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FIRST PRIZE ROADSTER OR CARRIAGE STALLION,
AT THE RECENT PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.



'KING GEORGE III.'

THE PROPERTY OF WM. THORNTON, YORK, ONTARIO.

THE

ONTARIO FARMER;

A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

Agriculture, Horticulture, Country Life, Emigration, and the Mechanic Arts.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER, 1869.

No. 11.

THANKSGIVING FOR HARVEST.

It is eminently proper that a professedly Christian people should, in their national capacity, make united acknowledgement of the goodness of God in harvest, by the observance of a day of thanksgiving. The right of Government to interfere authoritatively in religious matters is pretty generally disbelieved in now-a-days, and by distinct assertion on our Statute Book, all vestige of connection between Church and State has been done away with. But it is no way inconsistent with the order of things established among us, that our rulers should single out a day, and request its observance as a social and religious festivity, in view of the Divine bounties vouchsafed unto us. In default of governmental action the present year, the ecclesiastical authorities of some churches made choice of the fifth of the present month as a day of thanksgiving for harvest. In the town of Guelph, where we reside, three Presbyterian congregations, the Wesleyan Methodists, and the Congregationalists held Union Thanksgiving Services, in the forenoon at St. Andrew's Church, and in the evening at the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This arrangement, though in some respects a very good one, had its drawbacks in the necessary carrying on of business, and the inability of many to keep the day, owing to its observance not being general. We trust that in some way, provision may be made in future years for doing that on a general scale, which has been done the present season but partially and imperfectly.

Whether we observe a set day or no, prominent among our subjects of devout thanksgivings,

should be the Divine gift of another bountiful harvest. This good land has again yielded her increase, and it becomes us to reflect that we have herein a signal proof of the goodness and faithfulness of God. In the olden time, "He left not Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave rain from Heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling men's hearts with food and gladness." So now, each harvest gives testimony that "God is love," for "Every good gift, and every perfect gift cometh down from above, even from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." The course of nature, though governed by established laws is, nevertheless, in one view of it, a standing miracle, a constant display of Almighty wisdom and power. In the eloquent language of another:—

"Suppose that, early in this year, the whole world had bent itself in supplication to the Invisible Ruler—every man and woman, from the Arctic circle to the hot Equator, kneeling in the humility of conscious dependence, and lifting up from every zone the prayer, 'Forsake us not this year, Great Benefactor, but bless us in our helplessness, from the treasury of thy goodness.' And suppose that, after such a verbal petition, the supply had come, that in every house had been found the water and the stores, the bounties of vegetable and animal food—how surprising would the mercy have seemed.

"But how much more surprising and inspiring is the real wonder, that such a shower upon a barren globe could be! With few prayers for it, the great miracle has been wrought, and in the double way of beauty and bounty. For what is the display of the seasons? Is not the quickening of nature in the early months of the year, as though God smiles upon the earth at the Equator? and then the spreading wave of that benignity sweeps northward, rolling back the water-line, loosing the fetters of the frost, melting snow into fertilizing juices, pressing the cold clouds farther and farther back, and from the tropics to the edges of the Polar seas gladdening the soil,

till it utters in spreading verdure the visible green lyric of its joy. And the summer! Is it not the warm effluence of his breath that flows northward, and reveals the infinite goodness as it floats through the southern groves and fills the fruit with sweetness, thickens the sap of the sugar fields, nourishes the rice plains, feeds the energies of the temperate clime, blesses the hardy orchards and the struggling wheat and corn, and dies amid the everlasting ice, after completing the circuit of its mission in clothing the northern woods with life? And then the many-hued pomp of harvest comes, when the more rudy light and the gorgeous colouring repeat the joy of the Creator in the vast witnesses of His beneficence, and the tired fields yield to the labourers their ample bounty, and seem to whisper, 'Take, O children of men, and be grateful, until the course of this stupendous miracle is renewed.'

"If we could see the wheat woven by fairy spinners, apples rounded and painted and packed with juice by elfin fingers; or if the sky were a vast granary or provision store, from which our needs were supplied in response to verbal prayers, who could help cherishing a constant undertone of wonder at the miraculous forces that encircle us? But consider how much more amazing is the fact! Consider how, out of the same moisture, the various flowers are compounded; the dew that drops in the tropics is transmuted into the rich orange liquor and banana pulp, and sweet substance of the fig; the pomegranate stores itself with fine fragrance and savour from it; the various colours and qualities of the grape are drawn from it, and in the temperate orchards the rain is distilled in the dark arteries of trees—into the rich juice of the peach and the pear, the apple and the plum.

"When a travelling trixster pours several different liquors from one bottle into a cup for the spectators, it is called magical. Yet nature, not by deception, but actually, does pour for us one tasteless liquid into all the varieties in taste which the vegetable world supplies. If, by a miracle, kindred with that of Christ at Cana, a jar of water could be to-night converted within your houses into wholesome wine, could it be so admirable as the ways in which the vines make wine upon the hillside out of vapour and sunlight, at the bidding of God?"

These processes of nature are not less wonderful because of their regularity and constancy, though on these accounts we often fail to note their wondrousness, and to adore their Author. This is bad enough; but what shall we say of that cold, blind, atheistic philosophy, of which there is so much in the present day, which talks with wise look and learned phrase about nature's laws, and never lifts a loving, trustful, thankful eye and heart to nature's Infinite Lawgiver. Far from us be such a spirit!

"To God who all creation made,
The frequent hymn be duly paid. ALLELUIA!

Ye clouds that onward sweep,
Ye winds on pinions light,
Ye thunders echoing loud and deep,
Ye lightnings mildly bright,
In one consent unite your ALLELUIA!
Ye floods and ocean billows,
Ye storms and winter snow,
Ye days of cloudless beauty,
Hoar frost and summer glow;
Ye groves that wave in spring,
And glorious forests sing ALLELUIA!

This is the strain, the eternal strain the Lord Almighty loves,
This is the song, the heavenly song that Christ himself approves,
Wherefore we sing both heart and tongue awaking,
ALLELUIA!
And children's voices echo, answer making, ALLELUIA!

INFLUENCE OF AIR, LIGHT, AND EXERCISE ON THE ANIMAL ECONOMY.

It was long ago remarked by that celebrated chemist, Sir Humphrey Davy, that the composition of the atmosphere, in all situations where accurate tests had been applied, was found to be nearly the same. It has been examined as obtained from crowded cities, close streets and alleys, from the tops of mountains, from deep valleys, and from the surface of the ocean; in all cases the proportion of its nitrogen, oxygen and carbonic acid was almost identically the same; and yet it is certain that there exists in the atmosphere certain foreign matters in very minute proportions, which exercise very considerable influence on our health and that of live stock. Some of these substances, such as ammonia and nitric acid, are present in sufficient amount to be separated and determined by the chemist; but there are other substances too minute for him to determine their exact proportions. The aroma of flowers, the emanations from decomposing matters, though perceptible to our senses, are in great measure beyond even his powers; and yet these emanations are productive of the best or the most miserable effects upon the welfare of animal life. Why does typhus haunt certain localities? Why does cholera decimate the districts where decomposing organic matters add their impure emanations to the soil? Whence come the pallid cheeks of the well-fed citizen? Whence the ruddy hue of the ploughman and "his bairns," living often on scanty fare, it is true, but inhaling in their rustic cottage pure air and drinking bright wholesome

water from nature's living springs? Why do the box, cellar, or stable-fed cows of large cities become diseased, though fed on the most nutritious and abundant food? Do they not breathe an atmosphere in which, with other matters, their own insensible perspiration is mingled, and are they not commonly kept in comparative darkness?

The influence of light on the vegetable and animal economy is immense, though science has not yet fully made out in all cases the manner of its operation. It is well known to practical men that animals excluded from light fatten faster than those in the light, but there can be no doubt that their health suffers thereby. Even the insensible exhalation of water by plants ceases when they are removed from the influences of light, the material effects of which on animals is at present but imperfectly understood. There is no doubt that the brilliancy of the plumage of the birds and insects of warm climates is chiefly attributable to the intensity of the light to which they are exposed. Without this agent plants do not attain their various and pleasing shades of green; the common cockroach, reared in the dark, becomes nearly colourless, and tadpoles remain tadpoles. On the other hand, observes Dr. Carpenter, in his treatise on physiology, "the more the body is exposed to the influence of light, the more freedom do we find from irregular action or conformation." He instances the effects of the absence of light on certain wards of the hospitals both in London and on this continent; and the absence of all natural deformity in the natives of South America, who do not wear any clothing. *Light, air, and exercise* then certainly conduce not only to animal, but to vegetable life; the action of the wind exercises, as it were, the growing plant.

The salutary effects on human health of the great principle involved in the foregoing remarks was thus set forth some years ago by an eminent London physician:—

So then, I thought, Health can't be bought;
From drugs and draughts she flies:
I'll court her stay another way—
By air and exercise.

And forth I went, and felt content
The azure sky to see,
To watch the herds, to hear the birds
That sing from tree to tree.

Poor men I met, 'midst toil and sweat
Yet gay, to my surprise:
I think I know what makes them so—
'Tis air and exercise.

A park was near, with lodge and pier,
And down the avenue,
Awhile I stay'd, to see the maid
Who milked a cow or two.
Her rosy face had not a trace
Of care; her laughing eyes,
To one that heeds, said—This proceeds
From air and exercise.

'Midst shrubs and flowers a mansion towers,
And rears its lofty head;
I walked indoors, and saw the floors
With richest carpet laid.
My lord has gout, and can't get out;
In bed my lady sighs,
And takes a pill, but never will
Take air and exercise.

The drawing-room is full of gloom;
The husbandman, at plough,
Is full of life, and keeps his wife
And children, God knows how.
On dainties fed, one goes to bed,
With aches and cares to rise:
The poor man's health is all his wealth
From air and exercise.

But what is this? Behold a Miss,
Who, pallid, stiff, and lank,
In seeking strength, stretched out full length,
Upon a sloping plank.
They say her spine is out of line,
So, looking at the skies,
She gets hump-backed, when all she lacked
Was air and exercise.

Then would you gain Hygeia's fame,
Take horse to her abode;
Or, if you choose, wear walking shoes:
She has no carriage road.
Nor fear to go in sleet or snow,
For noble is the prize!
'Tis appetite, and sleep by night,
From air and exercise.

NEW YORK STATE FAIR.

For some years past it has been our good fortune to be present at the New York State Fair. This year, to our great regret, we were unable to attend it. In default of personal observation and notes, we cull from our excellent contemporary, the *Rural New Yorker*, the following particulars of the affair:—

ELMIRA, Sept. 16th, 1869.

GROUND, MANAGEMENT, ETC.

The twenty-ninth Annual Exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society is held in the valley of the Chemung, in the western outskirts of the city of Elmira. The grounds are fine, both in location and present condition.

Twenty-five or thirty acres are enclosed, and the fences, halls and sheds were constructed for the occasion. Hardly undulating enough to be called rolling, yet the surface swells from a dead flat, and one can see across the valley on either side, to the wooded, circling hills which bound the horizon. On one side stand the cattle, swine and sheep pens, on the opposite are ranged the horse stalls, with a track near by encircling five or six acres. In the centre are the poultry sheds, the various halls, and the Police, Telegraph, President's and Press offices. Near the entrance stands the business office and the refreshment department. At the further end implements of all kinds are scattered over the ground. Taken altogether, the grounds and buildings look neat, roomy, and well arranged. The weather is propitious. Judging by to-day's crowd, the receipts will furnish no just grounds for complaint. But the Exhibition itself falls below any one of the three next preceding it, and hardly ranges above a respectable County Fair.

There is a new and excellent feature this year, and it is to be hoped that the Society will persist in enforcing the rule that the entry books shall be closed several weeks prior to the Fair, and nothing be allowed on exhibition which is not entered previous to their closing. The result this year is a well-arranged catalogue of one hundred and fifty-two pages, describing 2,036 entries. It is practically a hand-book of the Fair. In the case of Stock, description, pedigree, and, if for sale, prices are given. Implements are also described, priced, and the makers' address given. It forms a valuable record of the Exhibition. There is some grumbling because of the exclusion from exhibition of articles not thus entered, and a disposition to attribute the meagerness of the show to this cause. But a glance at the catalogue shows the entries to be numerous enough, and the empty stock pens and shelves in the halls are the cards of those who didn't chose to exhibit after making those entries.

THE CATTLE.

Though few in number, there is some very fine stock.

The best Short-Horns here are those of Hon. E. Cornell, Ithaca. He exhibits fifteen head. The herd prize was taken by his cow "Kirkleavington 12th," a roan, bred by the exhibitor, calved in April, 1865, sired by 3d "Lord Oxford," dam "Kirkleavington 11th." "Princess 16th," by "St. Valentine," dam "Princess 12th" of the same age, was in the estimation of many fully equal to the prize cow. In the same class C. exhibited "Rosamond," bred by R. A. Alexander, Woodford county, Ky. His yearling bull "Locomotive" by "St. Valentine," dam "Lucinda," was decorated with blue ribbon (first prize), also the bull calf "Baron Booth," by "Crowbar," dam "Maria Booth," by "Duke of Oxford."

The other principal exhibitors of Short-Horns are, Craig W. and James W. Wadsworth, of

Geneseo; K. C. Ward, of LoRoy; A. B. Benham, of Tompkins Co.; F. C. Lovman, of Tioga Co.; V. W. Mason, of Madison Co.; Wm. Blanchard, of Penn Yan; Wm. Jackson, of Cayuga Co.; and George Butts, of Manlius.

The finest display in cattle is in Ayrshires. The herds well represented are those of Walcott & Campbell, of New York Mills; S. D. Hungerford, of Adams, N. Y.; Brodie & Son, of Rural Hills; O. Howland, of Auburn; and E. C. Holden, of McGrawville. Mr. Hungerford exhibited twenty-two head—the largest number—and W. & C. eight. Jerseys are shown by Wm. Crozier, of Northport. His herd of seven or eight had no competitors, with the exception of a yearling bull, exhibited by Thos. Gould, Auburn. There is nothing remarkable about the few grade cattle, oxen, steers, &c., shown, except the big ox owned by Benjamin Fellows, of Chili. He is five years old, and said to weigh thirty-five hundred.

THE SHOW OF HORSES

Is not equal to that of last year, but, perhaps, is as good as the average, except in the class of brood mares, which is miserable. Wm. Innis, of York, Ontario, Canada, took the first prize in the class of draft stallions over four years old, with "Little John," a dappled black, seven years old, sixteen and a half hands, by "Robin Hood," dam by "Messenger." Lewis G. Morris, of Fordham, has several prize horses on the grounds, of which "Orion," a steel grey, three-year-old Hambletonian stallion, took a first. There is a fine range in stallions, and the young look promising. Improvement is manifest in these. But there are also a large number of very inferior horses, such as absolutely disgrace a Fair. Probably they will not be exhibited at the next horse-trot.

THE SHEEP SHOW.

The display of Sheep is best in the long-wooled breeds. The principal exhibitors of these are Walcott and Campbell, who show Leicesters and Lincolns. Julian Winne shows Leicesters. Fine Cotswolds are shown by Jno. D. Wing, Dutchess county. There are but few South Downs, shown chiefly by E. Cornell, of Ithaca, and John Lynch, of West Brighton; William Chamberlain and Carl Heyne, of Red Hook. Bronson and Marriner, of East Bloomfield; and Peter and Geo. F. Martin, of Monroe county, are the principal exhibitors of the fine wools.

THE SHOW OF SWINE.

Like other classes of stock, the Swine department is not well filled. There are some large hogs, some tolerable Chesters and Cheshires, some Essex and Berkshires. The quality of the white breeds would not compare well with those shown in former years. The dark breeds (Essex and Berkshires) were fine, and seemed more thorough-bred than the others.

FLORAL HALL.

It was, perhaps, unfortunate for the Horticultural part of the State Fair, that the National

Promological Society held its meeting the same week in Philadelphia. The season was too early, also, for grapes, and the location was not very favourable to getting up a fine show of fruits and flowers. Floral Hall was a farce. But a good reputation from last year hung over it, and it literally took in a crowd who made the circuit of the tent, vainly looking for some exponent of the Horticultural capacity of the Empire State, and came out with disgust clouding their faces, and censure falling from their lips.

