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The Agriculturist

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, LITERATURE, AND NEWS.

ANDREW LIPSETT, Publisher.

"AGRICULTURE THE TRUE BASIS OF A NATION'S WEALTH."

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THE KIND OF EDUCATION.

Our country is filled with unemployed men, and the great question to-day asking for a solution is, What shall be done with these men, or rather what shall these men do? They only answer, in my judgement, is they must cultivate the soil. Farming must be elevated in its character, so that those who work the land will have a honest pride in their business. They must educate their children how to cultivate the soil. They must not be educated simply to be ministers, or lawyers, or doctors, but they must be educated to be farmers. It must be understood that education is as necessary to till the soil as to follow any other business or profession in the world. We must get rid of the idea that education unites one for labor. There are to-day hundreds of graduates of Harvard and Yale other colleges who are agents for sewing-machine companies, solicitors for insurance, clerks, copyists; in short performing menial service. They seem to be willing to do anything that can be done in the house, or in a town, but avoid farming as they would a leprosy. Every young man educated in this way is simply ruined. What little good sense he has is educated out of him. It is a thousand times better to have good sense without education, than education without good sense. Give your sons an education that will enable them to help themselves—that is education that will be of real use. Let them be taught to help themselves; that it is disgraceful to be idle; that only the useful are honorable.—Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll.

GIVE US A BREED OF WALKING HORSES.—The Germantown Telegraph is sound on this question of horses for farm use. It says: "What use are fast horses to farmers? Can they put them to work in the plow, harrow, cultivator, roller, reaping machine, cart or wagon? No. A storm might arise and the whole crop of hay would be ruined if they had to depend on 2.40 horses to haul it in. There is but one use that we can see that a farmer might put one to—sending for a doctor; but as farmers have very little occasion for this professional gentleman, and never get very sick, a slow and sure horse will answer better. Why then parade these horses at the head of the lists at agricultural fairs, and give them the biggest premiums? No wonder our practical farmers complain of this, while there is no premium at all for walking horses, which are a thousand times more useful—mean to the farmer and for general agricultural and industrial purposes. Thoroughbred horses have their uses, and we do not desire to utter a word against them, but many good words in their favor. They, however, must fill their own places, and work-horses theirs, and neither should be advocated to the exclusion of the other. Both should be recognized according to their value."

IN THE ORCHARD.—There can be no question but a day or two devoted to the orchard just at this period, provided the time for it can possibly be secured from the other work, would prove a good investment. It seems to be very generally conceded that no season is better for pruning, than the present, it being always understood that the pruning shall not be excessive, but shall be done moderately and judiciously. For young trees especially, the present time cannot perhaps be improved upon. Trees that have been newly set will need a little extra attention, and if they seem to be faltering in growth or are pale and sickly foliage, the remedy may lie in a little careful lopping off of some of the branches. Bark lice are a great pest to young trees in many places, and what seems often surprising, are more injurious than borers and caterpillars combined. When in abundance on quite young trees, they draw a great amount of vigor away from them, and cause the trees to look thin in foliage and generally at a stand still. A wash of whale oil soap applied with a stiff brush is the best remedy known. Fortunately, we hear but little complaint this year from the depredations of caterpillars; and we think from the active campaign these pests have made upon our orchards in the past three years, that we can dispense with them very well the present season. So far the prospects of an abundant yield of apples are most encouraging, and every body is looking forward to a season of comparative low prices for this luscious and healthy fruit to the people.—Maine Farmer.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The report that the crop of winter wheat has been affected disastrously by the late cold and rainy weather is, to a large extent, unfounded. The damage was purely local, and the general prospects of the crop were never better. The Chicago Tribune says that the spring wheat is in a splendid condition, and from data obtained from the various States, estimates the wheat crop of 1878 as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: State and Bushels. Includes Minnesota (80,000,000), Iowa (80,000,000), Kansas (30,000,000), Nebraska (25,000,000), Wisconsin (18,000,000), Michigan (10,000,000), Illinois (15,000,000), Indiana (20,000,000), Ohio (18,000,000), Texas (12,000,000), Arkansas (7,000,000), Kentucky (8,000,000), Tennessee (9,000,000), Pennsylvania, New York and New England (25,000,000). Total: 501,000,000.

The rapidity with which producers have been pushing the old crop forward of late indicates that they are anxious to get rid of it before the next comes.

WARTS ON HORSE.

Ed. Globe.—I have a horse which has a wart on his jaw and one on the side behind the fore shoulder, where the belly-band goes round. I have tried most every thing, but with very little success. It seems to kill them for a little while, but they grow on again.—J. G.

