

Board of Books

THE AGRICULTURIST

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The Agriculturist.

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ANDREW ARCHER, Editor

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Poetry.

MY MOTHER'S VOICE.

There's a sound that is dearer than all I may hear, That gladdens my soul with its rays of glad cheer; 'Tis the voice of my mother, as gentle and sweet As the songs of the angels, in heaven's bright street. There's a sound that is dearer than all I may hear, That gladdens my soul with its rays of glad cheer.

Agriculture.

Potatoes Prospects.

Speaking of the prospect of the potato crop for this year. A correspondent of the Country Gentleman, says:— Of course there is a risk in planting potatoes largely. A heavy yield all over the country, might repeat the experience of 1875, when potatoes were dug at 18 to 25 cents per bushel.

April Suggestions.

It is well to examine the stock of seeds on hand and take measures for procuring as much as may be wanted. There is always a marked difference between plants produced from good, perfectly developed and ripened seed, than from seed that is unripe, and perhaps in other respects of inferior quality.

If scions for grafting have not already been cut, it should now be attended to; though if the grafting is done before the buds start, it will not make so much difference. The production of first quality fruit is not yet carried on to the extent that it ought to be. In some of the large orchards there are still comparatively few trees that bear good fruit, and much of that raised even swine will reject. Good apples in prolific fruit seasons make cheap pork, and only give the swine a chance and they will take care of themselves, for apples for their purpose and not essentially improved by cooking. A tree bearing good fruit occupies no more ground and requires no more care than one whose product is nearly or quite worthless, except to work up into cider, and we always give the preference to that cider which is made from grafted fruit; it is not only better cider but it makes better vinegar.

At this season sheep and especially forward ewes should daily be supplied with some roots; potatoes or turnips will answer sliced fine and sprinkled over with a little salt. This will prevent that costiveness, which sheep fed only on hay are liable to be troubled with, and which if long continued, may result in other troublesome diseases. Oats make good food for sheep, or oats and corn mixed, only care should be taken not to feed too liberally. Unthreshed oats fed occasionally instead of hay, are greatly relished by sheep, and they will do all the better for the change, at any time, but this feed is not likely to be found in many barns at this season of the year, unless saved for that purpose.

Nothing is gained by ploughing before the land is in a suitable condition of dryness. Light, porous or gravelly soils may be plowed as soon as the frost will permit, but clayey or retentive soils are greatly damaged by being moved while still wet, and should be allowed to remain until they can be worked without adhesion. If such lands are thoroughly under-drained, the tendency of heaviness or sphericity will be, to a great extent, removed, and they can be worked much earlier in the season. Until they can be drained, it is a good plan to plow such lands in the fall, when the frost of winter will so pulverize the soil that it will be in a condition to be worked much earlier in the spring, than when left for spring plowing—Maine Farmer.

Butter and Cream.

The British Quarterly Review of a late date contains a discussion of the question, "Did the Greeks and Romans make any use of Butter and Cream?" We collect from it the following information:

The great esteem in which butter and cream are held by all the Anglo-Saxon races leads us to ask, with some feeling of curiosity, the above question.

The ancients had milk in abundance and it is impossible that it should not sometimes have stood long enough for cream to rise upon it; therefore, it must have been known to them. It seems equally incredible that at some time and in some way, accidental or otherwise, cream should not have been shaken until particles of butter were formed, and, if formed, noticed, and some use made of the discovery.

The absence of any word in either of the two ancient classical languages to express butter or cream, and the fact that no allusion is made to their use till more than half a century after the Christian era, form a negative argument of great weight. Cheese, from the earliest time, formed an important article of diet, and finds abundant mention in classical writings. It was made for the most part of goat's milk, which was curdled either with the juice of figs or with rennet, and thus changed into a light nourishing food, capable of being preserved for some time.

In the "Iliad" (xi. 638), Hecuba prepares a posset in the tent of Nestor for the wounded Machaon, and scrapes or shreds into it goat's cheese with a bronze knife. Homer mentions a northern race of "milkers of mares." Virgil improves on this, and speaks of a Scythian people who drank mares' blood mixed with curd.

Probably a good deal of what the ancients used was little better than curd-cheese. The nomad Arabs prepared a substance which they call "kymac," a word meaning cream which is somewhat similar to our "clotted cream." Butter is from butyrum, meaning cow-cheese, and found only in quite late writers, such as Pliny, apparently to distinguish it from the more familiar goats' cheese. It is questioned whether the word translated "butter" in the Old Testament really means what we understand by it. Several terms for milk-pails are found in the writings of the Greeks

and Romans, but no word in either language for churn.

