crop of potatoes, corn, &c. Potatoes, which a short time since were held at a dollar a bushel, are now down to fifty cents, and will not probably go above that. We have a bountiful supply of apples. The best quality can be obtained for $1,25 per bbl."

Great Loss, but Small Gain.—It is thought that the heat and prolonged drought of the summer may have accomplished much in destroying the insects and animalicule, which have of late years so greatly increased in some places as to render their existence a public calamity. A Virginia paper says that an examination of the distorted joints of wheat straw reveals the "joint worm," in almost every instance, dead and dried to powder.

Raising Canary Seed.—A writer in the Ohio "Farmer" strongly recommends the farming people to raise canary seed, which is said to be an operation attended with no more trouble than the culture of oats.

BEWARE OF THE WILD CATS.—A most villainous effort to flood the West, and particularly Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, with the vilest rag currency that ever circulated, is now in full blast in all those States. If the farmers do not be careful, they will be cheated out of their wheat crop by the doubtful paper put into their hands It depends upon the farmers and laborers whether such issues shall circulate. If they should say that they will *not* receive these in exchange for their wheat or their labor, these currency swindlers would not dare to persist in attempting to circulate their trash.—[Wisconsin.

MORTALITY.—The September number of the Farmer's Companion, published at Detroit, announces its discontinuance, after an existence of about two years. We never could see any necessity or excuse for a second Agricultural paper in Michigan. At the time of the commencement of the Companion, the Michigan Farmer was already in the field, and had acquired an enviable reputation as an Agricultural paper. It is not so easy a matter, as many of the uninitiated suppose, to supplant a well established journal, of any complexion, with a new one.

ANOTHER.—The People's Journal for October, also announces its discontinuance, after a year's existence.

THE WISCONSIN HOME.—This is a handsome semi-monthly, quarto of 8 pages, just issued by WM. M. DOTY, of the *Janesville Free Press*.—It is a literary paper, got up in every particular in apple-pie order. $1 per year.

THE WEEKLY WISCONSIN, which has been suspended since the disastrons fire which consumed the office about three weeks ago, has again appeared upon our table, brighter than ever. Mr. CRAMER, its indefatigable conductor, is deserving of all praise for the energy he has displayed in procuring new dresses, and re-issueing his daily and weekly papers. By the way, the WISCONSIN is one of the very best family newspapers within our knowledge.

ALREADY ON HAND.—Godey's Lady's Book for Oct. is already on our table—a superb No. The present number contains over 50 engravings, and more than as many contributions.—The Department of Household Economy is worth to any family more than the whole work costs.

DECISIONS UNDER THE POST OFFICE LAWS.—A postage stamp, cut from a stamped envelope cannot be used for postage.

A postmaster under no circumstances is allowed to open a letter not addressed to him.

When letters are missent it is not lawful to charge postage for forwarding.

All newspapers having words written on or in them, are subject to letter postage.

To entitle papers to be sent to bona-fide subscribers at half a cent each, a full quarter's postage is required in advance.

It is improper for deputy postmasters to remove the wrapper of public documents franked by a member of Congress.

No paper or other thing, except bills or receipts of publishers can be sent enclosed in a newspaper without subjecting the whole to letter postage.

Bona-fide subscribers to a weekly paper, whose post office is in an adjoining county in which they live, free of postage.

Any mark of a pen on a circular, such as dates or any thing of the kind, subject it to letter postage.

JOHN M. WEARE, of Seabrook, N. H., has recently obtained a patent for holding cows tails still during the operation of milking.—The machine is fastened to one of the animal's hamstrings, and the tail is compressed. Mr. Weare politely styles his discovery the "Milker's Protector." We should call it the "Self Tail Holder."

GUARD AGANST LIGHTNING.—The National Intelligencer, in commenting upon the death of Mrs. Roemmell, by lightning, in a house where the windows and doors were open, says: "The warning to be derived from this is, that on the approach of thunder storms all the windows and doors, (and if it were possible the chimneys too) of every house should be closed, in order to prevent the formation of currents of moist air, which is so liable to convey electricity."

THE PEARL.—The irritating grain of sand, which by accident or incaution has got within the shell of the oyster, incites the living inmate to secrete from its own resources the means of coating the intrusive substance, and thus germinates the pearl.

☞ The charges on cattle alone, from Dunkirk, over the Erie road, for the month ending Aug. 26, were over $15,000.

GREAT CROP OF HOPS.—The Watertown (New York) Democratic Union, of August 20th, says:

Messrs. T. A. & A. P. Smith, of this town, have the greatest crop of hops ever known in the country. It is estimated by competent judges at 30,000 pounds. Hops are worth from 25 to 30 cents per pound. This crop grows on twenty acres of land. Eight or nine thousand dollars is a round sum to realize from only twenty acres.

HOGS IN KENTUCKY.—The Cincinnati Price Current publishes an official statement of the hogs over six months old, assessed in Kentucky for the last and current year. The number in 1853 was 1,356,892, and in 1854, it is 1,515,690; being an increase this year of 158,807 head.

BIT BY A SNAKE.—A little girl, daughter of Jonathan Fuller, of the town of Milford was bitten by a rattle-snake some two weeks ago, on the ankle joint. She was made to drink freely of whiskey, or some kind of spirits until she was intoxicated, and thus kept under its influence for some length of time. Local applications were made, but whether the liquor or these applications were the most beneficial we have not been able to learn. Some discoloration and considerable tumefaction existed when we last heard from her, but it was thought she would recover.

An exchange says that alum water drank freely, or the alum chewed and swallowed, will counteract the effect of the poison of the fangs of the rattle-snake.—[Watertown Chronicle.

☞ The steamer Antarctic, from Liverpool, brought on the last trip, 180 head of live-stock, consisting of bulls, cows, sheep, pigs and horses, for the Kentucky Stock Company.

INDIAN MEAL IN IRELAND.—The Belfast (Ireland) Mercury, says:—"The extent to which the sale of Indian meal is carried on through the rural districts, seems really wonderful. At one steam mill the average quantity turned out, for the past couple of months, exceeded fifty tons per week."

LOCOMOTIVE ON A TABLE.—An ex-postmaster of Boston is in Germany, and sends home an account of a dinner to a railway congress, at which a locomotive appeared upon the table, to which was attached a train loaded with dishes of the choicest and most solid food.—The succulent train advanced slowly, in imitation of the passenger trains upon all German roads. After having made the tour of the table without stopping; in order to give a view of the good things with which it was freighted, the train again started, making a station in front of each guest, and permitting him to fill his plate according to his appetite and fancy.

ENEMIES OF THE TEETH.—Experiments have gone to prove that there are a large number of insects infecting the gums and the substance collected on the teeth; these work on and destroy the enamel of the teeth, and hence their decay.

It is probable that these parasites exist in larger numbers on the teeth of different individuals and at different ages. This may account for the rapid decay of some person's teeth while very young. The enamel then is soft and more easy to be worked upon. But they are not as frequent in the teeth of children as adults. Hence more notice is taken of their destructive influence when they exist on the teeth of the young. W. H. WATERS.

Avon, N. Y.—[Sc. Amer.

SUGAR.—In Russia, the entire consumption of sugar amounts to 85,000 tons, of which 35,000 tons are made from Beet-root.

In Germany, (the Tollverein) in 1848, the quantity of beet sugar made, was 26,000 tons. In 1851, it had increased to 43,000 tons, the consumption of cane sugar decreasing in the same proportion.

Austria consumed about 40,000 tons of sugar in 1848, of which 3,000 were made from beet-root; this quantity was doubled in 1850.

In Belgium, the consumption of sugar is about 14,000 tons, of which 7,000 are made from beet-root; the number of establishments have since doubled.

In France, the annual manufacture of beet-root sugar amounts to 60,000 tons, with an increasing rate of production.—[Journal of Royal Ag. Society, Eng.

AN UNKNOWN BENEFACTOR.—The man who plants a birch tree little knows what he is conferring on posterity.—[Punch.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE "SPIRITS."—One of the "mediums" was recently put in communication with the spirit of the celebrated and eccentric Doct. Abernethy, to enquire what was the best of all medicines for diseases on the lungs. Loud and distinct raps upon the table slowly but promptly spelt out *A-y-e-r-'-s C-h-e-r-r-y P-e-c-t-o-r-a-l.*

THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA.—The present population of California is estimated at 329,500, of whom 215,000 are Americans, 25,000 Germans, 25,000 French, 20,000 Spanish, 5,000 other whites, 20,000 Indians, and 2,500 negroes.—Of the whole number about one-fifth are women, and one-tenth children. We can hardly believe, as we look upon the wealth, the prosperity and the population of this young State, that eight years ago it was little more than an uncultivated and undeveloped wilderness, occupied by about one-twentieth of its present number of inhabitants

☞ When the arrangement of fans was first introduced to assist in winnowing corn from the chaff by producing artificial currents of air, it was argued that "winds were raised by God alone, and it was irreligious in man to attempt to raise wind for himself, and by efforts of his own." One Scottish clergyman actually refused the holy communion to those of his parishoners who thus irreverently raised the 'Devil's wind." When forks were first introduced into England, some preachers denounced their use "as an insult on Providence, not to touch our meat with our fingers."

STATE UNIVERSITY.

THE first term of the next Collegiate year will open the third Wednesday of September; the Second Term, the first Wednesday of January; the Third, the fourth Wednesday of April;—containing each thirteen weeks.

Tuition fee for term, $4 00
Private rooms, fuel, &c., for term, 3 00
No additional charges for contingencies.

A full course of instruction in Agricultural Science will be rendered during the first two terms, by the Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, Dr. S. P. LATHROP, who is now East selecting the apparatus needful for the Department.

The members of the Agrioultural Classes will have the privilege of pursuing any other branch of study, in connection with the Preparatory and College Classes, without additional charge.

The thrifty financial condition of the State University, the liberal and practical views which characterise its administration, and the extremely moderate charges at which its advantages are offered, entitle it to the confidence and support of the Agricultural public.

We are certain that we can do the young farmers of Wisconsin no better service than to enjoin it upon them, as we do most heartily, to prepare themselves for the Agricultural profession, by attending on the scientific instructions of the State University. We hope to hear of the entrance of a large class the coming fall.

☞ A house at Havana recently paid on 11 newspapers from the United States, *four dollars and twenty cents*, or 12¼ cents per ounce. This is the regular rate at present. Of course it is designed to be prohibitory, and such is its effect in most cases.

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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., NOVEMBER, 1854. NO. 11.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $2,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

Wisconsin State Fair.

The annual Fair of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society took place on Spring Hill, in Milwaukee, on the first week of last month.

The general prosperity of the season, and the present good prices of produce, seemed to have stimulated the farmers of the State to something of a proper pride in their work, and to a commendable desire, at least willingness, that others should see what they have done.—The weather being quite propitious, and the grounds well chosen and conveniently arranged, there was consequently more than the usual interest manifested in the matter, both by the farmers and others. In several important respects this State Fair far surpassed any of its predecessors. Great numbers were present upon the grounds, and a good, healthy spirit of enthusiasm and laudable ambition seemed to pervade the masses, whilst a just pride in the growing wealth of the State, and in the constantly increasing importance of her agricultural interests, gave to the multitude a look of generous dignity and just magnanimity. We were much pleased with the affair, and are proud of our patrons and cotemporaries. There is no exhibition more congenial to our nature and pleasing to our view, than that of the products of the field, and the increase of our flocks and our herds.

As respects the late Fair, we have to grieve only, that, in a year of such general dearth of vegetable products in other States, and their great abundance, and of the best quality, in our own, there should have been such a comparatively meagre exhibition in this department.—It would have been only a proper expression of our gratitude, and a suitable offering to the goddess Ceres, to have had a fine display of these productions.

The department of Stock in all its branches, was truly excellent and worthy of admiration. The division of horses has been as well, and perhaps better, represented at previous Fairs.—There were, however, some fine horses exhibited, and some, as there always will be, which should be made to serve in positions which require, at least admit of, other qualifications than perfect points. The Young St. Patrick, belonging to Geo. Ruble, of Beloit, was thought by many to be the best horse on the ground.—There was a fair representation of the Morgan stock, so valuable as a horse for all work. We think the *desideratum* at the present time among our breeders of horses, is the introduction of some good specimens of the true English cart horse. Our horses are too light for our work on our farms. Ought not our farmers to look to this point?

Better cattle of the different and favorite breeds, especially of the Durham and Devon varieties, have never been exhibited at any of our Fairs. It appears that there are some as good specimens of these breeds in Wisconsin, as in any State in the Union—and as good in the Union as in the world. We cannot mention particularly all the animals present, but we do wish to commend to the examination of lovers of good stock, a thorough bred Durham bull, exhibited by Mr. Rogers, of Burlington; also, an almost equally, and, in the opinion of some, fully so, fine one, exhibited by Mr. Ball, of Troy. These were truly excellent animals. A better bred bull than the first we seldom see.—Ingham & Colvin, of Madison, exhibited, also, a very well bred bull, and one peculiarly fine in some desirable points. He was not, however, in such good condition as those above mentioned. A good Durham bull was exhibited from Waukesha county, upon whose quite good points an improvement had been attempted by a scraping of the horns and a shaving off of the hair

on the middle of the tail. All such supererogations are to be condemned. One bull, imported by Mr. Roe, of Muskego, possessed many excellent points—indeed, he had only one really *dark* point, and this the owner *knows* as well as any one. Mr. Roe also exhibited some good heifers of this breed, as did Mr. Durkee, of Kenosha, and Mr. White, of Madison—both of whom exhibited a fine cow each, for which a medal and a premium were awarded. A very nice bull calf, raised by Mr. Bull, and purchased by Mr. Fletcher, of Johnstown, attracted much attention.

Of the Devons, we saw several fine animals. The bull owned by Mr. Case, of Whitewater, was truly a beautiful and a well bred animal. There were two or three others, the names of whose owners we do not know. A very fine cow of this breed was exhibited by Messrs. Ingham and Colvin, of Madison. We were much pleased with six most beautiful heifers tied in a row, and owned by Mr. Durkee and another gentleman, whose name we do not know.—There was also a good Devon bull calf present. Of the grades, we are unable to speak very definitely, only we know that there were some fine specimens.

We were much pleased with four fat steers, belonging to William Smith, of Somers. These were Durhams and Grade Durhams. They were truly very well fatted cattle. Mr. Smith, we understand, was the third white man that came to Milwaukee, where so great changes have taken place, and where now he comes to exhibit his fine cattle. Mr. S. is one of the oldest residents in Somers, and has one of the best conducted farms, and is considered one of the best cultivators of the soil, as well as one of the best feeders of cattle in the country. These cattle show well the effect of Durham blood on cattle for fattening.

A better exhibition of sheep we seldom have an opportunity of seeing, though in number not so great as we could have wished. In passing round, we first came to the French sheep of J. D. Patterson, of Westfield, Chatauque co., N. Y. These were as good French sheep as we ever saw, without any exception. We regard Mr. Patterson, too, as one of the most honorable dealers in sheep that we know. Mr. Case, of Whitewater, also exhibited a pair of good French sheep. There were others of this class present, but we do not know to whom they belonged. The pen of imported Southdown ewes, belonging to Mr. Lyman, of Sheboygan, were very fine. We also saw a remarkably nice 2 year old, belonging to the same gentleman, and a good Spanish buck. Mr. Clapp's Southdowns, of Kenosha, have always pleased us, as well as his Leicesters. Mr. C. knows well how to get up sheep of any kind, but he excels in his Southdowns. Those exhibited by him were very fine. Nos. 100 and 101—two Leicester bucks—were nice animals. Our old friend, S. N. Hawes, of Fon du Lac co., exhibited some of the choice specimens of the French Merinos from his flock. We have had occasion to speak of Mr. H.'s sheep, in the Farmer, before, and we are pleased to know that his sheep were duly esteemed on this occasion. He exhibited a very fine young buck.

No 197 was a pen of very superior Spanish ewes. We would like to know to whom they belong. They were worthy of a premium, whether they got it or not. Next come the pen of Spanish ewes belonging to E. W. Edgerton, and they were truly splendid sheep. We saw few superior to them in our late tour East. The following is the statement of their fleeces, at the Sheep Shearing Festival at Whitewater, in June last: No. 1, 9 lb; No. 2, 8½ lb; No. 4, 6 lb; No. 7, 6 lb; No. 8, 6 lb. No one witnessing this exhibition of sheep, can doubt the ability of Wisconsin as a wool-growing country.

The department of Swine was well represented, both in numbers and quality of stock. We were pleased to notice a marked improvement over any former exhibition. The Suffolks were there in all their glory—large, fat, and sleek—as they always appear under the most ordinary circumstances, for they always will appear just so, ready for the shambles. There were about sixty animals, one half of which were tinctured more or less with Suffolk blood. S. B. Edwards, of East Troy, who has done more than any other man in the State to improve our swine, led off with some eight or ten full blood Suffolks, of different ages and sexes—the finest lot of hogs we have ever seen. J. S. Rogers, of Burlington, H. Beckwith, of Oak Creek, and W. A. White, of Madison, showed some good Suffolks—full bloods and grades. J. Carpenter, of Waukesha, showed a very fine half blood Suffolk boar. There were many other good grades; in fact, there was not a poor hog on the ground.

Of Fowls, there were 23 coops, containing some 200 birds—many very fine, and many tha. should have paid the debt of nature months

ago—judging from the shattered condition of their limbs. R. E. Gillett, of Milwaukee, exhibited the greatest variety, and many of them very fine. J. A. Carpenter, of Waukesha, made a good show; his white Bantams were the admiration of all, Chas. Smith, of Waupun, showed a coop of good fowls; his red Shanghai Pullets can't be beat. Jeremiah Curtis, Root Creek, made a good show of Ducks and other fowls—all of the first order. Chas. Blackwell, of Waukesha, a coop of Red Shanghais—very fine.—There were many other exhibitors, but their fowls were rather mixed and ordinary. The show, as a whole, was good.

In the line of Agricultural Implements, the show was first rate—being far superior to any show of Agricultural Implements we have ever seen before. R. E. Ela, of Rochester, contributed largely, presenting, as he has done at previous Fairs, a very large variety of plows, fanning mills, carriages, &c., all manufactured in a superior manner, both for utility and beauty.—Among Mr Ela's collection we noticed a pleasure carriage, tasty enough to suit the notions of the most fastidious nabob. Thos. Oliver, of Waupun, made a fine show of plows—few in number, but very superior in workmanship.—Mr. O.'s plows are so put together with bolts and nuts, as to be taken apart at pleasure and packed away in a very small space. Messrs. Lefevre & Green, of Milwaukee, exhibited a very large collection, embracing almost every thing in the line of implements used about the farm, in and out of doors. O. G. Ewing, of Heart Prairie, showed a new corn cultivator, which we should call an excellent implement.

The exhibition of Fruit, though good, was not peculiarly superior. Among the exhibitors we would note John Bell, of Gardner's Prairie; L. Burdick, Lake; E. S. Estes, J. C. Howard, and S. Pettibone, of Milwaukee—all of whom presented fine specimens—Mr. Bell having, as usual, a *very large* collection. We should like to speak more in detail of fruits, if space would permit.

The greatest display of fruit, and a very good one, was at Young's Hall, by the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association. We shall speak of this in another place.

The farmers of Wisconsin may well be proud of this last Festival of the Society. No one can doubt of the beneficial influence of this State Agricultural Society, who witnessed the last Fair. The people of Milwaukee are worthy of much praise for their liberality in fitting up the grounds in a very commendable style. We trust they have reaped a rich reward for the money thus invested.

The officers of the Society should receive the gratitude of the farmers of the State, for the wisdom and liberality which they have manifested in the management of the Society, by which it has reached its present prosperous state and power of benefficent action. Success to its further advancement, till it shall have reached the goal contemplated by its originators.

We should like to have noticed all the departments of the late Fair more in detail, but the size of our paper will not allow it.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Osage Orange Hedge.

Messrs. Editors:—I have about 25 rods of the Osage Orange hedge—now of four years growth from setting in the hedge—and if any one doubts its making a good fence, let him come and see it for himself. It is now from 4 to 5 feet high, and no man or beast would willingly attempt to go through it. I have the fullest confidence in its answering a valuable purpose for fence, and would advise our farmers to try it—set out a piece of hedge, and *take care* of it—and then they can judge for themselves of its worth.

I planted a quart of seed at first—it came up well, and had a vigorous growth the first season. I left the plants in the nursery, exposed to the freezing and thawing of a hard winter, to see if they would stand the winter cold.—Many of them were so much thrown out of the ground, by its freezing and thawing, as to expose from one to two inches of the root to the action of the weather; all thus affected were winter-killed; those that retained their position, and whose roots were not exposed to the action of the sun and air, were not injured by the winter, and grew well the second year. The next winter none were killed. Having thus tried them two winters, I set them in a hedge the following spring.

I set from two to three plants to the foot, and have cut them back and pruned them twice in a season since the first year after setting in the hedge, when I did not prune them at all, preferring to let the roots have the benefit of the whole growth of the first season. The cold has not injured them at all since they were set out. Some of the ends of the shoots were killed last winter, but that is no objection, while the root and stock remain unhurt.

I set out about half a mile of the plants in a hedge last spring, and they are doing well. I have some 80 rods of the Buckthorn hedge, of four years growth, but it is not as good as the Osage Orange. But any plant, to make a good hedge, must have the necessary care and attention. Some farmers will set it out, and take no care of it, and the result will be, a failure, and then they will condemn it as worthless. In order to succeed in making a good fence in the best manner, those who raise the plants should set them out and take care of them till they are four years old, and then the farmer will be sure of a good fence; but if he undertakes to set and attend to them himself, he will most probably neglect their proper attention at the proper time, and they will not make a good fence. Nurserymen, or those who will make it a business, can raise the plants, set them out, and prune and take care of them for four years, for 50 cents per rod; and by that time the farmer has a good and durable fence, that, with a little care, will become better every year. That is not only the cheapest, but the best and handsomest fence that can be made; and the time is not distant when our beautiful prairies will be intersected in every direction with a living fence. I have no self-interest in thus recommending the Osage Orange as a hedge plant, because I am not making a business of raising them for sale; but if my experience will benefit others, I am willing they should avail themselves of it, if they choose.

