

The Christening.

No, I won't forgive our parson—not down to my dyin' day; He'd orter waited a minnit; that's what I'll allers say. But to christen my boy, my baby, with such an ortful name— Why, where's the use o' talkin'? I tell you he was to blame.

You see it happened in this way: There was father an' Uncle Si An' mother, an' each one wantin' a finger in the pie— Each with a name for baby, as ef I hadn't no voice. But the more they talked an' argied, the more I stuck to my choice.

"Semanthy"—this was father—"you'd best take pattern by mother. For she named thirteen children 'thout any such fuss or bother. As soon as she diskivered that family names was too few,

Why, she just fell back on the Bible, as perfessers air bound to do.

"Semanthy"—this was Reuben—"most any one else could see That, bein' as I'm his father, he orter be named for me. You say my name's old-fashioned; well, I'm old-fashioned too. Yet 'twarn't so long ago, nuther, that both of us suited you."

Then there was Uncle Silas: "Semanthy, I tell ye what— Just name him Silas. I'll give him that hundred-acre lot— I'll make out the deed to-morrer—an' then when I've gone to my rest, There'll be a trifle o' money to help him feather his nest.

But the worst of all was mother. She says, so meek an' mild: "I'd love to call him Jotham, after my oldest child; He died on his second birthday. The others are grown-up men. But Jotham is still my baby! he has never grown since then. His hair was soft an' curlin', eyes blue as blue could be. An' this boy of yours, Semanthy, jest brings him back to me."

Well, it warn't no easy matter to keep on saying No, An' disapp'intin' every one. Poor Rube he fretted so. When I told him the name I'd chosen, that he fairly made me cry. For I'd planned to name the darling Augustus Percival Guy. Ah! that was a name worth hearin', so 'ristocratic 'nd grand! He might 'a held up his head then with the proudest in the land. But now—Well, 'tisn't no wonder, when I look at that blessed child An' think of the name he's come to, that I can't be reconciled.

At last I coaxed up Reuben, an' a Sabbath mornin' came When I took my boy to meetin' to git his Christian name. Jest as proud as a peacock I stood awaiting there; I couldn't hardly listen to the readin' nor the prayer. For of half a dozen babies mine was the finest of all: An' they had sech common names, too. But pride must have a fall.

"What will ye call him?" says Parson Brown, bendin' his head to hear. Then I handed a bit of paper up, with the names writ full an' clear. But Uncle Si, 'stead of passin' it, jest reads it over slow. With sech a wond'rin', puzzled face, as ef he didn't know. The child was beginnin' to fidget, an' Rube was gittin' red. So I kinder scowled at Uncle Si, and then I shook my head. "The name?" says Parson Brown again; "I'm feared I haven't caught it." "Jee-hoshaphat!" says Uncle Si, out loud, before he thought it.

The parson—he's near sighted—he couldn't understand. Though I p'inted to the paper in Uncle Silas' hand. But that word did the business; an' tefore I got my breath The boy was named JEHOSHAPHAT. I felt a'most like death. I couldn't keep from cryin' as I hurried down the aisle. An' I fairly hated Widdow Green when I see her kinder smile. I've never, never called him by that name, an' never will. I can't forgive old Parson Brown, though I bear him no ill will.

E. T. Corbett, Harper's.

VALUABLE PREMIUMS.

We are always anxious to introduce to our subscribers any valuable kind of Grain or Vegetables, and were the first in Canada to introduce the Early Rose Potato, for which we paid \$3.00 per lb.

We now call your attention to the BRONZE KING, see illustration and description on page 100. This is a most promising variety, and our subscribers should not fail to procure some. We have secured a small quantity to give as Premiums.

For each NEW subscriber's name, accompanied with \$1.00, we will send you one pound of this valuable Potato.

No. of New Subscribers.	Value.
1	Two strong plants of Black Walnut trees, cut back. The most valuable timber tree we can grow; see cut and description in Feb. issue, p. 34.
1	Four small plants Black Walnut.
1	Two plants largest variety of Sweet Chestnut, see page 355, Decr.
1	Two Catalpa speciosa; see page 332, November issue.
2	One Niagara Grape vine; one-year old plant. See vol. 20, p. 81.
3	One do.; two-year old plant.
2	One Empire State Grape vine; one-year old. See page 2, vol. 21.
1	One of each of the following varieties of Grapes, the hardest and best approved for general cultivation: Clinton, Hartford Prolific, Delaware One two-year old do.
3	These are the two most valuable new Grapes that are offered this season, having a great reputation.
1	Two small plants Ampelopsis Vetchii, or Japan Ivy; see p. 353, vol. 20.
1	One strong plant do.

A very few of these plants have as yet been introduced into Canada, and the price charged by some dealers has been from 75c. to \$1.50. Most of the above list is best adapted to Western Ontario.