There was a better display of flowers, however, than fruit. The collections of James Vick, Ellwanger & Barry, C. W. Crossman, and Mrs. J. T. Van Namee, were the best in flowers. Grapes were shown by the Pleasant Valley Wine Co., and J. W. Clarke, of Naples, in quite large collections, but the fruit was immature.

DOMESTIC HALL.

One of the novelties here was an iron plane, which seems to possess many advantages over those of wood. The face is fluted parallel to its length, which prevents too great adhesion to the wood it is cutting. The throat is made adjustable for fine or coarse work. It looks like a fine improvement on ordinary planes.

A cheap tool for cutting glass was shown, consisting of a small steel cutting wheel, fixed in a handle similar to those holding diamonds for the same use. It worked well, and is claimed to be durable, as it is cheap. The idea of using a small revolving steel wheel for cutting glass in place of a diamond, is novel.

Here was also a patented device for the application of the dry earth system to commodes. The simple application of dry loam to human ordure, destroys all unpleasant and noxious vapors, and so renders it a powerful and available fertilizer. Devices to effect this application in convenient and certain ways are patentable, but no one need hesitate to avail themselves of the principle of thus deodorizing night-soil. A few barrels of dry road dust, if it be not sharp sand, and a shallow box that is easily emptied, are all actually required. If this principle of saving night-soil were adopted in the towns and country, it would result in adding millions of dollars to the value of the manurial resources of this country, as well as promoting an infinite amount of health and comfort.

FARM IMPLEMENTS.

The department of Farm Implements was likewise deficient in variety and interest. The popular reapers and mowers were out, however, and the most novel and important improvement shown was an attachment to Johnston's Self-Raking Reaper, which enables two men to bind the grain as fast as it is cut. It was not brought out until the last oat harvest, but it worked well at all trials. It is merely a platform attachment, with a supporting castor wheel and a table, where two men ride and bind. The rake throws the cut grain on this platform, instead of the ground, and an arm shoves it into a shallow, wide trough in front of the binders. This attachment does not change the machine as a self-

raker in the least; it can be quickly detached, and the ordinary reaper is left. The draft is increased, making it an easy three or very light four horse machine when the attachment is in use.

Among the implements for cultivating the soil, a fine set of steel and cast-iron ploughs, shown by the Ames Manufacturing Co., was noticeable. Also a plough having an adjustable, revolving mold-board, for which a diminished friction and better pulverization of soil were claimed. The Nishwits Harrow, consisting of a V shaped frame, supported on revolving discs of iron, with seat for driver, suggested something easier and better than the old-fashioned sort.

Thomas' Smoothing Harrow and Broadcast Weeder, consisted of planks hinged together so as to be adjustable to uneven surfaces, the teeth being large sized nails, driven in with a backward inclination. It is claimed that corn may be harrowed with this until nearly a foot high without injury, but the weeds will be destroyed if the harrowing be done often enough. It is also good for wheat in the spring, and to smooth and pulverize the surface already moderately mellow. Many a farmer might take a hint from this, and manufacture a very good tool for many purposes, by hinging together a few pieces of plank, and driving in plenty of large nails.

A very perfect implement is Foster's Broadcast Sower, for plaster, grain and grass seeds. Since it was last shown a harrow attachment has been added, and it now sows grass seed and grain, and harrows at the same time.

Another novelty worthy the careful attention of farmers was Reed's Three-Story Shelter Sheep Fold. Sheep are lodged and fed in three stories, thus greatly economizing space and roofing. When built in sections, each being fourteen feet wide and eight feet long, it is portable, and may be set up in any desirable part of the farm. The plan was suggested to the inventor by the necessity of sheltering stock after his barns were destroyed by fire.

GRAIN, DAIRY PRODUCTS, VEGETABLES, ETC.

The show in the Dairy Hall was quite meager. The samples of Grain were only tolerable, and as for Vegetables, on returning to Rochester I passed a corner grocery which had a collection of varieties that merited a first prize if the one in Dairy Hall was "worthy of mention." A sample of oats, under the name of "White Probester," very much resembled what was sent out last spring from the Department of Agriculture, under the name of "Excelsior." The first were distributed by the Department in 1866, and were said to have been received from Hamburg, Germany; the latter were imported from England. They are white, plump, the straw tall, coarse and strong. The grain grows on long arms on all sides of the head. The exhibitors claimed a yield this year of ninety-three bushels per acre of grain, weighing thirty-nine pounds per bushel. They were also said to stand up when common varieties, of less height, lodged.

ATTENDANCE—RECEIPTS—RESULT.

The Fair closed on Friday, the 17th. The receipts for Wednesday and Thursday were good, but there was a great falling off from the average on the first and last days. The total receipts amounted to about \$15,000. At Rochester and Buffalo, the two preceding years, they were more than one-third larger, and it seems to be plainly taught that a successful Fair cannot be held off from the great central thoroughfare of the State.

The attendance, and consequent receipts, saved the Society from pecuniary loss,—but as an Exhibition of the Rural, Mechanical and Domestic Products of the Empire State, the Fair must be regarded as a signal failure. Whether this result be attributable to the management or other causes, we leave the intelligent reader to determine, though we entertain, and may hereafter express, a decided opinion upon the subject.

OHIO STATE FAIR.

The Twentieth Exhibition of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture, was held at the city of Toledo, September 13-17. The grounds were ample, comprising a fine grove within the city, and conveniently near the railroad depots and business portion of the town, the same as occupied in 1868, the Society, wisely, as it appears, holding fair two successive years on the same ground, thus insuring more permanent and commodious structures with diminished expenditure on the part of the city furnishing the same. The attendance was unusually large, as over 78,000 tickets were sold, and the gross receipts were nearly \$28,000. It should be understood that no charge is made for entries, and only an admission fee of twenty-five cents collected at the gate. An example which it is believed other Societies, and particularly that of New York, could wisely imitate.

The show, as a whole, was not only creditable to the State, but received material aid from Michigan. The different departments were well maintained, the rivalry animated and cordial; each vying with the other to render the occasion one of combined usefulness and pleasure, with no disorders or disturbances to mar the harmony of the whole. We are under obligations to President Fullerton and other members of the Board, as well as Secretary J. H. Klippart and the proprietors of *Daily Commercial and Blade*, for many attentions and courtesies long to be remembered.—*Rural New Yorker*.

MICHIGAN STATE FAIR.

For the first time in some years we have been debarred attendance at the Michigan State Fair, and must content ourselves with quoting an exchange's account thereof. In like manner we cull

from the contemporary press, details of some other exhibitions we could not personally visit, but in which our readers may be supposed to feel an interest.

The Michigan State Fair was held at Jackson on the same days as our Provincial Exhibition, and in consequence the writer did not reach the fair grounds till the third day, after a night journey from London. Owing to the first two days having been wet, the rain pouring down in torrents, the grounds were in a muddy state, and no work was done till the third day, entries being taken up to noon of that day. None of the viewing committees—which is their name for judges—got to work till one p.m. of the third day, nor had they got through when we left the grounds the fourth day, it having been determined to continue the Fair a day longer to make up for the loss of the first two days. The grounds are well laid out, and contain some good halls and stock pens; but, truth to tell, the whole success of the Fair seemed to hang on the horse ring, and in fact the grounds were nothing but a well made race course, with grand stands, &c., and from morning till night there were trials of speed going on the premises in the horse classes, being larger and dependant on speed rather than quality of form or appearance. The entries altogether numbered 2,500, and the attendance was large, 30,000 being on the grounds the third day.

HORSES.—There were a great many horses entered, but we notice that they are males, all either thoroughbreds, half-breds, or light roadsters and trotters. Michigan is famous for her fast horses; but one looks in vain here for any of that useful class of agricultural or draught horse adapted to the wants of the farmer. We saw but two that could be called heavy horses on the grounds, and both of them had been bred in Canada.

CATTLE (Shorthorns).—There were some fair specimens on the ground, though not many altogether. Col. Brownell showed a roan bull, "Sheldon Duke," by 7th Duke of Airdrie from Paulina, with cows and heifers, Lady Wallington, Michigan Beauty, and Michigan Rose. J. Mygrants, a good red bull, Prince; A. S. Berry, bull Duke of Arles; James Farrell, white bull, Prince of the Blood, recently purchased from Hon. D. Christie, of Paris, Ont.; Mr. A. T. Wood had red bull Hillsdale, Surprise, a cow got by Apricot's Gloster, and her calves, Surprise second and third, also a red cow, Bella, got by Apricot's Gloster from Brighteyes 6th; the State Agricultural College showed bull Capt. Shaftoe, H. Walker, a red and white bull, Marcus, by Oxford Lad, from Mary Gray; Mr. McNaughton showed several head in fine condition; W. W. Crape, a fine roan cow, "Lucerne," and bull "Lucifer." He also shewed the only Hereford on the ground in full velvet jacket, that seemed a remarkably fine one, with the peculiarity of being nearly black in colour, and cow, "Gentle," 7th, with bull calf "Willie."

DEVONS as a class are good and pretty numerous. Messrs. Allen, Butterfield and Phelps, being the principal exhibitors. But two Galloways were to be seen, while of Ayrshires there was just one.

GRADES from a large class, but there was nothing extra about them; there were crosses of Short-horns, Devons and Ayrshires among them. Some very large and fine grades of Short-horns were shown in the fat cattle class by Todd and Bowen, of Adrian.

SHEEP were a very numerous class, and we noticed that the Leicesters have nearly, if not quite outnumbered the Merinoes, owing mainly to the fact that many Canadians have brought over animals to exhibit for sale. S. Jones, of Oshawa, Ont., showed 16 pens of Leicesters and Southdowns; J. King and Wm., Lovering, of Ontario, (but of what place the cards do not tell) showed 14 pens of Leicesters; E. Mott, of Parkhill, Ont., 6 pens do; B. W. Robbins, Brighton, Mass., 6 pens do; O. A. Peck, Ypsilanti, 12 or 14 pens do. The Michigan Agricultural College showed pens of nearly every variety of sheep including some Black faces, from the heather mountains of Scotland.

SWINE.—There were a good many pens of excellent animals, mostly Chester Whites. S. Jones, of Oshawa, had several pens of Suffolk and Essex, as had also Col. Wood, Mr. Sibbie, and the Michigan Agricultural College; a very few Yorkshires, and two or three Berkshires were seen.

POULTRY.—There was but a small show, and we could not see a really good bird in the whole lot.

GRAIN AND VEGETABLES.—But for the Agricultural College the show for these departments would not equal that of a Township show here. The Agricultural College students showed a splendidly put up collection of seed grain, embracing over 100 varieties, and a collection of vegetables that for firmness of quality would be hard to beat; in it were no less than 58 varieties of potatoes. The Agricultural College is evidently doing a good work for the State, and to see the interest the students on the ground take in telling all about their work and their experiments, &c., one can but wish we could also have a good Agricultural College, with a staff of working professors that can put something better than theory into the students head.

FRUIT.—There was a whole building given to the fruit, but it was scarcely more than half filled. Here we saw the finest collection of foreign grapes we have yet seen—some magnificent branches of Syrian, White, nice Hamburgis, Chasselar, &c., were shown. The samples of out-door grapes was numerous, but very badly ripened. A great many apples, and some good pears were seen, especially a collection of 17 varieties of pears grown by Mr. E. Cooley, of Jackson, that were of fine form and colour and correctly named.

IMPLEMENTS.—The inside show did not amount to much, but the field implements were both numerous and good. A rotatory harrow was

shown, also a new style of iron frame harrow in sections that seems just the thing for new settlers, as it will rise or fall over stump roots or other inequalities without catching on them. It is made by J. E. Bates, of Charleston, Illinois. Several styles of potato diggers were shown, all light and portable, and seeming to be nearly after the pattern of the one in the *Canadian Farmer* of September. There was a great show of stoves, and also a fine assortment of farmers hardware, from the manufactory of Withinton, Cooley & Co., Jackson, Michigan.

Manufacturers' Hall contains much that is really good, noticeably some splendid flannels and tweeds from the Clinton Woollen Factory. A complete set of furniture in willow ware, and some beautiful sets of furniture in walnut and crimson satin, handsomely carved, made at the State Prison.

Floral Hall, which also included the ladies' work of Fine Arts, was a magnificent affair, and the best got up we have yet seen. In the centre was a fountain, round which were set the cut flowers embedded in wet moss, and they certainly looked bright, beautiful and fresh.

THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

The sixth annual exhibition of the New England Agricultural Society opened under favorable auspices, at the Forest City Park, on the 7th September. The grounds are capacious, and well fitted up. The number of entries were very large.

STOCK.

Cattle.—The show of Cattle is very large, much of it being of superior quality. A prominent feature is some fifty pairs of working oxen, for which the farmers and lumbermen of Maine and New Hampshire have long been justly celebrated. Specimens of

Short Horns would do credit to any fair.

The show of *Ayrshires* equalled the celebrated herds often seen at the New York State Fairs.

Devons are very numerous and particularly fine.

Herefords were not neglected, Burleigh and Shaw of Maine, having over thirty very choice animals. The number of

Jersey Cows exceeds any former show we have known, being near thirty in number, and attracting a large share of attention.

Holstein or Dutch were shown by W. W. Cheney and J. S. Monroe, of Massachusetts, embracing superior animals, noted for the quantity, rather than quality, of the milk produced, rendering water superfluous.

Kerry Cattle.—D. F. Appleton, of Massachusetts, presented a neat herd of bulls, cows and calves. The show of

Grades and Native Cattle was large, and of a creditable character.

Horses were shown in fair numbers, though by no means comparing favorably with cattle in number. There was a marked absence of choice matched and single horses. The prevailing taste

in this State has been for small snug built horses as roadsters, working oxen being the main reliance for farm labor and heavy draft. Attention is now directed to a heavier style, and the Norman horse "Conqueror," 1,600 pounds, attracted crowds of visitors. He was shown by H. Woodman, Saco, Me.; also "Champion" of Compton, N. H., four years old, weight 1,200 pounds, shown by J. Miles. The show of trotting stock was very good. Three very fine horses were shown by S. D. Bruce, Esq., of *Field, Turf and Farm*. Noticable among the fresh stock was "Gen. Knox," and others of his stock, having had good local reputation.

Sheep were a marked feature, and received much attention.

Of *Swine*, Chester White, Yorkshire and Suffolks embraced the most of the stock. The animals were very choice in each class.

Poultry.—The show in this department, though not large, is creditable, embracing all the leading and new varieties, with a full share of fancy geese, ducks, pigeons and guinea hens. Shepherd, con h and bull pups were also exhibited.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, MACHINES AND NOVELTIES.

were grouped under a capacious tent, and embraced the usual endless variety of these useful and attractive features of every fair.

That portion of the exhibition thus meagerly sketched is held at the park, two and a half miles from the city. In town, the City Hall, with commodious halls on the opposite side of the street, connected by a bridge, are used for the less substantial and more ornamental contributions. This department is a flattering success, showing industry, taste and skill.

FRUITS, FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

These departments are not as creditable as they should have been made.—*Rural New Yorker*.

KANSAS STATE FAIR.

LAWRENCE, Kansas, Sept. 12.

With perfect weather—such as only Kansas and Italy claim justly—crowds of well dressed and good-natured people, and wonderful articles on exhibition; with the kindest the most courteous gentlemen in charge of each department, the fifth annual Fair of this brave new State began and ended with marked success. Everybody will be glad of this, for has not everybody a heart-string tied to somebody in Kansas? And who has not sympathized with this "bleeding" child of the Union, leeches by border ruffians, butchered by Quantrell, drouthed and drenched, and devoured by grasshoppers, and which still lives, holds a fair, and astonishes everybody, especially in the production of fruit, vegetables and grains?

The fair buildings were temporary sheds, rude, but adapted to their purpose; the grounds were ample and well-arranged, while the surrounding grounds furnished shade trees for the comfort

of those who came to remain during the Fair, and preferred "camping out."—*Rural New Yorker*.

A VISITATION OF LADY-BIRDS.