Ans.—The reason the warts grow again is because you do not persevere in treating them long enough, but leave the roots alive. For a few days apply caustic, such as nitrate of silver, zinc-oxide, carbolic acid, or chloride of zinc; the dead part of the wart should be pared away almost till blood starts. The caustic should then be applied again, the dead part cut away, and so on. If the warts have defied necks cut them off and cauterize the bases. Or instead of cutting them off tie a waxed thread tightly around and let them fall off, as they will do in a few days.

Agriculture.

FAILURE OF THE STRAWBERRY CROP.

This appears to be a general thing here in this vicinity. American cultivators have not been troubled with this intruder previous to this year—most all were anticipating a good crop. But such are the disappointments in the pursuit of fruit raising, as well as flowers, and all other like things in life or the material world. However, let us not be discouraged, let us try to find a remedy against this fellow next season. I am glad the Agriculturist is hunting after him or endeavoring to find out a remedy right at home.

These farmers' clubs are very good to advance or promote the interests of the farming community, at least that is my opinion, but I am forgetting what I began about. Robert Thompson is a practical and scientific gardener in the old world, says, the strawberry is frequently attacked by snails and slugs, and by the grubs of the spotted garden gnat (Tipula Maculosa) which cut off the flower stalks by the ground, and the larvae of Heliopsis lappula, Otiorhynchus tenax, and various other insects prey upon the roots. For snails and slugs, dusting with newly slacked lime is the best remedy and when the plants are seriously attacked at the roots, it is generally better to form a new plantation than attempt to combat the evil. The ground should afterward be deeply trenched in order to bury the insects. Mr. Thompson gives no other remedy than newly slacked lime. Heliolebor and lime generally answer for the same purpose. In reference to the spotted gnat that cuts the flower stalks off, if he likes the stem below it is likely he would cut it off anywhere higher or lower. This is the best information I can give at present. If any of the readers of the Agriculturist finds out anything better I should be pleased to read it.

Yours, &c., JOHN BEBBINGTON, Gardener, Fredericton, July 1st, 1878.

From all parts of the Province we hear the most satisfactory accounts of the crops, and the prospect at present is that they will be far more than average. The grass is generally very good. On some high laying lands it is perhaps thin and seems to have suffered from the drought last summer, and the want of the usual covering of snow during a part of the winter, but this loss is more than made up on other fields; the intervals and islands are particularly good. Hay making will begin in some localities immediately, being at least a week or ten days earlier than usual. The quantity of wheat sown is larger than for many years. It is rather early to form an opinion of the yield, but generally it looks well. We have not heard of the dreaded potato-bug having put in an appearance yet.

GREAT SALE OF SHORT-HORNS.

To put up for sale by auction at one time, without any reserve, 195 high-bred Short-horns was in these times a very bold thing to do, but it has been done, and with great success. At Winchester, Kentucky, on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, the entire Herd of Mr. B. B. Groom was sold at the hammer for cash down, and a sum exceeding \$80,000 was the realized amount. The Herd was of the most mixed character; a good many of very high pedigrees, of great individual merit, and in admirable condition; others, with two of these qualities, but lacking in the third; others with one of them, but lacking in the other two; and a good sprinkling that had little to recommend them. The company present was gathered from far and wide over the North American Continent; great interest attached to the sale among intelligent farmers; every animal on the catalogue was sold after a brisk competition; not the slightest suspicion of by-bidding attached to the conductors of the sale; and the whole affair went off with the highest satisfaction to all interested, whether buyers or sellers.

OF THE 195 SHORT-HORNS SOLD—126 WERE FEMALES AND 69 MALES.

Of the 126 females, 28 were non-breeders, very aged, or out of health—and these were exceedingly well sold for \$2,730, or an average of \$97 per head. The remaining 98 females produced \$54,630, or an average of \$557 per head—an average which, though much below old prices, cannot but be regarded, under all the circumstances, as universally satisfactory.

The 69 bulls and bull calves appear to have realized over \$23,000—or the satisfactory average, under all the circumstances, of \$334 per head.

A most instructive view of this sale for enterprising farmers is the comparative amounts realized for the respective families of Short-horns included in it. The 98 females sold in sound condition embraced two or more of 15 different well known families; and they took rank in the following order:—

First in the financial scale stands Mr. Bates' far-famed Wild Eyes family. Of it four cows were sold at \$2,800, \$2,600, \$1,900, and \$1,900 respectively—or an average of \$2,075 each. Second comes the equally prized Bates family of Kirkcubrightons—four of which were sold at \$2,800, \$2,050, \$1,750, and \$500 respectively—or an average of \$1,625. But it is noticeable that the two low-priced ones were 11 and 12 years old respectively, and of doubtful usefulness.

