

The Provincial Wesleyan.

Hymn to the Sun.

BY H. W. HERBERT.

Mute be the skies and still,
Silent each haunted hill,
And valley deep!
Let earth and ocean's breast,
And all the breezes rest,
Let every echo sleep!

Unshorn his ringlets bright,
He comes—the lord of light—
Lord of the lyre,
Morn lifts her lids of snow,
Tinged with a rosy glow,
To greet the glorious air.

Climbing, with winged feet
Of fiery couriers fleet,
Heaven's arch profound,
Far through the realms of air,
From out thy sunny hair,
Thou flingest radiant round.

Thine are the living streams
Of bright immortal beams—
The founts of day!
Before thy path careers
The chorus of the spheres,
With wild rejoicing lay.

The sad and silver moon,
Before thy gorgeous noon,
Slow gliding by,
Joy in her placid eye,
To see around her roll
Thou armies of the sky.

Agriculture.

A New Agricultural Machine.

The Albany Argus describes an invention which is designed to supersede the plow, the harrow, the roller, and the man who uses them. It says:

"Yesterday we were shown the model of a new, and what promises to be a valuable improvement in one of the laborious departments of the agriculturist, and for which the inventor procured a patent in April of the present year. It embodies in one implement the capacity for plowing with four plows, rearing the seed in the furrows, harrowing and rolling. The plows are ranged at suitable distances, in front of the cart, and the number can be diminished at pleasure, or four used. Immediately following and attached to the plows, are the buckets for the reception of the seed—corn included—and from which it is distributed. The harrows follow, behind the wheels of the cart, and the rollers bring up the rear. On the platform of the cart, forming a part of it, is a basin of the same width, which is the receptacle of the seed. In position is immediately over the buckets, and as the cart goes forward, it is so arranged as to allow the seed to fall, in suitable quantities, in the buckets below. The platform is large enough for the driver, and will also accommodate a second man, who will be the harrower and roller. The entire arrangement can be removed with ease, and the cart used in any capacity about the farm. The inventor is Mr. Henry Beebe, a young mechanic of this city. While it appears to be a valuable improvement, and has received the approbation of many distinguished agriculturists, its utility remains to be tested."

Sowing Oats with Wheat.

An Illinois correspondent of the Geneva Farmer says he has repeatedly tried the experiment of sowing oats with wheat, and the first sows one bushel of oats per acre, and then puts in the usual quantity of wheat, and harvests them in together. He has, this season, three different pieces of wheat on each acre, and the first piece is a bushel of oats per acre; the second, half a bushel; the third, no oats at all. The same kind and quantity of wheat was sown on each. The first piece is good without any chaff. The second piece is a middling crop, with little chaff. The third piece is nearly all chaff, and not worth harvesting. The editor adds the remark, "that the fact stated is of more value, and the practice of sowing a few oats with winter wheat on soils on which it is apt to winter kill, would be more generally adopted. The oats kill out in the winter and afford protection and manure to the wheat plants. Can any of our Western correspondents give us further experiments or information in regard to this practice? It is new to most farmers in this section."—Rural New Yorker.

The Potato Disease.

At the last sitting of the Academy of Sciences several communications were read on the potato malady and the means of prevention. M. Bierre of Saint-Michel-en-Thiérain informs the academy that having perceived that the disease prevailed to a greater extent in lands which had not been at any time covered by the sea than in those which were known to have been formerly overflowed, imagined that by the addition of salt he could prevent the malady. He therefore prepared a strong mixture of salt and water, which he planted in the soil, and when the crop was gathered in all the potatoes were sound. M. Bayard of Chateau-Gonthier, states that he had come to a conclusion that the disease was caused by an excess of vitality in the seed. He therefore introduced a pea into each cutting. The peas retarded quickly, but without injuriously retarding the growth of the potato, and when the potatoes were gathered they were all perfectly sound, whilst from the cutting without peas which he had planted in a portion of the ground, nearly all the crop had the malady. He supposes that the earlier vegetation of the peas had carried off the excess of humidity, and thus saved the plants. —Star of Freedom.

Burned Bones for Pear Trees.

The following is from the Horticulturist, and we do not doubt that bone-black is useful for pear trees, but not for the reasons which the following article proposes. Unfortunately the bone-black best treated for this purpose, which is insoluble in the soil, and will not yield up its phosphate of lime. A small portion of divided carbon, however, which results from the gelatine, is valuable from its power to receive ammonia from the atmosphere. Waste charcoal dust for this purpose, would be equally effective, and at much less cost. The phosphate of lime contained in burned bones, has sufficient silica in combination to undergo partial vitrification, and is thus protected from being decomposed in the soil. The slightest additions of acids, however, disintegrates this mixture, and renders it available. —Mags' Working Farmer.

We can bear testimony to the value of the bone-black of sugar refineries as a special manure for the pear tree. A peck mixed in the soil of a bush three feet diameter, in which the trees are planted, gives great depth of verdure, and augments both the size and flavor of the fruit. —Massachusetts Ploverman.