There may be objections to the Osage Orange that I have not yet noticed, but thus far my experience with it has been satisfactory. I am not aware of any other hedge in this section of the State as forward as mine. There is much of it in the central part of State, and I see no good reason why it may not prove as hardy and valuable here as there. If any wish to see what kind of a hedge it will make, I would invite them to call and examine mine for themselves.

GEORGE HASKELL.

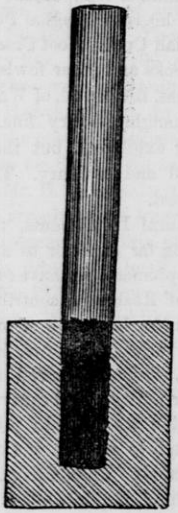
Rockford, Ill., Oct., 1854.

☞ At a recent meeting of one of the French Agricultural Societies, a curious fact was related. A farmer stuck a pea in a potato and planted them in March last. The pea produced a stock which was covered with pods, and the potatoes gave eleven healthy roots. The farmer is of opinion that by this system it is possible not only to obtain a two-fold crop, but prevent the malady to potatoes.

Walls and Fences.

A great objection to the common board or picket fence, as compared with walls, is the certainty of the rotting of the lower parts of the posts, in the ground.—After a few years they have rotted away almost to nothing, and the fence leans and sags wherever a post has given out.—There is one very effectual remedy for preventing this, which should be more frequently noticed and practiced by farmers than it is at present. This consists in charring the bottoms of the posts. Our engraving, Fig. 1, shows the appearance of a post thus charred.

[*Fig.* 1.]



The preservative qualities of charcoal are well known. It is not affected by moisture, and hence the extremities of posts properly charred, and placed in the ground, will not decompose. The incorruptibility of charcoal was well known to the ancients, and they availed themselves of this property on all important occasions.

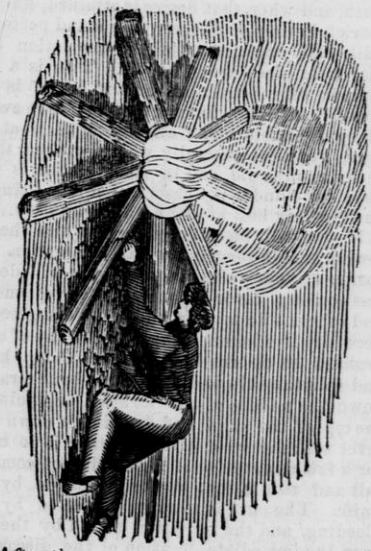
About 60 years ago, a quantity of oak stakes were found in the bed of the Thames, England, in the very spot where Tacitus says that the Britons fixed a vast number of such stakes to prevent the passage of Julius Cæsar and his army. These stakes were charred to a considerable depth, had retained their form completely, and were firm at the heart.

Most of the houses in Venice stand upon piles of wood, which have all been previously charred for their preservation. In England, estates were formerly marked out by charred stakes driven to a considerable depth in the ground.

Among dock and bridge builders the importance of charring the spiles, to be driven into the mud, and remain under water, is well known and constantly practiced. Farmers may avail themselves of this simple and sure security against the rotting of their posts, by charring the lower ends of the posts. If the erection of a fence is contemplated in the spring,

the posts might be charred now, or at any other time most convenient. The winter season is as good as any other; better in some respects, as things about the farm are not so hurried.—It will be advisable not to leave the matter to be done at the last moment, for then the chances are that it will be done improperly, or perhaps not at all. All that is necessary, is to build a smart fire on the ground, and pile on as many posts as can be easily managed. Fig. 2 shows such a burning in process.

[*Fig.* 2.]

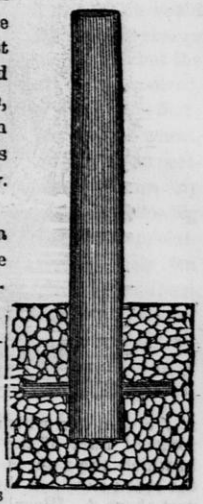


After the posts are [illegible]ken in the flames long enough to be well coated with coal, they should be removed from the flames and water thrown upon them to extinguish the fire. They are then ready for use. Some persons char their posts all over, in order to prevent rotting from above as well as below ground. This is a wise and economical measure. In this manner posts of inferior stuff can be rendered almost as durable as locust and other costly kinds of woods.

In some localities, where at certain seasons of the year freshets occur, or the low lands are overflowed by sudden rains, it is necessary to have fences that shall not be floated away, or thrown down if the water rises to an uncommon height. In soft and marshy places, also, there is need of some method by which the posts may be well secured in their positions

One very good mode of accomplishing this, is to bore a hole through the lower part of the post and drive in a stake which shall project on both sides of the post. The post hole should be large, and filled with small stones. Fig. 3 shows the appearance of a post thus put in.—The stones above the stake prevent the post from rising, and hold the fence in position, flood or no flood. In marshy land this plan is said to work admirably. It is not very costly.

[*Fig.* 3.]

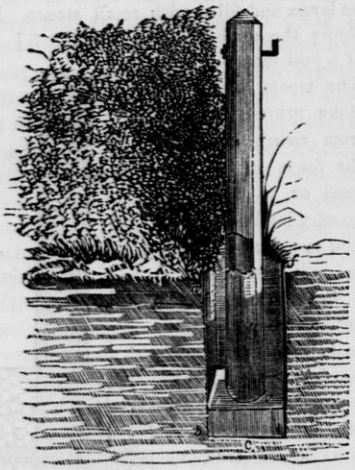


Some farmers have a notion that setting the posts small end downwards in the ground contrarywise to the direction in which the sap rises in the tree, will tend to preserve the post several years longer than otherwise.

We now come to gates suitable to the kind of fences we have been describing.

The stability of a gate and ease in its movements, depends very much upon the manner in which the gate post is secured Carelessness here, ensures a rickety, inconvenient, and slovenly opening; whereas, if proper pains are taken, the gate will stand upright, and move without difficulty. One excellent plan of fixing a hanging post is to dig as narrow a hole as is practicable for the purpose, 3 feet deep, and at the bottom lay a flat stone of about 15 inches square, and 7 or 8 inches thick, through the centre of which is cut a hole of 8 or 9 inches in diameter, to take in the lower end of the post, dressed with the axe to fit the hole.—Earth alone is then put, in spadesful, into the hole, and made firm around the post with a rammer, up to the surface of the ground, in which is sunk the stone, at the edge of the upper face of which the heel-post of the gate is made to rotate in a shallow hollow made to fit it. Fig. 4 shows the different parts of this mode of fastening the hanging posts of field gates; where *a b* is the hole into which the post *d* is sunk, and *c* the stone in the hole *e*, of which the end of the post is inserted and secured. Water passing through the stone, the end of the post will be preserved; and further so by being in the bark, smeared with cold tar, and the upper part *d* is planed and painted. The earth is rammed hard into the pit *a b* to the surface of the ground in which is sunk

[*Fig.* 4.]



at *f* a stone, on which the heel-post of the gate rotates. Part of the hedge fence of the field in which the gate is placed is shown, as also the crook on which the gate is hung, in the gate post above *d*.—[People's Journal.

To Destroy Vermin on Animals and Trees.—G. W. Kendall, one of the editors of the N. Orleans Picayune, in his letter from Paris to that journal, gives the subjoined recipe for destroying vermin on animals, plants and trees. The remedy is simple, easy of application, and worthy of at least a trial:

The celebrated Raspail, well known as one of the best French chemists, has given an important recipe for destroying vermin on animals, and also on plants and trees—important, at least, if true. The process he recommends is to make a solution of aloes—one gramme of that gum to one litre of water, French measure; and by means of a large brush, to wash over the trunks and branches of trees with this solution. This simple process, says Raspail, will speedily destroy all the vermin on the trees, and will effectually prevent others from approaching. In order to clear sheep and animals with long hair, they must be bathed with the solution, or well washed with it. Raspail mentions several trials he has made with this mixture, all of which have been attended with the most complete success; and he recommends it very strongly to general use. I can only say, that if a simple solution of aloes and water will kill or drive away ants from peach and other trees in Texas and other parts of the south, the discovery will be hailed with pleasure. At all events, there is no harm in trying the experiment. A French litre is a little less than three of our pints; a gramme is the five-hundredth part of a French pound. A little aloes, if used at all, will thus go a great way. Were I troubled with ants and other vermin in Texas, (Mr. Kendall having a large flock of sheep in Texas,) I should certainly try Raspail's solution.

A Cure for Pig Distemper.

Sir,—Having noticed in a former number of the Agriculturist a request from one of your correspondents desiring information regarding the treatment of pigs infected with a disease to which they are very often liable, commonly known as an affection of the brain, causing complete blindness and stupidity, excepting a natural instinct which impels them to seek a covering for their heads in the nearest fence or bush, and when that desire is attained, like the ostrich in time of danger. they stand perfectly still, and unconscious of all commotion that may take place around them. This is a distemper very prevalent, and if relief is not speedily afforded, is very destructive to swine. They are liable to be affected with it at all ages, but most generally when between three to six months old, and in many instances that have come under my observation it has singled out the very best of the herd for its prey.

If you will be kind enough to give the following simple remedy an early insertion in a corner of your valuable paper, you will doubtless confer a favor upon your correspondent and others who may be under the disagreeable necessity of administering relief to any of their *grunters* so distressed. Take a sharp knife and split the skin and flesh to the bone straight down the middle of the forhead, beginning at the top of the skull and drawing it down to a level with the eyes; after allowing it to bleed for a few minutes take a quantity of common salt and rub it into the orifice made by the knife. The cure is seemingly effected by the bleeding, and the irritation caused by the salt over the immediate location of the disease.—Though the operation may appear a little barbarous, it is attended with no danger, and in every instance where it has been performed the results have been perfectly successful.—[J. K. Gordon, in Canadian Agriculturist.

Seed Potatoes.—An agricultural friend who returned a week since from France, informs us that the farmers there have discovered that by leaving a portion of their potatoes, intended for seed, in the ground during winter, digging them up, and replanting in spring, is a remedy against the continuance of the various diseases to which the potato has of late years been subjected. It will be recollected that this process was first recommended in this country by Mr. Roberts. We have tried this experiment by leaving potatoes in the ground last year, mulching them slightly during winter with brush.—When we dug them this spring, we found the potatoes perfect and very solid, and have planted them along side of others, kept in the cellar during winter. The growth of the crop gives fair evidence of the superiority of the seed left in the ground.—[Working Farmer.

Stock Register.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Comparative Profits of Wheat Growing and Sheep Raising.

Messrs. Editors:—As there seems to be a general lack of interest manifested by our farmers this fall in regard to wool growing and sheep husbandry, (owing in a great measure, undoubtedly, to the decline in the prices of wool, and the advance in the prices of breadstuffs and coarse grains,) and as I have had seventeen years practical experience in grain raising in this State—connecting with it the three past years that of sheep husbandry—I claim the privilege, through your columns, of relating my experience to our brother farmers on these subjects. I shall take the occasion to compare the two branches of husbandry with each other; and, in doing so, shall refer to no better authority than my own experience, to make my arguments good in favor of the latter branch, hoping, should any one be convinced, that they will "cease to do evil," and learn to do that which is good for themselves.

In the month of May, 1837, I commenced farming operations in this town, on my present location, on a tract of land containing 830 acres, in the state of nature, and at that time thirteen miles from "*anywhere*." During a perod of ten years (from 1837 to 1847), I devoted my attention to grain raising, making winter wheat the staple article. During that time I consider that I was successful, having never failed in a crop—the lowest average being seventeen bushels, and the highest twenty-eight bushels per acre—averaging during the period, about 100 acres of wheat per annum, with the general average of about twenty-two bushels per acre, which was sold at prices ranging from 44 cts. to $1,06 per bushel—the receipts being sufficient to pay all expenses, including the improvements made on the farm, which consisted in clearing and getting under cultivation, and fencing about 500 acres—with sufficient small change left (I was going to say, to buy the b——y a frock; but as the impression has gone out through you, Messrs Editors, that such expenses were unnecessary in my family (see August No.) to clothe myself and better half.

The unsuccessful part of this branch of farming I will relate in a few words. It commenced with the harvest of 1847, which averaged only about twelve bushels per acre, and of inferior quality. The harvest of 1848, ten bushels per acre; that of 1849, eight bushels. Then it was I began to look about to see what might be done in some other branch of farming. The three previous seasons I had been harvesting about 140 acres of wheat, the receipts of which would not pay the expenses. The disposition to change the system of farming was not wanting, but the means necessary to do so were. I resolved, therefore, on making one more desperate effort; and the fall of 1849 I sowed 200 acres of wheat, in good season and in good condition—expecting, should I realize a good crop, to turn my attention to sheep husbandry the following year. But, again I was doomed to disappointment—the harvest of 1850 averaging only ten bushels per acre, which sold in market at about 66 cts. per bushel—not sufficient to cover expenses. Again the change had to be deferred another year, for the want of means. Money to invest in farming operations was not to be had, as all the means in the country were wanted at the rate of 25, and even 50 per cent., by California immigrants. Myself and some of my neighbors cast our longing eyes on the land of gold; but what was to be done with the farm? Every body's farm was in market, and no stranger had the courage to meet the army of sellers and make his own selection, and at his own price.

What was to be done now, except to do less, and, like Wilkins McCawber, "sit down and wait for something to turn up." This was the conclusion I came to; so, in the fall of 1850, I only sowed 40 acres of wheat, and the following spring sowed more spring crops than usual, and stocking every thing to clover and timothy that I could find funds to buy seed for.

The harvest of 1851 was more productive, but the quality inferior to previous years. The receipts were insufficient to cover expenses, as usual; so, after waiting one year "for something to turn up," nothing came up but fire-weed and cow-tail on the unstocked stubble fields. Something must be done. A large farm and small stock would not pay without crossing; and the means and the courage to do *that* had failed.

I succeeded this year in borrowing $1500, at 12 per cent. interest; and, in the month of October, 1851, invested $1059 50, in 557 sheep, being at an average cost of $1 90 per head. The flock consisted of 306 ewes, 176 wethers, 55 lambs, and 20 bucks. The balance of the $1500 was used in patching up our extended credit and preparing winter quarters for our flocks. The following June, 546 reported themselves ready to be shorn—the records of mortality showing a loss of eleven during the winter and spring.

The receipts from the flock the season of 1852, were as follows:

1490½ lbs. wool, sold Brown & Larkin, 35 3-4c.,	$532 83
105 1-2 lbs. do. do. 32 1-2c.	34 28
259 sheep sold sundry persons, averaging $2 17,	564 25
Add 210 lambs to the increase of 1852, at $2 17,	455 70
Total,	$1587 06

The average weight of fleece being 2 13-16 lbs.

In estimating the expense of keeping sheep, I will put the prices (at what I believe most farmers will agree with me in.) to correspond with the price of wheat in market, at one dollar per bushel.

15 tons of wild hay, at $3 per ton (per 100 sheep,)	$45 00
37 1-2 bushels corn, being a peck per day for 5 months (per 100,)	18 75
1 bbl. salt per year,	2 50
Shearing, washing, sacking, twine and marketing,	8 75
30 weeks pasturage, at one penny per head per week,	30 00
Care of Shepherd, being one man's time per 1000 sheep 7 months,	10 00
Making $1 15 per head, or per hundred,	$115 00

Or. compare the cost with wheat, at 75 cts. per bushel in market, would make 86 1-4 cts. per head, which I believe to be about the actual cost of either item. I make no account of interest, for in making the comparison with wheat raising. I offset the interest on capital invested in sheep against the expense, and wear and tear of soil in raising wheat. Deduct the expense of keeping 557 sheep, at $1 15, which is $640 55 from $1587 06, the net receipts, and you have the net profit of $956 51, or, $1 69 per head, for the year 1852.

After deducting the number sold, and the losses, we have left, including our lambs, 497 sheep, to which we added by purchase in the fall, 470 more, at an average price of $2 42 per head, amounting to $1137 40; going into winter quarters for 1853, with 967, of which 400 were ewes, 286 wethers, 246 lambs, and 35 bucks. Of this number, only 866 were up and dressed at shearing time in June, 1853—having sold during the winter 18. and the records of mortality showing the demise of the alarming number of 88 during the winter and spring, by causes to us *not unknown*. "Thereby hangs a tale," as the saying is, which, Messrs. Editors, is too lengthy to relate in this number; but, as I desire to record my experience in *Book* farming, you shall have it at some future time.

The receipts from the flock for 1853, were as follows:

18 sheep, sold during the winter (including 7 bucks.)	$134 00
2937 lbs. wool, sold Haskins, at 50 cts.	1468 50
417 sheep sold sundry persons, averaging $2 55,	1063 35
91 pelts sold, including those of 1852, at $2 50,	600 00
Amounting to the sum of	$3361 85

Deduct the expense of keeping 967 sheep, at $1 15 per head.—$1112 05; leaving the net sum of $2249 80; or, the net sum of $2 32 per head for 1853. The average weight of fleece this year was 3 lbs. 6 1-2 oz

After deducting the number sold, the dead, and eleven missing during the summer, we have left, including lambs, 678; to which we added in the fall, 442 at an average price of $2 50 per head, amounting to $1105, going into winter quarters for the season of 1854 with 1120 sheep, 510 of which were ewes, 275 lambs, 268 wethers, and 67 bucks.

The records show the demise of 8 during the winter, and 3 during the months of April and May, with the verdict of the Shepherd as follows: "3 wethers chilled to death by getting into the creek; 2 do. stretches; 2 ewes with dropsy; 2 ewes in yeaming; and 1 buck and 1 lamb. from causes unknown."

The receipts this year show:—

100 fed wethers, sold in March last to the butcher,	$ 507 00
8 pelts,	7 50
45 lambs sold B. R. H., at $2 50,	112 00
3684 lbs, wool, sold Wheeler, at 3s..	1381 50
153 grass wethers, sold butcher, including 3 bucks,	470 00
120 store sheep for sale, say $2,	240 00
Add 403 lambs, unsold increase of 1854 at $2 50,	1007 50
Amounting to the sum of	$3725 50
Deduct the expense of keeping on 1120 sheep at $1 15 per head, adding extra $50 for feeding wethers, less $30, the expense of pasturage saved,	1308 00
Showing a net, for 1854, of	$2417 50

Or a net of $2 15 per head.

The average weight of fleece this year being 3 lbs. 10 oz.

We have now on hand, after deducting the number sold and lost, including the increase of 1854, (besides the 120 for sale.) 1094 sheep, of which 530 are ewes, 100 yearling wethers, 403 lambs. and 61 bucks, which we expect to go into winter quarters with, excepting what bucks we may sell this fall.

The net receipts for three years foot,		$5613 80
From which deduct capital invested,	$3301 90	
And the amount credited for lambs,	2062 70	$5364 60
And it will leave us a balance of		249 20
And 1094 select sheep on hand, paid for, (better than cash at $3 per head,) amounting to		3282 00
Showing a net gain in three years of		$3531 20

on the item of sheep alone.

Now, brother farmers, you have before you my experience for seventeen years in farming in this State—except the grain growing part for the past three years, which is any thing but discouraging, I can assure you, for I have found the old saying (which is to be found some where—perhaps in the ancient records of the O. E. O.

1001.) partially verified at least, which speaks of the sheep as the "animal with the golden foot, converting every thing into gold on which it treads." You have the figures before you—make your own comparisons; but do not let the *low* price of 35 or 37 1-2 cts. per lb. for wool be made as an excuse for an *exclusive* grain growing business.

And now, Messrs. Editors, considering ourselves as having been successful in our management of sheep (notwithstanding the *tail* left hanging.)—if this article does not exhaust *your* patience and, in your opinion, that of your readers, so that they will never want to hear from me again—I will, in your next number give you a plan of our winter arrangements for sheep, and our manner of managing them through the year. Yours truly,

E. W. EDGERTON.

Summit, Waukesha Co., Nov., 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Time for Using Bucks.

MESSRS. EDITORS :—I desire to know through your columns, what is the best time to let bucks run with ewes? I have been in the habit of letting them in about the 20th of November—then the lambs commence coming about the 15th of April. Coming so early, lambs are liable to die from cold. If I don't use the bucks till the 20th Dec., so as to have the lambs come along about the middle of May, will the ewes, as a general thing, take the buck at this time of the year; also, what kind of lambs will they be?

I bought at the last State Fair at Milwaukee, of John D. Patterson, of Westfield, N. Y., one of his yearling bucks—½ Spanish, ½ French Merino—which you must have seen in the south pen. My intention is to put him to as many of my common ewes as will do. Will he improve my lambs so as to pay the expense? Which is the best way to use him? Shall I let him run at large with the flock, or how?

I learn from the papers, that Mr. Patterson was on the steamboat Collins, which was burned at the mouth of the Detroit river, on his way home from our State Fair. Do you know whether his sheep were lost, or not?

WM. G. ROBERTS.

Mt. Pleasant, Racine co., Oct., 1854.

REMARKS.—The best time for ewes to be served by the buck, depends much upon the circumstances of the flock master, and his wishes and aims. If he has good shelter, and abundance of good feed, such as roots, &c, it will do for him to have the lambs of his flock dropped at a much earlier period than one not thus favored. Lambs dropped as early as February, March and April, will need considerably more attention than those coming at a later period, and the ewes must be much better cared for. Yet, there are advantages attending this early dropping of lambs: The ewes have time to get in much better condition for the following winter; the lambs, also, get in good condition for the winter, and they look well, too, for "this year's lambs," at our Fairs. We noticed that many of the sheep breeders and dealers at the East prefer this method. As a general thing, however, with us at the West, we much prefer that our lambs should be dropped about the time, or soon after, the sheep are turned to pasture. Much less time and care is then requisite to raise the lambs, and the ewes furnish a more abundant supply of rich milk, which tells well on the condition of the lambs.