Third stands the Bates Lally family, of which three were sold at \$1,550, \$1,325, and \$1,025 respectively—or an average of \$1,160. Fourth came the Rose of Sharon, originally bred by Mr. Bates, but (domestic) in Kentucky by Mr. Abraham Renick. The animals sold of this family were either bred by Mr. Renick himself or by other eminent breeders from his stock. Six were sold at \$2,010, \$1,350, \$1,000, \$775, \$700, and \$510, respectively—two of two of them yearlings and four of their four years old. The average was therefore \$1,057 each.

Fifth came Mr. Bates' illustrious Oxford family—which there were but two individuals, one five years old and the other twelve years. They fell under the hammer at the very low price of \$1,000 each, in consequence of doubts as to their fertility. The old Oxford cow had bull calves in 1877, included in this sale, and they brought respectively \$875, \$850, and \$1,400. Sixth came the Bates Harts family, of which there were three sold at an average of \$600. Seventh stands the Craggs family, also established by Mr. Bates. Fifteen of it sold, an average of \$500. Eighth came the Bates Filbert family, of which eight were sold, at nearly the same average of \$500. The remaining families rank in the following order:—

Eggshanks.....2 at an average of \$428  
Victoria.....2 at an average of 430  
Places.....2 at an average of 430  
Desdemona.....2 at an average of 390  
Acorn.....2 at an average of 342  
Georgina.....2 at an average of 310  
Young Marys.....2 at an average of 245  
Bell Tyles.....4 at an average of 207  
Dunmains.....12 at an average of 202  
Blooms.....2 at an average of 170

SHORTHORNS VS. HEREFORDS.

A vigorous controversy has been going on in the American and English papers with respect to the relative merits of Short-horns and Herefords. We give below a part of one of the most able papers yet brought forth. It is from the pen of Rev. Mr. Beevor, who, living as he does in the midst of the Hereford country, may be supposed to be well up in the points of that breed of cattle. He says:—I quite agree that it is a false state of things where cows are dried of nature's flow to allow their frame's expansion, whilst they are still credited with the fine offspring they have produced, for foster cows to rear for them. This helps to sell a breed, and the cows come certainly as a rule the sooner in season, and so it may be fairly argued that a plurality of calves is worth more than an abundance of milk. Lots of fine Short-horn cattle of ancient lineage which rear their own offspring most successfully, and as regards comparison of the Short-horn with the Hereford, how is it that I myself, living actually in the county of the white faces, dispose continually to my farming neighbours of bull calves to cross with their Hereford herds, as I am uniformly told, because "it gives them so much more milk?" I have just sold a pair of Short-horn heifers to a Herefordshire Squire who lately owned a capital native herd, because his new bull has persuaded him to "go in for a dairy." And another rich neighbor—one of the staunchest to ridicule my pedigree Short-horn stock—is obliged to import his cows for the house from Gloucester! For miles around me the white, red, and roan short-horn dispute the pasture with the pale face. And this is in Herefordshire itself!

I will say no more than that one of the most successful Hereford breeders published in the Agricultural Gazette the other day, if a man could afford it, for the best blood Short-horns. How on earth can he to such a conclusion? I admire the Hereford cattle

much, and, had I been a native, might have taken pride in keeping up the sort. I should certainly have aimed at more milk and a year's earlier ripening. It is here the cosmopolitan Short-horn beat them. Moreover, the bald-faced Herefords does not do as a rule to cross with—the issue is often so ungainly and plain; whereas the Short-horn rather improves the character of all ordinary cattle that it may cross with. Mr. Stratton's Short-horn bull Protector has beaten competition, I believe, all the most famous Hereford bulls in existence. This, however, of small import. There is no doubt that the Hereford of the show yard is unusually excellent. The beauty of the breed at the last Tredegar was something wondrous. Still I ask why do my Hereford neighbors take a Short-horn cross?

There are no nurse cows kept on my place—all cows are reared by the dams. Butter and milk more or less, according to the season, are supplied to the house, and the cows now done calving are fit to kill for the butcher to-morrow. One cow is nursing a huge bull calf, gives half her milk to the house, is in calf again, and has a good depth of beef over her best points at this moment. She has about a couple of pounds of linseed oil cake daily, in addition to a chop of swedes and indifferent hay, all steamed. Her dam is alive, and I hope in calf, and had been delivered of seventeen live calves at fifteen years.—Toronto Globe.