Black Knots on Plums.

Whatever be the cause of this disaster there need be no difference or difficulty with regard to its prevention. Excision and burning of the affected branches has proved completely effective where promptly and unreservedly applied. Some, indeed, have complained of failure; but in these cases the disease appears to have made great progress before the remedy was applied; or else the operation was not closely followed up on every successive appearance of the excrescences. Some readers will remember to have seen notices of the efficacy of washing the branches in strong brine. Some instances have lately occurred where the application of soft soap has given a similar result; and an acquaintance of mine was very successfully treated with soft soap and salt. The excrescences, if recent, soon wither and disappear. It may happen, however, that some parts of the trees or remote branches may be inaccessible, and that excision may prove the easier of the two.

Sawdust for Bedding.

Permit me to inform your farming readers that sawdust is one of the best, if not the very best articles that can be used for bedding horses and cattle. It soaks up and absorbs all the liquid manure, and keeps the animals dry and clean; and after the floor has been cleaned off and received a new coating of the dust, the stable is sweet and clean enough for a parlour. We have used it every winter for four or five years, both for cattle and horses, and I should scarcely know how to stable cows without it. A good wagon load will last ten cows a week, and the neatness and convenience of it will pay for hauling two or three miles, even if it do not real benefit to the animals, and I have no doubt that every farmer will add one dollar to the value of the manure heap.

Materials for Manure.

Let us again urge you to collect and compress everything on your farm that is susceptible of being converted into manure; and there is nothing that ever forms a more living body that is not—add to these materials, as you throw them into heaps, a few bushels of ashes per load, and a bushel of plaster for every twenty loads. Or if you cannot get good clean sawdust by going five miles for it, would get one load try it, and if he does not continue its use I would like to hear his reasons.

Miscellaneous.

Anecdote of Napoleon.

When Napoleon was at Erfurt, in 1808, a legion of kings and princes thronged his Court, and did their ancient courtesies before his royalty yesterday. At one of his soirées, which was attended by that brilliant company, the conversation turned upon a paper ball which had been tossed by one of the early popes, respecting the precise date of which different opinions arose. An Austrian prelate assigned it to one particular epoch, while the Emperor contested the correctness of his reference.

"In a matter of this nature," said the Cardinal, "your Majesty will admit that I am more competent authority; and I think that I am, moreover, certain, that the ball belongs to the year 1790." "For my part," rejoined Napoleon, "I will not say what I think, but I will at once put it on another issue; I am certain that your Eminence is mistaken. But the point admits of an easy verification. Let someone bring hither the work of Baronius on the early history of the church, and if I am wrong, I will readily acknowledge my error."

The book was brought, examined, and the date indicated by the Emperor was found to be correct. The astonishment of the circle may be conceived at witnessing such an instance of accurate recollection on a subject, which one would have thought could never have been mentioned, and constantly occupied on such a variety of matters of so tremendous an importance to the destinies of the world.

"When I was a lieutenant," resumed Napoleon—and he spoke with the utmost simplicity and indifference—producing a singular effect on the assembly, and the representatives of the thousand-year-old monarchies of Europe, who thus and there exchanged significant smiles with each other.

"When I had the honour of being a lieutenant of artillery," said the emperor, in a more emphatic tone, "I was garrisoned for two years in a city of Dauphiny, in which there was only one circulating library; I read through every book in the collection three, and my memory has not lost one single incident of what I read at that time. The book just referred to was in the catalogue of the library. I read it with the utmost avidity, and did not forget its contents. His Eminence was, therefore, excusing my presumption in differing in opinion with him on such a topic."

do that, but I'll tell you what I can do: I'll let you hear the sermon that your friend here preached in the park many years since. Alas! he was a poor hand.

Reid did not much relish the proposal; but when he heard the man begin and repeat correctly a sermon which he had actually preached there about twenty years before, and which was really a miserable production, he turned on his heel, without waiting for the conclusion of this remarkable proof of memory.

The Craters of the Moon.

A FRIGHTFUL CHASM. Not less than three-fifths of the surface of our satellite are studded with vast caverns, rather circular pits, penetrating into its mass, and usually engrafted at the top with a high wall of rock, which is sometimes serrated and crowned by peaks. These craters vary in diameter from fifty to several hundred feet, and the numbers increase as the diameter diminishes, so that the multitude of the smaller ones become so great that we can not reckon it. The ridge which encircles the crater is always stopping on its external side, and steep or rather precipitous within, although it seldom descends to the cavern's base, by a single cliff or leap. Within it, there are generally concentric ridges, assuming the form of terraces, and making the bottom, at the center, of the central chasm appears, more gradual. The bottom of the crater is sometimes convex, low ridges of mountains being also found running through it, while, at its center, conical peaks frequently rise, and smaller craters, whose bases are not so wide as the base of the exterior wall. These curious objects are so crowded, in some parts of the moon, that they seem to have pressed on each other, and dissolved, and now only remain as a series of ridges, so that, through their mutual interference, the most broad-shaped caverns have arisen.

