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# The Agriculturist.

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

ANDREW LIPSETT, Publisher.

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

ANDREW ARCHER, Editor.

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### Agriculture.

#### AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

Some of the American agricultural papers are now improving the occasion, in prospect of the early opening of the Exhibition season, by impressing upon their readers, the importance of "Agricultural Exhibitions" and "Fairs." When we say, American agricultural papers, we more particularly allude to the *Country Gentleman*, *Maine Farmer*, *New England Farmer*, all three influential, widely circulated and read and instructive journals, and to whose columns we are often indebted for reasonable and interesting matter.

It is not a needless task that the editors of such papers undertake, to rouse up in the farmers who come under their influence, an interest in such exhibitions, for there is no denying that there are among the farming class some members who do not take any interest in them, but who declare that for their own part they do not see that they do the least good. But there always has been and always will be, as long as human nature goes on in its present prevailing unregenerate state, those who will laugh, snarl, snarl and growl at anything that looks like progress, anything that makes an attempt to improve the condition of things in any way. There really are people who seem to take a delight in ignoring all improvements, in retarding, as much as lies in their power, by ungenious and ill-natured words or deeds, any movement that has for its object the bettering of any class or object. Such people are the true obstructives, and it must be said that their power is strong—for evil. The opposition to any new idea or movement must proceed in the fairly well informed and cultivated from an overpowering self-esteem, and a selfish desire to keep the advantages they enjoy within as small a circle as possible, or from a narrow and mean jealousy that the new idea or movement has originated with others than themselves, or from a cynical scorn of anything noble, useful or good, or from sheer stupidity, or heavy ignorance in which there is a strong tinge of malignity and envy. The large, true, progressive mind is ever open to new ideas, ever welcome movements of progress in which it sees something that will turn to the general good, and despises nothing or nobody, for it knows that something useful may be learned from the most unlikely sources. When Sir Walter Scott traveled, in the good old days of coaching, when people met with strange adventures sometimes, (the same story has been told of other great men in England and America,) he did not shut himself in the exclusive pride of his own imagination and intellect, but entered freely into conversation with his fellow passengers, and he said, that even the humblest was able to tell him something that he did not know before. The spirit of Sir Walter should actuate all farmers, and they should be open to receive instruction from all.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* last week had some very appropriate remarks on the subject of agricultural fairs, and claims that they have been of incalculable benefit to agriculture, stimulating the ambition of farmers and suggesting improvement. No man, with his eyes in his head, can attend a fair, and not see some direction in which his stock, crops, and tools can be improved. No matter, if in the whole he is the most progressive farmer in the country (provided he is not at the same time the most conceited), he will find others who in some points excel him. This is the spirit in which farmers should attend fairs. They should go not merely to exhibit their own stock and products, but carefully to study the exhibits of their peers and competitors. Fairs properly managed are grand schools in which the art of agriculture is taught by the most approved method—object lessons. The careful inspection of Durhams, Ayrshires, and Jerseys will give one a better knowledge of these breeds of cattle than the perusal of a dozen herd books. The idea of a Fair as an educational institution is not sufficiently appreciated either by the managers or exhibitors. The former are wont to give too much consideration to pecuniary results, and the latter to premiums. These things are not to be wholly ignored, but fairs were never intended to be speculating institutions, or as a medium for the distribution of prizes.

New Zealand offers a bounty of £10 a ton for the first 500 tons of sugar beets that may be raised in that country. It is easy enough to raise the beets, but not so easy to make the sugar from them.

**A NEW VARIETY OF WHEAT.**—"The Diamond wheat" is a new variety recently imported, and it is claimed to be the finest wheat in the United States, and that it has been successfully cultivated wherever tried. We have been shown a few specimen grains by Jas. Tibbits, Esq., of this city, each grain close on one half inch in length, the kernel is large and compact, of a bright straw color and extremely hard. "The Diamond" is grown as a fall and spring grain, and it is used with equal success. Samples will be shown in the Provincial Exhibition in October.