The Indian ghee is butter made from buffalo's milk. It is said to be very rank and nasty to the taste. Probably a great reason why butter was so little cared for in ancient times, was that it was difficult to make; it would not keep; it melted in hot weather; it was not easy to carry about on journeys.

In countries where olive oil is abundant, neither cream nor butter is held in much estimation. It is doubtful whether the Italians and Spaniards would make much use of either were it not for the demands of English travelers. Pliny speaks highly of butter as food for infants, especially in teething. He makes frequent mention of butyrum, but in nearly every instance as an ointment or salve. He adds that it has the property of oil, and that all the barbarian as well as Roman infants are smeared with it.

Pliny regarded butter as a barbarous misuse of good milk. It was considered in his time as rather a nasty thing—something midway between food and drink—not so good or so cheap as oil for cooking, and very inferior to it as a relish. We all know that butter can be very nasty indeed, but that cream should have remained so long nameless and unused may well excite surprise.

Fattening Lambs.

The following excellent and seasonable article is from the Dirigo Rural. In fattening lambs it is very important not only to secure the desired end but to do so as soon as possible, for loss of time in this case is fully equivalent to a loss of cash. It is not enough that the lambs should gain slowly, or even moderately, they often do this without much special effort on the part of their owner; but they ought to gain very rapidly. This is especially true of those which were dropped late in the season and are smaller than the others. If no pains are taken to hasten the growth and development of these lambs they will have to be kept very late in the season and must be sold, if at all, for a low price. I have known a farmer to sell the largest and best of his lambs, which were ready early in the summer for ten cents a pound, and the smaller ones he was obliged to keep until after haying and then sell them for six cents a pound. He not only had to keep and feed the small lambs much longer than the larger ones but also had to sell them for but little more than one half as much as he received from them. The difference in age is not the only, and in many flocks it is not the principal cause for the difference in the size of lambs. Between lambs of the same age there is frequently a great inequality. This is often due to the fact that one lamb has a much larger quantity of milk than its mate and sometimes is caused by the eating of hay by one lamb and the neglect of it by the other; it is also true that some lambs are naturally more vigorous than others and consequently grow much faster.

Whatever the cause, or causes, of the inequality which exists among the lambs an effort should be made by the owner to bring the smaller and poorer ones up to a high standard of excellence, and to secure for the better ones an equally rapid growth and perfect development. It is not best that the difference should be obliterated, but that the poorer ones should be made so good that they will readily sell, early in the season, for the highest market price, and the same treatment which thus improves the poorer ones will make the best ones extremely fine. How shall the desired end be reached? The answer is, by good care and proper feeding. By these means the poor ones can be made good, and good ones be made still better, but this requires the use of a liberal quantity and an excellent quality of food. It will not do so merely to keep the lambs in a dry place and furnish their dams with all the fine hay they will eat. This is excellent treatment as far as it goes but it is wholly inadequate. Either the ewes must be liberally fed with fine hay, and, in addition, in order to induce a large secretion of milk, and the lambs also be fed with nice rye hay, or what will be more effective, the lambs must be fed with oats. The very best way combines these two methods. The fine hay and the roots, with a moderate quantity of meal, will benefit the ewes as well as their lambs. Care should be taken not to feed too large a quantity of meal as this would tend to fatten the sheep rather than increase the quantity of milk, but the safest and surest means are those which deal directly with the lambs. When quite small lambs will begin to eat fine hay. This should be fed to the sheep and the lambs allowed to take what they want, and in a short time they may be made to eat meal. The

best way to get them to do this is to fix a pen into which the sheep cannot go but which the lambs can enter or leave at any time. In this pen small troughs should be placed and in them a little meal should be constantly kept, and in a little while the lambs will become fond of the meal and will eat all they can get. Only a little meal should be given at first and the quantity should be gradually increased as the lambs grow larger and older. Indian meal is good but meal is a great deal better. If neither of these is at hand, oats will be useful, though they are not as fattening as meal.

The Farm—Preparations for the Summer's Work.