We noticed your buck at the Fair, and think him a fine animal. It is a principle, however, with us, that it is always best to use a thorough bred, or pure blooded animal, to serve all our breeding animals, if such can be obtained. We prefer a cross of any two distinct pure bloods—as is the case with your buck—than a grade. We think your buck will doubtless greatly improve your flock. Whether he will do it to such an extent as a thorough bred Spanish, or a thorough bred French buck would do, is a matter upon which there is a difference of opinion among the best of breeders. Experiment is the only satisfactory way of determining each for himself.

The best way for the ewes to be served by the buck, if you have a large flock, is to let the buck among your flock of ewes, and notice those which show a readiness to receive him, which is indicated by the attention which they give him, &c. Select these out from the others; put the buck with them, and when he has served one, remove her immediately, and so on till all are served. The buck, however, should not be allowed to serve more than three or four before he is removed from the ewes, and shut up, so that he will not be disturbed by them for four or five hours, when he may serve three or four more. When all of this first lot of ewes has been served, a new lot may be selected, and so on. They will receive the buck as readily late as earlier, if kept in good condition.

We expect to commence a series of articles on the management of sheep, in this or the succeeding numbers, prepared by one of our best flock masters in Wisconsin. We would refer our wool growers to them.

☞ Much valuable stock of all kinds has been imported into this State, during the past year.

POINTS OF CATTLE—THE HEREFORDS.

PORTRAIT OF A HEREFORD COW.

PURITY OF BLOOD, as traced back to the satisfaction of the committees, to imported blood, *on both sides*, from some known English breeder, or as found in Eyton's Hereford Herd Book.

3 THE HEAD—moderately small, with a good width of forehead, tapering to the muzzle; the cheek-bone rather deep, but clean in the jaw.

2 THE NOSE—light in its color, and the whole head free from fleshiness.

2 THE EYE—full, mild, and cheerful in its expression.

1 THE EAR—of medium size.

2 THE HORNS—light and tapering, long and spreading, with an outward and upward turn, giving a gay and lofty expression to the whole head.

2 THE NECK—of a medium length; full in its junction with the shoulders, spreading well over the shoulder points and tapering finely to the head.

14 THE CHEST—broad, round, and deep; its floor running well back of the elbows, which, with a springing fore-rib, gives great interior capacity to this all important portion of the body.

4 THE BRISKET—*when in flesh*, largely developed, descending low between the legs, and deep, by covering the anterior portion of the sternum, or breast bone, but never interfering with the action of the animal when in working condition.

3 THE SHOULDER—lying snugly and closely in towards the top and spreading towards the points; the blade sloping somewhat back, and running pretty well up into the withers, which, by rising a very trifle above the level line of the back, gives to the ox a very upstanding and beautiful fore-end.—The whole shoulder well clothed with muscle.

3 THE CROPS—filling all up evenly behind the shoulders, and blending them smoothly in with the muscles of the back.

8 THE BACK, loin and hips—should be broad, wide and level.

4 THE RUMPS—should lie nearly or quite level with the back, and their covering should be abundant, mellow, loose, and freely moving under the hand, thus showing great aptitude to fatten.

3 THE PELVIS—roomy; indicated by wide hips, (as already mentioned,) and the space between the rumps, which should stand well apart, giving a general breadth to the posterior portion of the animal.

5 THE TWIST—broad and full, extending well down on each side of the thigh, with corresponding width—a broad twist as a good indication of a butcher's animal.

6 THE HIND QUARTERS—large and thoroughly developed in its upper and more valuable portions, as beef. The thigh gradually tapering to the hock, but muscular.

3 The Carcass—round throughout; full and capacious, with the under line of the belly level, or nearly so.

3 The Flank—full and wide.

3 The Legs—straight, upright; firmly placed to support the superincumbent weight; a strong back sinew, but by no means a large coarse cannon bone.

3 The Plates—of the belly, strong, and thus preserving nearly a straight under line.

2 The Tail—large and full at its point of attachment, but fine in its cord.

3 The Carriage—prompt, resolute, and cheerful; and in the ox, gay and lively.

3 The Hair—thick, close and furry, and if accompanied with a long growth, and a disposition to curl moderately, is more in estimation, but that which has a harsh and wiry feel is objectionable.

2 The Udder—should be such as will afford the best promise of capacity and product.

1 Color—Red or rich browns, oftentimes very dark, with a white or "brockled" face, are now the colors and marking of the Herefords, though grey Herefords, or cream-colored, are not uncommon.

15 Quality—On this the thriftiness, the feeding properties, and the value of the animal depends; and upon the touch of this quality rests, in a good measure, the grazier's and the butcher's judgment. If the "touch" be good, some deficiency of form may be excused; but if it be hard and stiff, nothing can compensate for so unpromising a feature. In raising the skin from the body, between the thumb and finger, it should have a soft, flexible and substantial feel, and when beneath the out-spread hand, it should move easily with it, and under it, as though resting on a soft, elastic, cellular substance; which, however, becomes firmer as the animal "ripens." A thin papery skin is objectionable, more especially in a cold climate.

— 100

POINTS OF THE HEREFORD BULL.

As regards the male animal, it is only necessary to remark, that the points desirable in the female are generally so in the male, but must, of course, be attended by that masculine character which is inseparable from a strong, vigorous constitution. Even a certain degree of coarseness is admissible, but then it must be so exclusively of a masculine description as never to be discovered in the females of his get.

In contra-distinction to the cows, the head of the bull may be shorter, the frontal bone broader, and the occipital flat and stronger, that it may receive and sustain the horn—and this latter may be excused if a little heavy at the base, so its upward form, its quality and color be right. Neither is the looseness of the skin, attached to and depending from the under jaw, to be deemed other than a feature of the sex, *provided* it is not extended beyond the bone, but leaves the gullet and throat clean and free from dewlap.

The upper portion of the neck should be full and *muscular*, for it is an indication of strength, power and constitution. The spine should be strong, the bones of the loin long and broad, and the whole muscular system wide and thoroughly developed over the entire frame.

Youatt says of the Herefords: "They are usually of a darker red; some of them are brown, and even yellow, and a few are brindled; but they are principally distinguished by their white faces, throats and bellies. In a few the white extends to the shoulders. The old Herefords were brown or red-brown, with not a spot of white about them. It is only within the last fifty or sixty years that it has been the fashion to breed for white faces. Whatever may be thought of the change of color, the present breed is certainly far superior to the old one. The hide is considerably thicker than that of the Devon, and the beasts are more hardy. Compared with the Devons, they are shorter in the leg, and also in the carcass; higher, and broader, and heavier in the chine; rounder and wider across the hips, and better covered with fat; the thigh fuller and more muscular, and the shoulders larger and coarser.

They are not now much used for husbandry, although their form adapts them for heavier work; and they have all the honesty and docility of the Devon ox, and greater strength, if not his activity. The Herefordshire ox fattens speedily at a very early age, and it is therefore more advantageous to the farmer, and perhaps to the country, that he should go to market at three years old, than be kept longer as a beast of draught.

They are not as good milkers as the Devons. This is so generally acknowledged, that while there are many dairies of Devon cows in various parts of the country, a dairy of Herefords is rarely to be found. To compensate for this, they are even more kindly feeders than the Devons. Their beef may be objected to by some as being occasionally a little too large in the bone, and the fore-quarters being coarse and heavy; but the meat of the best pieces is often very fine-grained and beautifully marbled.—There are few cattle more prized in the market than the genuine Herefords."

Horticulture.

First Fair of the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association,

Held at Milwaukee, October 5th and 6th.

This exhibition of the Fruits of Wisconsin exceeded the expectations of every one who looked in to see it. It is no exaggeration to say, that the show of apples, as a whole—taking into account the number of varieties, size, fairness, and perfectness of maturity—could not be beat by any other State. A visitor remarked to us, that he had attended like exhibitions in New York, but that this show of apples far surpassed any he had ever seen before. Over 100 varieties were on the tables.

The show of pears and grapes was excellent—could n't be beat in quality. There were also some good specimens of peaches and quinces.

Great praise is due the officers of the Association for their assiduity in getting up this exhibition. The arrangement could not have been better, and all who attended went away highly gratified. Messrs. STARIN, GIFFORD, and PARKER, are entitled to special thanks.

We had prepared a list of entries, giving the names of the different varieties presented by each exhibitor, but found it too long for publication in the Farmer; hence we copy the list of entries published in the Milwaukee Sentinel, with some corrections.

SALE OF FRUITS.—At the close of the Fair, the fruit was sold at auction, for the benefit of the Association. We subjoin a few of the sales, as an index of its attraction and the interest felt by the public in the prosperity of the Association:

1 F. B. Pear, bought by Col. Crocker,	$1 25
3 Bartlett Pears,	1 50
3 Seckle "	1 00
1 large Pear,	1 25
3 Porter Apples,	50
4 Culvert "	50
4 Fall Pippins,	38
2 Gilliflower Apples,	25
1 plate Hislop Crab Apples—a peculiar crab—raised by Charles Gifford, Milwaukee,	38
4 clusters Isabella Grapes,	1 50
2 do. Muscatine "	1 00
8 Peaches,	80
1 doz. yellow Egg Plums,	1 12

LIST OF ENTRIES.

APPLES.

Garret Vliet, Milwaukee,	37 varieties.
Dr. Greves, "	1
Stickney & Loveland, Milwaukee,	6
Cyrus Hawley, "	24
Wm. Mulks, Whitewater,	13
O. S. Rathbone, Brookfield,	26
H. J. Starin, Whitewater,	54
A. Slocum, "	8
Geo. Koeler, Germantown,	5
L. W. Weeks, Milwaukee,	4
A. Kinney, Whitewater,	20
S. Child, Summit,	17
Chas. Gifford, Milwaukee,	10
Geo. O. Tiffany, "	9
M. R. Brittan, Spring Prairie,	17
J. Stetson, Rochester,	7
O. Martin, Spring Prairie,	16
R. Billings, "	6
J. Plumb, Lake Mills,	25
J. C. Brayton, Aztalan,	35
Dr. Castleman, Delafield,	10
Mrs. F. Hawley, Wauwatosa,	6
W. P. Richardson, Kendall, Ill.,	7
E. S. L. Richardson, "	9
A. Kinney, Lima,	20
H. N. Brookway,	19
F. L. Pratt, Whitewater,	17
C. Hollister, Walworth Co.	12
I. Lyon, Rock Co.,	5
A. Hardy, Milwaukee,	1
V. Pope, Janesville,	1
S. Burrill, Milwaukee,	4
H. Heminway, Whitewater,	1

PEARS.

S. L. Rood, Milwaukee,	2 varieties.
H. Williams, "	2
T. P. Williams, "	7
Stickney & Loveland, Milwaukee,	1
Cyrus Hawley, "	15
Abel Slocum, Whitewater,	1
L. W. Weeks, Milwaukee,	2
S. Childs, Summit,	2
Chas. Gifford, Milwaukee,	9
J. Plumb, Lake Mills,	2
G. P. Peffer, Pewaukee,	1
Dr. J. Mitchell, Janesville,	1
J. C. Brayton, Aztalan,	1
Dr. McVickar, Milwaukee,	7
H. Crocker, "	7
W. P. Richardson, Kendall, Ill.,	2

PEACHES.

M. T. Walker, Milton,	2 varieties.
M. Russel, Walworth,	1
L. Kinney, Whitewater,	2
A. Hardy, Milwaukee,	1

PLUMS.

R. W. Parker, Milwaukee,	1 variety.
L. W. Weeks, "	1
W. H. Metcalf, "	1
Geo. O. Tiffany, "	1
G. P. Peffer, Pewaukee,	6
Dr. Bartlett, Milwaukee,	1
H. J. Starin, Whitewater,	12

QUINCES.

F. Randall, Milwaukee,	1 variety.

Stickuey & Loveland, Milwaukee, 1 variety.
D. Lock, Milwaukee, ... 1

GRAPES.

M. Russell, Walworth, ... 4 varieties.
T. Williams, Milwaukee, ... 1
T. P. Williams, " 1
A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, ... 2
W. Lefevre, Lake, ... 4
G. Keohler, Germantown, ... 4
A. Schoetts, " 2
G. P. Peffer, Pewaukee, ... 1
J. C. Brayton, Aztalan, ... 3
M. Russell, Walworth, ... 4
A. G. Hanford, Waukesha, ... 2
F. L. Pratt, Whitewater, ... 1
A. Schottler, Germantown, ... 2
H. Heminway, Whitewater, ... 1

The above shows a state of things which will surprise a good many people who do not know what our farmers and others have been doing in the way of raising fruit, in choice varieties. We wish that we had time to say one half that we should like to say in praise of this exhibition. But can only express now our honest opinion, that the display of apples made at Young's Hall, has never been beaten in this country; and this, too, is the *first* exhibition of the Society. If it does this in its budding, what will it not be for Wisconsin in its blossoming, and full luxuriance of leaf?

LIST OF PREMIUMS.

APPLES.

Best and greatest variety of good apples, J. C. Brayton, Aztalan, ... $10
2d best, do., Garret Vliet, Milwaukee, ... 5
Best 6 varieties of autumn apples, H. J. Starin, Whitewater, ... 5
2d best do., Joab Plum, Lake Mills, ... 3
Best 3 varieties do., Dr. A. L. Castleman, Delafield, ... 3
2d best do., O. S. Rathbun, Brookfield, ... 2
Best 6 varieties winter apples, Simeon Child, Summit, ... 5
2d best do., Cyrus Hawley, Milwaukee, ... 3
Best 3 varieties do., L. W. Weeks, " 3
2d best do., Dr. A. L. Castleman, Delafield, 2

PEARS.

Best and greatest variety of good pears, Cyrus Hawley, Milwaukee, ... 8
2d best do., H. Crocker, " 4
Best 6 varieties do., C. Gifford, Milwaukee, 5
2d best do., Thos. P. Williams, " 3
Best two specimens of any good variety, J. Plum, Lake Mills, ... 2

PLUMS.

Best exhibition of good plums, Geo. P. Peffer, Pewaukee, ... 5
2d best do., H. J. Starin, Whitewater, ... 3
Best 3 varieties do., ... (no competition.)
2d best do., ... do.
Best 6 plums of any variety, W. H. Metcalf, Milwaukee, ... —

GRAPES.

Best exhibition of good varieties, M. Russell, Walworth, Walworth co., ... 5
Discretionary premiums:
2d best exhibition, Adam Schottler, Germantown, Washington co., ... 3
Best 1 variety, M. Russell, Walworth, .. 2
2d best do., W. Le Fevre, Milwaukee, ... —

PEACHES.

Best exhibition of good peaches, M. Russell, Walworth, ... 4

QUINCES.

Best 12 quinces, F. Randall, Milwaukee, .. 3
2d best do., Stickney & Loveland, " .. 1

The next meeting and Fair of the Association will be held in this city, on the 27th of December next.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

Cuttings—Burying Fruit Trees in the Fall for Spring Planting.

Cuttings of the Currant, Gooseberry, Grape and Quince, and cuttings of all fruit trees for use in spring grafting, should be separated from the parent stock early in December, or as soon as the leaves fall. The Catawba and Isabella grape cuttings should be taken in before very freezing weather; and all are more vigorous taken then and buried in the ground till spring, than when left exposed to the alternations of heat and cold, storm and sun, through the winter season. For the same reasons, all tender trees, and even those nearly hardy, as many varieties of the apple, would start off more vigorously if taken up in the fall and buried, root and branch, through winter.

The time for taking up trees for burying is in November—say, any time before the 20th.—Many farmers living at a distance from Nurseries delay planting from year to year, because they are too much hurried to leave home at the planting season in the spring, who could easily plant out 100 or more trees, if they had them buried up on their farms. And the trial has been in all cases so perfectly satisfactory, it seems strange that so few obtain trees from the Nursery in the fall. Heeling in—that is, to bury the roots and leave the tops exposed—is sure to result in loss of many tops; but burying root and branch in a sloping position, with the roots deep and tops just covered, taken out and transplanted early in April in the most approved methods, is uniformly attended with the best results.

We speak from large experience, having practiced burying nearly all sorts of deciduous Nursery trees every winter, for the last eight

years, without losing a single tree, which would not have been lost by any other process, and saving thousands which would have blighted and died if left to stand in the Nursery and removed in the spring. But do you not approve of planting out in the fall? We say, positively, no—unless known hardy varieties of the apple, on a dry soil and dry subsoil: and then it is safer to bury, and dig your holes, and let the frost act upon the subsoil, and plant the trees in them as above. J. C. Brayton.

Aztalan Nursery, Oct., 1854.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Locust Depredations—Sweet Potato.

Editors Farmer:—I send you specimens of the oak and apple, as samples of the depredations of the locusts. Some of my trees are badly injured by these vagabonds, so that the more the wind blows, the more limbs are breaking off at the points where the scamps have operated.

If you can tell us how to prevent these injuries hereafter, we should like to hear from you in the next number of the Farmer.

We are trying the cultivation of the Sweet Potato here, and we think we shall meet with good success. Please give us some instructions on their cultivation, and the manner of keeping them over winter. B. S. Rollin.

Wyoming, Wis., August, 1854.

Remarks.—We found the above communication, with the "samples," at Madison on our return from the East. We know of no preventative, other than we have mentioned in previous numbers, to injuries produced by the locust. We think, as far as we have seen, that the damage done by them will be very slight, if indeed it does not turn out to be only a rather severe heading in—a process that ought to be performed more frequently than is common with most of our fruit growers.

Of the manner of cultivation, Collin Wood, in the Plow, the Loom and the Anvil, says that he has raised for three years past, sweet potatoes, of better quality than usual, in the following way, viz.:—

"The yam potato vine blooms in August; in about a month thereafter they form a pod; the seeds are then formed of about the size of sage seed, and of the same color. The pod should be noticed and gathered when ripe or else they will soon drop. In the spring at the usual time of sowing seed, I sow them in the same way I sow cabbage seed. They will not come up quite as soon, but will continue doing so thro' the spring. The plant is small and delicate in appearance, and should be drawn in a wet season, with a little dirt attached to it, and transplanted. The leaf and vine have a different appearance fram the potato usually, and the potatoe will be found to grow larger and smoother than usual.

"I prefer this method, after satisfactory practice, to raise the potatoe, than any other."

Of the manner of keeping them through the winter, we know of no better way than to dig them as soon as the leaves are killed—carefully handle them so as not to bruise them,—put them in piles, from fifteen to twenty bushels in a pile, on an elevated piece of ground, trenched all round so as to be effectually drained.—They should be immediately and thickly covered with good wheat straw; over this, place a covering of earth a foot thick; and over all, place a rough shed of boards, with one end on the ground, and the other elevated upon a cross piece, supported by crotches. This will keep off the rains.

Pears, Plums, &c., on Seedling Stocks.—It will be recollected in the September number appeared an extract from Mr. Johnson's notes of a tour to the West, giving his views of the pear on the quince, which seem to be corroborated by the following:

M. de Joughe, of Brussels, in a letter to the Editor of the Gardener's Chronicle, London, on the subject of fruit trees, he having lately visited England, says: "Since my letter of May 1st, I have continued to observe the fruit trees in my own gardens, and in those of my friends; and every thing tends to show the truth of what I before stated. The hardy pears, grafted on pear stocks, preserved such of their fruit as was set, in spite of the frosts of the 24th and 25th of April; so also did the hardy plums grafted on the damasblanc; so did cherries worked on the guigne, peaches on the misobalan or cherry plum; and apricots on the common coarse blue plums. This proves that fruit trees on seedling stocks, which send strong roots into the ground, are more vigorous, have more sap, are better able to resist the drought and cold of spring, than pears worked on quince, cherries on the mevise, plums on mirabelles, apples on paradise stocks, or peaches and apricots on almonds. Such stocks may suit countries warmer than Belgium or England, and with a different kind of soil."

☞ A French gardener has discovered that by painting his hot-houses with gas tar, all the insects so destructive to plants and fruit, die

THE JEFFERSON PLUM.

The above is a portrait of a cluster of the Jefferson Plum, which we picked from a tree standing in the fruit garden of James Caldwell, six miles up the river from this city. Mr. Caldwell has, unquestionably, the best plum orchard in the State. We have never seen or heard of any other in the whole West that would compare with it in extent, either in varieties or amount of fruit produced. Most of the trees are from grafts on the wild or native root—grafted and raised by himself. Mr. Caldwell has a fund of information to impart on this branch of Horticulture, gathered from many years of practice and observation. An hour's conversation spent with Mr. Caldwell among his trees, is worth more on this subject, than can be gleaned from all the fruit books we know of in a week. We hope to give some of Mr. Caldwell's experience through the columns of the Farmer, before the next planting time.

"The Jefferson Plum ranks in quality as first rate—fruit large and tree a good grower. Fruit large; greenish-yellow—when fully ripened in the sun, a golden yellow, and a purplish-red; flesh a rich orange, rather fine, juicy, of a rich flavor; nearly freestone. Ripens from the last of August to September 15th. A good bearer and a vigorous grower. Originated by the late Judge Buel, of Albany."