HAY MAKING.

Experienced farmers are well aware of the superior value of hay that has been cut when the grass is in its prime, and well saved; the bright green color, but little paler than before it was laid down in the swath, and the sweet fragrance it retains in the mow and the manager bear testimony to its excellence. But many farmers are sadly in need of that best instructor—experience, and the consequence is we often see hay fed to stock that is only fit for litter. Hay that has ripened its seed is less nutritious than straw that has been cut when the grain is still not to ripen. Canadian farmers can have hay for their stock fully as good as any save in England. There the moisture of the climate that is so favorable to the growth of grass, renders it often very difficult to save and have hay in prime condition. Here the hay making season is all that we can desire, and yet with regard to the quality of the hay, the English is unquestionably the best, having been mown and saved in the proper season, and hence more nutritious.

The only reason given by those who defer mowing till the grass is fully ripe is that by so doing they can have a greater quantity—more tons to the acre; but the greater quantity is dearly purchased by the inferior quality. Were the bulk of hay increased even one-tenth, we must bear in mind that bulk does not imply nutrition, and that there would be less flesh-forming and fattening qualities in the increased quantity of dry ripe hay than in the less quantity mown and saved in the proper season and manner.

We need hardly give one word of caution against cutting too early. This is an extreme, people are not apt to fall into, but such a mistake might possibly be made, and would entail no little loss. Not only would the quantity, when being mown, be less, but the shrinkage would be greater. As with grain, there is a proper state of maturity in which it should be reaped, and there would be a loss in cutting earlier or later, so it is with grass. When grass has attained its full growth and not yet hardened, then it is in its prime and ready for the mowing machine. It is very important that when this state of growth has been arrived at the grass be cut and saved with as little delay as possible. This state is indicated by the wilting of the blossom, just having passed its greatest perfection, and the almost fully formed, and the ripening of the most forward grains having only just commenced! There is no other time in the whole life of the plant in which it so abundantly in saccharine juice as now. The object is to preserve those juices. They, and not the woody fibre into which the matured grass would soon be converted, are the true flesh and fat formers in feeding, and their presence is indicated by the bright color and sweet flavor of the hay.

The Canadian farmer who with less labor make hay of prime quality than the farmers of other countries. The soil and climate are well adapted to the growth of some of the most valuable grasses, though not giving so heavy a yield as countries having a more humid climate; and here the great labor often required in hay making is unknown. A few hours or days see it safe from the mowing machine in the rick or mow. But this, too,

has its evils. The grass is often too much exposed to the sun; hay is often dried in a day, thereby evaporating to a much of the saccharine juice, when it should be dried by turning and scattering, with less exposure to sun. One day's tending in our ordinary hay-making weather will dry hay sufficiently to be put into casks, where it should remain till it sweats a little instead of being carried to the barn from the swaths, as is too often done.

HOW A KICKING COW WAS MASTERED.

We do not think that the treatment practised by the New York Tribune correspondent whose letter is printed below is to be recommended in any case, but it seems to have been pretty effectual:—

I lately bought a cow, lean as a gillie on account of naturally nervous temperament and milking qualities; with both horns knocked off, the probable result of unsuccessful conflicts with superior powers, and a rolling eye that betokened the spirit within. She could hunt like a buck, and if you opened the stable door without the most elaborate precautionary measures she would kick out behind with a series of rapid strokes. She would even kick with a heavy whiplash at a man on the opposite side of the street. Her former owner told me she was "a good milker, but inclined to be a little ugly when she had a calf;" that I must tie her at first, and whatever I did I must not whip her, as it would only excite her and I could do nothing with her. I tied her legs twice; it took thirty minutes to get the rope on and fifteen to get it off each time, and she threw herself three times during the first operation and four during the second. A neighbor told me that no cow could kick with a rope drawn tightly around her body just in front of the hips. It's a mistake; but let that pass. I prepared to try it on.

The exploits of this cow having now become noised abroad, at the third trial she had an audience that would have gladdened the heart of many a poor preacher. I think she would have sent me to the stocks at all events she did her level best. Approaching with great caution, I managed after a while to get the rope in position. She was well enabled to display her powers to much better advantage than I could expect. She had previously used only one rope at a time, she now called in the reserve and used both at once with remarkable effect. She knocked my little finger out of joint with her right foot and sent me into the scullery, and the little art of persuasion made her do as I wished. She was well enabled to display her powers to much better advantage than I could expect. She had previously used only one rope at a time, she now called in the reserve and used both at once with remarkable effect. She knocked my little finger out of joint with her right foot and sent me into the scullery, and the little art of persuasion made her do as I wished.

