

An error appeared in the Secretary's books in regard to the 1st prize on Improved Berkshire Boar under one year old. It should have read G. Roach, of Hamilton, instead of J. Lamb, London. The Association paid, erroneously, Mr. Lamb, the cash, and we hear Mr. Lamb refuses to refund it. There are circumstances connected with this, that show that Mr. Lamb has no more honesty or principle about him than he should have, although he is in receipt of a public salary.

A Live Editor and A Bad Weed.

We are glad to acknowledge a hasty call from Rev. S. V. Blakeslee, editor of the "Pacific," published at San Francisco, and feel that we do no more than our duty when we thank him, on behalf of the farmers of Oregon, for the information he gave us in reference to the presence in Portland of one of the worst weed pests that the careful farmers of the Atlantic States have to contend against. We allude to the

CANADA THISTLE,

which Mr. Blakeslee informs us he found in the city of Portland, on the lot of Mr. Shindler, who, it seems, received the seed of this pestiferous weed in a box containing furniture made at the East. Mr. Shindler, knowing the tenacious nature of the weed, has been carefully cutting it down every year before it goes to seed, but yet it steadily gains on him, and Mr. B. found that its roots had spread under the sidewalk, and the weed is now growing on the side of the street. Should this pest once get out into the country, it will prove worse than fern, sorrel, or even the dagger cockle-bur, for the extermination of which it has been deemed wise to make provision by law. No time should be lost. Either the city of Portland or the county of Multnomah should see that the weed is not allowed to spread, else it will, in all probability, cost tens of thousands of dollars not many years hence in fruitless efforts at its destruction. Mr. Shindler deserves praise for endeavoring to keep it under. Will not some public spirited citizens of Portland look after this matter before it is too late? The Canada Thistle is not known to exist anywhere else on the Pacific coast, and should it be permitted to spread over the country from this small beginning in Portland, the damage to the farming interest in the future may be incalculable.—WILAMETTE FARMER.

FAMILIARITY WITH EVIL.

We present some extracts from a valuable essay by Henry Ward Beecher, in the January Herald of Health, treating on the danger of allowing oneself to become *indifferent* to what is wrong, because *familiar* with it:

"In the long run those things are the most influential upon us which act imperceptibly, but act all the time. In judging of the things that produce the disposition, or rather that *train* it, we are not to judge of those things alone which are apparent. Influences that work in us little by little are the formative influences of life * * * *

The presence of evil produces familiarity, allays suspicion, and takes off fear and repulsion. When evil exists in men, it is always a mixed quality. No man is wholly bad, and no man is wholly good. Men are strangely compounded; and when evil is joined with a good, the evil is so checkered with the good, that we cannot but feel a sort of amiable sorrow, which is the next thing to approbation. The good that is associated with evil traits in men with whom we are acquainted, goes far to

take away from the mind a sense of the wickedness of evil. * * * *

Being familiar with evil brings you into the reach of temptation. It not only makes you a spectator of that which is dangerous, but brings you within its easy reach. Many go where evil is, thinking that they are not susceptible to it, and by and by, after being under its influence and becoming familiar with it, they are caught by it. I suppose there were never twenty wicked men of whom you might not say that fifteen were men who, in the beginning were perfectly certain that they could not be made wicked. It is the confidence that you are safe that is your great danger in the presence of evil. * * * *

It is objected that it is not always possible to get away from evil. Remember, then, that when you do not submit to evil, when you set your mind against it, and when you put yourself in an attitude to correct it, it will do you no harm though you are in the midst of it. If you refuse the laugh, if you refuse to endorse the tale, if you refuse to join in the conviviality, if you are found faithful though you are among the faithless, then, so far from being harmed, you will be benefited; so far from being brought down by evil you will be lifted out of the sphere of its influence. You will be a reformer, under such circumstances, and God will take care of you.

Bone Dust as a Food for Fowls.