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Root Grafting.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The "Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer," including back numbers, came to hand in due time, and was perused with considerable interest. I noticed in the April No. an article on the subject of root-grafted fruit trees, discountenancing the method universally practiced by fruit growers in general. I should be glad to draw some further information upon this subject, and consequently send you a few lines favoring the present mode of operating. For several years past I have been dealing in fruit trees cultivated in this way, and have given considerable attention to this subject, having occasionally met with objections to this method of grafting trees. But in every instance where these objections have been raised, I have been unable to learn the first philosophical reason why root-grafting is not equally as good, if not decidedly the best method. I want to learn *some good reasons*, if there are any, why root-

grafting is not just as good as grafting into the body or limbs of a tree. Suppose these trees in some instances in particular localities, *have* failed to do well, shall we attribute the cause to their being root-grafted, without any plausible reason, since the circumstances which effect their future success are so numerous? I know of instances of universal success with root-grafted fruit trees; I know instances, also, of almost universal failure with top-grafted trees, the cause of which is very uncertain. Now, it is a well known fact, that the nearer alike the natures and habits of growth of two trees, the better they will work together—and, in top-grafted trees we have a large portion of the tree of one nature, while the remaining portion, in many instances, is so very different in its habits of growth, &c., that the portion above where the two were united, entirely outgrows the remaining portion, causing a very bad appearance, and the tree seldom, if ever, succeeds well a great length of time; whereas, with root-grafted trees, this seldom, if ever, takes place to the injury of the tree, since, in most instances, the place of union, which is below the surface of the ground, is so perfect as to be almost imperceptible; and the whole top, together with a large portion of the roots, is of one entire nature, the lower roots only retaining the character of the original stock. Root-grafting appears to me to be the most reasonable and philosophical method of propagating the apple. If it is not so, it would be very much for my interest to learn some good reasons why.

S. HEMENWAY.

Fond du Lac, Oct., 1854.

Pruning the Grape Vine.

The following suggestions from the pen of an Eastern horticulturist of experience, may prove serviceable to our readers:

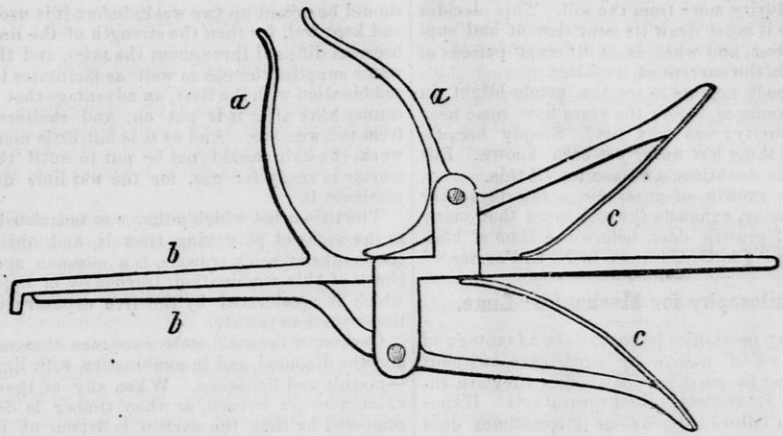
Pruning of grapes is not generally well understood. Some do not prune at all the proper season; they have a mass of vines and only a little fruit, and that poor. Another absurdity, which is often added to the above, is cutting off the young shoots in summer, just above the fruit, and sometimes still worse, picking off the leaves to expose the fruit to the sun.

The sap ascends to the leaves, and there mingles with matter absorbed by the foliage, then it is digested, or elaborated into food, which descends to nourish the plant. So essential are the leaves, that a blight on the foliage destroys the fruit, and a frequent repetition is death to the plant. The leaves, not the fruit, should be exposed to the sun. We urge this point, as thousands mistake, and grapes are generally mismanaged.

As pruning the vine young prevents the growth of the root, but little should be done for a year or two after it is set. In November or early December, all vines in open culture should be trimmed liberally. If pruned in spring, before leaved out, they will bleed; they may bleed in spring if pruned in winter. In pruning rather tender vines, leave more wood than is needed, as some may be killed, and finish pruning as soon as the leaves are nearly developed, when the life of the vine may be seen. In summer allow a good growth beyond the fruit, and about midsummer, pinch off the ends of the branches to check them, and cut out feeble laterals, and branches on which there is no fruit; then there will be much foliage to absorb matter and prepare nutriment, and by checking the growth of wood, it will be appropriated to protect the fruit. The two great errors are in neglecting to cut off useless wood in the fall, and depriving the plant of useful foliage by close pruning in summer.

UTILITY OF TEA.—In the life of most persons a period arrives when the stomach no longer digests enough of the ordinary elements of food to make up for the natural daily waste of the bodily substance. The size and weight of the body, therefore, begins to diminish more or less perceptibly. At this period the tea comes in as a medicine to arrest the waste, to keep the body from falling away so fast, and thus enable the less energetic powers of digestion still to supply as much as is needed to repair the wear and tear of the solid tissues. No wonder, therefore, that tea should be a favorite, on the one hand, with the poor, whose supply of substantial food is scanty, and, on the other, with the aged and infirm, especially of the feebler sex, whose powers of digestion and whose bodily substance have together begun to fail. Nor is it surprising that the aged female, who has barely enough of weekly income to buy what are called the common necessaries of life, should yet spend a portion of her small gains in purchasing her ounce of tea. She can live quite as well on less common food, when she takes her tea along with it; while she feels lighter, at the same time more cheerful and fitter for her work, because of the indulgence,—[Chemisty of Common Life.

☞ A correspondent of the Southern Planter says:—"For the comfort of those who feed Threshing Machines, where there is much dust in the wheat, I will say, it is the experience of my feeder (who has suffered much from the dust in his throat), that one swallow of oil, (which should be the best lamp oil,) when he stops at night, will relieve one from all the unpleasant effects of the dust. This is his experience after ten years experience, and as it may give relief to many a fatigued and suffering poor fellow, I communicate it to the Planter."



THE COW-MILKER'S ASSISTANT.

Here we have an implement for keeping the cow's tail in place while the process of milking is going on. According to the New England Farmer, aside from its practical utility, it has a very important bearing in a moral point of view. The Farmer humorously sets forth its excellencies thus:—

"This little implement will prevent a good deal of *swearing*. So you see it has a moral bearing. Notwithstanding, the practice is wicked, vulgar, and ungentlemanly, a good many persons who milk cows, swear worse than "our army did in Flanders," when *provoked* thereto, by a rousing switch in the face with a vigorous cow's tail. It *does* rather disturb one's equanimity, especially if the animal has just risen from her bed, where the tail has been recumbent in what certainly *will give* color and fragrance to the rose; but we should not be willing to jeopardize our veracity by saying that it is either of them in its present form.

"Letters *a*, *a*, show the part attached to the large cord on the leg, just at the point of the hock; *b*, *b*, the jaw (now closed) into which the hair of the tail is inserted, and *c*, *c*, the springs by which the other parts are opened.

"We have used it, and find that it answers the purpose for which it was intended most admirably. It is made of brass, is perfectly simple, and will be wanted by all who have not razeed their cows' tails.

"The Hon. John M. Ware, of Seabrook, N. H., is the inventor of the implement, and, we understand, has secured a patent upon it."

Maturity of Plants.

The life and maturity of the various plants and vegetables which are cultivated among us, is a subject upon which a little more study and inquiry may be profitable.

Plants which are growing in a soil which contains no carbon, either in the form of vegetable matter, or otherwise, cannot mature their seed.

Those plants which produce seed the first year of their growth, and then die, draw away the substance of the root to mature the seed. Their death is therefore consequent upon this exhaustion. Those which produce seed the second year of their growth, and then die, are exhausted by producing the seed. This is the case with clover; and yet farmers find fault with clover because "it so soon runs out."—But let the elements necessary to its growth be in the soil, and let it be mowed every year when just in blossom, and it will live many years, and the roots become very large. When the nature and value of clover comes to be understood, farmers will see it their interest to cultivate it.

Seed-producing crops always exhaust the soil greatly of that which in old soils is most wanting. If we would continue to raise much grain, of any kind, and not reduce the soil to utter barrenness, we cannot too soon consider the importance of plowing in green crops.

Some plants do not come to maturity to produce seed, for several years. Among those, I believe, we class potatoes. Raised from seed they must generally have several years of growth before they will produce seed. After they become seed-producing kinds, they pour less downward into the tubers, and consequently an excess of gaseous food is more injurious to them, and they are more liable to disease.—Roots and seeds do not commonly grow at the same time. In the period before maturity, every plant feeds more from the atmosphere; and

at maturity more from the soil. This decides where it must draw its nourishment and support from, and what is, at different periods of growth, the current of its juices.

Nobody expects to see the potato-blight in early summer, before the vines have come near to maturity; but why not? Simply because such a thing has never yet been known. But there is, doubtless, a reason for all this.

The growth of grass for a few days after blossoming, exhausts the soil more than many days of growth does before the time of blossoming.—[A. G. Comings, in N. E. Farmer.

Philosophy for Mechanics—Lime.

Many mechanics learn to take advantage of the laws of nature by experience, without knowing to what particular laws they are indebted for success in their several arts. Hence when a failure happens—as it sometimes does—they cannot always account for it.

The natural law by which lime forms a cement with sand, appears not to be generally understood, for it is believed by many that the cement is caused by the adhesive qualities of the lime, and yet lime is but slightly adhesive in itself, for if we rub a lump of lime mortar—which has just been made up and dried—between the fingers, it will crumble like sand.—But another lump of the same kind of mortar, which has been made up for a month or more, especially if it has been kept damp during that time, and then dried, will be difficult to crumble. The reason is the latter has had time to combine with a portion of carbonic acid gas, and the former has not; and as it is only upon this combination that we can depend for a good cement, the mortar should be prepared in that way which will the most readily admit the gas; for as the latter constitutes not more than the 1000th part of the atmosphere, the process must necessarily go on slowly. The lime should be made by pouring the water on it, the sand should not be too fine, nor should there be any more water in it than just enough to make the mortar work well; then the work will admit the gas, and each particle of lime and sand will become a nucleus, around which it will consolidate, and bind the whole in a firm compact mass. But when the lime is slaked to saturation by submersion, it not only takes up more carbonic acid gas from the water, by which its capacity for that element is diminished, but if much of it is used, it places the grains of sand too far apart to be firmly united together, and leaves the interstices so small that the action of the gas soon closes on the outside, by which its further entrance is prevented.

For ornamental work, however, this is the way to slake it, for it combines with a larger portion of water and is whiter as well as finer, for water when it parts with its transparency, in assuming the solid state, puts on a robe of the purest white—as in snow.

For walls exposed to the weather, it is not so important, but for plastering, the sand and lime should be mixed up two weeks before it is used, and kept wet, for then the strength of the lime becomes diffused throughout the mass, and the water supplies the gas as well as facilitates its combination with the lime, an advantage that it cannot have after it is put on, and sheltered from the weather. And as it is but little more work, the hair should not be put in until the mortar is ready for use, for the wet lime decomposes it.

The thin crust which adheres so tenaciously to the backs of plastering trowels, and about the shanks of brick trowels, is a common specimen of this combination, (carbonate of lime) which is accelerated by the free exposure of those parts to the air.

Carbon in the solid state composes charcoal and the diamond, and in combination with lime—marble and limestone. When any of these substances are burned, or when timber is decomposed by time, the carbon is driven off in the æriform state, in which it mingles with the atmosphere, to be again taken up by lime-growing trees, &c. So that the carbon liberated by the burning of Rome under Nero, may now occupy a place in modern houses, or it may form a part of those to be built long after all that are now standing shall have crumbled into ruins.—[H. Pollard, in Scientific Amer.

A Hint to Farmers.—A late writer says that "the less land a farmer has the more corn he will raise." This is so. Our friend S. once owned a farm of 300 acres, while his capital was so small that he could only half manure it. The effect was that he could scarcely pay expenses. The money he expended on fences should have been expended on guano; while the wear and tear of plow and harness, was nearly equal to the par value of his potato crop. Some three years ago S. endorsed for a friend. The friend forgot the day it was to fall due. S. had to take it up for him. To do this, he mortgaged his farm. The mortgage was foreclosed, and one half his farm struck off to the highest bidder. He thought he was ruined. No such thing. The manure, labor and horse-flesh, which he formerly scattered over three hundred acres, were spread over one hundred acres, and what was the result? We will inform the reader. He now clears $2,000 a year, which clearing is effected with one-third the labor, swearing and chuckleheads, which he formerly made use of to keep himself poor and ill-natured. We conclude with the same text we set out with—"The less land a farmer owns, the more corn he will grow."—[Anon.

Ancient Agriculturists.—The first three men in the world were a gardener, a plowman, and grazier! If any one objects that the second one of these proved a murderer, it will be recollected that as soon as he committed the crime he quit our profession, and began to *build a town.*

☞ Wisconsin can produce as good fruit as any other State in the Union.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

This is generally an unpleasant and uncomfortable month for the work of the farmer. It is the time when all the odds and ends of the season *must* be attended to. Things *must* now be put in order for the approaching winter.—All the work left behind, by any means, must now be done up. The stables, sheds and yards should be put in the best condition possible for the comfort of the stock through the winter.—Every farmer should remember that it costs a great deal more to feed stock and to keep them in good condition if they are cold. A certain amount of heat must be given to the body in order that the animal may thrive; and, if not furnished him by outward protection, it must be supplied by digestion of food. Let all animals then have warm and comfortable quarters. The cows will then give more and better milk, the oxen and horses be fatter, and the chickens will well reward you with nice new laid eggs. It is important, also, that stock be well furnished with water during winter. Pains should be taken, therefore, before the ground becomes frozen, to dig wells, open springs, and make provision for abundant water, and convenient, for the use of cattle. Do not render it necessary for your animals to wear off half of their flesh in performing more than a Sabbath day's journey to quench their thirst. Above all, do not allow your love of ease to lead you into the ruinous belief that sheep, or any kind of stock, do not need drink.

Now is a good time for cutting wood when it is in its prime, that it may get well seasoned before hauling to market. You that sell wood would do well to cut your wood the year before hand, as you will get a higher price, and will not be under the necessity of carting as much water as wood, for which you get no pay, while your teams do get lean. How unwise to cart water to market in the winter, and how foolish for the purchaser to buy water for wood.

Now is the time to see that your cellars are properly guarded against the frost. This will be the month to put up your cabbages in the cellar, or to bury them. If you put them in the cellar, stand them up on their stumps and throw dirt over their roots. If you bury them in pits, see that your pits are well drained.

Get your pork fat as soon as possible, and be ready for sale the first good opportunity. Do not feed corn all winter, and in the spring sell for less than you can get in early winter. In this respect be sure and seize time by the foretop and your pigs by the throat.

Now is the time for the women to be cutting and drying the pumpkins and squashes, which are to make those good pies next spring and summer. There is nothing like looking well ahead and making nice provision for good food for the laborers. They work better, feel better, and are better, and the employer is also better.

The Wheat Weevil.—A practical agriculturist recommends farmers who desire to rid themselves of the weevil, to apply one pound of salt to every two bushels of wheat in the bin. He says he has seen the experiment tried, and hence vouches for its success.

Soda Biscuit.—In two quarts of flour rub four teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, then rub in one cup of butter or drippings; add two teaspoonfuls of soda, dissolved; add water or milk sufficient to make a pretty stiff dough. If milk is used, less butter would be required.

To Clean Head and Clothes Brushes.—Put a tablespoonful of pearlash into a pint of boiling water. Having fastened a bit of sponge to the end of a stick, dip it into the solution, and wash the brush with it, carefully going in among the bristles. Next pour over it some clean hot water, and let it lie a little while. Then drain it, wipe it with a cloth, and dry it before the fire.

To kill Lice on Cattle.—H. Mudgett, in the Prairie Farmer, says that a small quantity of dry slacked lime rubbed into the hair of cattle, will destroy all lice. If a remedy, it is a cheap and easy one.

Nerve and Bone Liniment.—Take 1 oz. spirits of turpentine, half a pint of brandy, and one gill neatsfoot oil; simmer over a fire till mixed, then bottle it for use.

Cure for the Pip.—Undoubtedly about these days some of your chickens will have this common chicken complaint. Cure it simply by mixing a tablespoonful of sulphur with about three pounds of meal for a feed every other day, perhaps for a fortnight.

☞ Full compliments of tools and implements of husbandry, are intimately connected with the success of the husbandman.

HOMINY.—In point of economy, as human food, one bushel of beans or hominy, is equal to ten of potatoes. Hominy, too, is a dish almost as universally liked as potatoes, and at the south, about as freely eaten, while at the north it is seldom seen. By hominy, we do not mean a sort of coarse meal, but grains of white corn from which the hull and chit, or eye, has been removed, by moistening and pounding in a wooden mortar, leaving the grains almost whole and composed of little else than starch. It has often been said that not one cook in ten knows how to boil a potato. We may add another cipher when speaking of the very simple process of cooking hominy. We give the formula from our own experience,—and instructions received in a land where "hog and hominy" are well understood. Wash slightly in cold water, and soak twelve hours in tepid water, then boil from three to six hours in the same water, with plenty more added from time to time, with great care to prevent burning. Do not salt while cooking, as that, or hard water, will harden the corn. It is good hot or cold, and more frequently it is warmed over—like the old fashioned pot of

"Bean-porridge hot, bean-porridge cold,
Bean-porridge best when it is nine days old."

So is hominy—it is good always, and very wholesome, and, like tomatoes, it only requires to be eaten once or twice to fix the taste in its favor.—[Journal of Health.

RULES FOR BUTTER MAKING.—The Massachusetts committee on dairies says: "Your committee, having had much experience in butter making, offer the following rules as the result of their experience:—The newer and sweeter the cream, the sweeter and higher flavored will be the butter.—The air must be fresh and pure in the room or cellar where the milk is set.—The cream should not remain on the milk over thirty-six hours.—Keep the cream in tin pails, or in stone pots, into which put a spoonful of salt at the beginning, then stir the cream lightly each morning and evening; this will prevent it from moulding or souring.—Churn as often as once a week, and as much oftener as circumstances will permit.—Upon churning add the cream upon all the milk in the dairy.—Use nearly an ounce of salt to a pound of butter.—Work the butter over twice to free it from the buttermilk and brine, before lumping and packing. Be sure that it is entirely free from every particle of buttermilk, or coagulated milk, and it will keep sweet as long as desired. In Scotland a syphon is sometimes used to separate the milk from the cream, instead of skimming the pans."

HOW TO GET RID OF RATS.—Prof. Dascom, of Oberlin, in a letter to the Ohio Farmer, says:

"Would it not be well to call the attention of your readers to the ease and certainty with which they may be relieved from the annoyance of the large brown Rat. This impudent intruder often visits my laboratory and other premises. As they come singly, I 'take off' each, the night after I discover signs of his presence, in this wise. I take half a teaspoonful of *dry* flour or Indian meal on a plate or piece of board, and sprinkle over it the fraction of a grain of *strichnine*. This is set in a convenient place, and I *invariably* find the culprit near the spot *dead* in the morning. The peculiar advantage of this poison is, that it produces muscular spasms, which prevent the animal from reaching his hole to die and decompose. It is needless to add, that such a violent poison should be used with care."

TO MEND BROKEN CHINA.—Take unslaked lime, made fine by pounding or grinding, which mix with the white of an egg to the consistence of starch or paint; thoroughly cleanse and dry the edges to be united, then apply the mixture to the parts to be cemented, place them together firmly, and let them become perfectly dry. Articles thus mended can be handled or washed without injury..

CERTAIN REMEDY FOR A FELON.—Take Polk-root and roast it in the fire until done, then wash up all the soft part and make it into a poultice, and apply to the place afflicted three or four times a day, as hot as can be borne, and it will perform a cure in forty-eight hours.

STORING POTATOES—USE OF LIME BENEFICIAL.—T. J. Herepath, Bristol, England, gives a variety of experiments in storing potatoes. When lime was used, put up in bundles in each sack of potatoes, or in bulk at the bottom or top of the potatoes in bin, the potatoes were generally sound—while those put away in the ordinary manner were much diseased. Mr. Herepath prefers the lime on the top of the tubers, separated by a layer of brushwood.

GINGER SNAPS.—One cup of butter, one of molasses, one teaspoonful of soda, two of ginger, one of cloves; roll thin and bake quick.

Editors Table.

SEEDS.—A correspondent writing from St. Paul, Minn, says:—"I wish to thank you for the seeds sent me and my neighbor subscribers to the Farmer. I planted mine the last of May, and have done well—all but the cucumbers, those the striped bug devoured soon after they came through the ground. Some of my neighbors had good luck with them. I don't believe there is any other kind of sweet corn and squash raised in the world, any where, near so good as the Old Colony Corn and Jersey Squash. I would sooner give ten times the 40 cents paid for the Farmer for the same quantity of seeds you sent, than be without the above named corn and squash one season.

"The Farmer takes well. We are going to double our club next year, any way, and may be more. J. MASON.

"St. Paul, Oct. 5, 1854."

The above is only one of more than 100 equally commendable reports on seeds distributed among subscribers last spring. We are pleased to learn that they have given so good satisfaction. We design having something new and choice in this line to distribute among our subscribers annually, and we shall not overrate whatever it may be, knowingly.

JERSEY SQUASH.—Of this we have raised a fine crop the past season, and are now prepared to send seeds to those subscribers whom we were unable to supply last spring. Agents of clubs to whom we are indebted, will please notify us, and the seeds shall be sent, postage paid. We would also say, that if any subscriber or club have not received seeds according to the terms of our circular, we wish to know it. In several instances the first packages sent last spring were reported lost, and in every case so reported, seeds were sent a second time.

☞ The apple given us by O. S. Dousman, of Bradford, for examination, we think, without doubt, to be the *Hawthorndon*.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a few fine specimens of the *Black Detroit* apple, from E. W. Edgerton, of Summit. They suit our palate well.

That dozen Bartlett pears, so much admired by all good judges of fruit at the exhibition of the Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association, fell to our lot for disposal, and we have made the disposition among our female friends and ourself. These were grown in the garden of Dr. J. Mitchell, Janesville, and were decidedly the best specimens of the kind anywhere exhibited.