A contributor to a leading agricultural magazine, referring to farm work for April, says:—

"We doubt the expediency of laying down land with oats. Isn't it better to sow your oats, say early in April, cut them in July, plough again in August, and seed down with grass seed in that month, or early in September? If we could be sure of such a winter as the past, we should not hesitate to advise this course; but in want of this assurance, we should prefer to take our chance. The labor is not so very much greater, and the amount of vegetable matter to be turned in with the stubble in August is equivalent to a pretty good coating of manure. If you choose to manure, you could spread on the manure now, and turn under rather slowly, say not over five inches deep, sow on the oats and harrow in. The ploughing of five or six inches deep in August would then bring this manure near the surface in a decomposed condition, ready to feed the young grass and give it a vigorous and thrifty start, with a sufficient strength of root to go well through the winter.

April brings the spring's work fairly upon us. We cannot long sit with folded arms over the kitchen fire, but must be up and at work. It is to be presumed that the plan for the summer's campaign is all laid out, and that you know just what has to be done. You will not, therefore, need to lose much time in planning out the work, or in considering what to take hold of next. The manure is to be got out; the ploughing is to be done at the earliest possible moment, the kitchen garden is to be laid out and the rest of the vegetables sown or planted. Early peas must be in now, and that parsnip bed dug over, deeply and sown just as soon as the ground is fit for it. If you laid down a piece this fall, the clover seed ought to be sown now. The ploughs, the hoes, the spades and the forks must swing with a will through the stirring months of spring. Look out for good clean seed. The woods that overwhelmed you last year, skimming the cream of the profit on your crops, will threaten the same inundation this year, but it will not do. Better attempt half as much ground and do it well, than to suffer the weeds to grow and ruin both land and crops. Make up your mind to that. An acre well tilled and thoroughly manured will give you more real profit than two or three over-run with weeds. No farmer can afford to grow weeds. If, therefore, you have a piece that got the better of you last year, and ripened a crop of weed seed, sow it with oats or wheat or millet this spring, plough it up again as soon as the crop comes off, and lay it down as soon as you can get it clean from weeds. It will cost too much to keep it under the hoe, and run the risk of another crop of weeds this year. Don't hurry about letting the cattle out upon the grass this month. You will gain nothing by it. There is an old saying that March grass is poisonous to stock, which we do not take it, that if you let cattle out too soon, they get a taste for grass and lose their appetite for dry fodder, and so, the grass is not sufficiently nutritive to support them at present, they cease to thrive, and fall off rapidly till they can get feed enough to run upon in May. Many a farmer makes this mistake, and thus injures his grass lands and his stock. This spring will offer unusual temptation to this, and we hope you will make more than usual effort to avoid it.

We have said that it is best to take care and not get the stock out too early upon the new grass. We have only to add that all kinds of stock need greater care through this month in order that it may come out well in May. A daily carding now is of great importance, as animals that have been closely housed all winter will be shedding their coats. A few roots now will be of great service, and if you are likely to be short of hay, a daily feeding of cotton seed meal will help it out and abundantly pay for the outlay. Spruce up and apply all the manure you can, but don't spread it over too much ground. Pat it on thick, and lay out to get the biggest kind of crops rather than try to make it go as far as possible, and so half manure and half cultivate a large surface when you can get better crops with less labor from a small one. Do everything better than last year, and our word for it you'll have better results.

Higher Education for Farmer's Sons.

An opinion, which we believe to be either intuitive or hereditary, exists in the minds of many intelligent men, namely, that a University training is necessary only for scientific, literary or professional men, and that it is folly for any one expecting to become "a hardy son of toil" to indulge in such an apparent luxury. We fail to see any reason why the latter class should not receive that excellent mental culture which is intended to exalt the interests of a nation. Let us consider the necessity of having such a training extended to the farming community. The prosperity of a country depends to a great extent on the educational and general intelligence which characterizes that country. As the farming community forms a very large fraction of the population, and if education is necessary to exalt a nation, it surely follows that this fraction should receive that education. It is also expedient that each citizen should have correct ideas regarding questions that concern his individual and civil interests, and further that he should be able to express these ideas intelligently. How infinitely better would it be if farmers, instead of providing immense property or storing up large legacies for their sons would send them to a college where they might receive a thorough education, and thus place within their reach the best means of acquiring these things for themselves. The college session lasting, as it does, only during the winter months, affords another opportunity of accomplishing this object, for, not being actively engaged in farm-work, many young men, endowed with good natural abilities, are allowed to spend the winter days, and especially the long winter even, in comparative idleness. Would it not be better for them to harvest those golden moments by pursuing for a few years a regular course of study which would not only make superior farmers of them, but would fit them for managing efficiently their own local and municipal affairs? In this way farmers would have in their midst men thoroughly competent to represent their suffrages in the Legislative Assemblies of the land, without being driven to the humiliating resort of selecting as their representative a glib tongued lawyer—from a place perhaps three or four hundred miles away—who, in many cases, cares little about the interests of the people who have elected him to that honorable position. Farmers, do not neglect the thorough training of your sons if you have a desire to further the moral and social interests of your country.—Ex.

