

Cambridge, Mass. The donation is rich in species of the *Compositæ*, *Leguminosæ* and *Scrophularinææ*, while the *Campanulacææ*, *Onagræææ* and *Labiataæ* are also well represented. We would most cheerfully have published the list of the plants in detail did our space permit; this however we find to be impossible. As however the Botanical Society is now fairly started, we hope to see it enjoy a long and prosperous career of usefulness.

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#### EDITORIAL SUMMARY.

*The Cork Trade of Bordeaux.*—There are at present in Bordeaux twenty-five cork factories, employing seventy-five workmen, using annually 3,396,846 lbs. of cork bark, and producing about 10,000,000 corks. 90,000,000 ready-made corks are obtained from neighbouring places, Nisac, Bayonne, and Provence. The cork trade of Bordeaux, therefore, may be estimated at 100,000,000 corks annually, worth about £156,333. Two-fifths of this quantity are exported to the French colonies, the United States, Chili, India, &c.; three-fifths are used in Bordeaux, at the average price of £1 4s. per thousand. These corks are divided into four classes—namely, the extra fine, used for champagne bottles, and sold for from £2 to £4 16s. the thousand; the very fine used for bottles of wine of the first quality, and sold for from £1 4s. to £2 the thousand; the fine, used for bottles of wine of the second quality, and sold for from 16s. to £1 4s. the thousand; and the common corks, used for bottles of common wine, and sold for from 2s. 4d. to 16s. the thousand. Nearly all of them are made by hand. There are so many difficulties and disadvantages connected with their manufacture by machinery that the use of machines is unprofitable. One class of workmen cut them into lengths, another turns them, and women are employed to separate them into the different classes named above. One cutter can prepare work for five turners, and one turner can make on an average 1200 a day. The cutters are paid from 3½d. to 4½d. per thousand, and the turners from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6½d. per thousand, that is about 1s. 6d. a day.—*Mechanics' Magazine.*

*Tobacco.*—Man, they say, is the only cooking animal, so is he the only smoking one, and if so, why?—

“Recently at a meeting of the Society of Education at Rouen a paper was read by Dr. Dumesnil on tobacco and the effects its use, of which the following is an abstract:—‘The custom of smoking is spreading through the whole world. The tobacco producing countries have the greatest difficulty in providing for local wants. In America the consumption augments more rapidly than the supply. According to late statistics, the quantity of tobacco annually used in the New World annually is in weight equal to the bread consumed by ten millions of individuals in England. England, a country which does not produce tobacco, yearly consumes 30,000,000 lbs. of that plant drawn from America, and during the last ten years her consumption has increased one-fourth. In Hamburg, the population of which is only 150,000 as many as 40,000 cigars are consumed per day. In Denmark the annual average consumption is 4 lbs. per head for the whole population. In Holland the proportion is still higher. In Austria the cultivation of the tobacco plant occupies 100,000 acres of good land. In 1854, the consumption of tobacco in the whole world amounted to 506,000,000 lbs., being an average of 9 oz. for each person. Calculating that tobacco contains on an average 3 per cent. of nicotine, it will be seen that there are annually consumed on the globe 15,180,000 lbs. of a poison of which a few drops are sufficient to cause death.’”—*Dublin Medical Press.*

*Deaths of Dr. Cusack of Dublin and Dr. Meade of Queenstown.*—The former gentleman, who died at the age of 74 years, was one of the original founders of the Park Street School of Medicine, Dublin. In 1850 he took the degree of M.D. in the University of Dublin. In 1852 he was elected to the Professorship of Surgery in the University which was founded that year, and in 1858, on the death of Sir Philip Crampton, he received the appointment of Surgeon-ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, a position which