I pondered that cow as long as she would stand on her hind legs, and I am happy to state that at the end of the conflict I sat down on a stool and milked her in peace, though to be sure with the use of but one hand.

I am of opinion that the most malicious cow can be taught by judicious management to reason in this way. AMMONIA CLEANING.—Housekeepers, purchase a good supply of ammonia to use in house cleaning. The husband has everything that will lighten his labors. Now suppose his wife has her bottle of spirits of ammonia to use; she takes her basin of water and a clean cloth, just puts on a few drops of the fluid, and wipes one all the dirt; it is worth more than a half day's hard labor, and does not hurt the paint either. She could put a few drops in her dish water, and see how easily the dishes could be cleaned; a few drops on a sponge would clean all the windows in the sitting-room making them shine like crystal. It would take the stains off the cushions too, and a tablespoonful in the mop-pail would do more towards washing up the kitchen floor than ten pounds of elbow grease applied to the mop handle. A housewife has as much right to make her work easy and expeditious as her husband has. If she does not do it, the fault is her own in a great measure.—Farm and Dirigo Rural.

MILKING MACHINES AGAIN.

A great fuss has been raised lately about a newly-invented instrument for the purpose of milking cows. It consisted of small metal tubes, which were thrust into the teats, and through which India rubber tubes annexed thereto the milk flowed into a receptacle placed beneath. Now nothing is better known than that it is a matter of exceeding difficulty to keep clean India rubber tubes through which milk flows, and this objection alone is sufficient to neutralize all the good that the milking machine could accomplish. If therefore scarcely needed the emphatic farmers show the invention up in its true colors. At a meeting of the Elmira, N. Y., Farmer's Club the subject came up for discussion. Mr. Billings answered for Mr. Fitch, who had used the machine on eight cows for two days, that the shrinkage in the yield was twenty-five quarts. That was bad enough; but to make the matter worse four of the cows, although milking in good order before the trial, at the end of two days gave lumpy milk, and two others bloody milk, while the remaining two were nearly dry. Mr. Fitch desired public notice to be given of his intention to eject from his premises any man who should enter with the request that he take a patent cow milker.

President Hoffman said—it is due to all who are interested in this invention and to dairymen who may be deceived by it, that we make plain statement of facts. I have a letter now before me from the person who left the milker with me, requesting me to withhold his name in my report of the trial made of the milker, for I had written him it was a miserable cheat, as I was very sure it would prove to be when I took it, and had so informed him. I believe that he was misled, and that he will not attempt sales, so, in obedience to his request, the name is withheld. The milker will do the work for which it is designed. It will draw all the milk in about the same time that it can be done by hand. The trouble comes afterwards as you have just heard. When I took the milker it was near night, and I had sixteen cows already milked. Having promised a trial I selected six others, and gave directions that they should be milked by this device and in no other way until other instructions were given. It was used with six cows for five milkings. At the end of that time four were given lumpy milk, one bloody, while all had shrunk from fifty to eighty per cent of their yield. Now we cannot afford to let such a cheat be put upon our dairymen if we have any influence to prevent it. I pronounce it an unmitigated humbug. I was not surprised by the result, but I confess I did not expect the evil to be developed so soon. If this thing is put upon the unsuspecting farmers by smooth-tongued salesmen who expatiate they will upon the examination it affords from the hard labor of milking, and prove it by a single trial, the dairy interest in the counties near here may be damaged to the extent of a full million of dollars. We most condemn the milkers in the most positive and public manner.

HEAVY SHIPMENT OF THRESHING MACHINES.

The schooner "Keystone," Capt. E. E. Wilder from Pembroke, Me., sailed from Philadelphia, Pa., last week with a full cargo of Heebner's Level Tread Horse Powers and Little Giant Threshing Machines, bound for Sackville, N. B. The vessel is 300 tons burden, and it took ten open cars to carry the machines from the factory at Lansdale, Pa. to Philadelphia, and the long train of finely painted machines created quite a sensation along the route. The machines are consigned to J. Edward Page, Esq., of Amherst, Nova Scotia. We have known Mr. Page for some years in connection with agricultural interests and have such confidence in his judgment in regard to such things that we have no doubt of his success in this enterprise. These machines have become very popular throughout the land and are gaining favor each season. We understand that a shipment is soon to be made to this State in charge of Mr. J. L. True, the general agent for the manufacturers.