☞ Thos. Howland, of Kenosha, presented us some very fine sweet potatoes, which were exhibited at the State Fair. We found them very nice in the eating. Mr. Howland, we understand, raised several bushels equally nice. We advise some of our patrons to cultivate this estimable esculent.

We are indebted to our friend, Chas. R. Gibbs, of Harmony, for a beautiful pair of Brahma Pootras. It is with pleasure that *we record this deed.*

Mr. C. Smith, of Waupun, perfected our (Dr. L.) trio of chicks, by one of the finest of Buff Shanghais. Mr. S. has long been *known for his chicks.*

☞ We thank Mr. Gillett, of Milwaukee, for the bestowal of two chicks—a Brahma cock and white Shanghai pullet—fine birds. We challenge the State to match the former. Mr. G. found quick sales for a number of fowls at the State Fair, but has a few left, unless he has sold them since then.

All our Jewish prejudice of the divided hoofs without cuds, has been completely overcome by a beautiful half Suffolk and half Spaulding's breed pig, presented us by that best of pork producers and swine breeders, Mr. Wm. Spaulding, of Harmony.

Our thanks are due to S. D. Elwood & Co., Publishers, Detroit, for a copy of "Text Book of Agriculture."

☞ The Appleton Crescent, a lively and excellent paper, filled with choice articles, failed to give us credit for the article "*Work for the Month,*" in one of its late issues.

☞ We know by delightful experience, that most excellent fruit is grown in this village.—D. C. Patton sent us the other day a pair of peaches, which we think would be hard to beat. One of them measured nine inches in circumference, the other a little less. They were of the large yellow variety, and are styled the "Orange Seedling," and were as rich, luscious, and melting as —— as the first kiss of love!—[Beloit Journal.

Does your "delightful experience" include both of the peaches and the "kiss" too, Mr. Editor?!

☞ Mr Chas. Smith, of Waupun, has our thanks for the present of a red (we call her buff) Shanghai pullet—a chick from the prettiest Shanghai hen in the State. Mr. Smith has more of the same pattern to part with.

Nelson Gilbert, of Beloit, an old friend of ours who purchased a fine pair of Shanghais of us, says the pullet has been known to lay *three* eggs in one day. He wishes to get one that will lay *four*. That is *eggs-act-lie* what is wanted.

☞ We purchased at the late Rock County Agricultural Fair, of Daniel Toll & Co., Janesville, three specimens of their premium brooms, one of each kind offered. We bought them because we thought them the best sample of good brooms that we have lately seen. They are real *Shakers* and no mistake. This company, we understand, has made extensive arrangements for carrying on the business, and if they continue to make as good brooms as those we have seen and possess, they will not only oblige the community, but render themselves worthy of its patronage. A good broom is the wife's scepter.

☞ We have received a circular of the Dubuque Academy, under the charge of Austin Adams, Esq., formerly a pupil of ours in Vermont. Mr. Adams is a graduate of Hanover, and one of the most successful teachers and best of scholars. We are happy to know of his location at Dubuque.

Dane Co. Apples.—We have as fine and superb a specimen of the green pippin upon our table as any country can boast, from the orchard of Isaac Brown, Esq., of Albion, about three miles from Fulton Depot. Mr. B. has raised 36 bushels of the same sort, this year.—The time is near at hand when Wisconsin will have no favors to ask of her sisters on the score of fruit.—[Wisconsin Patriot.

☞ The Waupacca Spirit says of the yield of wheat in that county: "Twenty-five or thirty bushels is the common harvest per acre, on the openings and prairies here."

Foot Race.—At the late New Hampshire State Fair, held at Keene, a foot race for a purse was contested by four young men, and won by Edward W. Wilder, of Keene, who encompassed half a mile in 1:35. These matches were not got up by the Society, but the "purses" were offered by persons present who wanted to see the fun.

Great Growth of Squash.—Mr. Wm. Peck, of Eden, Fond du Lac Co., raised from four vines of the Mammoth Sugar Squash, twenty-five hundred pounds of squashes.

Mr. Charles Smith, of Waupun, Dodge Co., has kindly presented us a few of the seeds.

☞ A correspondent of the Boston Traveler states that in front of a fine dwelling in Marlborough, Massachusetts, there are six majestic elms, which the owner keeps *insured* against injury from lightning or fire, in the sum of $500!

Georgia Banks.—The Chicago Tribune says that George Smith has bought another bank charter, the Bank of Griffin, to use it as a tender to the Atlanta, and Curtis, Bradley & Co., have bought up the charter of the Cherokee Insurance company. Between Griffins and Cherokees, the Chicago people will get a full taste of wild cat banking. There are now *six* Georgia banks in full blast in Chicago.

Pinery Statistics.—The Stevens Point Pinery gives some interesting statistics of that thriving town. It now boasts of 100 dwellings, 120 families, 4 taverns, 9 stores, 23 mechanics, and other shops, 7 warehouses, 1 school-house and 2 schools, 1 church finished and 1 building, 1 printing office, 26 buildings going up.

Keeping Parsley.—As nice double parsley is a very pretty object while growing, and as it is some satisfaction to pluck it from day to day as wanted, a barrel or half barrel should be prepared, by boring holes at regular intervals all down its side, and towards the end of this month the parsley roots taken up and placed, one crown opposite each hole, beginning at the bottom first, and filling up with some porous soil to the top.—[Edgar Sanders, in Country Gentleman.

Crops in Allamakee.—Mr. Isted, who resides near Wawkon, informs us that as a general thing about him, the crops are first rate, and farmers in good spirits at their prospects for a profitable season. We believe this is true of Northern Iowa generally.—[Intelligencer

☞ The lady who did not think it respectable to bring up her children to work, has just heard from her three sons. One of them was a driver on a canal; another had been taken up as a vagrant; and a third had gone to Auburn to learn the shoe business, under the auspices of a keeper.

A Farmer's Wife I'll be.

I'm a wild and laughing girl, just turned of sweet sixteen,
As full of mischief and of fun as ever you have seen;
And when I am a woman grown, no city beaux for me—
If e'er I marry in my life, a farmer's wife I'll be

I love a country life, I love the joyous breeze,
I love to hear the singing birds along the lofty trees;
The lowing herds and bleating flocks make music sweet for me—
If e'er I marry in my life, a farmer's wife I'll be.

I love to feed the chickens, and I love to milk the cow,
I love to hear the farmer's boy a whistling at his plow;
And fields of corn and waving grain are pleasant sights to me—
If e'er I marry in my life, a farmer's wife I'll be.

I love to see the orchards where the golden apples grow,
I love to walk in meadows where the bright streamlets flow;
And flowery banks and shady woods have many charms for me—
If e'er I marry in my life, a farmer's wife I'll be.

Let other girls who love it best, enjoy the gloomy town,
'Mid dusty walls and dusty streets, to ramble up and down;
But flowery fields, and shady woods, and sunny skies for me—
If e'er I marry in my life, a farmer's wife I'll be.

Crops in Grant.—The Grant County Herald says: "We have called on some of our most reliable farmers to assist us in making a statement of the average product of grain, potatoes, hay, &c., per acre for Western Wisconsin. The following is the average from the best authority we are able to consult:

Average number of bushels of Wheat per acre,	25 to 30
Bushels of Corn per acre,	50 to 75
" Oats "	50 to 60
" Potatoes, "	250

Towns and Cities of Iowa.—The following table shows the population of the principal towns and cities of Iowa:

Burlington,	7,206
Dubuque,	6,634
Davenport,	5,202
Keokuk,	4,769
Muscatine,	3,684
Iowa City,	2,570
Fort Madison,	2,010
Oskaloosa,	1,469
Cedar Rapids,	1,120
Fairfield,	1,013

Wheat Crop of Minnesota.—The wheat crop of the Territory for the present season is estimated by an intelligent farmer friend, at *two hundred thousand bushels.*

☞ It is estimated, upon what is deemed intelligent and reliable authority, that the counties of Winona, Houston and Fillmore, in Minnesota, now contain 10,000 inhabitants. In 1851, the whole territory embraced within these counties polled twelve votes, all told.

☞ At the New York State Agricultural Fair in New York, Mr. Jesse Williams, of Rome, had two specimens of cheese each weighing over five hundred pounds! They attracted great attention and notice.

Fine Stock.—The Dubuque Observer notices the Morgan horse, Romeo, who took the first premium of a silver cup at the recent Fair in Dubuque county. His owner, Mr. David, has a standing offer for him of $2500.

Dubuque Iron Works.—Farley & Rouse, at their extensive establishment in Dubuque, have now under course of construction, six steam saw-mill engines and eight flouring mill engines.

☞ The St. Louis Republican contains a list of the disasters on the western rivers since the 1st of January. The number of steamboat and flatboat accidents given is 108, and there were besides 150 coal-boats lost.

An Old Stager.—At the Worcester Cattle Show, the citizens extemporized a cavalcade a mile long, containing 200 saddle horses, 55 spans, and 120 single horses in carriages. The Argus says that one of the horses was from Barre, and was 41 years old, but looking as hale and hearty, and drawing as well as any present. His owner uses him every day, and considers him capable of as much work as any of his young horses, and good for at least ten years more actual service.

☞ The growth of Iowa is surprising. The St. Louis News says that the vote of the last spring election shows a great increase over that of last August, and the vote of the present August is much larger than last spring. Counties that had no returns eighteen months ago now show a vote of two or three hundred.—Not only are the eastern and western border counties advancing in population, but away in the interior of the State the hardy pioneers are settling down, and around them will soon gather dense settlements.

Immigration.—During the month of August, there arrived at the port of New York 23,672 German immigrants; 8,898 Irish; 3,658 English, and about 3,000 from other European countries. The returns for the eight months commencing with January and ending with August, show a total of arrivals of Irish 54,548; Germans 119,400, making with natives of other countries, a grand total of 209,414.

Dubuque Land Agency.—We invite attention to the advertisement of Hawthorn, Childs & Co., General Insurance, Commission and Land Agents, Dubuque. We have been personally acquainted with Mr. Childs for some length of time, and confidently recommend the Company, of which he is a member, to the public.

Hardware.—We advise those who have occasion to buy Hardware in Milwaukee, to call and see the extensive stock of Messrs. Le Fevre and Green, and we are pretty sure you will buy. They are enterprising young men—fair and honorable dealers, and have the finest stock in the city. They have, also, a very large assortment of Agricultural Implements—Plows, Churns, Harrows, &c., &c.,—in fact, every thing ever seen or thought of in that line.

Fowls for Sale.—See the advertisement of fowls, by W. W. Macomber, of Barcelona, N. Y. Mr. M. claims his fowls to be O K., and we can say nothing to the contrary.

THE SHEEP ARE COMING!—Messrs. McAllister & Hall request us to say, that sickness prevented them being at our last State Fair, as stated in the October No. Further, that they will be at Hartland, Waukesha co., about the last of this month, with 300 or 400 pure French and Spanish Merino Sheep, for the Wisconsin market.

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WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER,

AND

NORTHWESTERN CULTIVATOR.

VOL. VI. JANESVILLE, WIS., DECEMBER, 1854. NO. 12.

MARK MILLER, S. P. LATHROP } Editors and Publishers.

TERMS.—**50 Cents a Year in Advance**; Five copies for $2, if directed to one Post Office, and at the same rate for a larger number. All subscriptions to commence with the volume and back numbers supplied.

ADVERTISING.—One page, first insertion, $6; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $5; half page, first insertion, $4; for each subsequent insertion, less than one year, $3; one page per year, $50; half page, $30; quarter page, $18; eighth page, $10; one square, (twelve lines or less,) per year, $6,50; less than one year, first insertion, $1,00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

Close of the Volume.

The present number completes the sixth volume of the "*Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.*"—Though the editors would not be unmindful of the fact, that the FARMER has not yet attained to that degree of perfection in the style of its *issues*, or profit in the amount of its income—which they divine to be its future destiny—yet they have great occasion for self-congratulation that their efforts to furnish the farmers of the Northwest generally, with a valuable Agricultural journal, have been duly appreciated by many. Our friends have laid us under great obligation, for the interest which they have felt in the prosperity of the FARMER, and the pains they have taken to extend its circulation, and thereby increase its influence and usefulness.—Its circulation at the present time is greater in number and wider in extent, than at any period of its previous history. Though there have been times in its past existence, when its *then* previous history furnished no sure data, except the fixed purpose of its proprietor and originator, what its future would be; yet, these doubts and uncertainties have all been swept away, and no other than a continued and greatly increased prosperity is looked for to attend its future existence. No one, without experience, can estimate the labor, or appreciate the difficulties of establishing an Agricultural journal, and of rendering it prosperous and profitably. It is with something of pride, therefore, that we look back upon the hard struggles and difficult labors attending the early history of the FARMER, and now realize that these are all vanquished. Comparatively few Agricultural journals have existed for so great a length of time as the FARMER; and, fewer still have met with a better reception among practical agriculturists; and, fewer yet are now established on a firmer basis, and with better promises of complete success, and of a final triumph over every difficulty. While it remembers, and acknowledges with gratitude, the seniority of a few kindred journals, it cannot, in justice to its own convictions, yield the palm of superiority for the farmers of the West to any other journal. It is not the style of the issue, or the ability of the contents of which we speak, but their *fitness* for the market. *We* know, though many journalists at the East do not, at least seem not to, that so far as there is to be a practical application of their teachings by the farmers of the West, their journals are quite as well adapted to the Japanese Islands as to the latitude of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, or Minnesota, and, we might add, Kansas and Nebraska, especially the latter. The "*Prairie Farmer*"—*facile princeps*—the "*Michigan Farmer*," and the "*Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer*"—either, is worth more to the working farmer of the West than the whole legion of Eastern journals, so excellent, able and desirable there. This is said with no envious spirit or desire to disparage those journals of the East in the minds of Western agriculturists. The real truth of the assertion, and the frankness with which it is made, should shield us from any aspersions of this kind.—We hesitate not to appeal to either of our cotemporaries and co-laborers in the West, whose experience in the field best enables and entitles them to speak advisedly on this point, to substantiate our declaration. Our aim is not to limit the circulation of these journals at the West, but, if possible, to arouse the too dormant sensibilities of our Western farmers to a just perception of the facts in the case, and a proper appreciation of our agricultural journals at home. To do this, it becomes necessary to strip truth of all the fig-leaved drapery thrown around it by a transgressive shrewdness, and let it stand forth in its original nudity. But, sufficient on this point.

It was our intention, when we commenced, to thank our friends and patrons for their appreciation of the FARMER, and to solicit a continuation of their good will, and stimulate them to still greater exertions to extend its influence among their neighbors and acquaintances. We have received numerous letters from different sources, commending the excellency of the FARMER—and these, too, from towns and neighborhoods where the authors were the only subscribers. Now, we are confident, that if these friends, who know us so well, would but communicate with their neighbors as freely and fully as they do with us, and take the trouble to show them, or even lend them, a number of the FARMER, they would be as well pleased with it as they themselves, and would readily join their efforts with their's in getting up a club of subscribers, and thus secure to the neighborhood or town an important benefit, and greatly promote the interests of the agricultural community generally.

It is the intention of the Editors and Proprietors, that the volume for 1855 shall surpass either of its predecessors in every essential of a valuable and desirable Agricultural journal.

There is no good reason why the FARMER should not make its monthly visits to every farmer's house in the Northwest, and especially in Wisconsin. It is the desire of its Editors and Proprietors that it should do this. It is not so much the *money* they would thus secure to themselves—though by no means despise money—as the influence they would thus be enabled to bring to bear on the agricultural interests and prosperity of the State, and of the West. Agriculture is the most important enterprise carried on in the Northwest, involving in its various branches and results greater interests than all other occupations. How important, then, that there should be public journals devoted to its interests, and which are acquainted with its wants, alive to its interests, and acclimated to its soil. We appeal, then, to the farmers of the whole Northwest, and earnestly solicit of them encouragement and support for their own journals.

☞ Lands which have been long in culture, will be benefitted by application of phosphate of lime, and it is unimportant whether the deficiency be supplied in the form of bone dust, guano, native phosphate of lime, composts of flesh, ashes, or that of oyster-shell lime—or marl—if the land needs, lime also.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Asiatic Fowls.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I propose to make a few remarks on two distinct breeds of Asiatic Fowls—the Brahma Pootra and the Hong Kong. Of the first of these so much has been said, that I shall venture but few remarks, except to expose some of the impositions which are being practiced upon the uninitiated.

I have lately attended the Michigan State Fair, at Detroit. One of the principal dealers in Michigan had on exhibition several coops of fowls, which he called respectively, "Mottled Brahmas," "Mixed Brahmas," &c. Now, there was proof positive that these fowls were nothing more nor less than a cross between a Grey Chittagong cock and Brahma hens, which produced mongrels, beautifully "*mottled.*" The owner, to avoid "the ruinous practice of in-and-in breeding," had resorted to the equally ruinous practice of crossing. He sold them for *superior specimens of Brahma Pootras.*

Another cross much calculated to deceive, is that of the Brahma on the White Shanghai, which produces what are *dubbed* "Light-colored Brahmas." In color, the *pure Brahmas* are white, with black tails, and neck hacklo penciled with black. Sometimes the dark color appears on various parts of the body of the bird. The lighter colored ones are to be preferred. This breed is extensively known thro'-out the Union, and at present, as ever since its importation in '49, it commands higher prices and a more ready sale than any other, on account of its acknowledged beauty of appearance, and in the general good qualities which constitute a profitable domestic fowl. I have had *experience* in raising this breed, and know their *comparative* merits, and am ready to join with others who have written upon the subject, in placing them at the head of the list. They are hardy, and *very* easy to rear—few die of disease while young. They exceed all other breeds in size, and are as good layers as the Black Spanish fowl, take them the year round.

The Hong Kong breed is not so extensively known as the former. Why they have been brought so little into notice I do not know, for they were imported in '49, the same year the Brahmas were, and are nearly, if not quite, as good a fowl. They are altogether different from the Brahma, Chittagong, Shanghai, and

Cochin China. They are more active, and their whole action carries with it an air of determination and pride. They walk with head erect; the comb is single and serrated; the eye is larger, darker, and more brilliant than the other breeds; and the whole frame is stronger and more sinewy than other Asiatic fowls. The plumage of the cock is sometimes nearly black—oftener black intermixed with red. Pullets often black, except their neck feathers, which are penciled or streaked with red—often black, mottled with cinnamon color. Pure Hong Kongs are invariably smooth legged; their legs are of a dark color. They are the best layers in the world. The egg is large and peculiar. Take them all in all, they are just *the* fowl for the farmer. To those who fancy a black fowl, I would, in all candor, recommend the Hong Kongs, as they are a better and more profitable fowl than Black Shanghais, Royal Cochins, or Great Javas. They are the Mandarin fowl of China.

The lithograph of pure Brahma Fowls which I send you, is a perfect portrait of a pair of my birds. It represents the breed perfectly.

W. W. MACOMBER.

Barcelona, Chautauque co., N.Y., Oct., '54.

Lime and Ashes for Wheat.

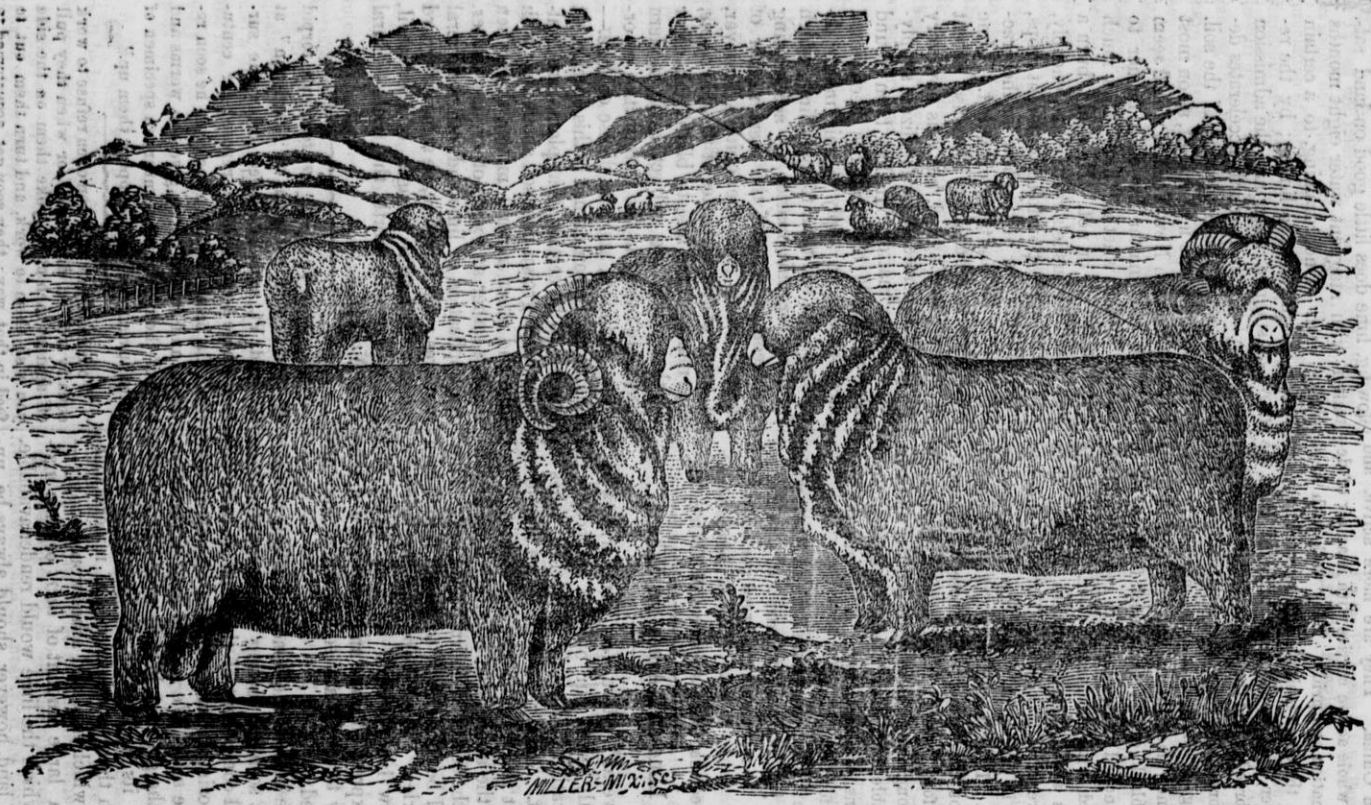
Several Western New York farmers have recently asked our opinion respecting the application of lime or unleached ashes to wheat. As a general thing we should not expect much immediate increase of wheat from the application of either lime or ashes to the soil of Western New York. They would be more likely to benefit Indian corn or barley. These crops require very active, mellow land, and, if we may be allowed the expression, lime and ashes have a tendency to *vivify* any soil to which they are applied.

