

more than painted screens; their windows are covered with a fine translucent description of the same material; it enters largely into the manufacture of nearly everything in a Japanese household; and he saw what seemed to be balls of twine, but which were nothing but long shreds of tough paper rolled up. If a shop-keeper had a parcel to tie up, he would take a strip of paper, roll it quickly between his hands, and use it for the purpose; and it was quite as strong as the ordinary string used at home. In short, without paper, all Japan would come to a dead lock; and, indeed, lest by the arbitrary exercise of his authority a tyrannical husband should stop his wife's paper, the sage Japanese mother-in-law invariably stipulate in the marriage settlement, that the bride is to have allowed to her a certain quantity of paper.

AGRICULTURE IN SWITZERLAND.

A recent traveller in Switzerland, says of farms and farming in that country, that no good terraced land can be had there for less than \$4,000 to \$7,000 per acre, and the quantity of such land is one per cent of the entire territory. No man owns more than 10 to 15 acres of such ground. In that country investments are made for security rather than profit, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent is usually satisfactory.

Of the mode of cultivation, the writer gives the following account:—

“The terraces are also chosen with a southern exposure, and are walled up on the lower side with stone and lime. They are generally from 10 to 50 ft. wide, and incline at an angle of at least 22 degrees. They ascend up the sides of the mountain from 500 to 800 feet, and are reached by stone steps, up which the manure and everything else is carried in baskets. Grape culture is the principal use made of those grounds. Thirty days' labor is the required average for every acre of vines, and is as often performed by women as men. The vines are kept low, and trained to stakes about four feet high. The stakes are taken up every fall, and put down in the spring. Some of the vines are from 80 to 100 years old, though they prefer to renew them every forty years. Six hundred to seven hundred and fifty gallons of wine is the common product per acre.

“This wine is the common beverage of the country, is of two kinds, red and white, is worth the first year from 19 to 28 cents per gallon, the second year when racked twice, from 37 to 56 cents, and in the same proportion for a longer time. The vineyards are worked with a mattock having a head like that of an axe on one side, and two teeth about six inches apart, and twelve to fifteen inches long on the other. The laborers work slowly, but in summer commence at 3 o'clock in the morning and continue till 7 at night. Other lands than those terraced are used as mountain pastures, and though only used about three months in the year, and seemingly lying at an angle of 45 degrees, command from 500 to 1,500 francs per acre. The cattle are taken to the pastures by steep and circuitous paths, and are kept there while the season lasts. The herdsmen remain with them, living chiefly upon milk, and making cheese. Many of the herdsmen's huts on these pastures are at an altitude of from 300 to 500 feet. Above and over all is everlasting snow, forming a combination of scenery rarely elsewhere seen.”