We learn from recent English papers that remarkable swarms of these insects, (*Coccinelle*), visited the Hop districts of Kent, during a critical state of the Hop plant, which was being seriously affected by *Aphides*, on which it is well known the Lady-bird, both in its larva state, as the "Niggarr," and afterwards when fully developed, voraciously feeds. In Canada the last season, the *Aphis* was very destructive to hops in some places, but when the lady-birds came in time with sufficient strength, the mischief was either averted, or greatly mitigated. These insects, therefore, are the best friends of the farmer and gardener, and their advent should be hailed with gratitude, for they are worth their weight in gold. The following extract from a recent English paper will be read with interest on this side of the Atlantic:—

The hops are in danger of perishing, and the "lady-birds" come to the rescue. Millions of these red-cased, black-spotted insects have suddenly made their appearance in Kent and Sussex, and have even extended their flight to the metropolis. The first news of this phenomenon dates from the latter part of last week. This species of insect life has developed itself to an extent which would fill the soul of a Brahmin with horror. In some places it has been impossible to walk without crushing numbers of these diminutive creatures to death. They have covered the roads until they have been ground into dust, giving the highway the colour of fresh strewn gravel. On the walls of dwellings they have appeared in large red patches, as if all the house-painters in town had been at work in a state of lunacy. On Sunday the church-goers were decked in scarlet. Still the creatures seem to abound, spreading themselves far and wide. Ramsgate, Hastings, Walton-on-the-Naze, Blackwall, Lambeth, Regent's Park, and many other places testify of the presence of these tiny beetles in extraordinary numbers. So far as we know, the present visitors are not the prettiest of their kind. Most of them are large, with a brick-dust complexion, lacking the beautiful vermilion to which we are accustomed in the smaller varieties. Yet we have no reason to complain of this accession to our insect population. Lady-birds are credited with being carnivorous, feeding, like spiders, not on plants but on animals. They are said to devour the aphides, and make short work with the plant-lice, which strangle the hops and blacken the beans. A Lady-bird always finds its way to the

extremities of a plant. There it comes in contact with the "hop-fly," and speedily devours that mischievous creature. If Kent were not Christians, it might worship the lady-bird. The clouds of these creatures now spread over the gardens of the south-eastern counties are worth no small sum to the hop-grower, though other cultivators share the benefit in some degree. The hungrier the lady-bird the better. May they have a good appetite, and a corresponding digestion! May the sparrows respect them, and let them live! Perhaps because we have shot so many sparrows we have so many lady-birds. It is nature's last remedy. If we will not suffer the birds to live, there is just one more chance. There is something singularly appropriate in designating these beetles as "birds." They resemble certain birds by the fact that they feed on insects. They need be many in number, or their influence would be inappreciable. The aphides, which suck the life-blood of plants, multiply at an amazing rate. To the ravages perpetrated by these creatures, more than to anything else, may be attributed the occasional failure of the hops. In New England an aphid made its appearance some little time ago and attacked the grain crops. This creature multiplied at such a rate, that it was calculated the descendants of a single aphid would amount to more than two millions in the course of twenty days. The eggs of the aphides in our own country are also known to propagate the species in an extraordinary manner, known among naturalists as parthogeno-genesis. How it is that certain species of insects abound so amazingly at particular times is a matter for curious inquiry; but it is, at least, satisfactory to know that one species is some check on another.

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SUCCESSFUL TOWNSHIP SHOW.—The Secretary, J. L. Tucker, Esq., of Orono, writes:—"The annual Fair of the township of Clark Agricultural Society, was held at this place, October 13th and 14th, and was the largest and most successful ever held in the township. There were 800 entries, against 478 last year; over \$100 received at the door of Floral Hall, and about \$160 paid in prizes. It is hard discriminating where all was good, but really the ladies deserved praise, for in their department there was the largest and richest assortment of articles ever exhibited here; in fact, I never saw it equalled at any Provincial Fair in my life."

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EDITOR'S BOOK TABLE.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FOR 1868.—We beg to thank the

Secretary of the Michigan State Board of Agriculture, Mr. Sanford Howard, for a copy of this work, which, so far from being a small pamphlet report, is a good octavo volume of nearly five hundred pages. It contains much interesting information respecting the State Agricultural College; details of carefully conducted experiments in sheep-feeding, pig-feeding, application of manures, culture of Indian corn, comparative yield and value of numerous varieties of potatoes and tomatoes; valuable papers on the season of 1868, yield of crops for 1868, insects injurious to vegetation, the Hereford breed of cattle, dairy products and processes, rearing and management of poultry, history of the Manchamp sheep; and a record of the doings of the State Agricultural Society for 1868, with returns from the County Societies. The farmers of Michigan are deeply indebted to Mr. Howard and his *collaborateurs* for this valuable volume.

DOMINION MEDICAL JOURNAL.—The Editor, Dr. Llewellyn Brock, has our thanks for specimen copies of the above-mentioned periodical, of which about all we dare venture to say is, that we have no doubt it is a most useful organ of allopathic practice, that from our personal knowledge of the Editor we have no doubt it is ably conducted, and that its typographical appearance is very creditable to the *Daily Telegraph* Publishing House, where it is printed. The theory and practice of medicine is a realm of mystery to us, and we try our best to avoid the necessity of exploring it by keeping as well as possible. We have a wholesome dread both of doctors and lawyers.

THE RACES OF MEN: their common origin, some of their peculiarities, and the influence of physical agents in their modification. An able and instructive lecture delivered before the Natural History Society of Montreal, March 6th, 1868, by Dr. Bessey, formerly of that city, but now, fortunately for the town of Guelph, resident and practising there.

Mr. T. J. Day, of Guelph, has laid on our table: CASSELL'S ILLUSTRATED ALMANAC for 1870, a beautiful and useful annual, sent to any address, post-paid, for 25 cents.

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE for No-

vement; a specially good number, containing much that is instructive and useful, with the usual service of *facctia*, not all of which is in good taste or absolute propriety.

CHAMBERS' JOURNAL; too well known to need characterization or eulogy.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE; an old familiar literary friend to all who make pretensions to scholarship.

THE LEISURE HOUR; of which it is enough to say that it issued by the London Religious Tract Society, whose *imprimatur* is a guarantee for all that is good and excellent.

Messrs. Cushing & White, of Waltham, Mass., gentlemen that they are, send us their ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE and PRICE LIST of the celebrated Waltham Copper Weather Vanes, gilt with gold, 23 carats fine, some of which are so pretty, that so soon as editing pays well enough to admit of it, we mean to have one for our house, another for our barn, and a third, better looking than all, if we can get our co-religionists to agree to it, for the steeple of our church.

Messrs. J. A. Bruce & Co., of Hamilton, send us their AUTUMN CATALOGUE of DUTCH FLOWERING BULBS, which did not come to hand in time for our last number, or we should have noticed it then. It is not yet too late to prepare for winter floral adornment, by putting hyacinths into glasses and pots, or planting crocuses, tulips, &c. We advise all who can afford it to beguile winter of some of its dreariness by the beauty and fragrance of indoor flowers.

The Farm.

TEMPERATURE OF THE SOIL.

It is well known that in the cultivation of crops generally, the temperature of the soil as well as that of the atmosphere greatly affects the growth and healthy maturity of plants. What gardeners call bottom heat, that is a high temperature of the soil produced by the fermentation of horse manure in hot beds, duly protected by glass against the lower temperature of the atmosphere, shows what can be done in early spring, even in cold climates, in raising tender

vegetables of excellent quality and flavor. The physical condition of the soil, as regards density, color, and absorptive properties, exerts a more powerful influence on its productive capabilities than is often suspected. Wet soils, everybody knows are cold and late, and very difficult to manage; if they contain a large proportion of clay, as is often the case, they require much labor to bring them into proper tilth, and in wet seasons the crops they yield are generally unremunerative. Now, there is no way of raising the temperature of wet soils and of securing the mechanical conditions necessary to efficient cultivation, and consequently to profitable production, than by artificial draining. Assuming that the necessity of this is generally understood, there are a few other points of much significance, such as aeration, absorption and evaporation, in order to secure a higher and more uniform temperature of the soil.

If we take, for example, the management of heavy clay land, under drained when required, the first object should be to bring the soil into such a state of mechanical division as to allow the freest circulation of air through all its interstices, thereby retaining sufficient moisture, without the injurious effects of a superabundance, and to increase as far as possible its power of absorbing and retaining heat. In order to effect these objects, deep and uniform culture is essentially requisite. Heavy land is best cultivated in the fall, when in as dry a condition as is compatible with the efficient performance of the work. As a general thing the bringing of any portion of the stiff subsoil to the surface should be avoided, and for this and other reasons the grubber is a more desirable implement than the plough. When a great depth of tilth is required, (as in most cases is to be preferred) a furrow of nine or ten inches deep made by the ordinary plough, followed by a subsoil plough reaching another seven or eight inches, is the best and easiest method of preparation.

It is of course impossible to lay down a general and unbending rule on the subject of cultivating land, as soils, seasons, and other circumstances differ so much. Heavy clay land, however well under drained, should never, if practicable, have horses to pass over it, unless the

surface be perfectly dry. The indentations or foot-prints occasioned by horses' feet, produce injurious consequences to an extent and in a manner of which few farmers have any adequate conception. The surface and subsoil subjected to this treading become so much compressed as to exclude in a great measure the beneficent and necessary action of air, heat and moisture, conditions so essential to healthy crops, and renders subsequent cultivation both difficult and expensive. It is quite impossible to obtain a uniform tilth, so as to allow the free action of these essential physical forces, if any portion of the surface becomes consolidated, either by the pressure of horses' feet, or any other cause. It is for this reason principally, that steam culture on wet lands, or when even dry land is made wet by heavy and continuous rains, is found by experience to possess so great an advantage over horse cultivation: the ground is not trodden, and its physical conditions are consequently uniform. Hence the absence of patches of inferior growth, which are always more or less characteristic of crops on heavy land, subjected, especially in wet seasons, to the treading of horses. In a new country like Canada, these refinements of cultivation, as they are called, cannot of course, be very closely and generally observed in practice, but our farmers, even in the newest districts, will do well to keep the principles which they involve steadily in view. For example, heavy land intended for spring crops, should be deeply ploughed in the fall, incorporating with the soil rough farm-yard manure, and if water does not stagnate on the surface, such land can, in general, be brought into better tilth in spring without ploughing, by simply scarrifying the surface when it is in a dry state.

Light soils require a different treatment in many respects to what is necessary in such as are wet and heavy. For certain crops, such as wheat, beans, clover, &c., they are much benefited by mechanical pressure, but care should be taken, even in cases of this sort, not to operate in wet weather, but when the surface at least, is dry. Soils of this character are particularly liable to be overrun with weeds, hence they should as much as possible be continuously covered with crops of some kind, for sheep feed, ploughing down, or hay. By keeping the surface in this way protected against excessive evaporation during the summer months, the land becomes enriched by vegetation, a large portion of the constituents of which is obtained from the atmosphere. It will thus be evident to every reflecting farmer how much depends upon securing a sufficient and uniform temperature of the soil, a condition that very much depends on the character of the cultivation to which it is subjected.

AUTUMN, WINTER AND SPRING MANURING.

A young farmer, whose rotation is corn, barley, wheat and clover, asks to which of these crops he should give his manure, and at what time of year.

Like nearly everything else in farming, the course to be pursued must vary with circumstances, and the farmer must exercise his judgment to some extent. But the following may be adopted as general rules: 1. The corn should have at least a portion of the manure, if practicable. It is scarcely possible to manure the land too much for this crop, provided it is properly applied, or so as to be well diffused through the soil. 2. The barley crop needs a good soil, but if the corn has been well manured, it will need nothing additional—the great additional points being thorough ploughing and harrowing and early sowing. 3. The wheat requires more discretion in its treatment, and usually, on good land, will be sufficiently manured by the previous crops, with the exception of a top-dressing, after the last ploughing, of five to ten two-horse loads of fine manure per acre. If oats are sown the second year instead of barley, a moderate manuring besides may prove useful, and sometimes necessary.

The usual accumulations of manure are in winter, but its fitness for application at different times of year will be controlled by the materials employed in its manufacture. If composed largely of corn fodder, it will be unfit to apply till the following autumn, after rotting down in heaps. But if the corn fodder is all cut with a machine before feeding out, it may be drawn out and spread as fast as produced. Nearly the same remarks will apply to straw, if used in large quantities as litter. In small quantities, it will not prevent a later application; or if cut up before being used for bedding, from one to four inches long.

Farmers have little fresh manure in autumn. The cheapest application is in winter, drawing out and spreading over the fields requiring it as fast as it is made. Several advantages result from this practice. It requires less handling over; it is soon out of the way; it is easily spread from the sled or wagon; it is drawn by men at a time when they may be otherwise idle; it removes the labor from the short and crowded period of spring; it allows the soluble manure to wash down into the earth and become intimately diffused; and it prevents the hardening and baking of the soil by the passage of the loaded wagons, when the ground is wet and soft after the breaking up of winter. It should therefore be the aim to draw out, as it accumulates, all the manure which is short enough to spread well, to plough under in spring for corn or other spring crops, leaving the longest and coarsest to rot down in heaps for autumn sown wheat, or for spreading on sod which is intended for corn the next year.

We have already remarked that corn can scarcely be manured too much, if the work is

properly done. If there is any danger of its running too much to leaf and stalk, which would be a rare occurrence, plant a smaller variety, and allow a larger number of stalks to grow. The succeeding barley, oats or peas, will receive a decided help from it—especially if the soil has a sufficient quantity of clay to hold the manure; and in good wheat districts, its effects will be sufficient to obviate anything further than a top-dressing. But if the soil is of moderate fertility, or if a heavy crop of oats precede the wheat (these two contingencies should never unite) an application before a shallow ploughing, with thorough intermixture by the harrow, may prove advantageous, in addition to the top-dressing at or near the time the wheat is sown.

We have not yet met the farmer who could make enough manure to obviate the necessity of using clover as a fertilizer, and a combination of the two generally gives excellent results. Manure spread on clover sod in autumn, as we frequently had occasion to urge, is the best practicable or profitable preparation of ground for inverting the following spring for the reception of seed corn. It is worth double and sometimes triple an equal application in spring just before ploughing under. Spreading the manure over such a clover sod, as it accumulates in winter, is greatly superior to spring application, although not equal to autumn manuring on the sod.

As a general outline of directions, we would therefore recommend—

1. To draw out and spread in winter all manure short enough to turn under for corn.
2. To heap up for rotting down all that is too coarse or long for spring.
3. To apply these heaps to sod intended for corn the next year, or to wheat fields after the last ploughing, doing the work in portions at a time, as the last ploughing progresses, so as not to tread the mellow soil with the teams or the wagons.
4. If applied in spring, break the manure and intermix it with the soil by harrowing and then ploughing in. Ground intended for ruta bagas may be thus prepared well, as plenty of time is allowed for intermixture and preparation.—*Country Gentleman.*

THE HUMOUR OF FARMING.

BY HENRY WARD BEECHER.

There is some humour connected with farming. The newspapers inform me that I own a model farm, and that I derive a large profit from farming. So I do. But it is profit in the higher faculties, and not in the pocket. A gentleman from Baltimore wrote to me as follows:—

“Dear Sir—I see by the papers that your farm netted you last year thirty-six thousand dollars. Will you tell me what crops you raise, and what is your method? I have a farm of 200 acres near this city, and I have never yet been

able to make it pay expenses. Will you tell me how I can make it as profitable as yours?”

My reply was (though I never sent it), “Dear Sir: Don’t change a particle. Keep on just as you have done, and your farm and mine will be as like as two peas. Your farm is already just as profitable as mine. Truly yours.”

It is a matter of surprise how much money may be buried in a small piece of ground. Indeed, many gentlemen are surprised. Simple as a smiling piece of ground looks, as it lies before your contemplative eyes, it will prove a match for your cunning. To drain it (and every piece of ground, wet or dry, should be underlaid with drain tile), to deepen it (and no farm except mere sand is well ploughed that has not been mellowed eighteen inches deep), to gather off the stones, to dig out boulders and blast the rocks, to lay boundary walls, to enrich the whole with abundance of manure; but, above all, to do a goodly amount of grading, will prevent any man hoarding his money.