Farm Accounts. We have often spoken in these columns, of the great importance of keeping an account with the farm, and while we have no doubt that every thoroughly systematic farmer does so, we fear that there are yet many who get their living by tilling the soil, who are not systematic to the extent of knowing exactly how well their business pays. We often hear the remark made that farming does not pay and again that the profits of other kinds of business, but on questioning those who entertain these views, we invariably find that they do not keep debt and credit with the farm, and consequently, do not know the exact profits of their business. What would be thought of a merchant who should conduct his affairs in such a manner that he could not tell his yearly profits? He would be very likely to fail and does not intelligent farming require as much brain work as trade, and is it not of equal importance that an account of profit and loss should be carefully kept? If a merchant loses in one operation, he expects to make it up in another, but how is he to know how much he is to make up in order to have the balance on the right side of the ledger, if he keeps no accounts? A navigator who should attempt to cross the ocean or cruise along the coast without making the proper entries in the "log book," would soon find himself upon rocks or shoals, or far out of his course, and many a business man not excepting the farmer, has been stranded from the same cause. When a mechanic pursues the heedless course of keeping no account of profit and loss, he is pretty sure, sooner or later, to step down from his position as master, and assume again the place of a journeyman. Now is there anything in the nature of agriculture that will prevent a farmer from going the same way, if he pursues a similar course? If there is, we fail to see it.

Will not our farmer friends who have never kept an account with the farm, begin this spring, which is the proper season of the year to open the books, and try it for one year, and if they are not pleased with the result we shall be glad to know it. The farm should be charged with the interest on its market value, with the labor performed upon it, with the wear of tools, the amount expended for seed and fertilizers, with the taxes and with all other direct expenditures necessary for carrying it on, and should be credited with the rent of buildings, crops, the growth and product of the stock, including poultry and swine, and with all the improvements. The result of one year's trial we believe would be so satisfactory that it would not be thereafter neglected. And we believe further, that this would convince even the most skeptical, that the farmer's life, even as a source of profit, is greatly to be preferred over all others, and more especially when it takes into account all the other concomitant advantages.

Common Sense Ploughing.

The depth of soil can alone determine the depth of ploughing. When the soil is shallow the gradual deepening of it should be sought by the use of appropriate materials for improvement until the object is fully attained. The soil ought not, as a rule, to be brought out of its bed except in small quantities to be exposed to the atmosphere during the fall, winter and spring, or in summer fallow; nor even then except when such fertilizers are applied as are necessary to put it as once into a productive condition. Two different soils of opposite character, as a stiff clay and sliding sand, sometimes occupy the relation of surface and sub-soil to each other, and when thoroughly mixed and subjected to cultivation they will produce a soil of greatly increased value. Soils appropriated to garden and horticultural purposes are often deepened to fifteen and even eighteen inches with benefit, and those for general tillage crop to about twenty inches with decided advantage. But whatever is the depth of the soil the plough ought to turn up the entire mass if within its reach, and what is beyond it should be thoroughly broken up by the sub-soil plough an increase in the crop follows, as the hard earth below the reach of the ordinary plough has been loosened. This permits the escape of the water which falls on the surface, the circulation of air and a more extended range for the roots of the plants, by which they procure additional nourishment and secure the crop against drought. The benefits of sub-soil ploughing most apparent in an impervious clay sub-soil and least evident in loose and leachy soils. On low or strong land the experienced farmer prefers to see the furrow left on edge exposed to the action of air and harrow. Sandy or dry soil requires flat ploughing, which tends to consolidate the land. As a rule those crops are the most productive which are ploughed the shallowest. Caution must be used, however, especially after the second ploughing of corn, when a surface-plough is less liable to injure the roots than an ordinary one.

The Prosperous Farmer's Creed.

We believe in small farms and thoroughly cultivated. That the soil loves to eat as well as the owner, and ought, therefore, to be well manured. In crops which leave land better than they found it, making both the farm and farmer rich at once; That every farm should own a good farmer; That the best fertilizer of any soil is a spirit of industry, enterprise and intelligence—without these lime, gypsum and guano will be of little use.