#### MACHINE FOR FEEDING POULTRY.

The artificial hatching and rearing of poultry, ostriches and other birds has already become a science, and a profitable and important branch of business, and the further treatment of ducks and capons for market has created a demand for machinery for artificial feeding and fattening. The most important machine of this class consists of a circular cage of wood about 4.57 metres (15 feet) in diameter and 6.10 metres (20 feet) high, and containing 210 coops or nests for ducks and chickens, the cage being all on the outside. A chick three months old is put in each nest, and by means of a band of skin or rubber fastened to a light chain is secured so that it cannot escape. In these nests the chicks, pigeons, ducks, turkeys, quail or other birds are kept till they are ready for market, each bird being artificially fed three times a day. The birds can move about and sit down but cannot walk or fly, and this enforced rest causes them to fatten quickly. A chick having been placed in each nest, the apparatus for feeding is loaded with a mixture of barley meal, Indian meal, milk and water, and is brought up to the cage. Each bird has been carefully examined, and the amount of food will comfortably digest is marked plainly on the front of its nest. The operator takes the chick by the neck and by a gentle pressure compels it to open its mouth. A rubber tube is inserted in its mouth and by means of pressure on a pedal, the semi-fluid food is forced into the creature's throat. A gauge on the machine records the quantity of food given to each bird, and by watching this indicator just the right amount can be supplied. Ducks are at the same time given a drink of water, the other fowls not requiring water at any time. The cage containing the birds is mounted on rollers, and when one bird is fed the cage is moved round and the next bird is brought opposite the feeding machine. When the cage has been turned round once the feeding apparatus is placed on an elevator, and the machine and the operator are raised to the next row. In this manner every chick is in turn fed, the operation requiring about one minute for each bird. Another form of cage is made with only two rows of nests, one over the other, and with the nests disposed in lines. This apparatus does not move and the operator carries the feeding machine, by means of a truck, from bird to bird. The feeding machine may be a simple pump that can be moved by a treadle, or it may have a reservoir in which a constant pressure may be maintained by means of weights. In this case, the supply of food given to each bird is controlled by a stop-cock. Contrasted with the barbarous methods of artificially feeding poultry that have been practiced for some thousands of years in some parts of Europe, this method of machine-feeding has the advantage of neatness, dispatch, and the entire absence of cruelty to the birds. Duck can be fattened in perfect safety and entire comfort by this method in fifteen days, and chickens in twenty days, and the loss from disease and accidents rarely exceeds two per cent. The fowls thus treated are uniformly healthy, and the quantity of the dressed meat is excellent. Artificial incubators, artificial mothers, and this appliance are exhibited at the Paris Exposition. The incubators are all founded on the familiar plan of making a large reservoir of hot water and placing the eggs in a circular box in the middle. The American incubators are, in some respect, superior to the French machines, as a permanent fire is maintained, regulated by automatic governors. The artificial mothers or "hydrometers" shown at Paris, do not differ materially from those used in this country, and are all based on the same general plan of using a large mass of hot water as a means of obtaining the necessary warmth.

*Scriber for September.*

A hen with chickens broods in the same place every night—if she can. A hen turkey with chicks never broods in the same place twice—if she can help it.

#### SHEEP-KILLING DOGS.

Mr. D. C. Richmond, of Ohio, relates in an article at large without credit—the results of observation and experience of sheep-killing dogs, from which he was quite a sufferer during twenty-five years. They slaughter their victims by tearing open the large veins of the neck and sucking the blood, they never can be broken of this trick. A single dog will sometimes kill sheep, but generally there are two—often a large and a small dog. A sheep-killing dog will teach others. The first time a dog kills a sheep he will suck the blood, and then eat some and be satisfied. He will soon learn to kill several, sucking the blood until he is full, eating no flesh the first night. Any dog that will chase sheep when out alone, will sooner or later kill them. A green dog will sometimes kill a sheep in the daytime, but this seldom happens. Nearly all the sheep-killing dogs are about in the night; they are very cunning about it, often going long distances from home when there are plenty of sheep close by. As a preventive measure bells are good; not small ones, but three good-sized bells for each hundred sheep. If, in spite of this precaution, a sheep is killed, say nothing. Skin it and let the carcass lay in the same place. The first night after killing, the dogs will not come, but the second night they be on hand. Cut four or five gashes in the shoulder of the dead sheep, put a small amount of first-class strychnine in the gashes, and the next morning you will be sure to have dead dogs. Mr. R. has some time killed four dogs in one night. He adds that "it is well to keep the mouth shut," and concludes with mention of a curious incident: "One morning I found a small yearling killed, with a small round hole eaten out of his fore shoulder. It puzzled me. I knew it was not a common dog. I told my neighbors to shut up their dogs. The second night after killing I put in the strychnine, and the next morning I had the largest red fox I ever saw."