Then one must take account of work done twice and thrice over, because you did not know how to do it right the first time. Drains two feet deep, that must go down four feet; trees set where you don’t want them and moved to where you don’t want them either, and moved again; fancy crops, by which I mean crops from seed for which you pay extravagant prices, whose yield is in an inverse ratio to the descriptions upon which you bought—these, together with experimental manure, and new machines for saving labor, and newer machines, and machines still newer, will give one an agreeable relaxation if he is fond of spending his money.

But if a man is conceited, and desires to be brought to a realizing sense of his proper place in creation, I advise him to attempt grading. Grading is the art of recreating the world. It makes valleys where nature made hills. It makes hills where the ages have made valleys. It changes a northern slope into a southern one. It smooths off the undulating face of grounds, as a flat-iron takes out the wrinkles and creases of a sheet or table-cloth. One has no idea how thoroughly the world was made until he undertakes to remake it. I never admired hills as much as since I made a small one. I got it up about four feet high, and stopped. It was a good lesson. I now look with an increased respect upon the neighbouring hills. I had before no conception of what it cost to make them.

[NOTE BY ED. O. F.]—We had the pleasure of visiting Mr. Beecher at his farm in September of last year, and of course asked many questions about his agricultural operations, among the rest, whether his farming paid. He replied not yet pecuniarily, though he could see the two ends of the string, and hoped to bring them together before long. He added with a sigh, it was astonishing how much money a man

could bury in a small piece of ground. We see by the above pleasant article, that the two ends of the string have'nt come together yet, and if our distinguished friend will be tempted to try such costly experiments as grading, they will get wider apart instead of coming closer together.

FARM JOURNALS.

It is an excellent practice to keep a journal of every-day matters on the farm, wherein are noted down accurate statistics with regard to the time and manner of planting, the kinds of crops put in, the time of harvesting, the success or failure of particular kinds of culture, the comparative benefit of various kinds of fertilizers, &c.

There is a great deal of information of this kind gained every year, by every intelligent farmer, but because it is not fixed it is lost; by the next year he cannot recollect the particulars with sufficient accuracy to make them of any practical advantage.

Now if he had a full journal to refer to, he would not have to learn his lessons twice over so often. A few remember them the first time, but the masses go on blundering year after year.

The home journal is a department which naturally falls to the farmer's sons or daughters. Usually there is one who, by common consent, is looked upon as the family secretary—one who has the letters to direct and, may be, the confidential ones to write sometimes. Let her be selected as the journal writer. Provide her with a nice blank book, with fair white pages, a bottle of Arnold's ink and an excellent pen, and you have done much toward making her task pleasant. Then give her the facts you wish to remember, day by day, and let her first note them down on a separate bit of paper; any notes of this sort are a great help to the writer. Indeed, writing is much like bread—all the better and smoother for being moulded over.

Let all the family take an interest in the journal, and encourage even the youngest to contribute its item of important news for its pages. Such a family history will be prized more than gold in future years, and perhaps dim eyes will sometimes turn to a tear-stained leaf, whereon are recorded the sayings of some sweet voice now hushed forever.

The writer herself will derive no little improvement from this practice. She will learn to express herself with ease upon paper, and will also take a more intelligent view of all about her. She will learn to see as well as to write. Many people go through this world almost as if they were blindfolded, and all because they were not taught to see in early life.

Of course all can appreciate the satisfaction it would be, when any discussion arose as to "the time when green peas or cucumbers first came on the table," to be able to turn to the journal and set everybody right. Try the experiment

for a year, and it will speak for itself.—*Cor. Country Gentleman.*

AN OUT-DOOR CELLAR.

The storing of roots and vegetables in a house cellar in large quantities is always objectionable. The temperature is necessarily increased by the fires kept up in the house during winter, and this favors decay, or commencement of growth in vegetables. Besides gaseous substances of an unpleasant odor usually pervade the dwelling, which are injurious to health. Serious illness frequently arises from these well stocked cellars. A safer plan is to have the cellar store-room by itself. The best location is in a sandy or gravelly hill side, that needs no drainage in the wettest season. If not dry it must be made so by artificial means. One half the depth of the cellar may be below the surface. A room ten feet square and eight feet high will hold about 640 bushels, and each additional foot of length will add 64 bushels to its capacity if filled full to the top. A narrow width is to be chosen on account of convenience in roofing. In a region of stone, this is the best material for the walls. Build them eight feet high and provide space for stairs and door at one end. Stone is also the best material for covering, if slabs twelve feet long can be procured to reach from wall to wall. In a granite or blue stone region these are easily procured from quarries by "gagging." Leave a man-hole at the top, large enough for ventilation and for pouring in roots from the cart. The sides, and top of the cellar should be covered with not less than two feet of earth, and neatly sodded. If on a side hill, it may be so arranged as to drive loaded teams on top. If stone for the covering is not convenient, a roof may be made by running up gable walls, putting on a log ridge pole and long rafters arranged like a common roof. The rafters should be placed near enough to touch one another, or nearly so, and be strong enough to hold the covering of earth. Batten the rafters with slabs and cover all with earth and sods. In a region where wood is plenty, and there is no stone, the whole wall may be made of logs. When finished it will be simply a log house under ground. It will serve a good purpose for many years. Concrete also make excellent walls, and this material may be laid in the form of an arch. If the cellar is made of stone it should be cemented to keep out all predators.—*Am. Ag.*

FARM GLEANINGS.

The *Western Rural* observes that Horace Greeley, is improving in agricultural knowledge and produce. His turnips last year cost him only one dollar and twelve cents each. This year, by strict economy and improved methods of culture, he hopes to reduce the cost to one dollar for each turnip.

Another name has been added to the long list of those killed by reaping and mowing machines. A Mr. Hyland, living four miles from Beaver Dam, Wis., was killed by a McComick reaper, having fallen before the sickle.

The old "Brant Farm," consisting of 850 acres, giving by the crown to Brant, the Indian chief, for services rendered in 1812, is about to be cut up into small farms. The land has been in the family ever since its gift.

The plan of awarding agricultural periodicals and books as premiums at Agricultural Fairs is becoming more common. The man who receives such a premium certainly has something that will be more apt to remind him of the honour than if he receives two dollars in money.

In the praise the "Norway" oats are receiving, it should be remembered that there are two kinds sold under this name. The one is a black or dark oat, sometimes called the Ramsdell oats; the other is a white oat, claimed to have been imported from Norway.

A single English colony has lately bought 30,000 acres of land in Kansas. The trust is to be divided among no fewer than 1,200 families, consisting of well-to-do farmers and artisans. German and Swedish colonists have also purchased largely.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that potatoes when used for the production of alcohol, are to be considered as grain. Would it not be more etymological to reverse the decision, and to decide that everything should be called potato which is the foundation of potatoes?

Hearth and Home thinks why men run away from farms to drive street cars seventeen hours a day for \$2, is that farming is too lonesome work and suggests co-operation as a remedy; four or five farmers clubbing together and working one day for one man, the next for another, ect. Then let the women meet together for tea and the children come in for the evening and have a good play.

The 7th of September was the ladies' day in Gloucester, and we should think quite a red-letter day in the calendar of the Badminton Farmers' Club. Of this club the Duke of Beaufort, as we learn from the *Western Daily Press*, is chairman, but it happened on Wednesday that although he was announced to preside at the annual dinner of the club connected with its annual agricultural and horticultural show, preside he could not, being called away on important business. Under these circumstances her grace the Duchess undertook to supply her husband's place, and in defiance of the superstitions that prevail in some quarters about "the proper sphere for women," the noble chairwoman proposed the toasts and made the speeches precisely as the Duke might have done. Moreover, there were a number of other ladies among the 300 who sat down to the Badminton dinner, and one of them, a very young lady, Lady Blanche Somerset, replied to the "Health" of her family.

The Live Stock.

THE FIRST PRIZE ROADSTER OR CARRIAGE STALLION AT THE RECENT PROVINCIAL SHOW.

(SEE FRONTISPIECE).

We have pleasure in embellishing the present number of the ONTARIO FARMER with a beautiful engraving of "King George III.," the handsome animal to which the first prize was awarded in the "Roadster or Carriage Stallion" class at the recent Provincial Exhibition. The engraving is executed in the best style of the art, and is so exceedingly well done, that we have gone to the extra expense of having it printed separately on tinted paper, so as to show it off to the best advantage. This is the first of a series of engravings of prize animals which are in course of preparation for this journal by these incomparable stock artists, Messrs. Page & Carson, of New York. The owner of the fine animal illustrated in our present issue, is Mr. Wm. Thorburn, of York, Ont., who, at our instance, has forwarded the following

PEDIGREE:—

"King George III. is only 3 years old, colour blood sorrel, stands 16½ hands high, was bred by Mungo Thorburn, of Oneida, Haldimand Co. Sired by 'Royal George, jun.,' who was sired by 'Old Royal George.' The dam of 'George, jun.,' was sired by the thorough-bred horse 'Reindeer.' The dam of 'King George III.' was sired by the thorough-bred horse 'Oliver.' Grand dam was sired by the 'Old Hamiltonian.'"

STOCK SALE.

We learn from the *Globe* that Mr. Miller's sale of thoroughbred stock at Pickering, on the 27th ult., was largely attended. One pair Cotswold ewes was sold at \$122, another at \$136, and a shearling ram was purchased at \$53. In all, there were about fifty sheep sold, which realized about \$1400. The imported bull, "Canadian Prince," was purchased by Mr. Geo. Miller for \$310; and a Durham bull calf, "Scottish Chief"—not a year old—bred by Mr. Miller, was sold to Mr. John Bellwood, of Clarke, for \$260. The thoroughbred yearling bull "Kinnellar" realized \$175. "Prince Arthur," a calf one month old, was purchased by Mr. Hugh Thomson for \$90; and Mr. Geo. Callicott, of Darlington, bought the six months' old bull calf "Burnside" for \$104. "Snow Drop," a thoroughbred cow, was sold to Mr. Joseph Thompson for \$200. Mr. Ebenezer

Birroll, of Pirkering, purchased "Miller's Maid" for \$155, and "Vesta II." obtained for Mr. Miller the nice little sum of \$214. Mr. Robert Miller purchased "Mary III.," a calf seven months old, for \$151. The sale of all the stock realized over \$4320.

THE APIARY IN NOVEMBER.

BY S. H. MITCHELL, ST. MARY'S, ONTARIO.

The past season has given the scantiest yield of honey in this section of the Province that I have known for the past twenty years. Swarms that in ordinary seasons would have collected sufficient stores to winter, have, in numerous instances, already starved to death. A great many stocks will need feeding. If this is not already done, it should be done without delay, as the bees will take the food best when the weather is mild. Honey is the best food. If this cannot be had, use refined sugar. Make it into a thick syrup. If made too thin, it is liable to sour. If one pound of honey is added to ten of the syrup, the bees take it more readily. Feed at the top of the hive, pouring the syrup into empty combs, as the bees will take it more readily from the comb. Or feed in shallow dishes, and use straw cut into half-inch bits, and strew thickly over the syrup, to prevent the bees from getting drowned. Let some of the food run down among the bees, to bring them up to the main supply. If the bees have sufficient honey to live until mild weather in March, it is best not to feed until then, as the feeding in spring will have the effect of stimulating them to early breeding.

Strong colonies may be successfully wintered without housing, especially if in double-boarded hives, and although they may consume more honey, still they begin to breed earlier than when housed. The hives should be set on a low stand, prepared so that the cold air cannot circulate under them. Give but little ventilation below, but give plenty of upward ventilation, and stuff the cap tightly with straw to retain the heat, and allow the moisture to pass off. If the snow lies around the base of the hives, it affords additional protection. The bees should be allowed to fly whenever the weather is warm enough for them to return to their hives. If weak swarms are to be wintered, they should be housed where it will not freeze. Avoid bee sheds and houses where it will freeze hard, and the sun cannot strike the hives, as the frost often collects on the sides of the hives and combs, and prevents the bees from reaching their stores, so that they starve with honey in the hive.

If colonies, whether strong or weak, are housed, they should always be put in some place where it is frost proof.

THE CURRY-COMB, CARD, AND SCRUB-BING BRUSH.

These stable implements are not used as often and regularly as they should be by the generality of farmers. A good dressing down of the horse each morning with the cur y-comb and brush is fully equal in health-giving power and elasticity of movement to two quarts of oats. It is a greatful attention, repaid many fold by the animal which is the stated recipient of it.

But, while bestowing this care upon the horse as most persons do, knowing its beneficial effects, they very generally seem to forget that oxen and cows are equally benefited by a daily application of the card. There is no room for doubt on this subject with those who have been accustomed to bestow this attention on their dairy and working stock. A free use of the card gives repose to the animals, enables them to enjoy and digest their food in quiet instead of raking their bodies against posts, trees and fences, as opportunity offers for allaying the irritation produced by an accumulation of dust, hay-seed, and other irritants common to the stable and barnyard. Even young colts, calves, and yearlings are greatly benefited by the use of the card, while its daily use is a step in the breaking or training process by which the services of the animals are made more readily available when properly matured for labour.

It may seem absurd to scrub a fattening porker, but those who have practised it concur in its utility. One reason why hogs are fond of immersing themselves in pools of stagnant and filthy water, is found in the fact that their bodies get encrusted with dirt, causing an itching which the pool they seek allays. This irritation renders them restless and retards the process of fattening very materially. This can be prevented by an application of soap suds, aided by a splint broom commonly used for cleaning stables and cross walks. A liberal application of suds, and a good scrubbing daily, will allay irritation, and give that repose to the animals which is essential to a steady and rapid accumulation of flesh and fatty matter. The labour of preparing and applying the wash at least once a day during the milder portions of the season, will be amply remunerated in the increased weight of the animals when the slaughtering season arrives.—*New England Farmer.*

TO MANAGE A BALKY HORSE.

We make the following extract from "Harney's Art of Training Animals :—

"If you have balky horses, it is your own fault, and not the horses', for if they do not pull true there is some cause for it, and if you will remove the cause the effect will cease. When your horse balks he is excited and does not know what you want him to do. For instance, a young horse that has never been 'set' in a gully with a load before, is whipped by his owner or driver because he does not draw

the load out. The animal is willing to do what he can, but he does not know how to draw out the load. He tries and finds that it does not move, not knowing that a steadier and stronger pull would do it, and when the lash comes down upon him, and he hears the yells of his driver, he is frightened, and jumps and rears through fear rather than ugliness or balkiness. No better way could possibly be devised to make a horse balky than to beat him under such circumstances. When he gets a little excited, stop him five or ten minutes, let him become calm; go to the balky horse, pat him and speak gently to him; and as soon as he is over his excitement, he will, in nine cases out of ten, pull at the word. After you have gentled him awhile, and his excitement has cooled down, take him by the bits; turn him each way a few minutes as far as you can; gentle him a little; unrein him; then step before the balky horse, and let the other start first, then you can take them anywhere you wish. A balky horse is always high-spirited, and starts quick; half the pull is on before the other starts; by standing before him the other starts first. By close application to this rule, you can make any balky horse pull. If a horse has been badly spoiled you should hitch him to the empty waggon, and pull it around while on the level ground; then put on a little load and increase it gradually, caressing as before, and in a short time you have a good work-horse."

STOCK FEEDING.

The following article we find in the *Rural American*:—"The foundation of good farming is the keeping of as much stock as can be kept well, and no more; but some farmers make the mistake of overstocking their farms, by which means their stock feed on poor pasturage, and in a drought frequently suffer for the want of food. In the winter season too many cattle are crowded into small barnyards, and the result is, that the strongest ones eat the most of the fodder, and the smaller and weaker animals are hooked about, and have to take up with the leavings of the others; and when all are provided with stalls some portion of the stock suffers, when let into the yard, in consequence of there being too many for the space allotted to them, especially in stormy weather, when they all strive to get under the sheds.

A great deal of stock can be advantageously kept on most farms, if proper means are taken to provide for their comfort and support. In the first place, the necessary change of pasture must be provided, sufficient to sustain the stock in a severe drought, if one should occur; or good crops should be grown to "soil" the cattle when the pasturage is too short. The "soiling" system alone is often made to support a large number of cows on farms that could not give pasturage for half the number, and allow sufficient winter fodder to be cut.