Average Weight of Breeds.—J. Bell, Sussex, England, says on this subject:—"It may be interesting to some readers to know the weights of the animals of different breeds exhibited at the Smithfield Club Show this year. I have taken the weights of the steers exhibited and they stand thus: Increase of growth from day of birth, per month.—Sussex, 54 lb. 7 oz.; Shorthorns, 53 lb. 10 oz.; Herefords, 52 lb. 12 oz., and Devons, 42 lb."

Experience with Seed Potatoes.

A correspondent to an Agricultural paper:—"As potatoes have some years been quite scarce and dear. I have planted small ones, and the result convinced me that all the widely varied experience in the matter reported by different farmers was owing more to other circumstances than to the state of the seed. And now when a farmer tells me that his crop from small potatoes grew and yielded best, I almost invariably find that when he planted it was a very hot, dry time, generally rather late in the season; also that his large potatoes, cut a few days before planting, had dried up more or less, and were put into dry ground, and if dry weather continued there would not be vitality enough left in the cut seed to overcome all these adverse conditions, but the growth would be materially checked for the season; while the small seed, not being out, retained its moisture, and warm soil favored speedy germination and growth so that the crop from small seed proved better than the cut seed. But my observation has been that when all the conditions for both are equally favorable, the cut seed from large potatoes yields 8 to 10 percent better than small ones planted whole. Again, one will plant small potatoes too thick and too many in a hill, thinking they are so small and cheap he will use enough of them, while his neighbor, judging more correctly on the growth they will make will plant them as far apart as he usually does better seed of the same variety, and put only one potato in a hill. The result will be the latter will have a fair yield of fair-sized potatoes, but perhaps twice as many little ones as from large seed while the first only gets a lighter yield of nearly all small potatoes. So the product in either case would seem to be largely dependent on management. I believe it will answer occasionally, to plant small potatoes for a crop; but when I do it I am particular to get such as were well ripened, and only use the largest of those too small to cut; mark the part of the field they are planted in, and be sure at digging time that their product is all sold to market, and that the seed for next year is saved from where the best was planted, and on those matured the best.

The Reason why Bees Work in the Dark.

A life-time might be spent in investigating the mysteries hidden in a bee-hive, and still half the secrets would be undiscovered. The formation of the cell has long been a celebrated problem for the mathematician, whilst the changes which the honey undergoes offer at least an equal interest to the chemist. Every one knows what honey fresh from the comb is like. It is a clear yellow syrup, without a trace of solid sugar in it. Upon straining, however, it gradually assumes a crystalline appearance—it candies, as the saying is, and its luster becomes a solid lump of sugar. It has not been suspected that this change was due to a photographic action; that the same agent which alters the molecular arrangement on the iodine of silver on the excited collodian plate, and determines the formation of camphor and iodine crystals in a bottle, causes the syrup honey to assume a crystalline form. This, however, is the case. M. Schaebler has enclosed honey in stoppered flasks, some of which he has kept in perfect darkness; while others have been exposed to the light. The variable results have been that the sunned portion rapidly crystallized, while that kept in the dark had remained perfectly liquid. We now see why bees work in perfect darkness, and why they are so careful to obscure the glass windows which are sometimes placed in the hives. The existence of their young depends on the liquidity of saccharine food presented to them; and if light were allowed access to the syrup it would gradually acquire a more or less solid consistency; it would seal up the cells, and in all probability prove fatal to the inmates of the hive.

Clover as Human Food.

According to Hon. J. Stanton Goodell, clover has been used as human food for generations by the Indians of the plains. The Digger Indians of California eat it raw, and also cook it by placing a thick layer of the green clover between stones that have been previously heated. When young onions or chives and grass-hoppers are mingled with the clover, the dish is considered a great luxury. The Apaches mingle together clover, pigweed and dandelions in a vessel which is then filled with water. Stones that have been heated in the fire are then thrown in, and when they have imparted their surplus heat to the water they are taken out and replaced by hotter ones, until the mass is sufficiently cooked.

BEANS.—The best soil is a mellow clay or sandy loam. Prepare the land for corn, fitted in the nicest manner. Plant ten days or two weeks after planting corn. Marrow beans require one and one eighth bushels seed per acre; mediums three-fourths of a bushel; pea beans one-half bushel; kidney or other large beans, more in proportion to size. A fair crop is twenty bushels per acre. —Cor. Country Gentleman.