We believe the beneficial effects of lime is not so much owing to its supplying an actual constituent of the plant, as to its decomposing influence on the organic matter of the soil. We should expect, therefore, that the greatest benefit would be derived from its application to mucky soils, in which there is a deficiency of mineral matter—which lime and ashes would supply—and a large amount of *inert* organic matter, which the lime would render available. Such land, however, should always be underdrained before liming, for, like sub-soil plowing, lime does little good on land saturated with stagnant water eight months of the year. Underdraining, to a certain extent, is equivalent to liming; by the removal of stagnant water and the admission of atmospheric air, it greatly accelerates decomposition and disintegration of the soil.

When limestone is abundant, as on most farms in Western New York, it would seem to be an easy matter for each farmer to satisfy himself whether lime does much good on his soil or not. He could burn a few hundred bushels readily and cheaply, and by an application to the different crops, ascertain in a year or two how far the practice might be profitably extended. Lime was formerly used to an immense extent as manure in England, but it is now very generally superseded by fertilizers supplying organic matter. It has been found more profitable after land has been limed once or twice, to apply organic matter directly to the soil than to apply lime, which furnishes organic matter by accelerating the decomposition of the inert matter of the soil itself. It is the opinion, however, of many of the advocates of the old *regime*, that many of the insects, blight, and other ills that plants are subject to in modern times, are owing to the introduction of organic manures, and the disuse of lime.—There may be some truth in this opinion. It appears to be certain, that plants are healthier when grown on a soil abounding with lime and other mineral matter, than when there is rather an excess of organic matter. An application of lime and other mineral manures *may*, therefore, be some safeguard against the fearful ravages of the weevil, and is certainly worth the trial.—[Rural New Yorker.

AN ANCIENT TOAD.—A live toad in a torpid state, was recently dug out of "hard pan" at Rutland, Vt., some fifteen feet below the surface, where he must have reposed for centuries. On being laid upon the grass he soon revived, and hopped off to give the worms and bugs of the nineteenth century a specimen of antediluvian skill in "snapping them up."

WORKING OXEN.—When oxen refuse to work equally well on either side, or when they pull off against each other, yoke them on the side you wish them to work, and turn them out to feed in that way; they soon get accustomed to it, and work afterwards on either side alike.



FULL BLOOD MERINO SHEEP.

IMPORTED FROM FRANCE. OWNED BY JOHN D. PATTERSON, OF WESTFIELD, CHAUTAUQUE CO., N. Y.

For the Wisconsin and Iowa Farmer.

French Merino Sheep—Fraud.

EDITORS FARMER:—The sheep represented in the accompanying engraving, (see opposite page,) were selected in France, for me, by John A. Taintor, Esq., of Hartford, Conn. When I was bringing them home, I had them sketched from life, by R. H. Pease, Esq., of Albany, who afterwards engraved them for me on steel, for the Patent Office Report for 1852-3. Last year, I had (through Mr. Vick, then of the Genesee Farmer,) a copy from the steel plate engraved on wood, by Messrs. Miller & Mix, of Rochester; and their engraving (which is the one here represented) appeared in the Genesee Farmer of July, 1853.

In the October number of the Wisconsin Farmer, for the present year, at page 226, will be seen a "Group of French Merino Sheep"; and the next page states, that they are portraits taken from a flock imported by the Messrs. Halls & McAllister, of Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y.

In the July number of the Wool Grower, for the present year, at page 18, will be seen the *same* engraving, under which is the following: "French Merino Sheep, owned by J. J. McAllister, Gaines, Orleans County, N. Y.," from which a person, unacquainted with the facts, would be led to suppose that the sheep represented in the July number of the Wool Grower, and the October number of the Wisconsin Farmer, for the present year, were owned by J. J. McAllister, as stated in the Wool Grower; or, by the Messrs. Halls & McAllister, as the Wisconsin Farmer states, that they are portraits taken from a flock imported by them. Therefore, I will take the liberty to say, that neither J. J. McAllister, or the Messrs. Halls & McAllister, ever owned one of the originals from which the portraits of those sheep were taken.

I am confident the Messrs. Halls and McAllister will not say the sheep represented in the October number of the Wisconsin Farmer, or in the July number of the Wool Grower for the present year, were sketched from life, or are the likenesses of any sheep *they* ever owned; and, if you will take the trouble to compare the two engravings, you will see their's is a perfect *fac simile* of the one here represented, except, that their engraver left out the likeness of one of my ewes in the group, made the picture a trifle darker, and slightly changed the back ground, but in other respects their picture is a copy from my engraving; and the three sheep represented in their engraving, are the likenesses of those imported for *me* by Mr. Taintor—drawn *from life* for *me*, by Mr. Pease, and engraved on wood for *me*, by Messrs. Miller & Mix, for which I paid Mr. Vick, who employed them to do it. But, that there may be no doubt about it, I would here say, that Mr. Mix (of the firm of Miller & Mix) told me the sheep engraved for Mr. McAllister, they copied from my steel engraving.

This way of obtaining likenesses of sheep may be very satisfactory to the Messrs. Halls & McAllister, but it is not so to me, as I paid too high prices for my sheep, and too much money to get correct likenesses of them drawn and engraved, to be satisfied to have them pilfered from me in this way.

Would it not be more creditable to the Messrs. Halls & McAllister, if they wish for a sheep engraving, to employ an artist to sketch some of *their own* sheep, and pay him for doing it themselves, rather than to use the drawings or likenesses of sheep belonging to another person, who had been at the expense of obtaining them for his own *private use?* Or, if the Messrs. Halls & McAllister had no sheep of their own, which they thought worthy of having engraved, and were desirous of using the likenesses of those belonging to another person, would it not have been more manly and honorable in them to have requested and obtained permission, or consent, of the person to whom they belonged, (and who had been at the expense of obtaining them,) to use such likenesses, or, at least to have given him credit for them?

I paid for the likenesses of my sheep, as well as for the sheep themselves, and I supposed them as much my own *private property;* but it seems the Messrs. Halls & McAllister take a different view of the matter.

JOHN D. PATTERSON.

Westfield, Chautauque co., N. Y., Nov. '54.

REMARKS.—In regard to the foregoing, in justice to ourselves, we must say, that our remarks in the September and October numbers of the Farmer, were based on the representations of Mr. McAllister. If the declarations made by Mr. Patterson, in his communication, are facts, we feel bound to place them before our readers. On the other hand, if Messrs. Halls & McAllister have any thing to say in refutation, our columns are open to receive it. The resemblance between the two cuts in question, savors strongly of plagiarism somewhere.

Stock Register.

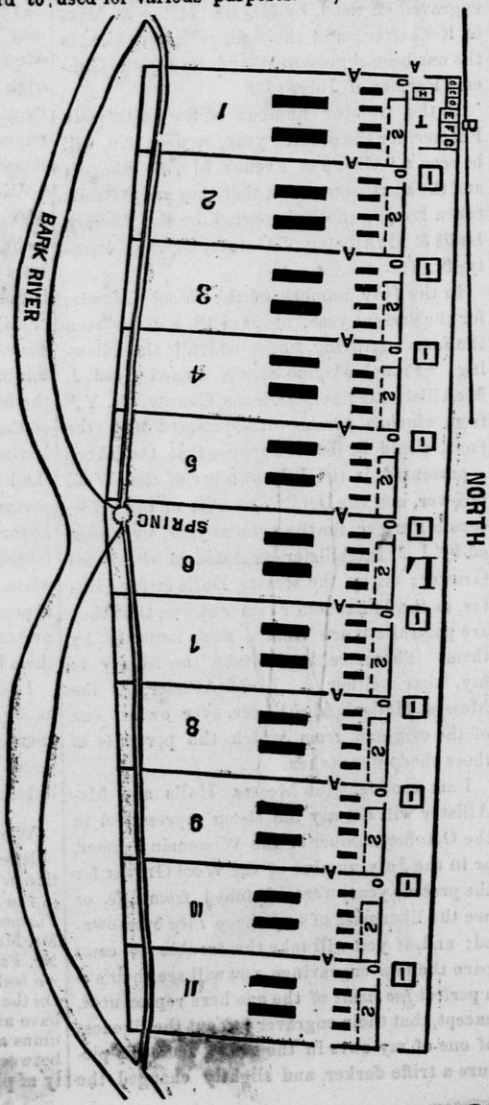
For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

Comparative Profits of Wheat Growing and Sheep Raising. No. 2.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Do not flatter yourselves thinking by your silence that I am to be bluffed off. I am bound to "lay on" with my long yarns, until you cry, "hold," or, until you apply the ideas of the Parson's nigger, when he was heard to exclaim during one of "Massa's" prayers, when he was praying the "Lord to curtail the devil's power"—"That is right, Massa, cut him tail smack, smove off!" Now, when you cut one of my long tales "smack, smove off," I shall expire, as the tale cannot exist without the head! So, here is "up and at them."

Brother Farmers: too much importance cannot be placed on the convenient arrangement of yards and sheds, with the advantages of free access to running water, for the successful management of a large flock of sheep during the winter months.—Water is indispensable in winter, and no animal will make more liberal use of it than the sheep. *Many* are the farmers who will disagree with me on this subject—but a loss and disappointment is marked on the man who tries the experiment on a flock of 500 or 1000 without it.

Deeming our arrangements as convenient as any I have seen in this State, or *elsewhere*, I submit herewith the plan, hoping that any of you who are about to go into this branch of husbandry, will study it well, and adopt or improve upon it. The question of exposure must be determined by the advantages of water. The sheds should run parallel to the water. Our arrangement is calculated, and is suitably arranged, for 1000 sheep—with 100 in each yard. More can be accommodated, but 100 is as many as is desirable to have in one yard. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, are yards running to water, brought in a side-cut from the river, in order to bring the water on hard land, and for the convenience of fencing. In all the yards below the spring the water never freezes. *S*, open sheds, 9 feet wide and 48 ft. long, with the roof inclining towards the yards. *A*, 12 feet wide and six bar gates. o, 4 feet gates communicating with the lane *L*, for the purpose of foddering through, and for taking in and out sheep when necessary. *B*, is a granary and hospital, 12 feet wide and 48 feet long. c, three grain bins, 8 by 9 feet, with 3 foot alley in front. E, F, G, stables, 8 by 12 feet, communicating by doors with the granary, with the yard T, and with each other, and are used for various purposes. *H*, the stable for



bucks, 9 by 16 feet. T, a close yard, 28 by 34 feet, inclosed by first yard on the east; stable H and 12 foot gate on the south, hospital and granary on the west, and a six foot tight board fence, and a 12 foot gate on the north—and is an indispensable item. *L*, a lane, 40 feet wide; which is sufficient for stacking hay and grain in, with room to turn round with team and wagon; also used for communicating with the field north of the sheep fold, for changing sheep through into the different yards, and for other purposes. I, cribs for stacking hay in, 12 ft. square, built with 6 inch tamarack polls, saddled together at the ends. The spaces between the stacks of hay are used for stacking grain in—running the straw, when threshing, by one of the hay stacks, and stacking it snugly—which is used for littering the yards and sheds during winter. ▬ showing the location of the cribs in which the hay is fed.—▬▬ showing the location of the grain troughs.

The westerly side of these sheds and yards are formed by setting 8 inch posts in the ground two feet deep, and 8 feet apart, projecting above ground six feet; the tops of the posts are sawed off square, 5 feet 10 inches from the ground, on a line, and a 4 inch plate, nicely fitted and pinned on top of each post, serving as a bearer for the top end of the rafters, and as a girt for the boarding. Let into the posts a 2 by 4 girt, 20 inches from the ground, and nail on, up and down, your good seasoned pine boards as snugly as you can get them together 32 feet on the south side of the first yard, and on the north side of each yard, commencing at the west side and running towards the water to the wide gate, is a 6 foot tight board fence, serving as a breaker from the cold north and north-easterly storms. The support for the east and open sides of the sheds are four posts, set in the ground 2 and 12 feet apart, the north post serving as a post in the north fence. These posts are sawed off 3 feet 8 inches above ground, parallel with the plate on the west side, and a plate fitted and pinned on the top of each post, which serves as a bearer for the lower end of the rafters, giving a pitch of 2 feet in 10 for the roof. This, when the roof is on, which is a shingled one, forms a cheap, snug, and cozy shelter, which your sheep will duly appreciate. And any flock master who will, or has, adopted this plan, that will visit his flocks on *every cold* morning, and say that he is not paid in the thanks expressed in the white faces, clean noses, warm bodies, and happy upturned hazel eyes of his flocks, then he is not worthy of the profession, and should be read out at once—he does not possess the feelings for the brute creation, necessary to make him a successful shepherd.

I will give you a bill of items necessary for one yard and shed, with the present cost prices *here*, (prices of material varying in different localities,) and any one can estimate from that the cost of a sheep-fold:

Eight 8 ft. posts, at 10c., 80c.; four 7 ft. post, 8c., 32c.; five 6 ft do., 6c., 30c.,	$1 42
Four plates, 24 ft. long (splice two together on a post,) - - -	1 92
Twenty-one rafters, 10 ft. long, 6c,	1 26
Seven girts, 16 ft. long, 10c., - -	70
[All the above items can be furnished best and cheapest from the Tamarack swamps here.]	
40 pieces oak ribbing, 1¼ in. by 3 in., 12 ft. long, 6c., - - - - -	2 40
1450 long oak shingles, $4 per M.,	5 70
650 feet pine boards, $18 per M., -	11 70
9 lbs. 6d nails, for shingling, - -	54
15 lbs. 8d and 10d do., for boarding, &c.,	90
One set gate hinges for large gate, -	96
" " " for small " -	50
Labor in building, $10 per shed, -	10 00
	$38 00
Add to this, four 14 ft. feeding cribs, 14s. each, - - - - -	7 00
Four 14 ft. feeding troughs, 5s. each,	2 50
Making each fold cost, furnished with cribs and troughs, - - -	$47 50

This is exclusive of the fence running from the gates to the water, and the east fence, which are all common rail fences. One single yard would cost about $5,50 more, as it requires the south fence extra, unless joined on to some other yard or inclosue.

Our fold was built when material and labor cost 30 per cent. less than present prices—costing us, on the average, about $35 for each fold, (fenced and furnished.)

I estimate the whole expense of our fold, including the granary, hospital and yard, stacking cribs, side-cut for water lane and division fences, at $600.

This will, undoubtedly, be considered, by many of you, too much outlay for winter quarters. I will admit, that *temporary* shelters, covered with straw or wild hay, may be made to answer for the time being, with very little expense. My motto is, "a thing well done, is twice done," and in no case will it apply so

forcibly as here. I will assure the man who expects to have a large flock of sheep to care for, for the term of ten years to come, that my investment will pay 20 per cent. per annum more than any *temporary* arrangement he can get up.

To illustrate fully the use of 11 yards for 1000 sheep, with 100 in a yard, I will, after arranging the sheep in winter quarters, give you the "modus operandi" of foddering and feeding grain for one day.

As a matter of course, all the manure of the past year has been removed from the yards and sheds. This done, litter all the yards and sheds well, with good clean straw, out as far as the large gates, putting at least half a load in each yard; and then bring in the sheep and place them as follows:

100 feeding wethers in No. 1, (being the most convenient to the granary.)

100 yearling ewes in No. 2, or more, if we have them.

100 ewes, 2 years old and over, in each No. 3, 4, 5 and 6.

100 lambs in each No. 7, 8, 9 and 10, (making 1000 sheep,) leaving vacant No 11.

The shepherd now commences foddering at No. 11, precisely at 7 o'clock in the morning.—He cuts down in halves the north hay stack, carrying the supply through the small gate to No. 11, and depositing it in the feeding cribs. During this time, the lambs in No. 10 are up and dressed, and are waiting at the large gate, like a lot of Wisconsin boarders in 1836, expecting every minute to hear the dinner bell ring, and ready for a rush! Open the gate *wide* and let them run, thus vacating No. 10. Fodder No. 10 from the same stack, and let in No. 9. Cut down the third stack from the north, and from it fodder Nos. 9 and 8; and so on down through, foddering all the while in an empty yard, thus keeping the sheep from under your feet, clean from the hay seed and dirt that would otherwise fall on their backs and get into the wool, and from tramping on their feed, besides many other advantages.—You also leave in this process, one-half of your stacks untouched and unexposed to the weather.

At 12 o'clock, commence in No. 1, which is now vacant, to feed your grain. Spread the grain evenly in the troughs, and open the gate to No. 2, and let in your *boarders*, and so on through, north to No. 10, leaving vacant No. 11 again, where the shepherd again commences foddering at 4 P. M., and going through the morning process.

There is so much to be said on the subject of feeding regular; the quantity and kind of grain, and the the quantity and kind of hay to be used with profit to the feeder, that I will leave them all to some future communication, simply remarking here, that if any of you are feeding *wild* hay, commence graining with the commencement of the foddering season, for you cannot *afford* to to keep sheep on that kind of hay without it.

To illustrate fully the importance of the yard *T*, and the various uses of the stables *E*, *F* and *G*, and to answer the oft-repeated question, "The best way to use bucks," I will explain in the next number our process of serving the ewes by the bucks—best time of year—kind of breed—best way of using the buck, &c. As some of you may be desirous of adopting our plan, I will here say, that although we claim to be the originators of much of the process, we have neither taken out "letters patent," or obtained a "caveat"—the whole process is free and open for the benefit of the whole of Lamb creation.

Now, Messrs. Editors, allow me to call your attention to a few errors of the Printer in my article in November:

On page 247, right hand column, insert the word *cropping* in place of "crossing."

On page 248, left hand column, I am made to say, "Add 210 lambs *to* the increase of 1852." Leave out the *to*.

On same page and column, "91 pelts," &c., should be carried out $96.

The next line reads, "at $2 50, $600." Should read, *Add* 210 *lambs*, *increase of* 1853, *at* $2 50 *per head*, $600.

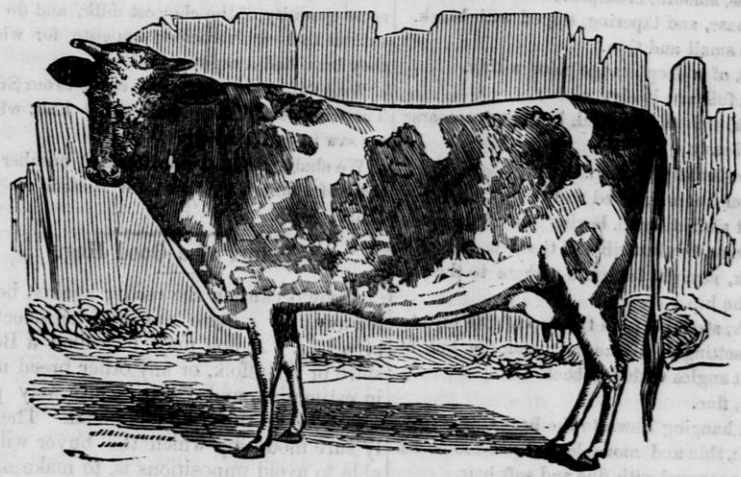
On same page, right hand column, in the word "yeaming," use the letter *n* in place of the *m*.

E. W EDGERTON.

Summit, Waukesha co., Nov., 1854.

RARE ANIMALS.—A sacred bull and a cow have been brought to Boston, from Calcutta, India, the first, it is said, that have ever been brought to this country. They are small animals, with a bunch upon their shoulders. The bull black and the cow white. The proprietor intends to place them upon a farm in Scituate, Mass.

POINTS OF CATTLE—THE JERSEYS.



PORTRAIT OF A JERSEY COW.

1 Pedigree on male side.
2 Pedigree on female side.
3 Head—small, fine and tapering.
4 Cheek—small.
5 Throat—clean.
6 Muzzle, fine and encircled with a light color.
7 Nostrils, high and open.
8 Horns—smooth, crumpled, not too thick at the base, and tapering, tipped with black.
9 Ears, small and thin.
10 Ears, of a deep orange color within.
11 Eye, full and placid.
12 Neck, straight, fine, lightly placed on the shoulders.
13 Chest, broad and deep.
14 Barrel-hooped, broad and deep.
15 Well ribbed home, having but little space between the last rib and the hip.
16 Back, straight from the withers to the top of the hip.
17 Back, straight, from the top of the hips to the setting on of the tail; and the tail at right angles with the back.
18 Tail, fine.
19 Tail hanging down to the hocks.
20 Hide, thin and moveable, but not too loose.
21 Hide covered with fine and soft hair.
22 Hide of a good color.
23 Fore-legs, short, straight and fine.
24 Fore-arm, swelling and full above the knee and fine below it.
25 Hind-quarters, from the hock to the point of the rump, long and well filled up.
26 Hind-legs, short and straight (below the hocks) and bones rather fine.
27 Hind-legs, squarely placed, not too close together, when viewed from behind.
28 Hind-legs, not to cross in walking.
29 Hoofs, small.
30 Udder, full in form, *i. e.* well in line with the belly.
31 Udder well up behind.
32 Teats, large and squarely placed, being wide apart.
33 Milk veins, very prominent.
34 Growth.
35 General appearance.
36 Condition.