#### THE PROMISE OF THE APPLE HARVEST.

There is one cheerful feature to the harvest-time of the present season which has not greeted us for years—and that is the beauty and hope of the apple orchards which generally, throughout our State are promising a goodly yield. Those only can realize how great a help to good living are an abundant store of choice apples, who have been deprived of them for years—as families in Maine—and this year they welcome the sight of trees loaded with choice fruit, with something of the feelings with which they beheld them in the days when life seems to round off the harvest of Maine with a sort of luxurious flavor, that sends a glow of content and good cheer all through the heart. What visions of baked apples, and apple sauce (the old-fashioned cider kind) and apple pies, dance before the mind as one contemplates it; what suggestive, it has—bringing up the sparkling times of the old style paring bees, and of winter evening fire side stories before the open fire place, with a generous dish of splendid apples on the stand, and good cheer all around! What times those were, indeed; and verily we are to have them over again as of old this very season! The crop of apples will be abundant for all purposes. Life is still young and fresh, and there will be many merry-makings at paring bees these glorious fall evenings—and, old as we are, we should yet enjoy them as well as when a boy, if—well, no matter! The old stories will be told by happy fire sides, and there will be lots of the choicest sorts to put into the cellar for winter use, besides a few barrels to send to market—something but few farmers have had for many years past. Oh! the pleasures of the rosy, golden apple harvest; the joy and comfort which it brings; the satisfaction it contributes to good living in the farmer's family! And we are to have all these in good measure—for which we may be devoutly thankful!

*Maine Farmer.*

#### HARVESTING MACHINERY.

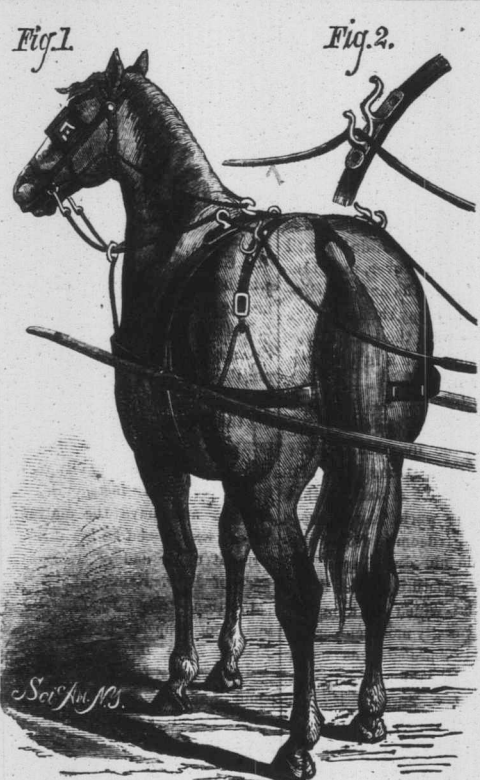
On the subject of self-binding reapers, Mr. James Howard of Bedford, writing to the *London Times* says:—"That American inventors should have been first in the field was only the natural course of events. In the sparsely-populated corn-growing districts of the Western States, the difficulty of obtaining hands to tie up the corn after being cut down by machines has been severely felt, and hence the necessity of a machine to bind up the crop has long been a want of the most pressing kind. In England no such want has been experienced, and therefore inventors and manufacturers have had little or no inducement to produce such a machine. Indeed, at the present time, some of the most enterprising English farmers hold to the opinion that, with our humid climate many of the crops are better not bound until the sheaves have been exposed to the sun and wind, and therefore the binding machine is not regarded by them with any great interest. Others, again, contend that now we have efficient automatic machines to cut down our crops, plenty of labourers can be found for the binding. If, however, a saving of a moderate estimate, these machines will doubtless become general, and the men, moreover, will take to them. Reports have recently reached this country of a remarkable movement among the labourers in America against agricultural machinery, and which is said to be spreading. It appears they have destroyed numbers of self-binding reapers and other machines in Indiana and Ohio, and have also resorted to the use of threatening letters. The present generation of English agricultural labourers have acquired a thorough dislike to hard work, and take kindly to any machine which relieves them from excessive labour.

