

canal, to carry off the waters of the lake of Zumpango, and of the principal river by which it is fed, has, since 1629, prevented any very desolating floods.

The *disague*, though not conducted with skill and judgment, cost £1,040,000, and is one of the most stupendous hydraulic works ever executed. Were it filled with water, the largest vessels of war might pass by it, through the range of mountains which bound the plain of Mexico. The alarms, however, have been frequent, and cannot well cease, while the level of the lake is twenty feet above that of the great square of Mexico.—*Murray's Encyclopedia of Geography.*

TO HAVE GOOD VINEGAR.

The cowherds on the Alps and in several parts of France use milk whey to make the sharpest vinegar, and they also extract from it a salt called in pharmacy sugar of milk, which the Swiss doctors consider as the best detergent to purify the blood and cure radically the most inveterate cutaneous complaints. The method they use to prepare the salt is this: after having separated all the caseous and oily parts, the whey is clarified and boiled until reduced to one-fourth part of the whole, which they deposit in wooden or earthen pans in a cool place. In a short time the saccharine particles are crystallized, the phlegmatic part is then decanted slowly and the sugar is dried upon pieces of grey paper. This operation may be accelerated by boiling out the whey entirely, but the sugar which remains at the bottom of the kettle is coloured and unfit for pharmaceutical purposes; it might, however, answer well for veterinary uses.

The process for making vinegar out of milk is very simple. After having clarified the whey, it is poured into casks with some aromatic plants or elder blossoms, as it suits the fancy, and exposed in the open air to the sun, where it soon acquires an uncommon degree of acidity.

The Russians and Tartars make with the whey of their mares' milk a strong and intoxicating liquor, which they call Koumis, and also vinegar, by suffering that substance to pass from the vinous to the acetous fermentation.—*Transactions of the Society of Arts, N. Y.*

Good vinegar is one of the necessary luxuries of the table, and with a little care it is always attainable by those who have apple orchards and cider of their own, and ought to be more generally supplied in our market than it is. When once a cask of good vinegar is procured, there need be no difficulty in keeping it filled with that of the same quality. The farmer should put away his good strong cider in substantial casks under cover, with the bung hole open to admit the air, and let it gradually undergo the necessary fermentation. If the casks are frequently shaken, and their contents occasionally drawn from one to another, the process is hastened. Mix nothing with it; let it be the pure cider. Draw from the hogshead to a barrel, and from the barrel to a five gallon keg, and from that again for the table. It is thus kept stirred, and comes in contact with the oxygen of the atmosphere, which will the more speedily sharpen it. Keep filling the hogshead with strong, sound cider, as you draw from it to fill the barrel, and the housewife need never spoil her pickles, nor mine host his cabbage, for lack of good vinegar.—*Farmer's Cabinet.*

POWER OF THE FAMILY.

No earthly association was ever known comparable to the family. Look at its permanency. The aspects of civil society have been almost as changeful as the clouds—one form rapidly succeeding another in an endless progress. But the family form, as if designed to be a similitude of the government of its great Author, remains, after the lapse of six thousand years, and the decay of every conceivable form of civil government. The moral power of this institution is not less wonderful. There are at least two millions of families in the United States. Now, what would be our impression, if we knew that there existed within the limits of our country two millions of small societies, all efficiently organized, the members of each compacted together by ties of the most inviolable nature. If they had, too, taken possession of the soil, secured the education of our future rulers, and officers of church and state of every grade, and had also indirectly or directly secured possession of the whole elective and law making power;—who would not feel solicitous about the character, aims and doings of these societies?—who

would not apprehend the worst consequences from the wrong exercise of their influence?—who would not tremble if that influence were turned against the civil and religious freedom, and the general well-being of the country? And who would not anxiously pray that a wise and saving control might be brought to bear upon this vast array of efficiently organized societies? Such are the families of the land, and such is their sway that the soil is theirs—the living, thinking, acting, swelling population is theirs—the men in authority, and the men under authority, are controlled by them—the schools, academies, colleges and churches are in their hands. They are the proprietors and lords paramount of the national territory and mind.

Oh, what an unspeakably momentous object of desire, and prayer, and effort, should it be to Christians, to Christian patriots and ministers, to bring these families under the saving sway of the gospel! Cannot much more be done than is now doing, to save families—to establish religion in them—to raise family altars where there are none, all over the land? Oh, were this done, how soon would all fears for our country vanish, and the waste places of Zion be built up!—*New-York Evangelist.*

LABOURING TOO MUCH.

People do not have relaxation enough in New England. They too generally have a care-worn expression, from infancy to age; and the fact cannot be denied, that anxiety is a weariness to the flesh. We are all utilitarians in this country, especially in the Northern States, hardly affording ourselves opportunity for eating or sleeping in the manner which nature demands—for she can only conduct her chemical operations properly, and re-adjust the deranged vital machinery, while we are quietly slumbering. We recruit ourselves and grow fat during a refreshing day—but exhaust the system, both physically and mentally, in pursuing to excess the ordinary round of every-day business.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," is a proverb based on a profound knowledge of the laws of our being.

Females, in New England, are worse off than the other sex in the deprivation of out-of-door relaxation, as custom has made it vulgar to breathe the fresh air of Heaven, unless it is done in a lady-like manner.—Hence they make feeble mothers—look thin, sallow, lank, and die by thousands, prematurely, of diseases that never would have been developed had there been less education of the mind, and more of the body in girlhood.

A sad mistake is produced by a too implicit belief in the adage that "time is money," since the first object of pursuit is, in consequence, made to be cash. Those who attempt to rest reasonably from their labours, at proper periods, are either afraid of not having enough or are perpetually reminded that idleness ends in want. So the shuttle flies faster than it ought to go; the farmer cheats himself out of that which is worth having, health, by denying himself and his boys a holiday, because time is money and example is every thing: merchants in cities toil for the immediate benefit of thieves and paupers—paying taxes in proportion to their income—and leave the world unsatisfied, having never found themselves ready to rest and take comfort.—*Medical Journal.*

APPLES OF GOLD.

God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Cor. iv. 6.

Without this saving knowledge, we have no God, no Christ, no grace, no faith, no union with Christ, no actual justification, pardon of sin, peace, nor eternal life. But whoever has found Christ, the pearl of great price, the treasure hid, has found matter of great rejoicing: for he was poor before, and this treasure enriched him; he was naked before, but, finding this treasure, he is gloriously clothed; he was forced before to feed upon husks, but now he feeds on the bread of life; he was far in debt before, but now he sees the debt is paid, that he is justified from all things, and pardoned for ever; he saw he was a child of wrath before, but now he is become a child of God; that he was a captive, and in chains before, but now he is set at liberty; condemned before, but now sees there is no condemnation to him, nor to any one that is in Christ Jesus; that he was a fool before, but now he is made wise to salvation. Reader canst thou set thy seal to the truth and power of such experience? Then thou art wise indeed; if not, thou hast much to learn; apply with speed, and remember, it is God alone that gives this light and knowledge.

Father of love and grace,
Thy light to me impart;
Reflected from thy dear Son's face,
And beaming on my heart.