

Plate of *Bouvardia Vreelandii*—Hints for Flower and Fruit Garden and Greenhouse—Communications:—A Flower Show in the Year 1830. By Mr. W. T. Harding, Phila.—Remarks on the *Daphne Cneorum*. By Mr. Antoine Winter, West Grove, Pa.—On the Raising of New Varieties of Potatoes from the Seed-Ball. By Mr. Geo. Such, South Amboy, N. J.—Evergreens for Winter. By Walter Elder, Phila.—Discovery of Ancient Bones at Waukegan, Ills. By Mr. R. Douglass—Well Ripened Tomatoes. B. L. B., Phila.—Bud Variations. By Mr. Charles Arnold, Paris, Ontario, Canada—New Foreign Grapes. By Mr. James Taplin, South Amboy, N. J.—Fungi and its Structure. By Mr. Josiah Hoopes, West Chester, Pa.—Editorials: Travelling Recollections—*Bouvardia Vreelandii*—Hot-Water Boilers. With a large variety of news items both Foreign and Domestic.

### Communications.

#### ENCOURAGE THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

OAKFIELD, Feb. 7th, 1871.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture:

There is an article in the *Canada Farmer*—"Encourage the Boys and Girls," on the 19th page of the January number. It is well worth republishing in your Journal, as it hits one of the blots of our Country Life.

Yours, J. W. L.

"SIR,—We farmers in Canada are too prone to consider our own claims on our children, rather than deal with them as we would probably like to be dealt by. Our sons are expected to remain contented on the farm, working for bare food and clothes until they are twenty-one, and then they are allowed to begin for themselves. They naturally feel that, up to that age, all they have ever got by working on the farm is entirely deficient in encouragement, so far as it is likely to reconcile them to the same course of life; and they also feel that they are fit for nothing else. They have not education nor business knowledge to enable them to go to some other avocation, and consequently are dissatisfied with the past and quite undecided for the future; and this feeling applies not only so far as their prospects of ultimately possessing a farm of their own goes, but causes them also to be quite undecided as to the advisability of following agricultural pursuits at all. The consequence is that we continually hear the parents say, "Our boys are going away to the States, and cannot content themselves on the farm in Canada." The father has never done anything to make them contented here or on the farm. The boys rarely have any good clothes, and still more rarely any money, and what

clothes or money they have had has (with the exception of the most ordinary clothing supplied at home) been the result of working out for some one else, who has paid them for their labour the same as they would have paid any other hired man. This course is bad in every way.

"Young men, about the time of what is called coming of age, naturally wish to marry and have a home of their own; and experience has shown that all such ought to marry and settle in life if healthy and inclined to do so; but at the same time they must have something more than the wife—which certainly usually can be obtained for nothing. Such is not the case, however, with farm stock or furniture; all this must be bought and paid for, or obtained on credit, and these very debts so contracted generally cause a sour, unpleasant, and often regretful feeling at ever having married at all, and a wish that they also, like some other neighbour's son, had moved away to some other country or locality, where no thought of marrying at home could from circumstances have been entertained, and where all their earnings could have been expended on themselves. These instances of leaving home and obtaining employment elsewhere, rarely ever end well. They never, or very seldom, do result in anything like a home far away; but the young man moves from place to place, usually with plenty of money for absolute necessities, but with expenses naturally much increased; and he generally ends after 10 or 15 years' absence, with a return visit to the old homestead, having accumulated much knowledge of such a kind of vagabondish life, and any quantity of insight of taverns, tobacco, drinking, and generally gambling experiences. If he now marries and settles at home, as he often does, he is a pest, and naturally demoralizes all the young men who are, like himself in former years, unsettled in their future prospects. In the relation of his 15 years' absence, of course, there will be much to amuse and interest such hearers in these recitals. In these tales he rarely relates the pains and difficulties he had encountered, or if he does, they afford only the more interest and excitement to the audience.

"Now this is true, and thousands know it to be true, and regret when too late that they did not cause the boy, when yet young, to have an interest direct in all that was done on the farm, or at least in something that was continually being raised or provided for him, to be appropriated to his use when the time comes for him to require them. To do this will absolutely pay the father well; for every young man of, say 18 to 23, is worth \$120 to \$140 a year and his board, and five years of this saving would accumulate \$600; and any lad would consider himself rich with such a sum, and, in fact,

would not desire to have so much laid by for him; and to avoid temptations this amount need not be in money, but can be paid in cattle, teams, bedding, and a variety of necessities, all of which can be raised on the farm, and to which for the most part the son's own exertions have mainly contributed. The same principle applies to girls. They must have nice dresses; others do, and they must, or they will at once hire out to those who will not require them to work any harder, and who will pay them sufficient to obtain them. We all know that sometimes on a farm there is little enough to sell to make both ends meet, even where all is sold that can be sold; but we also know that under such circumstances, all grown up children who are able and willing to work, see just as well as we older people—that there must be something wrong somewhere or their labour must be unprofitably applied; for if they hire with some other person they can get plenty of necessities, and whilst they remain at home their labour is absorbed and they cannot do so."

### Reports of Agri. Societies.

#### FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CLYDE RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Committee in making this, the first annual report, would congratulate this and the surrounding communities upon the organization and so far successful working of their agricultural society, and express their hope that it will be maintained as one of the permanent institutions of the place.

During the past year the society consisted of forty-two members, who have contributed one dollar each. The funds of the society have been appropriated to the introduction of agricultural implements, garden and field seeds, and stock. Most of the seeds were divided equally among the members—some sold. The implements were sold, with the exception of the seed sower and cultivator. One bull, one year old, three-quarters Alderney, has been bought.—Mr. B. Crowell has engaged to keep him for the society six months for fifteen dollars.

The balance of funds in the hands of the Treasurer is \$13.22½.

The Committee have engaged two pigs—Chester White—which will be delivered about the 29th of this month. They will be sold, under conditions, to the highest bidder among the members of the society.

The results of the society's operations we believe to have been highly beneficial, in directing more attention to agriculture and the improvement of stock.

For the coming year we propose a County Agricultural Exhibition. We advise the appointing of three persons, who, along with a like number from the other societies, can form a joint committee to take the matter into consideration and make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible. We urge this, as we believe it would be one of the best means of stimulating the people of the county to de-