

pounds to the rod. An acre containing 43,560 square feet the calculation of pounds per foot, of any quantity per acre is easily made.

THE MEASURE OF MIND.—May be considerably expanded in every youth who will carefully study these pages, which we have prepared with a measure of labour especially for the benefit of all who measure the capacity of our intellect to give useful information by our monthly chronicle of matters calculated or at least intended to elevate the minds of our readers immeasurably above those who are still groping in the darkness of wilful ignorance, because of their mis-judged economy in not patronizing agricultural papers and schools.—*The Plow.*

From the N. E. Farmer.

RAIN FROM THE ROOFS.

In our climate, when rain water is most needed, for washing, for cattle, and for watering plants, it is not to be had. There is sufficient quantity falls, however, unless in seasons of extreme drought, to give every farmer a full supply, if he had the proper reservoirs for holding it. These may be made much more readily and cheaply than most people believe they can be. On any soil but a very sandy one, the earth may be removed and the sides and bottom cemented without brick or stone, and the top covered with chestnut plank, and any amount of rain water preserved. If slanted outward half an inch or one inch to each foot in height, and well cemented, a cistern will last for many years. Such cisterns would be a matter of economy to many of our farmers.

We find a paragraph in the papers which has suggested these remarks, stating that "every inch of rain that falls on a roof yields two barrels to every space ten feet square; and seventy-two barrels are yielded by the annual rain in this climate on a similar surface. A barn thirty by forty feet yields annually eight hundred and sixty-four barrels, this is enough for more than two barrels a day for every day in the year. Many of our landlords have, however, at least five times that amount of roofing on their dwellings, and other buildings, yielding annually more than four thousand barrels of rain water, or about twelve barrels, or about one hundred and fifty ordinary pails full, daily.

GOVERN THE CHILDREN.

The youth of the country are soon to hold its destiny in their hands. And as they are now governed will they hereafter govern. Niebuhr says in his Letters:—

"Freedom is quite impossible when the youth of a country are devoid of reverence and modesty."

We confess we have sometimes feared for the future of our land, when we consider the character of the rising population.

Young America is so very fast, has so little reverence for the past, and such unfeeling faith in "progress for the expressive order," that his hands seem unsafe receptacles of so great a trust. Our Puritan forefathers were strict disciplinarians, and New England owes much of its power and glory to this fact. Parental control is very much relaxed.

In many cases it is the children who govern. This is a bad state of things, and should be changed. Boys need control as much as bread and butter.—Niebuhr, whom we must again quote, says.—

"I would warn every one, whose child shows a bad disposition, to hold him in while he is young, for there is not much dangers of breaking his spirit.

His innate impudence will protect him from all this; and I feel, by myself, that our faults cannot be torn up with too much violence in childhood, before they have taken too deep a root."—*Portland Trans.*

A HIGH COURT OF NATIONS.

If the eye of the people could be opened in regard to the evils and delusions of war, would it not be easy to form a confederacy of nations, and organize a high court of equity to decide national controversies? Why might not such a court be composed of some of the most eminent characters from each nation, and a compliance with its decisions be made a point of national honor, to prevent the effusion of blood and to preserve the blessings of peace? Can any considerate person say, that the probability of obtaining right in such a court would be less than by an appeal to arms? When an individual appeals to a court of justice for the redress of wrongs, it is not always the case that he obtains his right. Still, such an appeal is more honorable, more safe, and more certain, as well as more benevolent, than for the individual to attempt to obtain redress by his pistol or his sword. And are not the reasons for avoiding an appeal to the sword for the redress of wrongs, always great in proportion to the calamities which such an appeal must naturally involve? If this be a fact, then there is infinitely greater reason why two nations should avoid an appeal to arms, than usually exist against a bloody combat between two contending individuals.—*Dr. Worcester.*

SOME CIPHERING.

I noticed, in a late number of *Life Illustrated*, an extract from some scientific writer, asserting the number of persons who have lived since the creation to amount to 36,627,843,275,075,864.

This looks like a wild statement, and in the absence of substantiating proof we can hardly see how it could obtain credence since the days of tables. It is no difficult task for any one to make a computation of the approximate number of people who have lived since the days of Adam.

We will take the present number of inhabitants at 800,000,000, and give this for the average number since creation. If we place the average duration of life at what it is at present in the civilized world, we shall have about three generations in a century, or about 175 generations from Adam up to the present time. According to sacred chronology, 175 multiplied by the number of each generation, gives 140,000,000,000 for the total number of inhabitants. This, divided by 56,000,000 the number of square miles of land on the earth, gives 2,500 persons to the square mile. This again divided by 640 gives but four individuals to the acre. Then, were all the people who have ever lived to be placed on the earth at once, instead of covering it to the depth of twenty-five feet with their bodies, there would be a quarter of an acre of land for each individual, and if the climate of the temperate and frigid zones were so ameliorated as to dispense with the necessity of providing for the rigors of winter, the whole human family might obtain a comfortable subsistence on the earth at once.

The readers of the *Gospel Tribune* are, doubtless, well aware, that the number for each month, is published at its close, and not at the beginning, as is the case with nearly all other similar Journals. The reasons why this number makes its appearance a few days later than usual, are on the 2nd page of the cover.