#### CULTURE AND HUMOR IN WESTERN FARM LIFE.

Quite often, in the course of my rambles, I have found Western farm houses furnished in exquisite taste from library to kitchen. Chairs, tables, carpets, curtains and pictures, in many of our country homes, have been chosen with a correctness of judgement rarely evinced by a large class of most excellent city folk. In the matter of books, a farmer of the better class generally selects with great care and with a view to solid mental food. But a taste for light fiction, poetry, music, and painting is not wanting. It is surprising, indeed, to find how generally the works of the leading British and American poets and novelists are read among the rural classes of the West. The younger American poet—as well known, by their writings, West and East. Even Hawthorne, whom to read and appreciate is high evidence of literary taste and intelligence, has found very many of his sincerest admirers inside the homes of the "Hoosier" and the "Buckeye." Not long since, while sojourning for a fortnight or so on the shore of one of our western lakes, I had the pleasure of spending several evenings at a farm house where, as a member of the family for the time I was allowed to hear one of George Eliot's novels read aloud by the farmer's daughter. Everywhere in the West the literary journals, both weekly and monthly, are subscribed for by farmers, for the pleasure and instruction of their families, while many of them take a daily paper. But, despite all that can be said to the contrary, the *gentlemanly*, which has by some been rendered into English and made to mean "rusty oss" still largely acts itself in our rural regions, a genus of the copperas brooches, gin-gin-cake-loving folk, to whom we owe the racy, soil-favored smack of original humor, peculiar to the Ohio and Mississippi river valleys. Farm life in the West seems to have developed broad, comic humorous ways of speech, and it cannot be denied that much of this humor, coarse though it is, possesses the inimitable charm of outright home manufacture. Through certain of local Western journals, the world has of late caught very distinct glimpses of it. But I am sure that the best Western humor has never yet been reduced to type. It is scattered about in rural neighborhoods, and most of it is finally lost by being carelessly thrown aside as "old."

Most of what has been given to the world, in books and monthly magazines, as Western humor, has been first put through a refining process of doubtful doctering, by which something more than a modicum of the home flavor has been allowed to exhale. It has been enunciated as a rule that the more ignorant class of Western farmers discovers a far quicker and finer sense of humor than does the somewhat educated and refined class. So soon as a smattering of books and newspapers gets into a clod, the sharp salt of the earth seems to go out, and there comes self-consciousness and a straining after natural effects.

*Scriber for Sept.*



TAYLOR & MACKAY'S REIN HOLDER.

This useful little device, which is shown so clearly in the engraving as to require little description, is the invention of Messrs. J. M. Taylor and John Mackay of this city.

This rein holder consists of two double hooks, one of which is attached to each of the hip straps. These hooks are placed about ten inches apart, and are equally distant from the back strap. The upper part of each hook is made quite open, so that the reins will readily drop into them when they are relaxed, and thus prevent them from becoming entangled with other portions of the harness, or getting brushed down by the horse's tail. The opening of the lower hook is smaller than that of the upper hook, so that when the reins are placed in the lower hooks by a dexterous movement of the hand, they will be retained securely. The reins are removed from the lower hooks by drawing them taut and at the same time moving them upward and outward. This invention has been recently patented in the United States and Canada. For further particulars address the inventors.

#### FAILURE OF SPRING WHEAT.

The following article on the failure of the spring wheat, from the weekly *Montreal Witness*, will, we think, repay perusal.