Three of these points are deducted from the number required for perfection on heifers—Nos. 30, 31, 32—as their milk-making apparatus is not perfectly developed. A heifer is considered perfect, who has thirty-three points. No prize is awarded to cows or heifers, having less than twenty-nine points.

POINTS OF THE JERSEY BULL.

1 Pedigree on male side.
2 Pedigree on female side.
3 Head, fine and tapering.
4 Forehead broad.
5 Cheek, small.
6 Throat clean.
7 Muzzle, fine, and encircled with a light color.
8 Nostrils high and open.

9 Horns, smooth, crumpled, not too thick at the base, and tapering, tipped with black.
10 Ears small and thin.
11 Ears, of a deep orange color within.
12 Eye, full and lively.
13 Neck, arched, powerful, but not too coarse and heavy.
14 Chest broad and deep.
15 Barrel-hooped, broad and deep.
16 Well ribbed home, having but little space between the last rib and the hip.
11 Back, straight from the withers to the top of the hip.
18 Back, straight, from the top of the hips to the setting on of the tail; and the tail at right angles with the back.
19 Tail, fine.
20 Tail hanging down to the hocks.
21 Hide, thin and movable, but not too loose.
22 Hide covered with fine and soft hair.
23 Hide of a good color.
24 Fore-legs, short, straight and fine.
25 Fore-arm, large and powerful, swelling and full above the knee and fine below it.
26 Hind-quarters, from the hock to the point of the rump, long and well filled up.
27 Hind-legs, short and straight (below the hocks) and bones rather fine.
28 Hind-legs, squarely placed, not too close together, when viewed from behind.
29 Hind-legs, not to cross in walking.
30 Hoofs, small.
31 Growth.
32 General appearance.
33 Condition.

Of this breed of cattle, Youatt and some others do not give a favorable account, though they all acknowledge that the cows furnish very rich milk. The experience of our own countrymen, however, is found to be much in their favor.—Mr. Roswell L. Colt, of Patterson, N. J., who has one of the finest herds of Jersey cattle, says of them: "I have found those raised in this country, particularly the second stock, better than the imported. As to the milking qualities, they give 12, 14, to 16 qts. a day, and, of course, fall off towards calving; but the difficulty is to dry them up so as not to starve the unborn calf. I am sure that nine out of ten Alderneys [Jerseys] would milk the year round."

W. S. King says, in the Journal of the U. S. Agricultural Society: "The animal which we have in America under this name, is one which we should commend to all who value good milk for family use. They appear to give a handsome quantity of the choicest milk, and do not exhibit that *very* voracious appetite for which they have had a reputation."

We know of none of these cattle in our State. There are several fine herds at the East, which we saw in our late tour.

We shall give in the next (Jan.) number the scale of Points for Cows and Heifers for the Dairy.

Points of a Good Hog.

I could caution the reader against being led away by a mere name, in his selection of a hog. A hog may be called a Berkshire or a Suffolk, or any other breed most in estimation, and yet in reality may possess none of this valuable blood. The only sure mode by which the buyer will be able to avoid impositions is, to make name always secondary to points. If you find a hog possessed of such points of form as are calculated to insure early maturity, and facility of taking flesh, you need care little what it has seemed good to the seller to call him; and remember that no name can bestow value upon an animal deficient in the qualities to which I have alluded. The true Berkshire—that possesses a dash of the Chinese and Neapolitan varieties—comes, perhaps, nearer to the desired standard than any other. The chief points which characterize such a hog, are the following: In the first place, sufficient depth of carcass, and such an elongation of body as will insure a sufficient lateral expansion. Let the loin and chest be broad. The breadth of the former denotes good room for the play of the lungs, and consequent free and healthy circulation, essential to the thriving or fattening of any animal. The bone should be small, and the joints fine—nothing is more indicative of high breeding than this; and the legs should be no longer than, when fully fat, would just prevent the animal's belly from trailing upon the ground. The leg is the least profitable portion of the hog, and we require no more for it than is absolutely necessary for the rest. See that the feet be firm and sound; that the toes lie well together, and press straightly upon the ground; as also, that the claws are even, upright and healthy. Many say that the form of the head is of little or no consequence; and that a good hog may have an ugly head; but I

regard the head of all animals as one of the very principal points in which pure or impure breeding will be the most obviously indicated. A high bred animal will invariably be found to arrive more speedily at maturity, to take flesh early, and with greater facility, and, altogether, to turn out more profitably, than one of questionable or impure stock; and such being the case, I consider that the head of the hog is by no means a point to be overlooked by the purchaser. The description of head most likely to promise, or rather to be concomitant of, high breeding, is one not carrying heavy bone, not too flat on the forehead, or possessing a too elongated snout—the snout should be short, and the forehead rather convex, curving upward; and the ear should be, while pendulous, inclining somewhat forward, and at the same time light and thin. Nor should the buyer pass over even the carriage of a pig. If this be dull, heavy and dejected, reject him, on suspicion of ill health, if not of some concealed disorder actually existing, or just about to break forth; and there cannot be a more unfavorable symptom than a hang down, slouching head. Of course, a fat hog for slaughter, or a sow heavy with young, has not much sprightliness of deportment.

Nor is color altogether to be lost sight of. In the case of hogs, I would prefer those colors which are characteristic of our most esteemed breeds. If the hair be scant, I would look for black, as denoting connection with the Neapolitan; but if too bare of hair, I would be disposed to apprehend too immediate alliance with that variety, and a consequent want of hardihood, that, however unimportant, if pork be the object, renders such animals hazardous speculations as stores, from their extreme susceptibility to cold, and consequent liability to disease. If white, and not too small, I would like them, as exhibiting connection with the Chinese. If light or sandy, or red with black marks, I would recognize our favorite Berkshire; and so on, with reference to every possible variety of hue.—These observations may appear trivial; but they are the most important I have yet made, and the pig buyer will find his account in attending to them.—[Rural Hand Book.

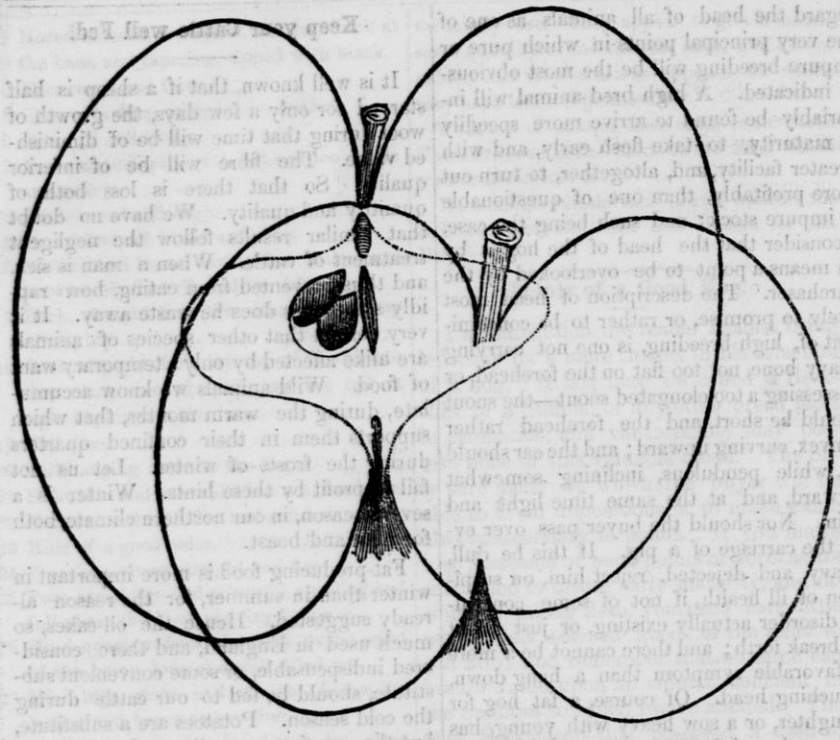
☞ Good care and feed, makes fat cattle.

Keep your Cattle well Fed.

It is well known, that if a sheep is half starved for only a few days, the growth of wool during that time will be of diminished value. The fibre will be of inferior quality. So that there is loss both of quantity and quality. We have no doubt that similar results follow the negligent treatment of cattle. When a man is sick, and thus prevented from eating, how rapidly sometimes does he waste away. It is very certain that other species of animals are alike affected by only a temporary want of food. Wild animals we know accumulate, during the warm months, that which supports them in their confined quarters during the frosts of winter. Let us not fail to profit by these hints. Winter is a severe season, in our northern climate, both for man and beast.

Fat-producing food is more important in winter than in summer, for the reason already suggested. Hence the oil-cakes, so much used in England, and there considered indispensable, or some convenient substitute, should be fed to our cattle during the cold season. Potatoes are a substitute, but the crop is too small to admit of such use. Different sections of the country have their own crops, which are adapted to the use of cattle.—[Plough, Loom and Anvil.

Poultry for Market.—The N. E. Farmer, on preparing Poultry for market, says: "Much of the poultry exposed for sale has been through the process of scalding to facilitate the picking; this practice should never be resorted to. It turns the rich yellow of the fat into a tallowy hue, and oftentimes starts the skin so that it peels off, unless carefully handled. No cut should be made in the breast, all the offal should be taken out behind, and the opening should be made as small as possible; the inside should be wiped out with a dry cloth, but no water should be used to cleanse them. With a moist cloth, take off the blood that may be found upon the carcase. In picking, great care should be taken not to tear the skin; the wings should not be cut off, but picked to the end; the skin of the neck should be neatly tied over it, if the head is cut off."



THE RAMBO APPLE.

For the Wisconsin & Iowa Farmer.

The above are correct outlines of specimens of the Rambo Apple, exhibited at the late Fruit Grower's Fair at Milwaukee.

The larger specimen, by Mr. A Hadley, of Whitewater; the other, by O. S. Rathbun, Brookfield, Waukesha co. The last was one of the premium lot of Fall Apples. Most of its fellows were of the same size.

What will that gentleman of the "Prairie Farmer" say, who so reluctantly gives Wisconsin the credit of being a fruit State, after having seen some small, hard apples selling by the boys, in April, (which were, doubtless, the little Red Romanite, bought of Illinois Nurserymen for something softer, better and larger, but proved false, as thousands of such trees have.) I say, after having seen and tasted these, gravely admitted that "Wisconsin could grow some small, hard, keeping apples." We commend the above outlines to that gentleman's notice, and promise him, if he will find as well grown specimens of that variety grown in Illinois, we will try again.

Will the gentlemen who raised these specimens tell the public, through your paper. the situation, soil and sub-soil, elevation and character of surface, (level or rolling, high or low,) and the exposure in which their trees stand? Were the trees grafted at or below the surface —at standard height or in the branches? Are the trees annual bearers? &c.

J. C. Brayton.

Aztalan Nursery, October, 1854.

A Transformation.—The peach originally was a poisonous almond. Its fleshy parts were then used to poison arrows, and was for this purpose introduced into Persia. The transplantation and cultivation however, not only removed its poisonous qualities, but produced the delicious fruit that we now enjoy.

Coal.—The Eddyville Free Press has paid an editorial visit to the Jefferson county coal mines. They are about one mile and a half west of Fairfild, and owned and worked by experienced Scotch miners. The vein is about four feet thick, and the quality improving as it is penetrated farther.—[Iowa City Reporter

DEFERRED ARTICLES.

Waukesha County Fair.

We had the pleasure of being present on the last day of this Fair. Waukesha county has gained an enviable reputation for its agricultural ability, and for the attention that has there been given to the cultivation of fruit. This fact, joined with what we know of its agriculture, itself, and of the stock, especially of sheep, and the men, too, engaged in these matters, led us to anticipate much in its exhibition. It was, however, quite a meagre exhibition, compared with what other counties of inferior ability have done.

The arrangements of the grounds were not exactly what we think the people of Waukesha should be proud of. They were not of the most approved style; and there seemed to be a lack of that sterling enterprise so essential to the greatest success in these exhibitions.

We are aware of the fact, that the close proximity, both in time and place, of the State Fair, had great influence in lessening the interest felt in this Fair. But we are the more grieved on this account. We *must* sustain our County Societies, in order to the highest perfection of our most excellent State Society. These County Societies sustain about the same relation to the State Society, that our Common Schools do to the University and to our Colleges. Let us have our views *right* on this point.

We took pains to examine the several departments with some care, excepting that of horses, the best of which, if there were any, were not on the ground when we passed around. We afterwards, however, saw a very fine specimen of a Black Hawk, from Merton, with, as we should think, just enough infusion of the French blood to better him decidedly. We understand this horse received the first premium. We saw on the ground one or two pretty good brood mares, with foals at their feet.

With the exception of one Durham bull, belonging to Mr. Walklin, of Eagle, we do not consider the exhibition of cattle entitled to commendation. We are happy to know that there is better stock in this county than this exhibition would lead one to suppose.

The exhibition of sheep was better, and yet far inferior to what it should have been, and what we know it could have been. A Leicester buck, exhibited by Mr. Cadby, of Merton, pleased us much; and another pretty good one, by Donaldson, of Brookfield. Five Leicester ewes, exhibited by Harrison, of Ottowa, were choice ones; and two of the five, by Gorton, of North Prairie, were very good. Mr. Pratt, of Waukesha, showed two French buck lambs, and five pretty good French ewe lambs. A Spanish buck, exhibited by Williams, of Waukesha, was worthy of honorable mention; and five Spanish ewe lambs, by Davis, of the same place, were good. We were sorry to see that the different breeds were made to compete with one another—mutton sheep and wool sheep.—This ought not so to be.

Of Swine, there were some quite good specimens, though we think not of the highest style and most approved stamp. A cross of the Suffolk and Essex, exhibited by Mr. Carpenter, of Waukesha, was pretty good, while a hog belonging to Mr. Putney, of Brookfield, and three pigs owned by Dejean, of Genesee, were worthy of mention.

The Poultry department was first rate.—Some specimens of Forbes' importation, introduced into the county by O. R. Bacon, and exhibited by him and Mr. Blackwell, were as good as any Shanghais we have seen. Mr. Gove exhibited some good white Shanghais and Bantams.

Though the exhibition of Kitchen and Garden Products was not large, yet there were some good ones. Mr. Hanford's exhibition of some sixteen varieties of the most approved kinds of potatoes, pleased us very much. Great taste and good judgment, as well as a proper knowledge of the article, were displayed by this exhibition. We were satisfied with our journey from Madison to Waukesha, and with our Dutch stew at the hotel—*inwardly* stuccoed with the blackest, if not the richest, of mud—when we have these potatoes so neatly arranged.

There were some good specimens of wheat and corn. The Dairy products were not good.

Some fine specimens of needle-work were present.

In the department of Fruit, the exhibition was decidedly good. Mr. Gove made a fine display of apples; Mr. Peffer, of Pewaukee, of plums, grapes, gooseberries, &c.

The Fair closed very pleasantly by an excellent address, full of good, sound, practical sense, by Hon. Mr. ————, of Waukesha.

☞ Capital is not only necessary to agricultural success, but can be as properly used in farming as in any other occupation.

Do Sheep have Worms in their Feet?

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In the May No. of the Southern Cultivator, present volume, on page 159, is an article from the pen of "J. L. P.," in which he says, "the prevailing opinion in this section of the country is that there is a certain kind of worm which exists in the feet of sheep;" and he adds, "as high as four worms have been extracted from one sheep," As you invite attention to this subject, and I am a "sheep raiser," I will offer a few remarks for "J. L. P.'s" consideration.

Diseases never attack animals *universally*, except in their most malignant form, and then they always cause death. What "J. L. P." describes as worms are *universal* (not of frequent or common occurrence) in sheep of all ages and conditions, and never cause death that can be traced to them as the only cause; hence it is not clear that they are even the cause of disease in sheep. But more to the point—are what he describes as worms such in fact? I think not. I have kept a flock of sheep for several years, and having heard that they had worms in their feet, which caused the hoof ail and rot, have made repeated examinations of the feet of the living and dead animal for them, but have found nothing that I can call a worm. A neighbor of mine, and a sheep-raiser too, told me that he was going to take the worms out of his sheeps' feet, and would be engaged at it on a certain day, and being curious about the thing I attended and witnessed the operation, and found, to my astonishment, that he was extracting the biflex-canal, which he called worms, and said they were the cause of hoof-ail and rot in sheep.

I have met with a number of intelligent and well-meaning persons who have mistaken the biflex or interdigital canal for worms, and regarded them as a disease, or the cause of disease in sheep, until repeated examinations convinced them that it was part of the proper organization of the animal, and intended for some purpose not well understood.

If "J. L. P." will take a sheep and examine its foot carefully, he will find what has been represented to him as worms in the feet, to be a small orifice opening externally on the front of each pastern, immediately above the cleft between the toes. It bifurcates within, a tube passing down on each side of the inner face of the pastern, winding round and ending in a *cul de sac*, which is filled with a substance resembling wool.

The nature of this canal, as well as its use and diseases, have been the subject of many errors. Mr. Spooner thinks that the hair always found in it "is excreted from the internal surface," and "from the smallness of the opening it cannot escape, or rather is detained for useful purposes."—He continues: "The use of this canal, thus stuffed with hair, is self-evident. We have mentioned the great motion possessed, by this pastern joint, which is so great as to threaten to chafe the skin by the friction of one side against the other. It is to prevent or ward off this friction that these biflex canals, or rather *hair stuffed cushions*, are provided." That this is the use and only use of these canals, I am not prepared from my examinations of the anatomy of the feet to believe, but am more inclined to believe that they are repositories of that musk by which animals are enabled to trial up each other. This musk I believe is found in all animals with cloven feet, but differently located in different animals; diseases originating in these canals are quite rare, if they ever occur. I have had but three subjects in which they have been diseased, and in all of them there were marks of external injury, that caused the orifice to close up and produced inflammation, which abated immediately upon opening them.

I have had but little experience in hoof-ail, but in the few cases I have seen, these canals have not been involved more than other parts of the pastern.

If these views be correct, the flock-master should not be so credulous as to believe that they are worms and cause hoof-ail, and like some ignorant charlatan, dissect, or rather *mangle* out a portion of the canal which an All-wise Providence placed there for highly useful purposes.—[Cor. Southern Cultivator.

RAPID INCREASE.—Samuel S. Sizar, a farmer two miles west of Saukville, informs us that he has five ewe sheep, which in January last had one lamb a piece; since that time they had each the second, the youngest over 2 mos. old.—[Ozaukee Adv.

Remarks on Breeding.

As an illustration of the effects of *in-and-in* breeding, the following is related as having occurred in a particular neighborhood in this country. A farmer of a sour, unsocial disposition, who as much as possible avoided all intercourse with the rest of the world, and shunned asking the slightest favor of a neighbor, lest he might at some time be desired to reciprocate the kindness shown him, for a long series of years bred his cattle entirely from his own stock. In consequence of this course, such a herd of misshapen, ungainly, big-headed quadrupeds were produced, that they could scarcely be recognized as belonging to the cattle kind; and "———'s wolverines" were for a long time the butt of ridicule in the whole vicinity.

The careful breeder, upon either system, will avoid using, even for a single season, any animal possessing obvious defects; for such defects, once introduced in but the slightest degree, are liable to be transmitted and re-appear even after several generations have passed. To the many curious and valuable facts already on record relating to this subject, the following may be added:—A portion of the fowls possessed by Constant Clapp, Esq., were formerly of the "downy" breed; but this variety, so strongly marked, had run out and entirely disappeared from his premises for eight years, when three of these downy individuals, perfect in every particular, re-appeared among his flock, showing that the blood, though apparently obliterated, had yet been lurking there, generation after generation.

It was a favorite theory with the late distinguished General Schuyler, a man of extensive observation, of deep penetration and sound judgment, that the true character of either man or beast, could be ascertained by looking at the parentage from which he had descended; and as an illustration of this, he used humorously to relate the incident, that in the early years of the Dutch trade with the East Indies, one of his ancestors, being a sea captain, had gone thither and returned with a wife—a Mongolian lady whom he had married in his absence. And the blood of that cross continued still to cling to the descendants two centuries afterwards, despite all their efforts to eradicate it—so that down to the present day, in one branch and another of the family, one of these confounded East Indians would occasionally be making his appearance!—[N. Y. Trans. of 1849.

Cure for Garget.

We find in the Boston Cultivator the following letter from Dr. Dwight, of Dedham, recommending a cure for Garget.—We have used the remedy for several years and found it effectual in every case. The danger to be apprehended from iodine as a tincture is obviated by its use in the form of hydriodate of potash; the first is painted on the afflicted parts and is powerful in obstinate cases, but there is always danger that it may stop the secretion of milk in the quarter of the bag operated on; the iodine of potash applied as advised by Dr. Dwight is undoubtedly the best remedy that can be used.—[Granite Farmer.

Garget in Cows.—At the solicitation of a friend, who has saved a valuable cow from the hands of a butcher, I am induced to make known through your columns a remedy for the garget. Some years since I met with a fine imported Durham cow, on the way to the butcher, the owner parting with her in consequence of her being afflicted with the garget. The owner had tried all the usual modes of eradicating the disease, after which he put her under the charge of a distinguished Veterinarian, who, after six months' attendance, discharged her as incurable.

Deeming her a good subject for a treatment with iodine, and not knowing whether it had been used in the case, I purchased her at what she was worth for beef.—At that time she gave but a few drops of milk at a time from one teat, the other had ceased to yield any—the udder and teats were swollen and hard. I determined to make use of iodine in the form of hydriodate of potash, being solvent in water, and if it failed to exhibit its effects on the system, I would resort to an ointment, (20 grs. iodine to 1 oz. hogs lard,) applied externally to the udder and teats. I commenced by giving 10 grs. of hyd. potash in a table-spoonful of water, three times a day, mixed in a mash of shorts and meal; and tho' the dose was small for a cow, still, as it

was giving unmistakable signs of effect,* I did not increase the dose. In seven days she gave milk freely, from each teat, and in three weeks she was discharged as cured. The result in the foregoing case was so favorable, that I advised my neighbors who had cows afflicted with the garget to make a trial of the same remedy. I have known of its trial in at least forty cases, and in every one the cure has been effected with even the above named small dose.—A larger quantity could be used with safety.