In the next place, ample and warm winter accommodation must be provided, so that the stock can feed in sheds quietly, when not stalled; and with an abundance of good fodder every farmer will find that keeping stock is profitable, as it is admitted by all good farmers that fodder fed on farms is better than to sell it, as the manure produced by the stock keeps such farms in a good state of fertility.

Every farmer should raise all the young stock that he can feed well, and give good winter quarters. A choice lot of good dairy cows can seldom be bought; they must be raised on the farm.

As regards the breeds of cow to be kept, if butter be the object, the Alderneys, or their grades, are considered best, in proportion to the quantity of food consumed. This is a small breed of cattle, and their milk is exceedingly rich. They do not produce more milk than ordinary cows; but it yields much more cream.

If the selling of milk be the object, the Ayrshires are the best breed that can be procured, as the cows of that breed have a world-wide reputation of being the most abundant milkers known. In many cases, however, our native cows are equal in value for both milk and butter to any blooded stock in existence; but such cows are scarce, and cannot be found for sale, except in rare cases.

A CRACK IN THE HOG TROUGH.

The following from the *Prarie Farmer* is almost equal to Franklin's story of the whistle.

A few days ago a friend sent me word that, every day he gave twenty pails of buttermilk to a lot of "shoats," and they scarcely improved at all. Thinks I, this is a breed of hogs worth seeing—they must be of the sheet-iron kind. So I called on him, heard him repeat the mournful story, and then visited the sty, in order to get a better view of the miraculous swine. I went into the pen, and, on close examination, found a crack in the trough through which most of the contents ran away under the floor. Thinks I, here is the type of the failures of our agricultural brethren.

When I see a farmer omitting all improvements because of a little cost, selling all his farm stock, to buy bank or railroad or mortgage stock, robbing his land, while, in reality, he is also robbing himself and his heirs, thinks I, my friend, you have a crack in your hog trough.

When I see a farmer subscribing for half a dozen political and miscellaneous papers, and spending all his leisure time in reading them, while he don't read a single agricultural or horticultural journal, thinks I to myself, poor man, you have got a large and wide crack in your hog trough.

When I see a farmer attending all the political conventions, and coming down liberally with the "dust" on all caucus conventions, and knowing every man in the town that votes his ticket, and yet, to save his neck, couldn't tell

who is President of his County Agricultural Society, or where the fair was held last year, I "unanimously" come to the conclusion that the poor soul has got a crack in his hog trough.

When I see a farmer buying guano, but wasting ashes and hen manure, trying all sorts of experiments except intelligent hard work and economy, getting the choicest of seeds regardless of cost, and then planting them regardless of cultivation, growing the variety of fruit called Sour Tart Seedling, and sweetening it with sugar, pound for pound, keeping the front fields rich while the back lots are growing up with thistles, briars and elders, contributing to the Choctaw Indian fund and never giving a cent to any agricultural society:—such a man, I will give a written guarantee, has got a crack in his hog trough, and in his head also.

When I see a farmer allowing loose boards all over his yard, fences down, hinges off the gate, manure in the barn-yard, I come to the conclusion that he has got a large crack in his hog trough.

When I see a farmer spending his time traveling in a carriage, when he has to sell all his corn to pay the hired help, and his hogs are so lean that they have to lean against the fence to squeal, I rather lean to the conclusion that somebody that stays at home will have a lien on the farm, and that some day the bottom will come entirely out of his hog trough.

DRESSING POULTRY FOR MARKET.

We should have the lasting gratitude of commission merchants if we could persuade all our readers to follow some such sensible rules as the following in this matter. It would make the bruised, half skinned, bloody, slow-selling poultry that is to be seen too often in the market, more slow of sale than ever:

First let the birds fast twelve hours. Foolish people often let them eat their fill of corn before killing them, with the idea that they will weigh more. A fasted bird will keep a week fresh and plump if well handled, while one that has been fed within a few hours will be sure to spoil or become more or less tainted. One tainted bird in a case will cut the price on the whole down several cents per pound. So will one that is scrawny and looks blue and skinny, and as if it had been sick. Second, kill without dislocating the neck or making a hole in the skin. The operation is simple. When the fowls are caught, with a lad to hold, tie the legs of all, and lay them down. When ready, hang them by the legs, a few at a time, on long pins or nails; then with a sharp knife passed into the throat, cut once or twice across, letting the knife bear on each side against the back bone. This will sever the great veins of the neck, and the bird will bleed without wetting its feathers at all. Third, pick without scalding, and while the fowls are still warm. Take great care not

to tear or to bruise the flesh in spots by too hard fingering to get all the pin feathers out. These may be removed with a pair of pinchers, if great pains is taken. Draw out the tail and wing feathers first, and those of the back last. Fourth, hang all in a cool, airy place over night, and pack in clean, strong cases of a size easily handled by one man, putting one hundred and fifty to two hundred pounds in one case. Take the cords from the legs and lay the birds in uniform rows, heads towards the sides of the box and breasts up. A very little clean wheat straw may separate the layers, but it is best to use nothing. Fill the boxes so full that it will require a little pressure to force the covers down. Address to a trusty agent or commission dealer. It would pay any one who markets much poultry to have a modest stencil plate made to mark his boxes, and to read thus: "Poultry from A. B., well fattened, fasted twelve hours, and not scalded."

STEEPLE CHASES.

Gamblers and horse-jockeys—are gradually coming to grief, or, at all events, coming to light in their true character, even in England, where racing and dangerous hunting have had so many admirers. The *London Review* says:

What excuse can be made for modern steeple-chasing? It has totally failed in its declared purpose of improving the breed of hunters, and there does not seem to be a redeeming feature about it. It is unquestionably cruel. The horses themselves dread it, and after a little while are said to grow cunning, which means that they prefer to refuse at the first fence, take the requisite amount of whip and spur at once and be done with it, rather than go through the prolonged punishment and exhaustion of the race. No one who has seen a poor brute with broken back trying to drag its powerless hindquarters, and heard its screams of agony at each renewed attempt, will easily forget the miserable scene. The knacker's cart is a regular attendant on the course, and it seldom goes away empty. Moreover, the steeplechase is dangerous to the riders—and herein perhaps lies its charm. The chance of seeing a man killed, either from a horse or from a trapeze, will always bring shillings to the getter-up of the entertainment; and it is these shillings, together with the opportunity of fleecing that large portion of the British public which indulges in betting, that keep this wretched caricature of sport in existence. Let any unprejudiced person go to one of the metropolitan steeplechase meetings and look carefully at the class of people attending them, listen to their talk, and watch their manners and customs, and then let him say what proportion of the actors and spectators he considers are decent, respectable people, who earn their living honestly, and are good citizens. The percentage will be very small.

ABUSES OF THE TROTTING TURF.

These have been discussed much of late in the *New-York Turf, Field and Farm*, and, awarding to it all the credit it claims for being both "consistent and sincere," the point we make is this: If, with all the safeguards with which those directly interested in sustaining the honour and purity of racing, can surround themselves, in associations formed expressly for the purpose, they are still the victims of "knavery" to the extent which that Journal so well and ably denounces—how is it "bigotry" in us and others to denounce racing as a constant source of knavery when introduced at agricultural fairs, under the charge of associations formed for other objects that are quite distinct in themselves and afford no means of protection at all!—*Country Gentleman*.

LIVE STOCK GLEANINGS.

It is said that the American Dairymen's Association propose to offer a prize of \$100 for the best essay on cheese, as an article of food.

Mrs. J. C. Burbark, of St. Paul, Minn., has a grade Durham co. from the milk given by which in one week, 16½ pounds of butter were made. So says the *Minnesota Monthly*.

A Massachusetts hen fancier—J. S. Ives, of Salem—has a Creve-Coeur hen which laid 96 eggs in 104 days. He thinks the most eggs are obtained when the hens are excluded from the cocks.

When a horse turns his ear in some direction with a disposition to be frightened, in nine cases out of ten his attention will be diverted by simply reining him in the other direction, and he will have no further trouble about it.

Some one says that a cow's temper can be determined by breathing in her nose. When you have breathed a few times in her nostrils, if she is kind she will hold up her nose, otherwise she will catch it away, and perhaps toss a horn at you.

The foot and mouth disease is spreading over many parts of England, and reports from the continent state that it exists to an unusual extent among cattle and sheep in various parts of Prussia, Holstein, Schleswig, and also in Switzerland.

Many people always milk on their hands and wet the teats as they commence milking. It is not cleanly, and it is just as easy to milk with dry hands as wet. Of course if the teats or udder are muddy they should be washed with clean water and wiped dry.

The farmers of Southbridge, Mass., are troubled about a strange kind of cattle disease. It first appears on the animal's leg near the hoof, in the form of a large and painful swelling, and the part affected soon suppurates and discharges; the animal meanwhile being unable to bear its weight upon its foot.

The London General Omnibus Company reports a saving of £28,000 per annum on the feeding of 6,000 horses with maize instead of oats. The experiment has been tried during eighteen months, and the improved condition of the animals is as remarkable as the saving.

The seventh volume of the English Hereford Herd Book, has just made its appearance in England. It is a volume of 404 pages, illustrated with portraits of thirteen of the prize winners of this breed since the last volume appeared. There are 731 bulls entered, bringing up the number now to 3636, and 232 pages of cows.

"Rural," of the *Chicago Tribune*, says that while bee-keeping is beginning to take rank with gardening and fruit growing, few farmers obtain a quarter of the quantity of surplus honey that they ought to receive, simply from not knowing how to manage their hives. Unless a person had some training he need not expect to succeed with bees.

Mr. Abijah Wilkerson says he had a Newfoundland pup, years ago, that worried sheep, and cured him in this way: "I muzzled him, and then I tied him fast to a big three-year-old wether, and left him to toss about with the sheep all day. You never saw a gladder dog than when I untied that pup at night; and he never took to sheep after that."

Another cattle disease has broken out in England. It has assumed the form of the foot and mouth disease, and has already done much damage amongst the cows which supply London with milk. The disease has also appeared in Yorkshire, and is spreading to a considerable extent. Every precaution is taken by the authorities to prevent contagion; but there seems to be want of energy amongst the farmers, some of whom think it only a distemper.

The *Utica Herald* gives returns from 348 cheese factories, of which 276 are in New York, the other 72 being scattered through a number of the States and Canada. We suppose the reports are up to September 1, although this fact is not stated. These 348 factories have 128,708 cows, and have made this season 523,746 cheese, of the average weight of 6,158 pounds, of which 353,268 have been sold, leaving 170,470 on hand. They are making daily 3,920 cheese.

American farmers are not deterred by the duty nor the difference in currency from purchasing Canadian stock. The *Galt Reporter* says they appear determined to get into the long-woolled breed of sheep. Two gentlemen from Pennsylvania after attending the sales of both Mr. Snell and Mr. Stone, and looking through the various flocks exhibited at the Preston show, purchased twelve shearing rams, two ram lambs, two ewe lambs, and two shearing ewes, from the flock of Mr. James Cowan, Waterloo, and five ewe lambs, and three shearing ewes, from Mr. Thomas Lee, of North Dumfries—all choice animals of the Leicester breed. They also

selected from a drove of Mr. Shields the necessary number of ewe lambs to fill a car. This is Mr. Cowan's second sale to the States this season.

PRICE OF COTSWOLDS.—Messrs. Paxton and George Castle sold by auction in Oxford, a number of Cotswold rams. The sale commenced with 40 shearing rams, bred by Mr. Richard Lord, of Stanton, Harcourt. The highest price realized was 20 guineas, the average being £10 12s. 3d. The next lot comprised 20 Cotswold ram lambs, the property of Mr. Charles Gillett, of Lower Haddon, near Bampton. The highest price realized was £9 10s., the average being £4 14s. 6d. Thirty ram lambs from the flock of Messrs. T. and G. West, of Greenhill farm, Bletchington, were next sold. The highest price was £14 5s., and the average £4 4s. —*Mark Lane Express.*

HEN GUANO.—"During the fall and winter, every few days, a few shovelfulls of dry muck were spread over the droppings beneath the roosts, which were made with floors for the purpose. It had the effect of keeping the house sweet and odorless. In the spring I had a good pile of home-made guano. By shoveling it over several times it was finely pulverized, and no more unpleasant to handle than dry earth. I used it upon a late piece of corn, dropping a handful in each hill. It soon caught up with corn planted ten days earlier, ripened full as early, and yielded better. It seemed to grow so fast that the cutworm could make no impression upon it."—*Cor. Am. Agriculturist.*

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.—During the last month, says the *Veterinarian* for August, we have received a large mass of information relative to the wide-spread existence of pleuro-pneumonia. From Ireland we learn that the disease is more rife than it has been for some years, and that persons are selling off their stock from infected herds for the purpose of saving themselves from loss, perfectly regardless of the mischief resulting therefrom. Scotland is also suffering from the disease in districts far removed from each other, and fears are entertained lest it should be introduced among many of the best herds, through the meetings of the various agricultural exhibitions now taking place. The disease has not abated in any of the counties of England where it has recently appeared. In the London dairies it is on the increase. Everywhere it appears to have assumed a most malignant form.—*Irish Farmers' Gazette.*

FRENCH SYSTEM OF FEEDING FOWLS.—The food of their poultry is very carefully regarded by the French breeders. For the first week after being hatched (and in winter for a much longer time), the chickens are fed on barley meal mixed with milk, stale bread soaked in water, and green food finely chopped. Very few instances can be found where poultry are fed on whole grain, as it is believed that whole grain would be too expensive, produce fewer eggs, too much fat, and cause more disease when fowls are fed *ad libitum*, so as to completely fill their crops,

which renders digestion difficult. The food is mostly composed of about one-half bran and the other half buckwheat, barley, or oatmeal, made into a stiff paste, with which the fowls are fed twice a day—namely, at sunrise and sunset. This diet is given indiscriminately to old and young. In some cases where fowls have not the run of meadows, they are provided with a certain amount of animal and green food. The waste of the butcher shops is boiled, the fat skimmed off, and when coagulated, thoroughly mixed with the meal food. Cabbages and other vegetables are supplied in some cases, being either fed raw or boiled and mixed with the other food. Buckwheat is considered preferable to all other grain as a stimulant to egg laying, and in winter a certain amount is given whole.

ESSAYS ON HORSE SHOEING.—The directors of the Scottish Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Animals offer three prizes (£50, £30, and £20) for the best and most practical essays on horse shoeing, in connection with the comfort and soundness of the horse. The following hints are given in order to show how the subject of the essays may be treated:—(1.) Suppose a horse sound and hitherto unshod, describe the present method of preparing the hoof for shoeing, the amount of horn taken away, and the instruments employed, so as to bring the whole natural bearing-surface in contact with the ground. (2.) Can you suggest anything better? (3.) How would you prepare the shoes (fore and hind) for various kinds of horses, as race-horses, hunters, hacks, coach, cab, buss, and heavy draught horses. (4.) In describing the forging of shoes (whether hand or machine-made), state very exactly the number, relative positions, and direction of the nail holes, and give reasons therefor. (5.) Describe the best manner of fitting the shoe, and give your opinion as to the propriety of applying it in a heated state in order to secure an equal bearing; and whether that can be obtained without burning into the hoof. (6.) Point out any evils or abuses in existing system of horse shoeing. (7.) Suggest any improvements in the form, material, or mode of fitting shoes. (8.) How may the hoofs of horses be best preserved? (9.) Give any suggestions as to how a thoroughly scientific knowledge of the horse's foot might best be acquired by horse shoers.

The Garden.

THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the ONTARIO FARMER.

SIR,—It happened to be my good fortune to attend, as delegate from the Council of Agriculture of Ontario, this celebrated Convention of Pomologists and Fruit Growers, being the twelfth biennial session, held this time in Horticultural Hall, Broad and Locust streets, Phil-

adelphia. I say good fortune, for it enabled me to draw a proximate comparison between the fruit productions of this Province and the neighbouring States. To enable your readers to form some idea of the estimate our neighbours place on these gatherings, I will take a paragraph or two from the Philadelphia "Press," which thus announced the event about to come off:—

"The present week of the Pomological Session is a busy one to the mighty fruit and floral interests of the country, commencing on the 15th of September, 1869, and continuing until the close of the week. A grand national fruit and floral festival is being held. It is composed of the regular meeting of the Pomological Society of the United States, and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and the citizens of the Quaker City may consider themselves unusually favoured in having both these Societies meeting in harmony at one and the same time, and at one and the same place."