WASH FOR FENCES—GOOD LIME SLACKED WITH SOUR MILK, AND DILUTED WITH WATER TILL IT IS ABOUT THE CONSISTENCY OF ORDINARY WHITWASH IS RECOMMENDED BY THE LANDWEARTH AS AN EXCELLENT COATING FOR WOODWORK.

Fences, rafters, partitions, etc., are effectually protected against the weather for at least ten years by this application. The casing of the milk in combination with the lime forms a permanent film, which dries so quickly in warm weather that heavy rains falling directly after it has been laid on will scarcely affect the work.

EARLY TRAINING OF TROT-TING COLTS.

This is a subject that has been very much discussed for a number of years past, and upon which there appears to be divided opinion; although I think, the general belief is, that all two and three-year olds are more or less damaged by a preparation for races. This impression may have been made by mistakes which occurred when the system was in its infancy, and before those who undertook this preparation had much experience with colts at these ages; but that it is necessary so, I do not believe.

In my judgment, then, even two year olds can be trained with just as much safety as aged horses, and be permanently benefited by it, as matured trotters. Started with, so early in life, they not only acquire the disposition to take the trotting gait and keep it, but the muscles brought into use by it are developed and strengthened by constant exercise, until they are stronger than those used at other gait; and it finally becomes easier to trot than run, which will make horses staidier and more reliable trotters at all future ages.

My belief is that this system cannot be commenced too soon in the life of a colt, if it is practised with care. The trainer should be a man of good judgment, and large experience with the management of these young things; in which case, I believe, there is less risk in bringing them up to horsehood, than by letting them run in the pasture until they are three or four years old.

In the trainer's hands their exertions are controlled and systematized within reasonable and safe limits; while, in the pasture, where they are unrestrained, and in company with others, they take the most violent exercise, and are more exposed to danger than at any other time, or under any other circumstances.

PRICKLY COMFREY.

You are allowed comfrey growers to discuss the merits of this forage plant in your valuable journal, and you will, I am sure, gladly insert the present experience of perhaps one of the oldest growers of comfrey in this country. The farmers and pig keepers of this neighbourhood having found out the value of comfrey are sending to me from a distance of three miles road for the fresh comfrey tops, and willingly pay me one shilling per cwt. for this green food as it is cut from the plants, and this demand is increasing every day. My experience is that young growing pigs thrive amazingly on this food, and I feel confident that farmers will soon find out that it is to their advantage to feed their swine on these green crops, rather than to fat them on meal for the pork-butcher. As this is the first year I have cut this forage largely for sale, I have noticed one fact which some of your readers may be able to explain, viz., that the sap of the "solid stem" variety, when cut, imparts to the hand a bright orange color, and the hollow stem a dingy brown colour. I also find that this solid stem variety yields a crop much earlier than the ordinary hollow stemmed variety, I have had plants this year four to five feet high. I weighed some of the tops cut from plants put in twelve months since, and found they averaged 11 lbs. weight of top at their first cutting. May 14, 1878.—London Field.

INSECT POISONERS.

It is well the public should know that the insect-killing powder derived from the leaves and flowers of the Pyrethrum roseum, which is coming into extensive use, is often sold in a shockingly adulterated state. This would matter so much if all the added matter were as harmless as the Scotch snuff, tobacco refuse, etc., which are among the adulterants. But we are informed that some samples of these insect powders are mixed with white arsenic, a mixture which entirely changes the character of the compound; for the chief utility of Pyrethrum is that while its touch is certain death to all invertebrates it is perfectly harmless to the higher forms of life. Knowledge of this fact might lead a purchaser to be less careful in his use of the powder than he would be if he knew that he was handling a potent poison. In England there is a case progressing before the courts where a chemist adulterated violet powder with arsenic, and thereby caused the death of several children. If the facts can be brought home to the chemist it is likely he will be indicted on a capital charge. The same treatment, we think, should be meted out to any person who causes death by selling an adulterated insect poison that if pure would be harmless to human life. And while we are talking of insect poisons, we may as well call the attention of the proper authorities to the fact that that virulent poison, Paris green, has become an article of common merchandise, and instead of being sold only by registered druggists, as the law requires, it is dealt in by persons almost entirely ignorant of its deadly properties, and in places the most unfit for the custody of so dangerous a drug.—Canada Farmer.

IN THE ORCHARD.—There can be no question but a day or two devoted to the orchard just at this period, provided the time for it can possibly be secured from the other work, would prove a good investment. It seems to be very generally conceded that no season is better for pruning, than the present, it being always understood that the pruning shall not be excessive, but shall be done moderately and judiciously. For young trees especially, the present time cannot perhaps be improved upon. Trees that have been newly set will need a little extra attention, and if they seem to be faltering in growth or are pale and sickly foliage, the remedy may lie in a little careful lopping off of some of the branches.