Though the crop of fall wheat the present season has been unusually good, there has been extensive failure of the spring wheat. In some localities the failure has been only partial, in others well nigh total. Cases have come to our knowledge in which whole fields have been reaped only to make it practicable to plough the land, both grain and straw being practically worthless. Preparations are being made by many farmers to sow the same ground with fall wheat. Whether this is a better policy is a question that can be better decided after looking at the causes of failure. Possibly they may be of such a nature as to suggest the cultivation of some other crop. How, then, is the unsatisfactory character of the spring wheat harvest to be accounted for? There are several circumstances that have contributed to the result now noted, to each of which brief mention may very properly be given: 1. Poverty of the soil; over-cropping with wheat and other grain has induced this. Wheat, to succeed well, requires fertile land and good culture. With these it bids defiance to influences which, under other circumstances, cause it to succumb. It is worthy of thoughtful attention how many of the ills that agriculture is heir to, have their origin in an improvised soil and inadequate tillage. We know of highly cultivated farms on which spring wheat has done well the present season; while, close by, on adjacent farms that were in low condition, there has been failure. Indeed so far as our observation has gone, there is a fair crop even this year on well-tilled land. We do not affirm this to have been uniformly the case, but our impression is that it has been the rule, or at any rate there has been such a proportion of average good crops on fertile soil properly worked, to justify mention of poor land as one of the causes of disappointment and loss.

2. An unfavorable season. Early in the spring there was a very copious rain-fall. A record kept in one of the best wheat sections of Ontario is as follows:

Month	Inches
April	6.55
May	6.25
June	2.54
July	11.02

During these four months, two-thirds of the usual annual rain-fall took place. In May, and even so late as June, there were frosts of unwonted severity, while in July there was unprecedented heat. Much of the seed was sown when the land was too wet and cold for vigorous germination, the result being partial decay of the seed and a weakly growth of plants. Weeds being of a more hardy nature, made a strong growth, drawing on the resources of the soil, and choking down the young wheat plants. The severe frosts did further injury to the struggling blades of grain, while they had little or no effect on the weeds. Though there was a period of more propitious weather between the frosts of May and June, and the heat of July so that considerable growth was made and an appearance of promise taken on, the sudden advent of extremely hot weather caught the plants in a very succulent state, and dried up their juices with great rapidity, occasioning a premature maturity. The intense heat induced a rank growth of weeds, and a corresponding consumption of plant food needed by the growing grain. To crown all, the rain-storms of July were very heavy, and accompanied by high winds, in consequence of which whole fields of wheat were laid flat, the stalks, brittle with the heat, largely breaking, and others being spindling and weak, failed to rise, and coming into contact with the moist earth decayed. Such stalk heads as continued erect, did not fill well, owing to the process being hurried by the extremely hot weather.

3. Insect attacks. There seems little reason to doubt that the Hessian fly, which appeared last fall on the winter wheat, spread its way to adjacent fields of spring wheat, finding them more tender and tempting diet than on the winter wheat, which, owing to a very favorable season, had made a more vigorous growth than common. It has been extensively supposed that the Hessian fly will not assail spring wheat, but the experience of the present season has proved that this idea is fallacious. A worse enemy than this appeared in great force. This was the joint-worm, a congener of the Hessian fly, but very dissimilar in habit. As its name denotes, this insect attacks the joints of the stalk, perforating them, and finding a temporary home there. The effect of the ravages of the wire-worm is to deprive

the heads of nourishing juices, their ascent being prevented by the injury done to the stalk-joints. Hence the heads turn yellow prematurely, and were found, to a great extent, without kernels in them. The weakened joints broke readily with the high winds, and this accounts for the large proportion of broken stems noticed by many in their wheat fields the present year. Besides the insects already named, the midge has done some mischief, though perhaps not on a very wide scale. Without doubt, the wire worm has been the worst of the insect foes with which the spring wheat crop has had to contend this year.

