



“THE SLUGGARD.”

Franz Lossow is the artist of the sketch bearing this title, which we produce this week. The subject is well treated—a donkey, of the longest-eared and roughest-coated kind, lies lazily blinking in his stall, deaf to the remonstrances of an extremely full-lunged rooster, who urges him in his shrillest tones to be up and doing. The sun is high in the heavens, and the feathered animal, who has been up for hours, angrily expostulates with his four-footed friend for slumbering so late on so fine a day.

SYNAGOGUE IN BRESLAU.

Within the past few months the new synagogue in Breslau has been completed. It is a magnificent building, of irregular shape, very lofty, and crowned by an immense dome, around which a number of miniature turrets spring up from the corners of the building. The edifice stands in the centre of spacious grounds, and from a little distance offers a splendid *coup d'œil*. The erection of such a commodious and spacious building for religious purposes reflects great credit on the Israelite citizens of Breslau.

TREES ON DECLIVITIES

It is considered rather remarkable, says the *Ruralist*, that we found, in visiting fruit growing districts in Europe, five-years since, the best cultivators there, when they could, planted their orchards or vineyards on a gently sloping hill with a south-eastern aspect, experience having taught them, as they stated to us, that such was the best situation for an orchard or a vineyard. Dodard first observed that trees push their branches in a direction parallel to the surface of the earth. If a tree stands on a steep hill-side, it pushes both toward the hill and declivity; but on both sides it still preserves its branches parallel to the surface. As there is attraction between the upper surface of leaves and light, we are also persuaded, and more than that, certain of it from experiment, that there is an attraction of the same nature between the under surface and the earth. This we consider the true cause of the phenomenon. We had long observed that the most fruitful orchards and most fertile trees are those planted on a declivity, and the steeper it is, though not quite a precipice, the more prolific they prove. It is well known that the spreading of trees always renders them fruitful. On a plane they incline to shoot upward; and therefore art is employed by

skilful gardeners, and applied in various ways to check their perpendicular and promote their lateral growth. But this point is obtained on a declivity by nature. There a tree loses its tendency, although its character of growth may be that way, to shoot upward, and in order to preserve its branches parallel with the surface, is constrained to put them in a lateral direction. Hence an important rule in the choice of orchards and fruit gardens.

To PRINT ON FRUITS.—When a handsome fruit is intended to be shown at a fair or sent to a friend it will add something in the way of novelty to have its name or that of some person printed indelibly upon its surface. This may be done in several ways, but the most common methods are as follows: Just before the fruit has attained its maturity, cut from tough, thin paper the name proposed and paste this upon the side of the specimen most fully exposed to the sun. That portion of the fruit covered by the paper will assume a different color from the other, and when ripe the paper is removed, leaving the name distinctly visible. Upon squashes and melons, names and figures may be indelibly impressed by slightly scratching the surface while they are growing.

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