It further states that the Pomological Society is composed of Fruit Growers from all over the country, who have sent the best of their products to Horticultural Hall to compete for the various prizes offered for the best and finest fruits. One very interesting feature of the Exhibition was a bountiful display of fruits from California and Kansas, and to these may be added those from Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Iowa, Ohio, New York, Tennessee, Illinois and other States. The display in quantity was certainly imposing. There were, in this immense Hall, 1,254 plates of apples, 1,594 of pears, 38 of peaches, 51 of plums, 220 of native grapes, 41 of exotic grapes, besides many others of crabs, quinces, cranberries, &c., &c. On entering the hall where these were arranged, the visitor was impressed with the practical arrangement of the tables, which admitted the spectators to pass directly into the centre of this great Hall, or to go either to the right or left, through aisles formed by the tables, and thus pass quite round until they arrived directly in front of the stage, and in thus passing round they would see on the one hand, the most beautiful display of foliage plants, exotic and native, intermingled with a profusion of flowers, all arranged along the walls, and on the other hand the fruits were so disposed as to give the best effect to the general scene. Beautiful as it appeared in passing around, the crowning glory remained to be witnessed, when

in front of the stage. Here, I am afraid I shall fail in conveying an intelligible description of this most lovely scene, I fancy it must be long in passing away from the memory of those who saw it. The stage was elevated about 2½ feet above the main floor, and appeared about 40 feet square. The laying out of this stage was entrusted to a Mr. Southwood, a gentleman who evidently excels in scenic art, and I am informed, performs this duty simply for the enjoyment the occupation affords him. He so arranged this stage as to make it appear a tropical garden. Against the wall, occupying the whole rear of the stage from ceiling to floor, was placed what appeared an immense oil painting, representing a beautiful cascade, rushing through a gorge of rocks and foaming in its fall until it quite disappeared among the palms and ferns below, and to add to this fairy scene, a natural stream of water was introduced to meet the one in the painting, and made to turn a rude water wheel, that none but the most attentive eye could detect the union, so correctly blended were nature and art. Then again on either side of this waterfall were arranged a great variety of tropical plants, to intermingle with those represented in the painting. Among these I noticed Palms, Ferns, Banana trees, Droseras, Calladimus, Myranthias, Gum Elastic, and Acacia trees, beautiful Chinese Cissus and Alamanda, in blossom, and also a Guava plant. So correct was the arrangement and adjustment of these living plants with those in the painting, that one was compelled often to admit deception in pointing out their different features. From the scenery in the background to the front of the stage the boards were strewn with laurels and groups of rock-work covered with mosses, interspersed with broad-leaved flowery plants, and placed among these were to be seen Pomona and Flora, admiring each other's chiseled beauties, he in the act of throwing fruits to her, and she seated on a white goat, among an exquisite arrangement of rare flowery plants. In front of the stage on the main floor stood the rare century plant, just putting forth its blossoms. This plant was about 24 feet high, and presented an extraordinary sight—it is supposed to bloom once in one hundred years, after which it fades and dies; a few yards to the left of the stage was erected a beautiful floral design. It stood 16

feet high, upon a base made of evergreens, and was entirely composed of cut flowers, with a diameter of seven feet. On the top of this floral design was the representation of a church tower in which hung a great bell. Along the ceiling of the hall was suspended, in imitation of arches, nine huge baskets of evergreens. The whole was unique, requiring only to be seen to be ever after remembered. It was facetiously remarked that the attendance of delegates was so large and enthusiastic, that the hotels were being filled with fine looking old gentlemen of an agricultural cast of countenance, whose daily walk and conversation imparted a Horatian flavour to the feverish metropolis, and whose presence gave a decidedly bucolic appearance to the streets of Philadelphia. (That could not have meant me.)

I wish here to bear testimony to the marked liberality displayed by our American friends in the attention and kindness extended to the members and delegates in attendance at the Great Fruit Convention. Most particularly should acknowledgments be made to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, which secured for our enjoyment and pleasure free access to all the objects of Horticultural interest in and around Philadelphia, a programme of which was printed for our guidance, and indeed if we could have availed ourselves of all these sights it would have entailed a month's residence.

His Honor, Daniel M. Fox, welcomed the officers, members and delegates in Independence Hall, which was placed at their disposal during the session. This building contains the portraits of celebrated and public men, in oil paintings of great value, besides these were many other objects of curiosity and interest. In front of this building has recently been placed a fine statue of Washington. The business of the Convention was brought to a close on Friday, the 17th of September, after listening to an able address delivered by the President, Honourable M. P. Wilder. Several invitations were read and accepted, among which was one to visit the Academy of Natural Science, another Fairmount Park, a third Vineland, besides other places of interest. Then the question as to where the next Biennial Meeting should be held arose. The delegates from Boston, Mass., Richmond, Va., Newport, Geneva, N.Y., Tennessee, Cali-

fornia, Kansas, and other places, urged their respective places as suitable, and offered the most liberal inducements to secure the session. A vote was taken, which resulted in favour of Richmond, Va. Therefore, the next great meeting will be holden there, in September, 1871.

At the close of the Session, in the evening a grand banquet was given to the delegates and members of the Convention, and many carried with them to their distant homes a pleasant recollection of the good cheer and smiling faces of their Philadelphia friends.

I regret that I had not been commissioned by the Council of Agriculture, on behalf of the Province of Ontario, to extend an invitation to this useful Society to have one of its sessions in this Province. I should have had great pleasure in doing this, because I feel justified in stating that such an invitation would have been cordially appreciated, and with a reasonable prospect of its being accepted; and for the further reason, that among no other body of men do we find more harmony of feeling than prevails among Fruit Growers. Whatever be their nationality, they meet on common ground, freed from the discord of politics, bent upon the common study of those laws which reveal to our understanding a unity of interest in human action and a universal brotherhood.

As Toronto is the capital of the Province, it would appear the most suitable place for such a Convention, and it is to be hoped, that an invitation will be extended to this Society at its next meeting in 1871, with something like commensurate liberality.

Although among the three thousand two hundred and fifty-five plates of fruits in the Convention Hall, many of high excellence might be selected, yet upon the whole, I am convinced, taking plate for plate, or quantity for quantity, in drawing a comparison between the fruit products of the neighbouring States and of our own favoured Province of Ontario, we should excel in those fruits grown in our country, probably with the single exception of out door grapes, they having a more extended range of favourable climate; herein they appear to great advantage. I was particularly pleased with the beauty and quality of some of Rogers' Hybrids, also with a grape shown, I think, by a Mr. Underhill, called

the Croton, and also with some unnamed Hybrids shown by Dr. Wylie of Virginia. Immediately on my return from Philadelphia I visited the London Provincial Show, and I state without fear or favor that the fruits on exhibition in Ontario were, taken class for class, superior to those I had seen in Philadelphia. I may say however that I saw there a few monstrosities in the shape of Duchesse de Angouleme Pears from Virginia, weighing from 17 to 18 ounces, and a few large and fine apples from Kansas that might stump the world. I might give you detailed accounts of the fruits on exhibition, but this would be unnecessary as they have already been placed on record, both here and there. The receiving and reading of reports and the discussions took place in the Foyer of Horticultural Hall. A Committee was appointed to examine and report on Mr. Ree's fruit house, which will hereafter appear in the proceedings of the Society. By the way, this subject of keeping fruits perfectly fresh and without deterioration is one of very great importance to all fruit growers, and the public generally, so much so that I take this opportunity to urge the Fruit Growers Association of Ontario to procure all reliable information upon this subject, and give to the Canadian public the result of their efforts in this direction. I tested some fruits kept in one of these houses for more than twelve months, and found them perfectly sound and without loss of flavour.

I earnestly hope that an interchange of thought and experience, may attain in fruit matters, between our neighbours and us which will be found mutually beneficial. I beg to close these remarks by quoting a paragraph from the address delivered by the venerable President, the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, under the head of "Importance of a Natural Society." He said, "How salutary the influence of such associations. Who that has witnessed the operations of this Society can for a moment doubt the usefulness and importance of these natural gatherings? The great practical truth of the present generation, said Daniel Webster, is that public improvements are brought about by voluntary combination and associations. The principle of association, said he, the practice of bringing together men bent on the same general object, uniting their physical and mental efforts to that purpose, is a great improvement in our age." To which the President gave assent, and then went on to say, "that if there were not an apple, a pear or a grape on exhibition, the stimulation of thought produced by the contact of mind with mind, and the information acquired by the free interchange of experience is far more valuable than the same amount of knowledge derived from books. It is the centralization of action,

which has produced the wonderful progress of our age, and when on the broad platform of common philanthropy free from sectional prejudices and party animosities, we become indirectly but not the less effectually united in the bonds of friendship and reciprocal regard, and when from the loving cause in which we are engaged we have learned to love each other."

WM. H. MILLS.

Hamilton, 11th October, 1869.

THE NICANOR STRAWBERRY.

The *Horticulturist* says "The Nicanor, of which we have felt the strongest hope for the credit of the disseminators, has proved of only second grade value. It is a very strong grower, under favorable circumstances, and produces an immense amount of fruit; but the berries are uniformly small, very few of large size—certainly not as the largest grades of Wilson; quality not a true strawberry flavor—resembles more nearly the taste of a dead ripe gooseberry; does not adapt itself to all localities, having proved a failure generally on light warm lands; it lack firmness, as well as size, to such a degree, that it will never be desirable for market, although very desirable for amateurs in lists of fruit for family uses."

GARDEN GLEANINGS.

Great injury has been done to the ungathered apples by the recent frost. Thousands of bushels have been spoiled.

There is an extraordinary dearth of peaches this year in France. The market gardeners of Montreuil, the great source of Paris supply, estimate the deficiency of their products as compared with an average crop, at £80,000.

Some farmers pasture cows in their orchards, causing destruction of young trees and low branches of large ones. Hogs or sheep are better suited for the orchard, as they cannot reach very high, even if inclined to damage the branches, and they eat the fallen fruit which contain the grubs of the codling-moth, or the curculio.

Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, have lately introduced a new pear, called the "Edmonds," which promises to be a great acquisition to their fruit list. The editor of the *Country Gentleman* says that a young tree of this variety, set out about three years ago, bore nearly half a bushel of fruit of excellent quality, this year.

The Pomological Congress of France held its thirteenth session at Bordeaux. The business was conducted on nearly the same plan as that which has been adopted by the American Pomological Society. Fruits of promise being admitted, as well as those for general adoption—the latter requiring thorough testing in different localities. Five days were occupied by the Congress in transacting business. The lists of European fruits were severely thinned.

A correspondent of the *Small Fruit Recorder* gives the result of an experiment which he made with liquid manure for strawberries. He says that he procured a half-hogshead, filled it with rain water, and put into it one quarter pound of ammonia, and one quarter pound of common nitre. When the strawberry plants were blossoming he gave them a sprinkling of the solution at evening, twice a week, until the fruit was nearly full size. The result was nearly double the amount of fruit on those to which the liquid was applied, than was obtained from plants alongside, to which none of the liquid was given.

WATER CRESS.—This is such a delicious and wholesome salad that we are surprised that it is not more grown. A correspondent of the "*Country Gentleman*" says:—"It is eaten exactly in the same way as other salads, and in London tons of it are retailed daily; it is taken out by girls chiefly, who cry it through the streets in a musical kind of way. As it requires no cultivation, and will grow in any small stream of water running through meadows or elsewhere, without any attention, it is wonderful that it is not more generally disseminated. A few miles out of London I have seen acres of it growing in water backed up and spread out over low grounds for the purpose, and one piece was rented to a party of men at £14 per acre per annum.

FRENCH METHOD OF RAISING TOMATOES.—As soon as a cluster of flowers are visible, the stem is topped down to the cluster, so that the flowers terminate the stem. The effect is that the sap is immediately impelled into the two buds next below the cluster, which soon push strongly and produce another cluster of flowers each. When these are visible, the branch to which they belong to is also topped down to their level, and this is done successively. By this means the plants become stout dwarf bushes, not above eighteen inches high. In order to prevent their falling over, sticks or strings are stretched horizontally along the rows, so as to keep the plants erect. In addition to this, all the laterals that have no flowers, and after the fifth topping, all laterals, whatsoever, are nipped off. In this way the ripid sap is directed into the fruit, which acquires a beauty, size, and excellence unattained by other means.

Our Country.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NOTES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

For the ONTARIO FARMER.

There are few sounds of bird-life at this season of the year, which excite more pleasurable feeling, not unmingled with melancholy, than the little short snatches of song, which may occasionally be heard during a pleasant October morning, uttered by birds which have been altogether silent for many weeks, and now seem

as if they wished to bid us a last farewell, before winging their way to milder climates.

The Song Sparrow and the Bay-Winged Bunting are among the number of those who thus treat us to a few brief parting notes, and mingled with them is also sometimes heard the plaintive voice of the Meadow Lark.

During the fine weather, which generally marks some part of the month of October, many of the smaller birds more especially, seem to hold a sort of carnival, before their migratory flight commences. Their summer cares are all over—their young birds are strong and active upon the wing, and old and young all seem to have nothing to do but to enjoy the glorious sunshine and balmy autumn air. Wherever you go in the country, along the skirts of the wood, through the fields, or by the roadsides, you are sure to see little flocks of Song Sparrows, Snow Birds, Chaffinches, Goldfinches, Tree Sparrows, and Bay-Winged Buntings, all fraternizing amicably together, and fitting hither and thither with rapid eager movements. The trees, too, are full of Blue Birds, Golden Wings, and Robins. The latter are more especially restless and noisy; wheeling about in large flocks, they swoop down upon some mountain ash tree or sumach, uttering their shrill piping notes, and as soon as they have stripped the trees of their berries, are off again in search of fresh food elsewhere.

As the month advances, or the weather becomes less genial, our summer friends gradually disappear, and other birds, which have been scarcely noticed since the early spring, now begin to make themselves seen and heard.

On some cold blustering morning, the merry "*Chick a dee-dee-dee*" of the Black-Cap Titmouse (*Parus atricapillus*) is sure to be heard, as it swings itself head down from a pendant branch of tree or shrub, in search of seeds or insects. The more stormy and disagreeable the weather, the merrier the little fellow seems to be! Hardy, active, and restless, with a warm covering of light and downy feathers, it is well able to set cold and frost at defiance. This Titmouse, although extending its summer migrations far north, breeds with us also. They begin to lay about the end of April, and generally make use of some deserted Woodpecker's hole or other cavity,

in the dry rotten wood of a decayed tree, which they line with the hair of some animal, and lay from six to twelve eggs, white, speckled with brownish red. The young, as soon as they are fledged, chatter and skip about with all the vivacity of their parents, and through the autumn and winter, the whole family continue to associate together, roving through the woods, or entering familiarly into our gardens and yards in search of their multifarious food, which consists not only of insects, their larvæ and eggs, and of seeds of various kinds, but of crumbs, and even scraps of meat, which may have been dropped about the yards or the door-steps.

The note of the Black Cap Titmouse (it can scarcely be called a song) possesses but little variety. Besides the well-known "*Chicka dee-dee*," however, it has one or two clearly whistled and rather melancholy notes, which it frequently utters when flitting from tree to tree in search of its insect prey. The plumage of this bird is black on the throat, head, and back of the neck; the cheeks, and a line to the base of the bill, white. Upper part of the body greyish-brown; the wings darker, edged with white. The lower part of the body white, tinged with greyish brown; bill, black; legs, bluish-grey.

