

breathe but little in the chest, and thus, independently of position, contract a wretchedly small chest, and lay the foundation for the loss of health and beauty. All this can be perfectly obviated by a little attention to the manner of breathing. Recollect that the lungs are like a bladder in structure, and can stretch open to double their size with perfect safety, giving a noble chest and perfect immunity from consumption. The agent, and only agent required, is the common air we breathe; supposing, however, that no obstacle exists external to the chest, such as twisting it round with stays, or having the shoulders lie upon it. On rising from the bed in the morning, place yourself in an erect posture, with your chest thrown back and your shoulders entirely off from the chest; then inhale all the air that you can get in; then hold your breath and throw your arms off behind—hold your breath as long as possible. Repeat these long breaths as many times as you please. Done in a cold room, it is much better, because the air is much denser, and will act much more powerfully in expanding the chest.

DURABILITY OF WOOD.—The piles under the London bridge have been driven 500 years, and on examining them in 1846, they were found to be little decayed. Old Savoy palace in the city of London, was built 650 years ago, and the wooden piles, consisting of oak, elm, beech, and chestnut, were found, upon recent examination, to be perfectly sound. Of the durability of timber in a wet state, the piles of a bridge built by the Emperor Trajan, over the Danube, afford a striking example. One of these piles was taken up and found to be petrified to the depth of three-fourths of an inch; but the rest of the wood was not different from its former state, though it been driven 1600 years.

PRODUCTIVENESS OF PALESTINE.—Many suppose that Palestine is now but a desert land, and will scarcely be prepared for the following proofs of the wonderful productive powers of the soil even round Jerusalem, where it is poorer than in Galilee and the northern parts of the country. Quince-trees are seen bearing 400 quinces, each larger than the largest apples in England; vines with 100 bunches of grapes, many of the bunches 3 feet long, and grapes $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference; a citron tree having 510 lb. weight of fruit; half-grown broad beans, from Messhullam's farm, the pod 13 inches long and six clustering stems from one plant; durrah or Indian corn, eleven feet high, from which a similar crop had been taken not many weeks before; water melons 20, 30, and 40 lb. weight. For the above facts we have the published testimony of Mr. Finn, who has shown in many ways his deep interest in the good of Israel. The supply of rain in the region round Jerusalem has steadily increased during the last seven years. Last year there were abundant "latter rains" in the end of April and the beginning of May, a thing unknown for years before. What interesting tokens of the increase which that glorious earth shall yield, when the Lord shall repair the waste places of many generations! And what proofs that it is the unbelief and intolerance, and destructiveness of man, which lie as the great curse upon the land!

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The Little Boy that Died.

Dr. Chalmers is said to be the author of the following beautiful poem, written on the occasion of the death of a young son whom he greatly loved:—

I am all alone in my chamber now,
And the midnight hour is near;
And the fagot's crack, and the clock's dull tick
Are the only sounds I hear:
And over my soul, in its solitude,
Sweet feelings of sadness glide,
For my heart and my eyes are full when I think
Of the little boy that died.

I went one night to my father's house—
Went home to the dear ones all—
And softly I opened the garden gate,
And softly the door of the hall.
My mother came out to meet her son—
She kissed me, and then she sighed,
And her head fell on my neck, and she wept
For the little boy that died.

I shall miss him when the flowers come
In the garden where he played;
I shall miss him more by the fireside,
When the flowers have all decayed.
I shall see his toys and his empty chair,
And the horse he used to ride;
And they will speak, with a silent speech,
Of the little boy that died.

We shall go home to our father's house—
To our father's home in the skies,
Where the hope of our souls shall have no blight,
Our love no broken ties;
We shall roam on the banks of the river of peace
And bathe in the blissful tide;
And one of the joys of our heaven shall be
The little boy that died.

ALKALINE WASHES FOR THE SURFACE OF TREES.—Almost all the alkalies have in turn been used for this purpose. The trunks of trees have been whitewashed with lime, and perhaps this is the worst practice which has been resorted to for the destruction of fungi and insects, and although at the time of its application, the lime is caustic and will decompose parasitical plants, this action lasts but for a very short time. The lime becomes converted into carbonate of lime, fills the ultimate surface of the bark, and prevents the healthy respiration of the tree; therefore, trees which have been treated with whitewash, while they present an apparently clean surface, are not in an entirely healthy state.

Solutions of potash when saturated, were found occasionally to destroy the tree, and this gave rise to its use in the form of soap, which will adhere for a greater length of time, and was found to be less deleterious.

One alkali, (soda) however, may be used with impunity, without the fear of injuring the bark of any tree; for while it causes the rapid decay of the dead portions of the bark, it has no effect upon the living parts. If the body and branches of a tree be wetted with a satur-

ated solution of a good quantity of sod soda, such as we have often described as Bleacher's No. 1 Soda, it will invariably improve the health of the tree—the inert portions of the bark will be softened, and mosses, and other fungi, will be decomposed—the coprons and ova of insects will be destroyed. During the aftergrowth of the tree, the decomposed portions of the bark will be thrown off, leaving a clean and healthy surface. No tree can be fruitful, and improve in size and figure, unless its bark be perfectly clean.

The application of soda, made by dissolving one pound in a gallon of water, and applied in spring and late summer, will ensure vigor not attainable without such means, and will do away with the necessity of scraping or slitting trees, to prevent their becoming hide-bound.—Such trees as have smooth barks, may be rubbed with a woollen cloth one week after the application of the soda, and a shiny smooth surface will be produced.

We have a few trees in which the soda has been applied for three years in succession to the point where the branches commence, and it is now evident that the portion of the tree thus treated is larger and in finer health than the part immediately above it. We first saw this treatment at the seat of Robert Renne, Esq., New Jersey.—Working Farmer.

CURVED CELLARS.—Frequent inquiries are made on this subject. Cellars plastered at the sides and on the bottom with hydraulic cement will keep out the water without a drain, and will exclude rats, provided the work has been done in the best manner. Imperfectly executed, the water will leak in; and if the coat is too thin, or too soft, rats will excavate beneath it, and then crack it off by piecemeal. It is unnecessary to inform our readers that the very best material is to be used; but some are not enough aware of the importance of giving sufficient thickness. On dry and hard gravel it may do well to apply the mortar at once to the excavated face of the earth; but usually it is much better to cover the cellar bottom with a paving of stones, and where rather inclined to dampness, with two or three successive layers, the last of which may be quite small, or even coarse gravel will do. The mortar, made rather fluid, is then spread smoothly over. In a few months the whole will assume a flinty hardness, through which no rat, with all the cunning of a politician, can ever make his way.—It will be as dry as a floor, and fruit, vegetables, and other articles, may be placed directly upon it, without fear of dampness. It will not soon wear out or decay.—Genesee Farmer.

MARRIED.

In West Brantford, on the 29th October, 1853, by the Rev. Thos. L. Davidson, Mr. George Burn, to Miss Agnes McGuire, both of the town of Brantford and county of Brant.

Also, by the same, in Brantford, on the 13th Nov. 1853, Mr. Henry Waterhouse, of the township of Brantford, to Miss Rebecca Shaver, of the township of Oakland and county of Brant.

Also, by the same, in Brantford, Nov. 22, 1853, Mr. Lemuel Averill, to Miss Hannah M. Brooke, both of the town of Brantford and county of Brant.

By the Rev. Simon Rouse, at the residence of James Imire, in Norwich, Oct. 24, Mr. Wm. Tatton, to Miss Lucretia Hilliker.