



Agricultural.

PUMPKIN PIES.

BY A VERMONTER.

(From the New York Tribune.)

Let some folks boast of spicy mince,
Care not a fig for such do I;
Or largely talk of sweetened quince,
Fine as the luscious grape of Linzi,
Plums doubly dipped in Syrian dye—
I deem them tasteless all as flint,
Compared with one good pumpkin pie.

I know our pumpkins do not claim.
The honored growth of foreign soil;
They never felt the torrid flame,
And surely they are not to blame,
Though reared not by the bondman's toil,
Incline where man, to burden tame,
Unpaid consents to tug and boil.

Talk not of vineyards broken down,
And fields that droop with oil and wine;
Where burning suns with ripeness crown
The sweets that man's best manhood drown,
By lying poets sworn divine.
I'd rather have than all—don't frown—
The product of my pumpkin vine.

See, on you melon covered height,
My chosen fruit, like globes of gold,
Lies ripening in the sunbeam light;
Ah, 'tis a stomach-staying sight.
And soon to house them from the cold
Shall freemen with strong hands unite,
Paid laborers and freemen build.

And then the girls who make our pies,
Bless them! all other maids outshine;
Their raven locks, and hazel eyes,
And cheeks, whose ever changing dyes
The lilly and the rose combine,
Make mad the hearts that love the prize
Of all this loveliness divine.

Vermont! thou art a glorious State,
Though small in acres and in skies;
But 'tis not length that makes one great,
Nor breadth that gives a nation size
Thy mountains and thy mountain air
Have reared a noble race of men,
And women, fairest of the fair,
Their labors and their love to share;
Where shall we see thy like again?
I love them all, which most I shan't advise,
Thy mountains, maidens, or thy pumpkin pies.

GOLD DUG FROM AN ONION PATCH.—Robert Smith, at the San Jose Mission, California, has raised two acres of onions, which yielded 2,500 sacks, averaging 42 pounds each, and the average of the whole is 24 ounces each! He was selling them at 29 cents per pound. If he gets but 15 cents per pound for his entire crop, it will amount to the snug sum of \$30,750! This will do pretty well for two acres of wild land. This is said to be but the average yield of the onion crop throughout the Santa Clara valley. It eclipses famous old Wethersfield entirely, and shows that an onion patch is by no means a despicable gold placer. Neither indeed is a potato patch, nor a hay-field, in that most wonderful country. Dr. Basham of Santa Clara, raised 800 bushels of potatoes to the acre there, and sold them at from six to seven cents per pound. Gen. Vallejo sold his standing grass for \$15,000. The party purchasing it, expended \$20,000 to cut and cure the same, and afterwards realized

\$100,000 profit in the sale of hay! The market price for hay is somewhere between \$30 and \$50 per ton.—*Albany Register.*

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—The following table of the number of pounds of various articles to a bushel, may be of interest to our readers:

Of wheat, sixty pounds.
Of shelled corn, fifty-six pounds.
Of corn in the cob, seventy pounds.
Of rye, fifty-six pounds.
Of oats, thirty-six pounds.
Of barley, forty pounds.
Of potatoes, sixty pounds.
Of bran, twenty pounds.
Of clover seed, sixty pounds.
Of timothy seed, forty-five pounds.
Of flax seed, forty-five pounds.
Of hemp seed, forty-four pounds.
Of buckwheat, fifty-two pounds.
Of blue grass seed, fourteen pounds.
Of castor beans, forty-six pounds.
Of dried peaches, thirty-three pounds.
Of dried apples, twenty-four pounds.
Of onions, fifty-seven pounds.
Of salt, fifty pounds.

Mr. Thomas Park, of Pickering, brought us a turnip the other day, which measured two feet eleven inches and a-half in circumference, and twelve inches in depth.—*Ontario Reporter.*

RATS.—The following, from the *Buffalo Republic*, is worth trying: "Rats may be expelled from your cellars and granaries simply by scattering a few stalks and leaves of mullen in their paths. There is something very annoying in this pest, to the rat. It affords, therefore, a very easy remedy for a most perplexing evil, and much more economical and less troublesome than gunpowder, 'rat exterminator,' cats or traps. The mullen is a very common production, and may be found in almost every field as well as in pastures, and by the sides of the high ways."