Frequently associated with the Titmouse at this season, and forming with them a busy, active, noisy group, are the Nuthatches and Brown Tree Creepers. There are two species of Nuthatch met with in our woods—the white breasted and the Red-bellied Nuthatch. The Red-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta Canadensis*) is the more common of the two, more especially in the Pine woods, for which it seems to have an especial predilection. It may be met with there all the year round, moving restlessly from tree to tree, examining every hole and cranny in the bark, frequently rapping against it with its bill, and detaching small fragments, in order to get at the insects hidden underneath. Its monotonous *kank, kank, kank*, is heard at almost every hop, as it diligently pursues its search up to the very top of the tallest pines.

The nest of this Nuthatch is generally made in the bottom of some dead stump, at no great height from the ground. The eggs, four in number, are small, white with a deep blush, and sprinkled with reddish dots. The general

colour of the plumage above is a light leaden gray; the under parts brownish-red. The top of the head is bluish-black; a long white line passes over the eye, a broader line of black from the bill to the eye and down the neck; the throat white, primary quills dusky, margined with greyish-blue; tail feathers blackish, the two middle ones leaden colour, the lateral ones white towards the end.

The White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta Carolinensis*) is not so numerous as the one just described, although, like "the Red-bellied," it is found in most parts of Canada. It, too, during the summer, gives a preference to the most secluded parts of the forest, but comes about our orchards and farm-yards at the approach of winter. It shows but little fear of man; frequently, when watching one of them searching for insects on the trunk of some huge pine, the little fellow has crept down till almost at the bottom of the tree, and only a few feet from me, and clinging to the bark, head downward, regarded me with a quaint look for several seconds, before flying off to the next tall pine or hemlock. This species hollows out a place for its nest in the branch or trunk of some decayed tree; sometimes it contents itself with a deserted hole of a Woodpecker.

The eggs, five or six in number, are dull white, spotted with brown at the larger end.

The notes of the White-breasted Nuthatch are louder than those of the Red-bellied, but they resemble the same monosyllables, *kank, kank, kank*, uttered with a peculiarly nasal sound.

The plumage is deep black, glossed with blue on the upper part of the head and back of the neck. The back, wing and tail coverts, and middle feathers of the tail, light greyish-blue. Quills black, edged with bluish grey; three lateral tail feathers black, with a broad band of white near the end, the rest black, excepting the middle ones. The sides of the head, space above the eye, foreneck and breast, white; abdomen and lower tail coverts brownish red, with white tips; under wing coverts, black.

When November arrives, and the weather becomes still colder and more ungenial, another dweller in the forests makes its appearance, and like the Nuthatches and Titmouse, pays occasional visits to our orchards and gardens.

The Brown Tree Creeper (*Certhia Americana*) may, at this season of the year, be not unfrequently seen on the mossy trunk of some old apple tree, examining the crevices in the bark for insects and their eggs. It is a shy bird, however, and does not allow itself to be approached very closely.

It seldom leaves a tree without searching all its crannies from the roots to the top, running up sometimes in a direct line, sometimes spirally with the utmost quickness and rapidity, and then launching off, shoots downwards, and alighting at a little above the roots of a neighbouring tree, recommences its labours afresh.

When on the move, the Tree Creeper utters a short, quick grating note, which can be heard at some distance.

It breeds in a hole or cavity in the trunk or branch of a tree, frequently taking possession of some old hole or nest of squirrel or Woodpecker, which it lines with dried grasses and feathers. The eggs are from six to eight in number; the ground colour yellowish-white, irregularly marked with red and purplish spots.

The plumage is reddish brown on the upper parts, the head darker, the rump light brownish-red, all the feathers with a central dull whitish streak. Wings deep brown, the secondary coverts barred at the base with dull yellow, of which a broad band crosses both webs of the quills, excepting the inner web of the outer four, and the outer webs of the outer three. Most of the quills have also a greyish yellow patch along the outer web toward the tip, which is dull white. The tail feathers are yellowish brown. A silvery white band passes over the eye; the cheeks are dark brown, the lower parts silvery white.

When the wind is blowing keenly from the north-east, and the first flurries of snow warn us of coming winter, the little Golden-Crested Wren (*Regulus Satrapa*) (with the exception of the humming bird, the tiniest feathered visitor we have), may be seen flitting merrily from tree to tree, regardless alike of wind or snow, skipping from one twig to another, sometimes hanging head downward like the Black Cap Titmice, with whom they often associate, and searching diligently after dormant insects concealed beneath the bark or withered foliage. It seems

wonderful how so delicate and diminutive a creature can either brave the cold of this tempestuous season, or extend its migrations over such long distances, for it is found at different periods of the year from Louisiana to Labrador!

Its ordinary note is a sort of low "screech" or chirp, but in the spring of the year, when they are sometimes very numerous in the pine woods, or among the evergreens in the shrubberies, among which they often linger for a few days on their way still further north, I have heard them sing very sweetly.

In company with the Golden Crested Wren, I have sometimes, although rarely seen what I supposed to be the Ruby or Fiery-Crowned Wren (*Regulus Calendula*), in which the tuft on the head was a more brilliant orange or flame colour than in the Golden Crested Wren; but the plumage was otherwise so much alike, that I was puzzled to decide as to whether they were a distinct species or not.

I have never met with a nest of the Golden-Crested Wren, but it is said to be built usually towards the extremities of the branches of the fir or pine, of a spherical form, with a small entrance at the side, and formed externally of moss and lichen, and lined with downy substances, such as cobwebs, or silk of caterpillars or cocoons. The eggs, scarcely larger than peas, are from six to twelve in number; yellowish white, with very minute points or reddish spots.

The plumage of this little bird is ash grey on the neck and sides of the head, olive on the back, and olive-yellow on the wings. There is a band of greyish white across the lower part of the forehead, which separates at the eye, one extending over, the other under; above passes a broadish band of black, the inner webs and tips of these feathers being of a bright pure yellow, forming a line of that colour; the lowest of these feathers on the front being nearly of the same yellow, while the inner feathers on the crown of the head are a rich flame colour. The lateral black and parti-coloured feathers are much the largest, and the two tufts are capable of widening or approaching, so as at will, either to display or conceal the brilliant crown within.

From the upper mandible, to the bottom of the ear feathers, runs a line of black, accompanied by another, which is whitish from the

lower mandible. The throat and lower parts are greyish white, inclining to yellow; wings and tail dusky, edged with yellowish olive; greater wing coverts dusky, tipped with white, and edged with olive, forming a whitish bar on the wing; another smaller bar appears also near the shoulder, formed by the tips of the upper coverts; immediately below the greater white bar, there is a large dark spot on the secondaries, below which the same feathers continue to be edged with olive.

G. W. A.

Moss Park, November, 1869.

EMIGRANT LETTERS ON CANADA.

(From the *Globe*.)

We have before us two epistles addressed to the (Scotch) *Inverness Courier*: the one professedly from "John Fyfe, late of Badenoch," and the other from "Murdoch Stewart, late of Ross-shire." These very conveniently date from "Ontario," which being a small piece of ground as large as the whole British Isles, with another Ireland thrown in to boot, leaves the whereabouts or character of the writers very much a matter of doubt. They are also dated within a week of each other, which is somewhat convenient.

Let us see what "John Fyfe," in the first place, says about Ontario. He speaks of the "free grants" in this Province in the following terms—the ludicrous absurdity and falsehood of which are patent to every one in the slightest degree acquainted with the country:—

"The first great inducement given to emigrants is the free grant of 200 acres of land to every *bona fide* settler. Now, I have travelled through the most of Ontario, or Upper Canada, as well as through the States of New York, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, and for my part I would not have anything to do with free grants. They are only suitable for grazing purposes, being low and flooded lands, and very sickly for Scotchmen—ague and yellow fever making more progress than either farmer or mechanic. Of course, there are some scattered lots of refuse that might be had, but they are not worth paying taxes for. I know that in Scotland great hopes are entertained from the free grant system. Under such delusions, Scotch farmers sell out and go to Canada, but on their arrival they find things entirely different from company speculators' reports. There are different lines of free grants, leading back to the rear wilderness, but seldom desirable; and a man finds himself lost amongst a mass of drunkards and spendthrifts, driven out on these grants by their own faults and former habits. There may be some exceptions, but they are few and far between. Therefore, I say, citizens of Free Albion, and especially of the mountains of Cale-

donia, remain where you are rather than venture to live among the free grant class of Ontario!"

We have ever insisted upon the "free grant" system being liberalized, and some of the miserable reservations taken away, as well as the area of such grants made much wider; but the idea of calling those farms, at present being given out on the principle of "free grants," "low and flooded lands," and sickly to Scotchmen on account of "ague and yellow fever," is so absurd that we doubt if the man who can write so ever put his foot in one of the free grant regions of Ontario. Why, the Muskoka district, for instance, is notorious as one of the healthiest in Canada, and is being filled up at such a rate that the settlers are getting before the surveyors. As to yellow fever, it is unknown in Canada.

But let us see what "John Fyfe" says further:—

"The advantages of Canada and the United States cannot be compared with Scotland in any shape or form; our soil is not better, but ten times worse; our great heat and innumerable fevers, never felt in Scotland, are very prevalent here. Mechanics and labourers' wages are high in the fall or harvest: good hands can get 6s. a day for about two months, but during the winter you can see thousands out of employment. In the important consideration of health, it is a serious fact that a very alarming proportion of those who emigrate to Canada or the States return home, if they can, with their constitutions so shattered and enfeebled as to render them unfit for the prosecution of their former avocations. I am of opinion that, as a general thing, your young men do not better their condition by coming to Canada for employment. As a matter of course, there are some who, by the change, improve their circumstances; but so far as I can speak, from my own and others' knowledge, such cases are exceptional and not the rule. Moreover, I am not aware of any well-to-do Scotch farmers who have sold out, and come to Canada or the States, in the hopes of bettering their conditions, but who have regretted the change. From all that I have seen and been able to ascertain from those competent to form a correct opinion, I am fully persuaded that mechanics and men adapted for hiring out as farm labourers would find Scotland a more desirable field than either Canada or the United States of America."

Mr. Fyfe's experience must be very singular if he has found such a large amount of fever in Canada, and "shattered constitutions" in such abundance. There are "constitutions shattered" not however by the climate, but by cheap whiskey and irregular habits. Whereabouts thousands have been seen out of employment in any part of Ontario, we cannot imagine. Let "John Fyfe" give the facts and figures, the time, the locality and every detail, and then we shall see what we have got to say on that subject. This we know, that during this past season, in spite

of the numbers who have come to the Province, there are many districts in which a single emigrant has not made his appearance, and not a few farmers who could get help neither for love nor money. We have known persons at first in difficulties, as will be the case with new comers in any country; but we have not heard yet of the sober, industrious man, willing and able to work at whatever comes handiest, either out of employment or unpaid for his work. The idea of Scotland being a better place for farm labourers than Canada is too absurd. For those who are perfectly reconciled to being hired servants for life, this may perhaps be the case, but every farm servant who comes to Canada is understood to aim at having a farm for himself in due time, and how impossible the realization of such a thing in Scotland need not be said.

The letter of "Murdoch Stewart" bears evident marks of want of genuineness. No man of ordinary honesty, and in the slightest degree acquainted with the country, could write as this professedly illiterate "axe man" does. He acknowledges indeed that the old settlers are on a "good footing" every one his own laird; but then he says the present times are not to be compared with what they were 20 years ago. Then 200 acres could be got for each *bona-fide* settler without any difficulty and "mostly free." This is absurdly far from the fact. Then it is said further that the good land has all been taken up, when men the most reliable, and who have no interest in falsifying, have, from actual examination, declared again and again that there is still any quantity of good land. What are we to think of a man who says that the timber in our backwoods is of no use but for fuel, and that all who settle on free grants are the "most degraded class of people, driven out to those backwoods by their own misconduct?" "I have seen," says Murdoch Stewart, "more idlers and more poverty in winter and spring in Canada than I have seen on the west coast of Sutherland, Ross or Inverness, and I have gone over them all." Of course, when a letter is dated simply from "Ontario," we cannot refer to any particular place; but we challenge "Murdoch Stewart," or any other man, to specify any locality in Ontario where even an approach to such a state of things is or has been known. The idea of saying that a man cannot get even the wages he works for is too absurd when any one knows that he can recover by a summary process at our Division Courts, and with little or no delay. There is not much use in meeting each statement in detail, though, as curiosities, we give two or three more. "Murdoch" says:—

"There are two months in the fall (harvest) in which an ordinary workman will be paid from 4s to 6s. per day and board, but all the rest of the year is spent in search of work, as the case may be, one day here, and two days there, and so forth. He is counted a lucky bird who finds constant employment for six months in one place."

* * * * *

"Taxation is almost an unbearable burden

and there is no exemption. If you are two days in a place you are to work the statute labour or pay 8s sterling for every adult member of your family. If you want to pay an honest debt in silver, you will pay four per cent. on the dollar; no silver is taken at par."

We need scarcely say that the mention of unbearable taxation is all nonsense, and the statute labour talk is equally wide of the mark. We only wish that throughout Canada "no silver were taken at par." Unfortunately, Toronto is the only place where that holds good; and among all the grievances, real or imagined, we have yet to learn of any one who thinks it a grievance to take and receive American or States silver simply for what it is worth. Were there nothing in this letter but this last touch about the silver of a suspicious nature, it would be sufficient to make us doubt whether "Murdoch Stewart" ever wielded an axe in Ontario, or had any experience either of its "yellow fever," or of its "smart bosses."

We do not say that no hardships are met with in Ontario, and should be far from averring that there are no rogues ready to pounce upon and fleece the unwary; but we do assert, and challenge any one to show that we are wrong in the assertion, that for the industrious, hard-working man a better field for improving his circumstances could not be found than this Province at the present day. Let "Murdoch Stewart" go into the Zorras, mostly occupied by Highlanders, who were "cleared" out of the Sutherland estates, and he will see what is the difference between Canadian farmers and Sutherland labourers, and let him go into the homes of Highlanders and Lowlanders settled in bodies all over the country, and he will learn whether or not Canada has been a good place for the working man. We, too, know something of the Highlands of Scotland, both northern and western: we know what the remuneration given for work, in those quarters, is; and what the general amount of comfort among those who have to live by the sweat of their brow; and we say that to compare the average condition of the same class in Canada and Scotland is utterly absurd, as tens of thousands of Canadian Highlanders can honestly testify.

THE MUSKOKA AND PARRY SOUND SETTLEMENTS.—A great number of settlers have arrived at both places this Fall, and we are in receipt of letters by every mail from the old country informing us of the intention of numbers to emigrate to this section in the Spring of 1870, and asking for information about the Free Grant Lands. Some of them are men of considerable capital. It is gratifying to know that most of those who came in search of land have been located and like the place.—*Advocate, Parry Sound.*

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS TO EMIGRANTS.—A London journal says:—"As then, emigration is open to all, and there is room for all of us across the seas, we arrive apparently at the odd

conclusion that the interests of England are not inseparable from the interests of Englishmen, and that we could all avoid debt, taxes, primogeniture, a bloated aristocracy, a House of Lords, a State Church, London smoke, fog, street accidents, even half-penny papers, by an emigration *en masse*." "Just so," says an exchange; "Now, if they will come to Canada, we will show them millions of acres of the best land in the world, where they can grow as rich and be far happier than they are in the old world. They will have no fogs to trouble them, no State Church, and not a "bloated aristocrat" from Father Point to the Pacific, while as for half-penny newspapers they will find our one cent sheets the acme of journalism.—(Hobe.

Arts and Manufactures.

PRESERVATION OF HARNESSSES AND CARRIAGES.

A large portion of those who own harnesses and carriages, either through ignorance or carelessness pay so little attention to their preservation, that in a few months they generally look soiled and old. If proper care is taken, this may be avoided. The principal difficulty results from allowing the mud to remain on for a long time or from the manner of washing it off, and we will give a few hints about keeping harnesses and carriages in good order.

Those who have the care of a harness need not be troubled to prevent it from getting wet, for leather, if in a good condition, is seldom injured by water. Care should be taken however to hang up the harness, and not allow it to be thrown into a heap on the floor, to lie and mould, instead of drying off.