Bark lice are a great pest to young trees in many places, and what seems often surprising, are more injurious than borers and caterpillars combined. When in abundance on quite young trees, they draw a great amount of vigor away from them, and cause the trees to look thin in foliage and generally at a stand still. A wash of whale oil soap applied with a stiff brush is the best remedy known.

Fortunately, we hear but little complaint this year from the depredations of caterpillars; and we think from the active campaign these pests have made upon our orchards in the past three years, that we can dispense with them very well the present season. So far the prospects of an abundant yield of apples are most encouraging, and every body is looking forward to a season of comparative low prices for this luscious and healthy fruit to the people.—Maine Farmer.

PORK.—PORK IS CHEAPER TO-DAY THAN IT HAS BEEN AT ANY TIME FOR THE PAST THIRTY YEARS.

This is the result of overproduction in the Western States, where swine raising for some time past has proved a most profitable industry. The decline in prices has been very great, and a number of provision firms in the West and East have failed in consequence, but the trade is not likely to be crippled because our exports of pork, bacon, and lard are increasing, and it is certain that the product will be reduced to nearly the apparent or estimated demands, foreign and domestic. The demand from abroad is very heavy yet, as is shown by the following figures of our exports: Pork, in 1876, 77, 36,125,000 pounds; bacon, 303,230,000 pounds; lard, 138,140,000 pounds. In 1877-78 the amount of pork exported was 39,780,000 pounds; bacon, 307,215,000, and of lard, 225,000,000 pounds. This comparison shows increases for the past twelve months of bacon, 95,000,000 pounds; lard, 87,000,000 pounds, and of pork, 3,500,000 pounds, or a general total increase of hog products exported of over 185,000,000 pounds. If this rate of export is kept up, and there is a fair prospect that it will be, we shall soon be relieved of our surplus, and the trade will not only become active but profitably so, both to the producer and dealer.—Philadelphia Enquirer.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The expedition in search of the relics of Sir John Franklin has sailed from New York in the schooner "Eoschne".

The searching party will consist of Lieut. Schwatke, Col. Gilder, Joseph Eberling, Henry W. Kinsman, an Assamite by name, and a civil engineer by education, and Francis Melas.

THE POISON RUM.

The grand jury of New York have had their attention directed by the presiding judge to the matter of the adulteration of rum.

THE CANADIAN TROPHY AT THE FAIR.

The special Paris correspondent of the Toronto Globe sends that paper the following description of the Canadian trophy.

THE COMING ECLIPSE.

On the twenty-ninth inst., there will be a total eclipse of the sun. The path of totality will cross the continent of North America.

THE CLOCK OF CLOCKS.

In Menzies's building is now on exhibition in all probability the most wonderful clock in the world.

Double doors to the left then open, and the Frenchman is all abroad. Watch with a friend, the performances at the Trocadero.

Communications.

Sir,—Could you inform me where the worthy editor of the Reporter gets so much information from, as I am very much puzzled with a certain notice in his issue of the 20th inst.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Even for Canada the Chinese question is beginning to take on a practical bearing.

DOMINION DAY'S DOINGS.

Canada has never passed so truly general and hearty a birth-day as the one just gone by.

LABOR OUTRAGES.—The latest and in some respects most aggravating phase of the labor question is given to us in the telegrams from the Western States.

LAW REFORM IN ENGLAND.

The Parliament of Great Britain has now under consideration a criminal code, prepared by Sir James Fitzjames Stephen which will make a radical and much needed change in the criminal laws of England.

fight between Mr. Chas. Burpee M. P. and Mr. Littleton. The latter is the Covert Party influence is to be thrown to the opposition candidate.

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Literature.

THE HIDDEN TREASURE: or All for Love.

A long stretch of barren, rocky shore; tall, gray cliffs rising one above another; their solid bases washed by the moaning waves; sea-gulls screaming across the water; their beautiful plumage glistening in the sunlight. It was a spot on the Pacific coast—a wild, uninhabited spot, where deadly serpents, green lizards, and other hideous reptiles peeped from crevices, or glided over the baked earth.

try their luck. It was like a romance to them—a old-time fairy tale, in which an eccentric king offers the hand of his favorite daughter to the knight who will overcome certain unheard-of obstacles, for the attainment of a pet object. Perhaps they might be the fortunate heroes in this case—the Boons, as it were.