Literature.

A GOOD MAXIM.

In the private office of a London merchant, a young man, verging upon his twenty-first year, stood before his employer in the character of a culprit. The face of the merchant exhibited a sternness which betokened the possession of a character in which what the world calls dogged resolution was the prevailing element.

"I tell you again," said he, "I cannot overlook your offence." "Believe me sir," appealed the youth, "I had no criminal intention; the fault was entirely unpremeditated—it was an act of folly, which I shall never do, sir, never repeat."

One of those cold and pitiless smiles which so forcibly express incredulity swept across the merchant's face, and he waved his hand as if he wished the interview to be terminated. The young man, whose countenance up to this moment had been burning with shame, now became deadly pale; he saw his employer's determination was not to be shaken, and that disgrace stared him in the face.

"Walter Jackson," said he, in hard, ringing tones, which instantly gave the young man his name; "I tell you once again, my mind is made up, and the sooner you leave my office the better. I never prosecute in small cases like yours, begone, and never let me see or hear from you again."

The delinquent, awed by that iron will, mechanically turned upon his heel and left the office. Stunned and bewildered by the catastrophe which had in one moment crushed all his hopes, and had left him, moved along the streets like a man drunk, or bending beneath a burden which exposed him to the mery of the passers-by.

It was not until he had received many a hearty push that he became sensible of the annoyance he was causing, and then, obeying an instinctive timidity, he rushed headlong from the leading thoroughfare into those alleys and passages which wind the metropolis from one end to the other.

After wandering about for some time, he retired to the parlor of an obscure public-house, not with any defined purpose, but merely to avoid the glare of broad noonday. In that dim retreat, the grove of many a mispent hour, with no companion but his own thoughts, and his thoughts, he endured all the agony which a susceptible conscience can inflict upon an erring man. His follies rose up in judgment against him, and with them, like angels in evil company, came his affections, and, with all his faults, his dearly-loved associations with mankind.

Two faces were before him—one, that of his mild, loving mother—the other, that of the inflexible master he had wronged. On the one side the present, with its holy, all-enduring love of a parent, on the other, the anger and resentment he had roused by his conduct. Sad contrast to be created in so young a mind! Then another face would appear: now it was smiling at him over his mother's shoulder, then it peered into the iron visage of the merchant, as if asking a question; and then it vanished, casting upon him a pale look of sorrow, mingled with ill-remembered love's sad farewell.

The future, then, by a natural transition opened upon him in appalling gloom; and shadows, grim and shapeless, stood upon his path, both rear and front; and hope that the heart's ease, slept in the impenetrable darkness his guilt had created. The little world in which he had so happily lived was dead to him; it had crumbled from under his feet, and he had fallen on the flinty way of lost honor. What was there left him but remorse-bitter chessless remorse?

Oppressed and weighed down by a heavy fear, he stole from that noisome place to ramble like a fallen spirit, until the hour at which he usually returned from his labors, to the home where he was welcomed by a mother's smile and fond attentions. Hardening himself to play a deceptive part in her presence, he approached the door with a confidence which his conscience too surely told him was but a sickly assurance. And when he took his seat at the tea-table, and responded to her gentle inquiries, he did so outwardly unshaken; but within, far from human eye, he felt the glow of shame's blush, and the torture which the contrast between vice and virtue renders more acute.

ful emotion had in some degree subsided he knelt down by the bedside, and prayed and only those who can need Divine assistance.

He rose calm and refreshed, and seated himself at a little table, to deliberate on the course he should pursue. Many and various were his thoughts, but they all partook of the tone of one grand, all-comprehending sentiment, and by that he was resolved to be guided. The coinage of his brain was distilled in that best of all alchemies—the heart, and gradually there was accumulated within him a gently flowing river of thought, beside which Hope stood waving her green branch, and bidding him, in honeyed accents, "Never despair."

In the morning he rose, after a dreamless night, vigorous and determined, and hastened to the three resolutions he had formed—that was, to part, perhaps forever, with the girl he loved.

"Mary," said he, gazing mournfully into her tearful face, "I love you as well, indeed better, at this moment, than ever I did; but we must part. Circumstances have occurred which render this painful step necessary."

"Canst you explain, Walter?" demanded she, clinging to him.

"Dear Mary, don't ask me—I cannot," replied he, painfully. "I cannot, indeed—only to Heaven. Listen," continued he, solemnly; "to-morrow I shall be far away from you; and the probability is, that it would be a long time—at present, I think many years—before we should meet again; so that continuing our acquaintance is mere mockery, because the chances are that I shall be unable to keep it."