The leather should be kept fairly oiled, but the harness should first be taken apart and washed with soft water, and the oil may be rubbed in while the leather is moist, care being taken that the application is thoroughly made. For this purpose neats foot oil is considered the best. If the harness also needs blacking, a little lamp-black should be added to the oil, and the rubbing should be continued until a white cloth may be used in wiping off the harness without being soiled. Leather varnish should never be used on harness. In cleaning the plating, rotten stone or whiting may be used, but generally an occasional rubbing off with a woollen cloth will be all that is necessary.

The first thing to remember in cleaning a carriage is that the mud which may accumulate is not to be taken off by rubbing; if it is dry, (and it should never be allowed to become so if it is possible to prevent it,) soap it well and let it get soft, so that by throwing on water it will run off. After the carriage has thus been thoroughly rinsed off, and all the corners cleared out, the work may be finished with a pail of clean cold water and a good sponge; if the sponge is not clean it will be likely to scratch the paint. After washing, a piece of chamois skin should be used

to rub all the paint and polished work until it is thoroughly dry. It is hardly necessary to say that no one who cares at all for a nice looking carriage will ever leave dirt in the corners.

There need be no fear of washing a carriage too often; if washed every time it is run out, and dried with a chamois, there will generally be less trouble about the cracking of paint. But the care of a carriage does not end with the washing. A suitable room, to keep it in is always a very important consideration. A coach-house that is not properly ventilated, or in a damp place, where steam of any kind passes through it, will, in a short time, furnish the opportunity for destroying the best painted carriage ever made; in these cases it is too common to attribute the fault to the painter.

PREPARATION OF WHITE WASH.

Whitewash is one of the most valuable articles in the world, when properly applied. It not only prevents the decay of wood, but conduces greatly to the healthfulness of all buildings, whether of wood or stone. Out-buildings and fences, when not painted, should be supplied once or twice every year with a good coat of whitewash, which should be prepared in the following manner: Take a clean water-tight barrel or other suitable cask, and put into it half a bushel of lime. Slake it by pouring boiling hot water over it, and in sufficient quantity to cover it five inches deep, and stir it briskly until thoroughly slaked. When the slaking has been thoroughly effected, dissolve it in water and add two pounds of sulphate of zinc and one of common salt; these will cause the wash to harden, and prevent its cracking, which gives an unseemly appearance to the work. If desirable, a beautiful cream color may be communicated to the above wash, by adding three pounds of yellow ochre; or a good pearl or lead color by the addition of lamp, vine, or ivory black. For fawn color, add four pounds of umber, Turkish or American—the latter is the cheapest—one pound of Indian red, one pound of common lamp-black. For common stone color, add four pounds of raw umber, and two pounds of lamp-black. This wash may be applied with a common whitewash brush, and will be found much superior both in appearance and durability to the common whitewash.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

REPOLISHING FURNITURE.

Oiled furniture that has been scratched or marred may be restored to its original beauty simply by rubbing boiled linseed oil, used by painters, on the surface, with a wad of woollen rags. Varnished furniture, dulled, may be similarly restored by the use of a varnish composed of shellac dissolved in alcohol, applied in a similar manner. Common beeswax rubbed over furniture and heated by the friction of a woollen wad briskly used, is also an excellent furniture polish.

TORONTO CRYSTAL PALACE.

To the Editor of the ONTARIO FARMER:—

SIR,—In your October description of the pleasant little city of London, and the recent successful provincial Exhibition held there, you say, "The main Exhibition building is of white brick, and, therefore, more durable and permanent than the Crystal Palaces of Toronto and Hamilton." In this, Sir, you are mistaken; the Toronto building is not "wood and glass," but "iron and glass," and if every bit of wood were removed from it, the structure would remain. The wood in the building comprises the filling in of the 16 feet square iron panels; the main floors lying on a bed of concrete and gravel; the gallery-floors, laid on iron girders, and supported by iron columns, and the roof. This building cost, at the time of its erection, in the year 1858, upwards of \$20,000, the sum contributed by the City Council.

Respectfully yours,
TORONTONIAN.

SLATE.

Until within the past ten years, most of the slate used in this country was brought from Wales. Homeward-bound vessels without cargo would take aboard a load of roofing slate for ballast. The Welsh quarries are the largest in the world, comprising excavations sometimes forty acres in extent, three hundred feet deep, and giving employment to small armies of labourers, varying from three thousand to seven thousand in number. Latterly, attention has been turned to American sources of supply, and the quarrying of slate, and its application to various useful purposes, are being gradually developed into an extensive industry. Aside from its use as a roofing material, and for the minor purposes of school tablets, it is used for flagging, for lining furnaces, for tessellated floors, mantels, billiard and other tables, door and window sills, coffins, cisterns, etc., to say nothing of the manufacturing of smaller articles, such as lamps, inkstands, tobacco-pipes, and many other things.

At the quarries the slate is taken out in large blocks, weighing, some of them, three or four tons. The slater opens the end of a block with a chisel, takes hold of the loosened strip, perhaps a quarter of an inch thick, and peels it off as easily as if it were a piece of bark. The tools used are very simple—the "splitter's" implements being chisels shaped like spatulas, while the dresser trims the sheets or pieces to the desired shape with a tool closely resembling a clumsy butcher-knife.

Great care must be exercised in the selection of slate. A good article will grow harder by exposure to the weather, while a poor one will soon become rotten. The characteristic colours of different kinds of slate are due to the presence of foreign substances. Carbon gives a blue tint,

and copper a purple one. A greenish hue indicates magnesia; and a brown, iron. An excess of iron, as also of lime, renders the slate good for nothing. Sulphur is injurious, but its presence may be detected by subjecting the material to the intense heat of a forge fire. Capacity for absorbing water is another feature in worthless slate. This is discovered by weighing a sample, placing it in water for awhile, and weighing it again. Any increase in the weight of course shows absorption, and indicates the inferior quality of the stone.—*American Artisan.*

ART GLEANINGS.

A correspondent of the *N. Y. Evening Post* says cockroaches may be effectually got rid of as follows:—Take carbonic acid and powdered camphor in equal parts; put them in a bottle; they will become fluid. With a painter's brush of the size called a sash-tool, put the mixture on the cracks or places where the "critters" hide; they will come out at once. It is wonderful to see the heroism with which they move to certain death. Nothing more sublime in history; the extirpation is certain and complete.

No acids should be employed to clean tin ware, because they attack the metal and remove it from the iron of which it forms a thin coat. We refer to articles made of tin-plate, which consists of iron covered with tin. Rub the article first with rotten stone and sweet-oil, then finish with whiting and a piece of soft leather. Articles made wholly of tin should be cleansed in the same manner. In a dry atmosphere planished tin ware will remain bright for a long period, but will soon become tarnished in moist air.

An exchange gives these directions for cutting off the neck of a bottle: With a strong twine a yard or less in length, make one turn around the neck, rapidly move the bottle from one end of the string to the other, that the friction may heat the part; while hot, dip in cold water, and the glass is cracked off as clean and smooth as if cut by a diamond. A few strokes or movements with the string are all that is required. A bottle may be cut in two by the same process, if strips of paper are pasted around it to keep the string from slipping from the place desired.

Keep constantly in the tool-house a dry cloth and an oiled one. When a tool is brought in, as it always is when the day's work is done, it is cleaned and wiped with the dry cloth. If it is not to be used the next day, the oiled cloth is then rubbed over it. Whenever a plough or a cultivator is not to be used the following day, it is brought in and cleansed. By pursuing this course through the summer, every implement is kept bright and ready for use. In addition to this, hoes, shovels, spades, &c., are kept sharp. All this time use lard oil, but when there is no further use for ploughs or cultivators, give them a good coat of linseed oil. This forms a covering that is impervious to moisture, and the tool is as bright in the spring as when laid away in the fall.

Hearth and Home.

A TALK WITH THE YOUNG FOLKS ABOUT THE MONTH.

November is a month of very uncertain character in the latitude of Canada. Usually, however, it gives us pretty plain intimations of coming Winter before it is over. The pleasant weather it sometimes brings is like the seeming amiability of certain people, who easily change into storminess and anger, and need but little provocation to show the real roughness of their natures. Even before November comes, we require artificial heat in our houses to make us comfortable, and ere November is out, wood-cutting becomes a serious business in every family. The accompanying picture of two young folks in the act of chopping and carrying wood, is therefore quite characteristic of the month.

Fuel makes a great deal of work, and causes no little expense, but without the need for it, we should have no firesides. The "fireside" and "domestic hearth" are phrases that express much in regard to home comfort. In warm countries, where there is no winter that renders artificial heat necessary, such terms are without meaning. We hope our youthful readers know the joys that blaze forth from an open fireplace. How pleasant it is to come in from the outside cold, and from outdoor toil to the warm welcome which a bright fire flashes into your face. It is a fine picture of rural life in winter which is drawn in the following lines:—

"Tis now the time from hoarding cribs to feed
The ox laborious, and the noble steed ;
'Tis now the time to tend the bleating fold,
To strew with litter and to fence from cold ;
The cattle fed, the fuel piled within,
At setting day the blissful hours begin ;
'Tis then, sole owner of his little cot,
The farmer feels his independent lot ;
Hears with the crackling blaze that lights the wall,
The voice of gladness and of nature call ;
Beholds his children play, their mother smile,
And tastes with them the fruit of summer's toil.

"All hands" should try to make home life pleasant in winter. There are many cheerful, innocent games that may help to do this.



NOVEMBER.

Puzzles, conundrums, rebusses, conversation, geography and history, cards, combine amusement and instruction. A few house-plants well cared for make in-door life cheerful, when the gardens outside are locked in frost and covered with snow. The difficulty of keeping them from being frozen in the coldest weather may be overcome with very little trouble. A few tulips or hyacinths make the house gay and fragrant. The tulips are cheap and easily multiplied. The hyacinths cost a little more, but even these are not very expensive, and they are charming floral ornaments. Their culture is very simple, and most families might easily, if they pleased, have the innocent gratification they yield.

Happy is the family that is warm and cozy in doors with the glow and light of loving hearts. There are fires of the heart which need to be lit and tended as well as fires of the house. Heart fires must be kindled and fed from above to be worth anything. "Having the love of God shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghost given unto us," is the secret of a truly happy life both at

home and abroad. Those who enjoy God's presence and love, not only bask in the sunshine of heaven themselves, but diffuse the light and warmth of heaven all around them.

"Happy the home when God is there,
And love fills every breast;
Where one their wish, and one their prayer,
And one their heavenly rest.

"Happy the home where Jesus' name
Is sweet to every ear;
Where children early lisp His fame,
And parents hold Him dear.

"Happy the home where prayer is heard,
And praise is wont to rise;
Where parents love the sacred word
And live but for the skies.

"Lord, let us in our homes agree,
This blessed peace to gain;
Unite our hearts in love to Thee,
And love to all will reign."

FITTING THE EYES.

Last April I inspected the co-operative stores and workshops at Rochdale. I paid special attention to the boot and shoe department, and that of clogging. I bought a pair of excellent boots, with good broad toes, but looked in vain for clogs of the same shape; all those in the store, as well as every pair I observed in the town, were made with long, narrow, pointed toes. On my asking the principal clogger if he thought the clogs he was showing me would fit anyone's foot, he, with a very arch grin, said, "We dunna want 'em to fit th' foot." "Indeed," said I; "what do you make them to fit them?" He replied, "Why, to fit th' yead." "Well," I said, "I did not know you Rochdale folks wore your clogs on your heads." "Nay," said he, "it is na soa; but if we fit their eighs, they dinna care about their teas, how we nip them." Truly a sad number of poor "Rachda felleys" submit to be squeezed into deformity for fashion's sake, and, according to Mr. Tegetmeier, they are but a small portion of a very large class.—*Cor. of The Field.*

GREASE ON CARPETS.

There is nothing that annoys a tidy house-keeper so much as to have her carpet spotted with lamp-oil or grease, and we therefore make known for her benefit the following recipe for extracting oil or grease spots from carpets or clothes: Cover the grease spots with whiting, and let it remain until it becomes saturated with the grease; then scrape it off, and cover it with another coat of whiting, and if this does not remove the grease, repeat the application. Three coats of whiting will, in most cases, remove the grease, when it should be brushed off with a clothes-brush. So says one who knows.

DRINK AND WORK.

"I drink to make me work," said one. To which an old man replied:—"That's true; drink, and it will make you work! Harken to me a moment, and I'll tell you something that may do you good. I was once a prosperous farmer. I had a loving wife and two fine lads as ever the sun shone on. We had a comfortable home, and lived happily together. But we used to drink to make us work. Those two lads I have now laid in drunkard's graves. My wife died broken-hearted, and now she lies by her two sons. I am seventy years of age. Had it not been for drink, I might now have been an independent gentleman; but I used to drink to make me work, and mark it, it makes me work now. At seventy years of age I am obliged to work for my daily bread. Drink! drink! and it will make you work!"

HEARTH AND HOME GLEANINGS.

There is said to be a great similarity between a vain young lady and a confirmed drunkard, in that neither of them can get enough of the glass.

A wag seeing a door nearly off its hinges, in which condition it had been for some time, observed that when it had fallen and killed some one it would probably be hung.

Mrs Jones, a farmer's wife, says: "I believe I've got the tenderest hearted boys in the world. I can't tell one of them to fetch a pail of water, but that he'll burst out crying."

A Scotch clergyman in time of drought, one Sunday offered a prayer for rain, and, sure enough, it came just as the service closed. One old lady, who had no umbrella with her, commenced to gather up the skirts of her gown over head before quitting the church vestibule, at the same time remarking to a neighbour, "Eh, wumman, isn't too bad of the doctor? He might hae lotten us hame first."

Poetry.

INDIAN SUMMER.

Just after the death of the flowers,
And before they are buried in snow,
There comes a festival season,
When nature is all aglow—
Aglow with a mystical splendor
That rivals the brightness of Spring—
Aglow with a beauty more tender
Than aught which fair Summer could bring.

Some spirit akin to the rainbow,
Then borrows its magical dyes,
And mantles the far spreading landscape
In hues that bewilder the eyes.
The Sun from his cloud-pillowed chamber
Smiles soft on a vision so gay,
And dreams that his favourite children,
The flowers, have not yet passed away.

There's a luminous mist on the mountains,
 A light, azure haze in the air,
 As if angels, while heavenward soaring,
 Had left their bright robes floating there;
 The breeze is so soft, so caressing,
 It seems a mute token of love,
 And floats to the heart like a blessing,
 From some happy spirit above.

Oh! beautiful Indian Summer!
 Thou favourite child of the year,
 Thou darling, whom Nature enriches
 With gifts and adornments so dear!
 How fain would we woo thee to linger
 On mountain and meadow awhile,
 For our hearts, like the sweet haunts of Nature,
 Rejoice and grow young in thy smile.

These days so serene and so charming,
 Awaken a dreamy delight—
 A tremulous, fearful enjoyment,
 Like soft strains of music at night;
 We know that they're fading and fleeting,
 That quickly, too quickly, they'll end,
 And we watch them with yearning affection,
 As at parting we watch a dear friend.

Not alone to the sad fields of Autumn
 Dost thou a lost brightness restore,
 But thou bringest a world-weary spirit
 Sweet dreams of its childhood once more;
 Thy loveliness fills us with memories
 Of all that was brightest and best—
 Thy peace and serenity offer
 A foretaste of heavenly rest.

Music.

BEAUTIFUL RIVER.

HAPPY VOICES.

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, Where bright-an-gel feet have trod;
 2. On the mur-gin of the riv-er, Wash-ing up its sil-ver spray, With its crys-tal tide for
 We will walk and worship

CHORUS.

e-ver, Flowing by the throne of God? } Yes, we'll gath-er at the ri-ver, The
 e-ver, All the hap-py, gol-den day. }

beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful ri-ver—Gather with the saints at the ri-ver, That flows by the throne of God.

3. Ere we reach the sliming river,
 Lay we every burden down;
 Grace our spirits will deliver,
 And provide a robe and crown.
 CHO.—Yes, we'll gather, etc.

4. At the smiling of the river,
 Mirror of the Saviour's face,
 Saints whom death will never sever,
 Lift their songs of saving grace.
 CHO.—Yes, we'll gather, etc.

5. Soon we'll reach the silver river,
 Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
 Soon our happy hearts will quiver,
 With the melody of peace.
 CHO.—Yes, we'll gather, etc.