In view of the formidable obstacles to its success which have been enumerated it is little wonder that spring wheat has turned out so badly. What to do about it is the next consideration. Our prescription, like many kinds of medicine, will doubtless be "bad to take," but it may nevertheless cure the patient. It is, in brief, to quit growing spring wheat, and fall too, for a time. The small yields of spring wheat for many years past have been very discouraging. Ten and twelve bushels to the acre did not pay the farmer, and these puny figures have "told the tale" for too many of our wheat-growers. We should be inclined to lay it down as a rule to grow no wheat on land that cannot be reasonably expected to yield twenty bushels per acre. As a general thing, too great a proportion of wheat is grown on Canadian farms. There is still the lingering idea that wheat is the grand cash crop. Time was when this was true, but it is not the case now. Beef, mutton, pork, butter, eggs, potatoes, and fruit, are all cash crops. Let us grow less grain and more grass, more turkeys and carrots, more stock, and more dairy products. The race will not turn bread if all Canadian farmers whose lands are impoverished cease to grow wheat for a time. Our newly-settled districts will raise it. It will be grown on highly-cultivated farms, which, though not so numerous as could be wished, are increasing in number. It is a worthy ambition to desire to grow the king of grains, but we must sometimes "stoop to conquer!" If we take to stock-raising and other products for a while, we shall by and by be able to raise respectable crops of wheat.

A hint was given at the outset that it might be well to consider the propriety of sowing land to fall wheat where spring wheat had failed, in the light of the causes of that failure. Our advice is "don't." There is reason to fear the Hessian fly will be troublesome this fall, and it is probable we are only at the beginning of our troubles with the joint-worm. This insect makes its abode in the straw of the previous crop, and is pretty sure to come forth next spring in redoubled force. In fact, it is thought by competent judges that the only way to make a clean sweep of the joint-worm is to burn up the straw. The liability to future insect attack, added to the considerations already enumerated, makes out, in our judgement, a pretty conclusive argument in favor of a change of crop.

**WHERE TO SELL GOOD BUTTER.**—The *Rural New Yorker* says: In talking with a person who had been a grocer, we heard the following remark in answer to the question "Why do you not make more difference in the price of butter taken in from the farmers?" "We cannot do it. It will not work. Nothing will offend a woman quicker than to tell her that her butter is not first class. If we tell her the butter is poor, she will sell it somewhere else, and she will trade where she sells her produce. To keep her trade, I must buy her butter. So, it is customary to pay about the same price for all grades of butter offered in small lots. We make on the best lots and lose on the poorest. We come out about even, satisfy all parties and get the custom of those who sell butter which is good or poor." The better way for those who make the best butter, is to find some regular customers and supply them from week to week throughout the year. In this way, the producer gets better prices and avoids the close shave of middlemen.

**ACREAGE REQUIRED FOR A COW.**—How much land is required for the support of a cow? This question depends for an answer, so much on the circumstances of the soil, as not to admit of a very definite answer. Mr. Schull, of Little Falls, N. Y., estimates that the land in pasturage and hay, requisite for the support of a cow, is three acres; and this is the estimate of Mr. Carrington, for moderately good farms in England. In Belgium ten acres of land support two cows, one heifer and one yearling or calf.

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but when the calves are sold off young and cows in full milk are only kept, the proportion is two cows to seven and one-half acres. Colman estimates three acres of pasture as requisite for a cow in Berkshire county, Mass., while in the report of the American Dairyman's Association, thinks that on the average four acres are required per cow, for summer and winter keep; while Mr. X. A. Willard thinks that in Herkimer county, N. Y., one and one-half to two acres of pasture per cow will answer, and in some exceptional cases one acre.—*Scientific Farmer.*

#### QUICK WORK.

The last sensation occurred last Thursday, when about fifty men were present by invitation, to see Jim Lawton beat his own time of two years ago, when his wife had baked bread in eight and a quarter minutes after the wheat was standing in the field. At 4:10 o'clock, the Buckeye reaper, drawn by Cy Burnett's dun mules, stood at the corner of the growing wheat, machine in gear, ready for a start. Men were stationed every few feet along the line of grain, ready to seize an armful as it fell from the reaper and rush with it to the thrasher close by, which, under the direction of veteran drivers, was getting under way for business. At the mill, just sixteen rods away, Lawton stood at the window watching the moment when McCaw, on the swiftest horse in the county, should start from the thrasher with the grain, while Mrs. Lawton and her niece, Miss Alice, had all the preparations made to make griddle cakes and biscuits in the shortest possible time. At the drop of the hat the dun mules sprang to the work, and in 1m. 16s. the threshed wheat, about a peck, was in the sack and on the horse, and the race commenced for the mill. There were two bridges to cross, and the excited spectators could only see a column of dust, leave a couple of taps on the plank bridge as the horse flew over them at lightning speed, and the wheat was delivered to Lawton in the mill. In 1m. 17s. the flour was delivered to Mrs. Lawton, and in 3m. 55s. from the starting of the reaper the first griddle cake came from the hands of Miss Alice, was gobbled by a dozen eager hands—that was the last of it. In 4m. 37s. from the starting of the reaper, according to the best double-timer stop-watch in the country, a pan of biscuits was delivered to the hungry crowd by Mrs. Lawton, and that was the last seen of them. Then other pans of delicious biscuits were baked more at leisure, and boiled ham and "one minute biscuit" formed a sandwich it was right hard to beat.—*Carlton (Mo.) Democrat, July 5.*