Another Swindle.

A correspondent writes us to say that he had thought in the lightning rod men, the corn-sheller man, and others of the same ilk, the dodges to swindle the farmer had been exhausted. But we were mistaken. "The preacher dodge," says the Newton, Iowa, Journal, "is the latest one. These assume 'the livery of heaven to serve the devil in,' as follows: A chap in clerical broad cloth and white choker enters a farm house and asks for lodging or dinner as the case may be. During his stay he announces himself as a traveling Bible distributor, in the service of a religious institution, and he generally goes so far as to present to the family a handsome Bible, from a well-filled valise. He is careful to say that his society requires distributing members to pay their own way, and exhibits vouchers for money so expended. After partaking of the good folks' hospitality, he prepares to leave, and asks for a bill. He is generally told that no charges are made, but he calls attention to 'the rules,' and insists on paying twenty-five cents per meal. Then he mildly requires a receipt on his blank, 'as a voucher, you know,' and gets the farmer to sign it. In ninety days there is a notice from a neighboring bank to the pious farmer asking him to call and pay the note for \$156.25, which it bought and which has the farmer's signature."

The ADVOCATE still takes the lead. It's just the paper farmers need; It gives them news that's mostly true. A thing few papers try to do. The ADVOCATE, a monthly sheet, For good sound sense it's hard to beat: It's editorials they are rare And all its work is done with care. Let us stand by it to a man And give it all the aid we can. And if we do we may be sure The ADVOCATE will stand secure.

—Robert Wilson.

Notices.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company issue several illustrated pamphlets and sectional land maps for free distribution, which contain valuable information concerning the rich agricultural and grazing country traversed by the line through Minnesota, Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. The publications contain a synopsis of the United States land laws by which Government lands can be secured free under the homestead-pre-emption and timber culture acts, and the terms of sale of railroad lands, and much other information. They are mailed free to any address by addressing Chas. B. Lamborn, Land Commissioner, St. Paul, Minn. Mention "Farmer's Advocate."

Those of our readers who are intending to purchase a stallion should examine the stock at the Island Home Stud Farm. Here will be found a collection of some of the best and smoothest animals ever imported into this country, and varying in ages from yearlings to six year olds, and including blacks, browns and greys, grey of course being the prevailing color. Messrs Savage & Farnum also have a fine lot of grades which they do not catalogue, and also a fine lot of grade mares with foal to full blood Percheron horses. The facilities for shipping at Island Home are excellent, both by steamboat and railroad. Visitors may go direct to the farm via Canada Southern division of the Michigan Central Railroad to Grosse Ile station, or by way of Detroit and take steamer 10 miles down the river.

See Notices and Stock Notes, p. 126.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADVERTISING RATES.

The regular rate for ordinary advertisements is 25c. per line, nonpariel, or \$3 per inch. No advertisement inserted for less than \$1. Special contracts for definite time and space made on application.

Advertisements unaccompanied by specific instructions inserted until ordered out, and charged at regular rates.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is the unrivalled advertising medium to reach the farmers of Canada, exceeding in circulation the combined issues of all the other agricultural publications in the Dominion. Send for an advertising circular and an estimate.

Important Auction Sale

WITHOUT RESERVE ON

Wednesday and Thursday, April 28 and 29, 1886

of the entire herd of the late R. B. IRELAND, at his late residence, Nelson, four miles from Burlington Station, G. T. R., and the North and Northwestern R.R., and two miles from St. Ann's Station, on N. & N. W. R. R., consisting of

60 Pure-bred Bates Shorthorn Cattle

(47 females and 13 males) all of which are entered for registration in the Dominion Shorthorn Herd Book; also a number of

LEICESTER SHEEP, FARM HORSES, IMPLEMENTS, &c

—ALSO A—

100-ACRE FARM AND SAW MILL.

Conveyances will meet each train on the days of sale. Sale to commence each day at 12 o'clock noon. Six months credit will be given on all sums over \$10 for stock and implements. Terms of sale for farm made known at time of sale. Catalogues will be sent on application to John Ireland, Copetown P. O., or to

MRS. A. IRELAND, Executrix.
GEO. IRELAND, Executors.
E. E. IRELAND,
Nelson P. O., Ont.

244-a



FOR DESTROYING TICKS AND VERMIN ON Sheep, Cattle and Horses, Leicestershire Tick and Vermin Destroyer is well worth the price, yea, double the price. It was first used in England with wonderful success, and has now been introduced into Canada, and is sold at 30 and 60 cents a box: one small box is sufficient to treat 20 sheep. It effectually destroys Ticks, Lice, Worms or Grub, to which sheep, horses or cattle are subject, and enables the animal to thrive. It is used as a wash. Sold by Druggists. G. C. BRIGGS & SONS, Agents, Hamilton, Ontario.