The crater Tycho is that brilliant spot near the top of the moon, which, when the moon is full, appears the centre of a system of shining streaks, or rays, spreading over the country around it irregularly distributed; there is no plain there larger than a common field. Now, if passing across that rugged district, one were gradually approaching Tycho, its first and distant aspect would seem like an immense wall of rock, and the country around it would appear as a series of terraces, and reflecting the sun's rays with a peculiar lustre; on approaching the ridge its character would change; we should then discern that it is part of an immense circle, but perhaps not quite so high as the ridge, and the mountainous of the earth need shrink from its ascent. Supposing the ascent accomplished, and that with terrestrial ideas one stood on the summit. Trusting to the analogy of every disturbed region of our own planet, we must have the impression that we were in a white it was uncess, only as a corresponding slope, or at least a descent, which, if different in steepness, would correspond in extent; but the eye is now in presence of an appalling contrast!

On the edge of a dizzy cliff, passing down by an unbroken level for 13,000 feet, the traveller gazes below him with terror and bewilderment. At the base of the cliff several low parallel terraces creep along; but a little farther on, the mountainous of the earth need shrink from its ascent. Supposing the ascent accomplished, and that with terrestrial ideas one stood on the summit. Trusting to the analogy of every disturbed region of our own planet, we must have the impression that we were in a white it was uncess, only as a corresponding slope, or at least a descent, which, if different in steepness, would correspond in extent; but the eye is now in presence of an appalling contrast!

How frightful that exclusion in the moon—a chasm utterly impassable, its walls bare, rugged, horrible, and its bottom a solitude to which nothing alleviates verdure is never there, not the song of a bird; rain never refreshes, nor cloud shelters it; it is relieved from a scorching sun and flaming sky not by aught but by the moon. Not among those countries is Tycho the most appalling. There are some of nearly equal depth whose diameter may not exceed 3,000 feet, yet, towards the polar regions of the moon, caverns probably exist, whose depths are never to be illumined by one beam of the solar light.

Advice for Winter.

Before long we shall hear the shrill whistle of the winter's bagpipes. Up street and down will go like an itinerant organ grinder.

There is no getting rid of him with pennies, or silver, or gold. Still he has been known to leave the miserable cottage at night, and wander about in the streets, his hand dancing attendance only on red coal fires, at a distance—or warming his toes at lighted window panes, or rubbing his stiff fingers into crevices that let the warm sun, just a little, into his eyes. Let someone tell of every poor man's lot.

Our word for it old winter will tune his bagpipes to the sweetest music.

And now for a little advice which we give free of charge. Or you may reward us with the least of your gold, silver, or money; we'll take any quantity in exchange for our marketable goods.

The cellars are hungry about this time, and should be fed; so lay in a good stock of potatoes, coal, wood, &c., and a large quantity of good stout. They go together, especially on a bitter cold winter's day. Get just as many apples as you can possibly afford, and store them up with any quantity of cheese-fats. You will appreciate them best when the old bagpipes play under your window, and the grand machinery in the upper air is weaving shawls and wrappers, and ribbons, and caps, and great coats for dame Nature's shivering children.

If you have a merry company around you, if eyes sparkle, and cheeks glow, and mother says, and grandmother knits, while you hold the newspaper snugly down in that cozy arm-chair, and enjoying the small talk generally, what a happy group you are! How good the coat, apples, and stout! Down comes the crimson coats, showing all over them. Quick Johnny! mother hand us the shawl. There! all right!—look at the lady's face, what a happy smile!—you say they are full of roast apples.—You shall have some, Charley, if mother don't say no.

If he should struggle, so much clear gain, for you see he has a better chance with her than with a stalled ox and hasted therewith!"

List your doors and shut out the wind; at the same time shut out your own heart. Mind your going and coming—your manners—your dress—your say—there is room for improvement in every thing. Lay in your sugar and molasses, and as much sweet temper, (warranted not to ferment,) as will keep till spring.

Keep the mould from your cheese, your pork barrel and your money? the two former by being careful, the latter by being virtuous. Look over your apples and potatoes occasionally, and overlook your neighbour's faults.

Give your attention to your business—your your abundance to the poor. By following these rules, we will insure you a happy winter.—Olive Branch.

Uniformity of Nature.

The lark now carols the same song, and in the same key, as when Adam first turned his enraptured ear to catch the moral. She anticipates some part of her dress, yawning, put on a natural appearance of sleepiness, lighted her chamber candle, looked her jewel case, and—! the only suspicious proceeding—left it on the table, walked steadily towards the eye, the door being in the head of the mirror figures, a sight which, we, safe from all slandering eyes, can never think of without a feeling of sympathetic dread. She knew that a thief was watching her, and there must be some accomplice in the house who had cut out the eyes of the figure to enable him to do so.—She did not go into hysterics nor do any thing else that was not to the purpose. 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