**WHITE CLOVER IN PASTURES.**—Every pasture should contain some white clover. It will afford more food at certain times of the year than any kind of grass or clover. It will not flourish in damp soils, or those that are very poor. It will do very well in a partial shade, as a grove or orchard, but to make the highest excellence it should be sown where it will have the advantage of sunlight. It is easy to secure patches of white clover in a pasture, by scattering seed in early spring, on bare places, and brushing it in. One pound of seed is sufficient to start white clover in a hundred places in a pasture. The disposition of this clover is to spread by means of the branches that run along the surface of the ground, and take root. Having secured a sod of four square, it will soon extend so as to cover first a yard, then a rod.—*Eschwege.*

**RUSSIAN CHEESE.**—An article of diet of almost universal consumption among the poorer classes in Russia is the variety of homemade cheese known as Tworog, of which more than seven million pounds are sold annually in St. Petersburg alone. Its mode of preparation is very simple. Sour skim milk is placed over night in a warm oven, and poured the next day upon a sieve, where it is allowed to remain till all the whey has run off. The curd is then packed lightly in a wadded vessel and covered with a lid made to fit exactly within it. On this heavy weights are placed, so as to keep up a constant pressure on the mass of curd, and the space between the lid and the top of the vessel is filled with cold water, which is frequently renewed. Tworog cheese is, in fact, nothing more than hard pressed curd. In the northwestern and southern governments of the Empire it is often made of sheep's milk, and in Bessarabia a superior quality made from the whole milk is prepared, which possesses far better keeping properties than the ordinary sort, and which is exported in considerable quantities to Wallachia, Moldavia, and even to Austria.—*American Dairyman.*



THE OUTLOOK.

The political contest now raging from one end of the Dominion to the other can have but one result, so far as the continuance in office of the Government is concerned, but it may have a far-reaching effect on the country.

RELEASE OF A FENIAN.

The correspondence between the U. S. Minister Welch, and Earl Salisbury, in regard to Condon, has been continued.

STEAMERS BETWEEN LIVERPOOL AND CYPRUS.

The proposed establishment of a direct line of steamers between Liverpool and the island of Cyprus is another striking evidence of the energy with which the steam trade of England, and especially of Liverpool, is carried on in the Mediterranean.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., SEPTEMBER 7, 1878.

WHICH "MAC"?

What fact is there on which an elector of York can decide his vote for or against the McKenzie administration? He reads in the opposition papers, charges against it of incompetence, blundering, don'tingness, extravagance and corruption, charges so recklessly made that their exaggeration defies belief.

Temporance speakers are often in looking out on one side of the question. They speak as if abstinence from strong drink and overcoming the appetite for it were all that was needed to make the world moral, prosperous and happy.

Temporance speakers often lose sight of the fact, when depicting the vice and misery rampant among the impoverished masses of crowded cities, that it is not always low wages that drives them to it, but because they find in it some relief, though deceptive.

COMMUNICATIONS.

GRAND LAKE STREAM, ME.

Sir, In response to a request for a copy of your excellent paper, we have received it regularly for the last three weeks, and have been ungrateful in not acknowledging it before.

DOMINION ELECTION LAW.