"Oh!" exclaimed Mary, wounded to the quick by a sentiment she misunderstood. "Do not mistake me," said he, taking her hand, and struggling to subdue his own strong emotion; "I love you dearly, and that is the reason I do not wish you to remain bound to what may never be fulfilled on my part. You, I know, would be faithful and true; but why should you waste the bloom of your youth, and neglect the many opportunities you will have of making yourself happy, for the sake of a man who has never seen again? No, Mary; you shall not do so; from this moment you are free, and may Heaven bless you!"

The maiden hung down her head and cried bitterly, for she felt that her young hopes were about to be withered. Walter, animated by the new feelings he had acquired, was invincible; his duty required the sacrifice, and it should be made. Undoubtedly it was one of the greatest he could have made, for he might have played upon the girl's credulity, and maintained his position as lover without the remotest prospect of intention of becoming her husband. But with the resolution to do right comes a consideration for others, which weakens the natural selfishness of the heart, and gives it the power to make those stern sacrifices which none so frequently demands.

"Now for my mother," thought he, and trembled at the interview before him; for had the alternative been presented to him, he would have preferred that the maiden he had parted with should have been acquainted with his error, than that his mother, his irreproachable mother, should have known that he had brought shame on her name, and given to the world, who had been so honored and respected when alive.

After a protracted conversation with his mother, she yielded to his entreaties, and consented to retire to a more humble dwelling. The removal was speedily effected; and on the evening of the day on which he took possession of the two apartments which were thenceforth to be their home, the mother, bewildered by the change, inquired from her son why he had gone so far from the office.

"I have left Mr. Miller's employ—he was dissatisfied with me," replied Walter, slightly blushing at the equivocation.

He fastened it to the curtains at the foot of his bed, so that he might have the sentence before him to read night and morning.

While he sleeps and dreams of restored honor and improved position in society, let us ask whether any person would desire that greater battles are fought in the moral world than the physical, or that the holiest struggles are those which are carried on with the world in privacy and seclusion? No blood-stained knight ever couched lance against a foe more gallantly than did our brave Walter in this his first great moral battle. The victory was attended with a present loss, it is true, but with a mighty prospective gain; for he had acquired hope and faith in the future. There was growing within him a power which would be to him as the dew of heaven is to the flower of the earth. Instead of growling despair, he would have a strength and loftiness of purpose associated with the holiest aspirations, and a deep and lasting faith, which would lift him above the sordidness of his condition, and enable him to believe in the goodness of man and the love of his Creator.

The struggle with life was an arduous and protracted one; but as it is not our intention to follow Walter in all his wanderings, we can only relate that he found no employment too mean for his industry and no occupation disgraceful, unless criminal or dishonorable. At the end of six years, by dint of his most indefatigable labour—and hard, common day-labour alone—he had accumulated from his savings sufficient to pay his first employer the amount of the defalcation, together with interest up to the day of payment.

Noon had just been proclaimed by the great bell of St. Paul's, when Walter prepared himself at the office of the merchant. With some difficulty he obtained a private interview.

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VEGETINE. The Watchmaker's Report. EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 27, 1877. I have suffered with Sciatica and Rheumatism for many years...

VEGETINE. For General Debility. DANFORTH, Me., Oct. 4, 1877. My health has always been poor. I have taken a great many kinds of medicine...

VEGETINE. Kidney Complaints—Dyspepsia. LEWISTON, Me., Nov. 3, 1877. My wife—My health has been afflicted with Dyspepsia and Kidney Complaints for many years...

VEGETINE. Druggist's Report. MR. H. R. STEVENS. Dear Sir—we sell your VEGETINE and find it a most valuable medicine...

VEGETINE. Prepared by H. R. STEVENS, Boston, Mass. Vegetine is Sold by All Druggists. 'Marble Hall.'

Jas R. HOWIE. HIS recent arrival of a large and superior stock of Hats, HATS, HATS...

MAIL CONTRACT. TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa, until noon on the 15th day of May...

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS! A. A. MILLER & Co's New Store, in Inches Building, opposite City Hall.

SALMON TWINE, & C. One of the best investments ever made by a large sign painting firm in this city...

YORK COUNTY DEBENTURES FOR SALE. FROM \$200 to \$1000, in denominations of \$250, \$500 and \$1000.