* Hydriodate of Potash passes quickly into the secretions, especially the urine. It may be detected in the latter by first adding to the cold secretion a portion of starch, and then a few drops of nitric acid, when a blue color will be produced.

The Diffusion of Seed.

The economy of Providence in distributing seeds may be remarked in those of the dandelion (*Lerontodon taraxacum,*) which are everywhere to be seen during summer, floating about on the air, supported by its feathery down. It is not to be supposed that half of these seeds ever fall upon spots favorable to germination; but when so great a number of them, and their congeners of the class *Syngenesia*, (*Compositæ,*) are scattered about by the winds, it almost raises the chance to certainty that some of them will fall on spots where before there has been none, or only a scanty vegetation; on the tops of walls, for instance, where a thin stratum of soil has been formed by the decay of the winter crop of mosses. The process of the forming of such soil is extremely interesting, and may be observed, in a small scale, even in cities, on brick or stone walls. First, there is a great incrustation, called *Byssus* by Linnæus, but recently proved to be the primary germination of several mosses, such as *Polytricha* and *Tortula*. When this decays, a very thin layer of vegetable earth is formed, which affords a scanty support for the roots of the next year's crop of mosses; and in process of time soil is formed of sufficient depth for *Draba verna* and other wall plants.

A singular contrivance is conspicuous in one of our wild cresses (*Cardamine impatiens,*) as well as in balsams and in Touch-me-not (*Impatiens noli-me-tangere,*) a native plant of the same genus. In all of these, when the seed is ripe, the valves which enclose it are so constructed that by the influence of the sun's heat they open with a sudden jerk, and throw the seeds to a considerable distance. The effect is produced sooner and with more force when the ripe seed vessel is touched by the hand, or by any accidental waving of the leaf against it. Were we disposed to refine upon the final cause of this, (a subject very ready to mislead,) we might say that this jerking of the seeds was contrived not only for their diffusion, but for their preservation from birds and insects; since the instant that these should begin to devour them, the springs of the valves would be thrown into action, and the seeds scattered about before a single one could be secured for a meal. In the wood sorrel (*Oxalis cetosella,*) as well as the horned sorrel (*O. corniculata,*) the structure of the valves is very beautiful, but no description could do justice to it, not even with the aid of figures. The first, however, abounds in most woods; and the latter, where it has been introduced as a flower, soon becomes from circumstanses under consideration, a very troublesome weed.

One of the most beautiful contrivances for the diffusion of seeds occurs in the various species of violets. The seeds of this order of plants are contained in a capsule of a single loculament, consisting, however, of three valves. To the inner part of each of these valves the seeds are attached, and remain so for some time after the valves, in the process of ripening, have separated and stood open. The influence of the sun's heat, however, causes the sides of each valve to shrink and collapse, and in this state the edges press firmly upon the seed which, from being before apparently irregular in its arrangement, comes into a straight line. The seeds, it may be said, are not only extremely smooth, polished, and shining, but regularly egg-shaped; so that when pressed upon the collapsing edge of the valve, it slides gradually down the sloping parts of the seeds, and throws it with a jerk to a considerable distance.—There is another part in the contrivance of Providence for the same purpose, in the Violaceæ, worthy of remark. Before the seed is ripe, the capsule hangs in a drooping position, with the persisting calyx spread over

it like an umbrella, to guard it from the rains and dews, which would retard the process of ripening; but no sooner is the ripening completed than the capsule is upright, with the calyx for a support. This upright position appears to have been intended by nature to give more effect to the valvular mechanism for scattering the seeds, as it thus gains a higher elevation (in some cases more than an inch) from which to project them; and this gives it, according to the laws of projectiles, a very considerable increase of horizontal extent. Some ripe capsules of *Viola tri-color*, which I placed in a shallow paste-board box in a drawer, were found to have projected their seeds to a distance of nearly two feet. From the elevation of a capsule, therefore, at the top of a tall plant, I should think these seeds might be projected twice or thrice that distance.—[Mag. Gard. and Bot.

Our State University

For the information of our readers, and in answer to frequent inquiries, we make the following statement of the condition and prospects of this institution, located in Madison, one mile west of the Capitol:—[Madison Journal.

The original endowment by Congress, consisting of seventy-two sections of land selected for the support of a State University, will yield, under existing appraisals, about $180,000. Under the management of the Board of Regents, this sum has been materially enlarged. The total property of the University may now be set down at $205,000, over and above all debts and liabilities. Of this sum, the productive fund, whose annual interest is applicable to the *current expenses* of the institution, will, at the close of this year, amount to at least $100,000. The residue consists in the value of the site and the buildings thereon, library, cabinet, apparatus, and the unsold balance of the original grant of University lands; which last item is in process of rapid conversion into productive fund, by sale and investment.

The chairs of instruction now filled, including the Chancellor's department, are: 1st, of Moral and Political Philosophy; 2d, of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy; 3d, of Classical Languages and Litearature; and 4th, of the Physical Sciences and their applications. The Board of Regents at their meeting on the 7th inst. elected to the Chair of Mental Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric and English Literature, Prof. Daniel Read, of the University of Indiana. Prof. Read will enter upon the duties of his office on the completion of the second University edifice, now in process of erection, and will bring to the department a deservedly high professional and personal reputation.

As a permanent feature in the plan of the University it should be stated that normal instruction to teacher's classes will be rendered by the chair of English Literature; and instruction to classes in Agricultural Science by that of Chemistry, &c. Instruction in German and French forms an optional portion of the collegiate course, and annual provisions will be made in that behalf, till the Chair of Modern Languages shall be permanently filled.

The Preparatory Department is under the immediate charge of the Tutor, and so arranged as to make its instructions thorough and effective.

Students desirous of pursuing select portions of the course, may do so in connexion with the regular classes in the collegiate and preparatory departments. The University offers ample facilities to this class of the young men of the State.

The site of the Institution, containing fifty acres, has been admirably selected. For beauty of situation, and the more solid advantages of location, it is unrivalled. One edifice has been occupied since the autumn of 1852, and the second will be completed in the course of the coming year. These buildings, besides nine public rooms for lecture, recitation, library, and scientific collections, will contain forty private studies, with twice the number of lodging rooms for the use of students.

The grounds will be suitably laid out and arranged; and an order has just been made to plant, next spring, one thousand fruit trees within the enclosure.

The advantages of this well endowed and well appointed State University, are offered almost gratuitously to the young men of this and other States. The tuition fee is but $4 per term, of 13 weeks. An additional public endowment now in prospect, will enable the Board of Regents to dispense with term bills altogether, and to crown our State system of gratuitous instruction, by a free institution of learning of the highest grade.

For more detailed information, we can only refer to the annual reports of the Board of Regents, which have been printed and circulated through the State. Under its present auspices, a few short years will develope the capabilities of the University, and more than realize the most sanguine anticipations of its early friends, rendering it a subject of just pride to every citizen capable of discerning and appreciating the true glory of the commonwealth.

The first term of the collegiate year 1854-5, opened on Wednesday, the 20th of September.

GUANO is in very general use, especially at the South. Eighty tons were recently sent from Norfolk to the interior in a single day.—The demand from the interior of North Carolina is very large.

Domestic Economy.

Work for the Month.

In every month, ere in aught begun,
Read over that month what avails to be done;
So neither this travel may seem to be lost,
Nor thou to repent of this trifling cost.
Thos. Tusser.

During this last, sad and severest month of all the dodecatemonions, (don't be frightened at a word that means only *the twelfth part*) there is, fortunately, little out-of-door work, or rather work in the field, to be done. The care of the stock, the completing of threshing, and the getting off the grain to market, together with the getting of the winter's usual amount of wood, and the settling up and paying off of the year's accounts at the merchant's and the mechanic's, will occupy the greater portion of the farmer's time and attention during this month, which closes up the year's work. Our counsels for this month must therefore be confined to these subjects.

We have already frequently spoken of the importance of looking well to the different kinds of stock, and especially to the younger portion. Notwithstanding all that has been said, however, and all that is known on this point, we frequently see during this month, young stock losing a large portion of the flesh gained thro' the summer, and becoming so reduced by this month's exposure to winds, and rain, and cold, that they promise to live only a sufficient length of time to eat more than their present worth of hay and grain, and then die, leaving their owner minus themselves, and all the grain they have consumed. How much better would it be to see, in time, that the young animals are brought early into comfortable winter quarters, that they may be kept growing through the whole winter. Our cattle are not like trees in the vessels of whose tissues all circulation can cease during cold weather, and yet revive again in the spring, all uninjured. They are rather house plants, requiring constant care that they be kept from the winter's cold and the night's frost. The best and most successful breeders of stock are they who take the best care of them. In the hands of others, the best bred animals are soon degraded to mere scrubs. In their hands the best of Bates' and Collins' improved herds would soon become so kinked up, and so knarled and knotted by December's puckering cold, and the winter's stunting feed, that a generation of well-sired successors could not straighten out the race.

We would, as before, advise the threshing and getting to market all grain designed to be sold while the prices rule high, though we (i. e. Dr. L.) are of the opinion that grain is not going to be much if any lower than at present (Nov. 20th), yet others think differently.

Sufficient wood should be secured in early winter for the year's consumption, and that designed to be sold out, the year before hand.

Do not forget to use some of the money obtained from the sale of wheat and other products, to pay off all the old scores at the Merchant's and Mechanic's. They, poor fellows, need all that is their due, and will be poor at that, certainly, while produce is at the present rates. You farmers must have mercy on them, and *pay 'em* all up before the old year goes out. There is nothing makes one feel so good as to be out of debt, and to owe no man or woman any thing but love, and we would certainly pay that debt, even if it was due a woman.

We must not forget to say a word about these long winter evenings—charming times for social intercourse and general improvement. It is a good time to get acquainted with our own families, whom for many months past we have seen only at meal and bed times. Let us now talk with the wife and children, and read to them, and let them read to us. In order to do this' we must, of course, have something to read, and what is there better for us than such books and papers as will teach us how better to manage our farms, our stock, and our orchards; and how to make the most of ourselves, and do, thereby, the greatest good to our neighbors.—Don't waste these good times lounging at the stores and taverns, or in foolish past-times and wicked games.

You had better, much better, put money in your own pocket, and do your whole neighborhood a vast amount of real good, by getting up a large club of subscribers for the FARMER.—We should not care if you secured the name of every man in your district, and with the list of their names send us the money—no we wouldn't—and we would be obliged to you besides.—See the Prospectus for 1855, and show it to the next fellow, and so on, and you will do more and better the coming year, than any of your past years of farming. Just see if you wont.

☞ To manure or lime wet lands, is to thow manure, lime and labor away.

CHEAP CANDLES.—We find in an exchange the following recipe for making candles: To twelve pounds of lard, use of alum and saltpetre each one ponnd; dissolve the alum and saltpetre in a small quantity of water, then pour into the melted lard, and boil the whole until the water evaporates. The mixture requires constant stirring to prevent settling in the bottom of the vessel. Candles made of this composition are equal to the best tallow, and last some time longer.

BOILED BATTER PUDDING.—To a quart of cold milk, put nine eggs and twelve heaping spoonfuls of flour, add a little salt. Boil in a cloth an hour and a half.

CURE FOR RINGBONE.—I noticed in the Cultivator for May 15th, an inquiry for the cure of a ringbone in a colt, and answer: take high wines of cider brandy, add saltpetre as much as will dissolve, and wash the ringbone two or three times a day. One of my neighbors cured one of three or four years' standing, by the application of this a few times.—[Boston Cul.

RULES FOR MEASURING CISTERNS.—The following short rule for measuring cisterns, we give for the benefit of all who may ever need any information in that line:

Multiply the diameter of the bottom in inches, by the diameter of the top, then multiply that product by the height in inches, and that product by 7854, divide the last obtained number by 231, cut off four figures at the right hand, and the quotient will be the answer in gallons.

ROT IN SHEEP.—A subscriber to the Farmer's Magazine gives the following recipe for the cure of the rot in sheep:

Nitre in powder, - - -	6 oz.
Ginger, fresh powdered, - -	4 "
Colcothar of Vitriol, in fine powder,	2 "
Common salt, - - - -	3½ lbs.
Boiling water, - - - -	3 gals.

Pour the water hot upon the ingredients, stir them, and when just warm divide it into quart bottles, add to each 3 oz. of spirits of turpentine.

Keep the infected sheep from food all night; in the morning give each sheep four tablespoonsful (remembering to well shake the bottle); starve for three hours, afterwards turn them out into a dry pasture.

It may be necessary to repeat the medicine every fourth day for three times, observing the same rules.

The above, if given at an early stage, will effect a cure and save some of the scores that are daily dying on the damp lands.

Salting Sheep.

I noticed in the April number of the Farmer, that your correspondent, D. D. Bird, calls upon one of the medical faculty to prescribe a dose of pills or powders, that will cure sheep when they have eaten too freely of salt. I suppose he is not particular who the prescription comes from, if it is only effectual; I therefore offer one. But as I detest pills and powders, (for I think they are not very beneficial to any class of animals,) I shall at once say, give the patient water.

From a littie experience like that of my friend's, dear-bought, I am inclined to the opinion that sheep will not eat salt enough to hurt them if they have free access to water, or if they have free access to water after eating the salt.

My opinion is predicted upon the following facts: Some years ago I took forty lambs from the ewes and put them in a field by themselves, and in order to entice them to eat salt, scattered a little occasionally on the grass in one corner of the field. They soon found the salt, and often afterwards visited that part of the field. On seeing them there one day, I told my boy to give them a basin of salt. It afterwards appearing that he tried to see how big a stack of damp salt he could get on the basin, and thus got about three times as much as directed. This he placed on the ground in a few places, and quite near together. This was at noon. The next morning, in passing through the field, I found six of my largest lambs dead, and fourteen or fifteen more very sick, so much so that I did not expect at the time to save any of them. There was no water in the field, and it occurred to me that possibly they would like some; so, after much trouble, I got them to water. They all drank heartly, but the sick ones drank and drank again, until it seemed as though they would burst.—After they had all got their fill, they were put into the field again. They all recovered, but for some days they did not look as plump as when they left the water.

Do not the above facts explain the reason why some contend that sheep will sometimes eat a sufficient quantity of salt to kill them, while others contend they will not?—[LINUS CONE, in Michigan Farmer.

☞ All permanent improvement of lands must look to lime as its basis.

Editors Table.

To Subscribers.—We wish every subscriber to read the Prospectus for Vol. 7, found in this number. We would also remind all subscribers, that this number completes the Vol. for 1854—hence, the time is now at hand for renewing your subscriptions for 1855. When you have read the Prospectus, show it to such of your neighbors as are not subscribers, and solicit their co-operation in making up clubs—such clubs, too, as will entitle every member to a first premium package of seeds,

Missing Numbers.—Subscribers short of any numbers of this volume, and who wish them supplied to make their volumes complete, will notify us immediately. We have but few num bers left.

Close of the Volume.—Our readers will observe the leanness of the Editors' Table, and also the departments of Horticulture and Domestic Economy. It will be observed in the first place, that the Index for the volume takes up three pages; then, we have four or five pages under the head of Deferred Articles. These articles have been accumulating in type for three months—having been crowded out at the time of making up the paper, to give place to more important matters that came in late.—It is necessary that these articles should all be disposed of in this volume, as the next is to be printed on a uniform size of type, and differing from that in which those articles are set.—The change of type will admit about one-fourth more reading matter into the next volume, than has been given in this.

Communications.—Several communications are also crowded out; among them, one from Mr. Geo. P. Peffer, on Wheat Growing. Mr. Peffer presents several questions in regard to this subject, with excellent drawings, (which we shall have engraved,) illustrating the relative advantages of deep and shallow seeding We regard this communication of more interest and importance to wheat growers, than any thing we have ever published. Mr. P.'s observations evince a great deal of attention and thought upon this subject.

Sheep.—The series of articles on Wheat Growing and Sheep Raising, commenced in the November number, by Mr. Edgerton, President of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, will be continued in several numbers of the next volume. No man in the whole West is more competent to enlighten our farmers upon this subject, than Mr. Edgerton. It has been his business, in connection with Mr. McCarter, for many years; and, they have conducted it in a systematic and profitable way, instead of the hilter skilter manner in which too much western farming has been done. The information to be derived from these articles, will be worth, to any man keeping a dozen sheep, ten times the cost of our paper.

Apples.—Mr. C. Hollister, of Darien, Walworth county, has laid on our table some fine specimens from his orchard. The *Seek-no-farthers* are very fine—we have never seen better. Fair and large, and of exquisite flavor. There is a Seedling worthy of cultivation. We have seen but little grafted fruit equal to this apple. Engraving and description in next number.—The specimen left under the name of *King Apple*, is not correct, according to Barry. It is a good apple, but, to our taste, very inferior to the Seedling. Between the two specimens—*King* and *Greening*—we can discover no difference in taste. They vary a little in outline.

Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association.—The Winter meeting will be held in this city (Janesville,) on Wednesday, the 27th of this month. All fruit growers are invited to bring specimens. Ample preparation will be made for the Exhibition.

Seeds for Sale.—We have raised a good supply of seeds the past season, and shall have a few to sell, at the following rates per paper: Old Colony Corn, 20 cents; Husk Tomato, 15 cents; Gherkin, 15 cents; or, for the three to one order, 40 cents.

Postage Pre-paid.—To save cost to subscribers, buyers and agents, we send all seeds and books, postage, or other freight charges, pre-paid.

1855 WISCONSIN & IOWA FARMER. 1855

THE CHEAPEST PAPER IN THE UNITED STATES!!

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To Clubs of 10, or over, 40 Cents.

THE 7th VOLUME WILL COMMENCE ON THE 1st OF JANUARY, 1855, and will contain over ONE HUNDRED ENGRAVINGS, consisting of Animals, Insects, Machines, Plans for Dwellings and other Farm Buildings, Implements, Fruits, Flowers, Grains, Plants, Vegetables, &c., &c.; among which will be correct portraits of the 24 best varieties of Apples, both for beauty and quality, for making up an orchard—which have been raised and tested in Wisconsin and Illinois, and found best suited for cultivation at the West in the latitudes of these two States—embracing Summer, Fall and Winter Apples.

The next Volume will be printed on a uniform size of type—smaller than much of the type heretofore used. This change will increase the amount of reading matter nearly one-fourth. Other improvements will also be made—all of which, combined. will make the WISCONSIN AND IOWA FARMER the most desirable Agricultural paper, for the West, to be found,

PREMIUMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

FIRST PREMIUM.—To each member of a Club of 25, or over, a package of the following Seeds: OLD COLONY EVERGREEN SWEET CORN, JERSEY SQUASH, GHERKING and HUSK TOMATO

SECOND PREMIUM.—To Clubs of 15 and under 25, a package of the above named Corn, Squash. and Gherkin Seeds.

THIRD PREMIUM.—To Clubs of 10 and under 15, a package of Corn and Squash.

PREMIUMS TO AGENTS.

In order to reward Agents for their trouble in getting up Clubs, we offer the following additional Premiums:

To every person who sends a THIRD CLASS CLUB, an extra package of Seeds and a copy of the paper.

To any person who sends a Club of not less than 20, an extra SECOND PREMIUM package of Seeds, and two extra copies of the paper.

To any person sending a Club of not less than 30, a First Premium package of Seeds, and three extra copies of the paper—four extra copies for 40 subscribers, and at the same rate for a larger number.

STILL MORE PREMIUMS

To each of the 5 persons who send us the 5 largest Clubs, a copy of BARRY'S FRUIT BOOK, or, MINER'S POULTRY BOOK, in addition to the premiums offered above. These books are the most popular works, on the subjects of Horticulture and Poultry, extant.

To the person sending us the largest number of subscribers, no matter where obtained, $10, in Cash; second largest, $7; third largest, $5.

At the low price of the FARMER, we cannot afford to give Seeds to Clubs of less than ten, at the Club price (40 cents). But wishing to make the distribution as general as possible among *all* our patrons, we will send to any number of persons not less than 4 and under 10, a package of the Old Colony Evergreen Corn; and any number of persons from 1 to 4, who will call, or send to the office, and subscribe, shall have the same. The postage on the seeds is considerable, and we cannot afford to pay it on a less number than 4.

DESCRIPTION OF SEEDS.

The Corn and Squash were described in the Prospectus for the current volume.

THE HUSK TOMATOE is a new and distinct variety—in looks and flavor, entirely unlike the tomatoe in common use. The fruit, when ripe, is blue—completely enveloped in a very thin husk, which is easily slipped off at the time or after picking from the vines. This is a very choice fruit for preserves—prepared with very little trouble, as it may be cooked whole as it comes from the vines, without removing the skin. Cooked with pork gravy, it makes a sauce that can scarcely be distinguished from the finest fried apples. It may, also, be dried as easily as the apple, by cutting into three or four slices. The vine is as hardy as the common tomatoe, and a much greater bearer. The Editor of the Milwaukee Wisconsin says of this fruit—"We have been shown samples of preserves made from the Husk Tomato. This tomato is enveloped in a husk, and can scarcely be distinguished from the apple when fried or stewed, and should be introduced extensively as a new and cheap table luxury."

THE GHERKIN.—This fruit is but little known in this part of the country. It belongs to the cucumber family, but in size and shape resembles an egg more than any thing else. It is used for pickling when about one-third its full size, and is the most delicious fruit for that purpose grown. It is raised as easy as the cucumber.

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