They first waited upon Casper Wolfe, to learn if the report had any foundation in truth. He quickly advised them by promising to give them his daughters to wed the moment they brought him the coveted treasure. They then set out, armed with the crude and very unscientific map which the dying hand of the pirate had traced. They preferred to go by water, as that mode of journeying promised fewer dangers and difficulties than any other; so they took their own sailboat, in the management of which both were well skilled, and performed the voyage to Bandoro's Ledge in safety. There they concealed the craft in a cove, and spent a week in fruitless search among the rocks.

With this explanation we will return to our heroes, who were hurrying along the shore in pursuit of what they supposed to be a wild animal. They were in the act of passing round a jutting point, that extended almost into the water, when Jack, who was in the lead, suddenly recoiled, with a low exclamation of surprise.

"What is it?" asked Harry. "Hurry!" whispered Jack. Harry pressed forward, and looked over his companion's shoulder, and was startled half out of his wits at the sight of—not a wild beast, but a man, scarcely ten feet ahead of them. He was a desperate-looking character, huge and muscular, and swarthy as a Moor. He was armed to the teeth, and his queer, fantastic dress had something unmistakably Spanish about it, not to say brigandish. At the moment he appeared so unexpectedly to the young adventurers, he was kneeling on the ground in a stealthy cautious way, peering up through a dark crevice, between the cliffs.

Presently he placed a small silver whistle to his lips, and blew a low shrill blast that reverberated dolefully among the crags. Then he rose to his feet, and stood as if waiting. Instead of retreating, Jack and Harry crouched upon the ground, where no chance glances could discover them, and with the action of the man.

"Yes," replied Harry, eagerly. "How many men have they left behind?" "Only one, and I am confident that they have found the treasure. Harry, we must have that gold to-night! Go get the boat, as quickly as you can, and bring it right here to this spot. Trust me to do the other work. There's no time to ask questions, but do as I tell you! Go!"

Though dumb with amazement, Harry saw that it was no time to indulge in unnecessary remarks, and without waiting for a second bidding he bounded away to get the boat. Jack turned, and again hurried on the steps, this time with a fierce determination written on his handsome face. Arriving at the top, he once more advanced cautiously toward the cave-entrance, through which the light was still streaming. Reaching it unobserved, he dropped upon all-fours and took a stealthy peep at the interior.

The entrance was very narrow, but at least six feet in height. It revealed a short passage, not over ten feet in length which opened abruptly into a spacious apartment beyond. The room was brilliantly lighted with torches, arranged in crevices of the wall, and one man was visible—only one! This individual was seated at a table in the centre of the apartment, mixing a glass of grog with the dignified composure of a prince. Jack at once recognized Pedro, the wretch who had spied upon his and Harry's movements. On the table stood two massive earthen jars, and the youth's eyes fairly snapped as he gazed at them, for he believed they contained the lost treasure.

Fraser, Wetmore & Winslow, ATTORNEYS AND BARRISTERS AT LAW, Solicitors, Conveyancers, etc. MONEY NEGOTIATED, and LOANS MADE From, April 13th, 1878.

BECKWITH & SEELY, Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public, etc. Office in CITY HALL, FREDERICTON. Attend at Oromocto and Fredericton Junction, alternate Saturdays. Accounts Collected, and Loans Negotiated.

ALLEN & WILSON, Barristers and Attorneys AT LAW. Notaries Public, Sec., Loans Negotiated, Accounts Collected. OFFICE up-stairs in Wiley's Building, next to Mr. Logan's Store.

WAVEFLY HOUSE FREDERICTON. THIS well known hotel has been improved on, and the premises enlarged. The Stables are the best in the city. Charges low.

HUGH McMONAGL, Sussan. Corner, King's County. NEW BRUNSWICK. Dealer of Ayrshire Cattle, and Leicester Sheep

SEEDS. FRESH GARDEN Field and Flower SEEDS. THE Subscriber has just received from one of Great Britain's best seed houses in

T. W. SMITH, FISHER'S BUILDING, Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B. WOULD best leave to inform his numerous friends and customers, and the public in general, that he has received from

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PLOWS. PLOWS. 50 WROUGHT IRON BEAM AND STEEL MOULDBOARDS; 50 CAST IRON BEAM AND STEEL MOULDBOARD. 25 CAST IRON BEAM AND STEEL MOULDBOARD AND END SIDE. 25 CAST IRON BEAM AND CAST MOULDBOARD; 6 DOUBLE MOULD BOARD PLOWS; 6 WOODEN BEAM AND CAST MOULDBOARD.

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