FULLY GAS FITTING, Plumbing, &c. PREPARED FOR THE NATIONAL POLICY.

IMMENSE QUANTITY OF Cotton Goods OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. A Full Line OF FANCY & STAPLE GOODS AT OUR USUAL LOW PRICES.

J. & J. O'BRIEN. Prices to suit the times. Queen Street, Fredericton, N.B. Fries, Aug. 10, 1878.

CABINET MAKING. JAS. D. HANLON, CABINET MAKER AND UNDERTAKER. King Street, Fredericton, N. B.

LUMBER FOR SALE. The Subscriber begs to announce to the Public that he has always on hand a good and varied stock of SPRUCE, PINE and HEMLOCK LUMBER...

AMERICAN HATS, Comprising all the New Styles for Spring, 1879. SOFT AND STIFF, At Prices to suit the times.

ELIJAH CLARK. Land for Sale. 600 ACRES fine quality farming land, with a fine house and other buildings...

NEW RICH BLOOD! MAKE HENS LAY. An English Veterinary Surgeon and Chemist has discovered a new and powerful medicine...

DIPHTHERIA! WE CLAIM FOR Lazarus & Morris' PERFECTED SPECTACLES & EYE GLASSES.

NOTICE. THE Subscriber wishes to return thanks to the numerous friends and patrons who have kindly and liberally patronized his business...

WILCOX & WHITE ORGANS. ANY person requiring a really good Organ, should examine those on exhibition...

NEW BRUNSWICK RAILWAY. WINTER ARRANGEMENT Beginning Dec 16th, 1878. 8.00 A.M. Passenger Train will leave...

Fire. Fire. THE Subscriber, thankful for past favors, begs to announce that he will now be found in the Store under the old Carriage Road...

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, Gents' Furnishing Goods, which will be sold at unusually Low Prices. SPECIAL NOTICE.

HIDES! HIDES! THE FREDERICTON LEATHER COMPANY are paying at their FANNEY, King Street, Fredericton, N.B.

BRUSHES. BRUSHES. JUST Received from McLaughlin's BRUSH MANUFACTORY, Boston.

JERSEY BULLS FOR SALE. Two young Jersey Bulls for sale—Herd Black pedigree—one of which took first Prize at Provincial Exhibition.

Ayer's Cathartic Pills. For all the purposes of a Family Physician, and for the cure of Constipation, Headache, Indigestion, Puff Swellings, Brains, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Eruptions and Skin Diseases...

NOTICE. THE Subscriber wishes to return thanks to the numerous friends and patrons who have kindly and liberally patronized his business...

NOTICE. FOR SALE by the Fredericton Leather Company, a SECOND HAND TUBULAR STEEL, with apparatuses.



INSURANCE! NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY of Edinburgh and London. COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY of London.

JOHN RICHARDS, Insurance Agent. Representing the following first-class Offices: English—QUEEN, LIVERPOOL and LONDON & GLOBE, NORTHERN, IMPERIAL.

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THE Travellers Insurance Co. OF HARTFORD, CONN. ISSUES INSURANCE TICKETS GOOD FOR \$3,000 IN EVENT OF DEATH, OR FOR \$15.00 Weekly Indemnity for Disabling Injuries.

Organs & Pianos. The subscriber is prepared to furnish PIANOS & ORGANS (EACH INSTRUMENT WARRANTED) at Lowest Prices and favorable terms.

H. RUTTER, SADDLER and HARNESS MAKER, DEALER IN WHIPS, BRUSHES, CURRY COBS, BLANKETS, BITS, Etc., Etc.

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

TUGH McMONAGL'S, Sussan, Corner, King's County, NEW BRUNSWICK. BECKWITH & SEELY, Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public, etc.

SPLENDID Farming Property FOR SALE. A large and valuable landed estate, being the land of the late Sir John A. Rothes, Bart., and now in the possession of the Hon. Sir John A. Rothes, Bart., and now in the possession of the Hon. Sir John A. Rothes, Bart.

WATERBURY ASSURANCE COMPANY of Toronto. ROYAL CANADIAN INSURANCE Co. of Montreal.

TRAVELLERS LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY of Hartford. The undersigned is prepared to effect Insurance to the most favorable terms on reasonable terms.

JOHN RICHARDS, Insurance Agent. Representing the following first-class Offices: English—QUEEN, LIVERPOOL and LONDON & GLOBE, NORTHERN, IMPERIAL.

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