VINEGAR.—Many families purchase their vinegar at a very considerable expense; some "make do" with a very indifferent article; and others, for want of a little knowledge and less industry, go without. It is an easy matter, however, to be at all times supplied with good vinegar, and that without much expense. The juice of one bushel of sugar beet, worth twenty-five cents, and which any farmer can raise without cost, will make from five to six gallons of vinegar, equal to the best made of cider or wine. Grate the beets, having first washed them, and express the juice in a cheese press, or in many other ways which a little ingenuity can suggest, and put the liquor into an empty barrel; cover the bung with gauze, and set it in the sun, and in twelve or fifteen days it will be fit for use.—*Farmer's Advocate.*

JAPANESE GARDENS.—The gardeners of Japan display the most astonishing art. The plum tree, which is a great favourite, is so trained and cultivated that the blossoms are as big as those of dahlias. Their great triumph, however, is to bring both plants and trees into the compass of the little garden attached to the houses in the cities. With this view, they have gradually succeeded in dwarfing the fig, plum and cherry trees and the vine, to a stature so diminutive as scarcely to be credited by an European; and yet these dwarf trees are covered with blossoms and leaves. Some of the gardens resemble pictures in which nature is skillfully modelled in miniature—but it is living nature! Meylon, whose work on Japan was published at Amsterdam in 1830, states that in 1826 the Dutch agent of Commerce at Nagasaki was offered "a snuff box, one inch in thickness and three inches high, in which grew a fig tree, a bamboo and a plum tree in bloom."

A Boston paper says that among the implements of farm labour exhibited at the Manchester Fair, was a wagon with machinery attached for gathering potatoes—the recent invention of a New Hampshire farmer. The wagon is placed at one end of the potato field, with oxen or horses attached, and as it passes down the rows, digs the potatoes, separates them from the dirt, and loads them in the wagon.

OPIMUM TRADE IN CHINA.—Mr. Cumming's writings from Fuh-Chau, We deem it incumbent upon us to repeat the alarm, so often sounded, in respect to the traffic and use of opium. We wish persons at home to know something of the extent of this increasing evil, and pray for its removal. In 1818, the value of the opium imported into China as appears from a recent number of the China Mail, was twenty-two millions and a-half of dollars. In 1849, it amounted to twenty-seven millions. If the increase has been as great since, the amount for the present year will be thirty-six millions! Such is the sum which this poor people, already crushed to the earth under the burdens heaped upon them by their idolatry and superstition, are paying for a drug that brings them no profitable return whatever.

A MAGNETIC PIANO.—The *New York Evening Mirror* says, that there is about to be exhibited in that city a very novel and wonderful musical instrument, which the inventor, Mr. Grant, a native of New England, calls "The Electro Magnetic Piano Forte." It is played by magnetism alone, without the aid of fingers, and surpasses, it is said, even the great De Meyer himself, in point of power and sweetness. We are astonished at nothing in these days. This is the age of wonders.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

Lynn Boyd of Kentucky has been chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives at Washington.

An American Steamer with 500 passengers on board was fired into, on the Nicaraguan Coast, by a British war-ship, last month.

The Lady Elgin has been blessed with another son, a scion of nobility.

A fracas occurred at Bangor, Maine, a few weeks since between some State officers and a captain of a vessel who had some liquor on board secreted and refused to allow his vessel to be searched. The captain opposed the officers and the result was the death of one of the latter. The captain has been committed for murder.

The House of Assembly of Nova Scotia have voted in favor of the great Railroad—Nov. 17, 1851.

TORONTO CITY ELECTIONS.—Messrs. Boulton and Ridout are elected.

The annual report of the Boston society for the prevention of pauperism, estimates the cost of pauperism in that city, in 1840 at \$31,455; in 1845 at \$45,000; and in 1850 at \$111,905. It also states that in the past five years, the native American paupers have decreased about 37 per cent, while foreign paupers, supported by the city, have increased about 150 per cent.

We see it estimated that at least 240,000 persons in the city of New York alone, attend no religious worship on the Sabbath.

Tripler Hall, New York, of Jenny Lind memory, has been sold under foreclosure of mortgage, for \$47,500.

VERMONT CENTRAL.—The receipts for the first ten months of the year were about \$510,500, against \$290,700 last year. Estimate for 1851 is \$540,000, against \$237,000 in 1850. If they reach that amount, there will be after all disbursements, \$120,000 towards a dividend fund.

RAILROAD TRAFFIC.—The receipts of the Ogdensburgh Railroad for the month of October for freight, passengers and rents were \$40,540 49. The returns for the corresponding month last year were \$22,732 04, showing a gain of \$17,877 99, or about 78 per cent.

At Newry, Ireland, one thousand girls are required for embroidery on the muslin work, to supply the increasing market.

The monster table-cloth for Mr. Soyer's Symposium is 307 feet long, 8 feet broad, weighs two cwt., and cost over £50.

The Methodists, who are now the most numerous religious denomination in the United States, and among the wealthiest too, are about building a Gothic church of great splendor in New York city. So says an exchange. If this be so it will be a great departure from the stern simplicity which has hitherto characterized the sect.

PANAMA RAILROAD IN OPERATION.—We observe by New York papers that the next steamers of the U. S. Mail Steamship Company, thence for the Isthmus, will avoid Chagres, and proceed direct to Navy Bay, the Panama railroad being completed, and the car-running by steam from that point to Gatune.

The friends of Mr. Webster held a large convention in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 25th, ult., and nominated him for President, for the campaign of '52.