

THE TEA PLANT IN AMERICA.—The following notice from the Patent Office Department at Washington has been circulated throughout the Union:—"The tea plant in charge of this office will be ready for distribution in the course of a few weeks. Each plant, with the pot in which it is growing, will weigh about one and a half pounds, must be forwarded to its destination by express. It is supposed from the best information to be obtained, that the tea plant cannot be cultivated in the open air north of the northern boundaries of Tennessee and North of Carolina. Hence, they can only be raised in your State by being placed in heated conservatories, or greenhouses during the winter season. While, therefore, the larger portion of the plants will be sent to those States where it is believed they can be successfully cultivated in the open air, still a considerable number of them will be sent to other portions of the country, to be raised as matters of curiosity."

POISONED PARTRIDGES.—The *Springfield Republican* says:—"Partridges are beautiful and delicious birds, and may be eaten with safety as long as their fall food lasts; but, when the severity of the winter comes on, they are driven to feed on the young buds of the maple and birch trees and the leaves of the laurel. It is probable that at this season of the year, there cannot be a partridge killed which has not eaten large quantities of the laurel leaf. This leaf is a virulent poison to the human system, though the partridge eats it with impunity to itself."

WALNUT LUMBER.—The *Hamilton Advertiser* relates as an instance of what a good sleighing season does for the back country, that a gentleman from the rear of Wardsville, county of Middlesex, was in that city a day or two since, and sold in one lot \$9,000 worth of black walnut lumber, which had been got this winter. He says that speculators from the United States have been through the West, buying up all the walnut timber they could get, at good prices. Other large contracts for lumber have been recently made in Western Canada, which are being effected with all possible dispatch.

A tenement house to accommodate 5,000 people, with ample room for each family, is about to be built in New York.

January 1st, the spirit thermometer in St. Paul, Min., was 50 degrees below zero, the mercury being congealed.

Editorial Notices, &c.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MAINE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, AUGUST, 1859.

We are indebted to S. L. Goodale, Esq., the able Secretary of the Board, for a copy of its Report for 1859. It is very neatly executed by the printers to the State, consisting of near 300 pages, with several illustrations on wood, and filled, as far as our yet limited opportunity of examining the volume goes, with much interesting and useful matter. Much of this is from the pen of the Secretary himself, and the volume consists of reports and correspondence, and tabular returns from the Agricultural Societies of the State. As Maine possesses a soil and climate analogous to large portions of the British Provinces, we shall look over this volume with care, and present our readers with the results.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1859. BOSTON, 1860.

The Corresponding Secretary of this old-established and useful Society, Eben Wright, Esq., will please accept our best thanks for his courtesy in sending us their Transactions. They consist mainly of reports of committees on ornamental gardening, flowers, fruits and vegetables, drawn up apparently with industry and care, from which no doubt we shall, on a more thorough perusal, find something to extract for the benefit of our horticultural readers. Massachusetts, as a wealthy, refined, and an old-settled State, has long taken the lead in the delightful pursuit of gardening in all its branches.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1858. SACRAMENTO, 1859.

This is a neatly-executed volume of about 350 pages, embellished with several engravings of horses, cattle and sheep, and a large lithographed plan of the stock farm of Jerome C. Davis, Esq., of Yolo