If a really good bone dust, newly made from fresh bones, can be had, there is no better adjunct to the food of fowls; but if we wish to avoid risks, the best plan is to procure fresh bones and chop them up with an axe or hatchet. A chopping box can be thus made: take a piece of oak plank 12 inches square and 2½ inches thick; this formed the bottom of a box just 7 inches deep, the sides being made of 1½ inch pine. One side, however, is but 3½ inches high, so that when the edge of our hatchet lies on the plank bottom, the handle passes over the side of the box without touching it. Soft bones can be had at any butcher's stall. The hard and large bones are difficult to break. Ribs, &c., placed in this box, can be easily and quickly chopped up into pieces the size of a bean. A boy can chop up ten pounds in a very short time, and this will last two dozen fowls for a week nearly, at ten ounces per day. On a large scale a machine could be made which would readily crush the hardest bones. We find that the bones broken into pieces, which will pass in any direction through a hole ½ of an inch in diameter, are small enough; the gizzard of the fowl soon grinds them up, and they partially serve instead of gravel. There is no more valuable adjunct to the food of fowls than cracked bones.

HORTICULTURAL SCHOOL FOR WOMEN.

Some weeks ago we alluded to the project of establishing a horticultural school for women, near Boston. The projectors seem determined to push the experiment, and an appeal for funds to start the work is soon to be issued. The Boston Advertiser gives the following as the plan of the institution:

"The working plan of the school comprises a farm, to be procured in the vicinity of Boston, containing about 20 acres, 5 acres to be used for the cultivation of small fruits, flowers and salads, and such vegetables as are suitable for cultivation by female labor, the rest

to be devoted to mowing and pasturage; a good dwelling house capable of accommodating about thirty inmates; a barn large enough for the farm stock; an experimental plant house for growing flowers and early vegetables, and the forwarding of plants for fields crops. The control of the institution is to be vested in a president, secretary, treasurer and twenty-four managers—one-half of whom shall be women—who will be aided by a competent instructor, an experienced farmer, and the other necessary assistants. The pupils will be instructed in plain sewing, the use of sewing machines and all kinds of house work, as well as in horticulture; the lecturers and teachers in kindred branches of labor and service will be employed from time to time.

It is intended to receive pupils to the number of twenty five, who are to be from the age of sixteen upwards, of good character, fair education, and able to work as may be required. The course of instruction will extend through two years. The estimated cost of procuring the farm and outbuildings and maintaining the school for three years is \$30,000.—PRAIRIE FARMER.

We have for years advocated an establishment for instruction for testing and procuring reliable seed and implements in Canada. We have devoted more time and means according to our circumstances, than any other person has done or ever will do; but up to the present moment not one cent's worth of the government patronage, which is nominally given for agricultural advancement, has fallen to our lot, although no one ever has procured such a number of recommendations to the legislature from the really political farmers of the country. There are colleges—and several of them—for men in the States, and now one is to be established for the other respected and beloved fairer sex. We, with others, do not deem it necessary to tax the country to the amount of tens of thousands a year, but the encouragement of any good, useful, beneficial plan, that has done much good and may do a thousand times as much, should not have the public money expended direct and intentionally against it, without showing publicly the reasons for so doing.—ED.

A WORD TO THE YOUNG MEN.—The winter months are coming on, when you will have a good chance for improving your minds. Devote your leisure hours to acquiring that knowledge which will be of practical benefit to you. A business education is valuable to everybody. Strive to fit yourselves for doing your own business and doing it safely and systematically. You cannot get too much of this kind of knowledge. You need it as much on the Farm as in the Bank. The day has gone by when it was thought unnecessary for Farmers to be as intelligent as any other class of business men. Spurn the idea, and show the world that intelligence is just as applicable to your occupation as to any other. We have a most excellent institution in London for imparting such knowledge as you all require. The course at our Commercial College is just what you need, and should have, if you can possibly muster the necessary funds to attend. Many of our Farmer's boys take rooms and board themselves whilst going through the course, and this saves half of the expense. This College took the First Prize in Penmanship at the last Provincial Fair. Eight Principals and Professors of other leading educational institutions, have been graduates of this college. Send to the Principal, Mr. J. W. Jones, for a circular.