In preparation for the coming election, the papers are publishing long opinions, or quotations from the Dominion Election Law. These sections of the law that relate to "corrupt practices," to entertaining of electors, to furnishing, or causing to be used, party flags, ensigns, or standards, ribbons, badges, or favors; to bribery, treating, or bribe or agent, to using undue influence by threat, fraud, violence or intimidation—all which offences are punishable by fine or imprisonment.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The House of Assembly of British Columbia lately passed, 14 to 9, an address to the Queen, praying that in the event of the Dominion Government failing to carry into effect the settlement of 1874, or before the first day of May next, Her Majesty should be graciously pleased to order and direct that the British Columbia shall therefore have the right to exclusively collect her own excise duties, and to withdraw from the union; and shall also, in any event, be entitled to be compensated by the Dominion for losses sustained by reason of past delays and failure of the Dominion Government to carry out their railway and other obligations to the Province.

THE WEATHER.

The weather—Summer has gone and autumn has arrived with fresh breezes and sunshine. There was much rain and cloudy weather in August, in this vicinity and section of the town.

MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL.

There was a regular monthly meeting of the City Council, last Tuesday evening, presided over by the Mayor, Aldermen Richmond, Moore, Grievs, Smith, Beck, Cliff, Simons, Estey and Dykeman. The public benches were almost wholly unoccupied.

RECEPTION OF THE BISHOP.

The reception of the Bishop of Fredericton, who arrived in the city on Monday last, was a most interesting affair. The Bishop, who is a member of the Anglican Episcopate, was accompanied by his wife and two children.

MASS TEMPERANCE MEETING.

Last Tuesday evening there was a mass temperance meeting in the City Hall which was well filled. Before and at intervals between the speeches, the choir on the platform sang some beautiful hymns, in which the audience joined.

REV. MR. HAMILL, RELATED SOME INTERESTING FACTS CONCERNING THE TURKISH EMPIRE.

Rev. Mr. Hamill, related some interesting facts concerning the Turkish Empire. Among the Mohammedan population, prohibition has always been enforced by law and religion. Their temperance made the Turks the finest soldiers in the world, able to sustain hardships, fatigues, privations, without loss of nerve, that would break down even a British regiment.

FORESTALLING.

Last Tuesday night at the City Council, Ald. Dykeman brought up the subject of forestalling. He spoke of it as a public grievance, and urged that it would be well to look for a remedy in the law. The people of the town, and especially the market, as the law requires, instead of being as now, in great part bought up before it found its way there.

RESGATA CHALLENGE CUP.

Mr. J. H. Babbitt has imported from the United States a "regatta challenge cup" which is an object of interest in the window in which it hangs. The design is truly aquatic, around the upper part of the cup there is an etching of oarsmen rowing on a river, and around it, with gilt lettering, a wreath of water lilies with gilt leaves.

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LABOR MOVEMENT.—The New York Herald says that the labor movement is one of those transient uprisings which swell into a storm and subside with passing events.

The long period of business stagnation and distress which has weighed upon all classes since the disastrous collapse of 1873 has made the laboring classes impatient and almost desperate, and willing to swallow any nostrum which promises relief.

CONCERT.—The Mendelssohn Quintette Club gave their concert in the City Hall last evening.

We fully expected that the long established reputation of the "Club" and the proved excellence of the performers would have drawn a crowded house; as it was, the audience, though not large, was appreciative. The concert opened with the overture to William Tell, a most striking and effective performance both as a work of art and as an instrument of the players.

THE FISHERIES AWARD.—Although several weeks have passed since Secretary Everett addressed a letter to the British Government, setting forth reasons why the 50,000,000 fishery award was excessive, it has not yet been received.

It is thought the delay is owing to the thorough examination the award has been given to the subject. A recent order of the Treasury directing the collectors of customs, directing them to obtain from the owners of fishing vessels arriving within their districts reports showing the quantity and kind of fish taken within three miles from the shore of Canada, has been sent to the British Government.

THE FREDERICTON YACHT CLUB.

The Fredericton Yacht Club picnic which took place last Tuesday was a great success, people in Fredericton imagined that the rain which began to pour down about noon would spoil sport in Blisville, but they were mistaken for not a drop fell.

ANOTHER PICNIC SUCCESS WAS THE CATHOLIC one at Kingsdale, last Wednesday.

Father Higgins, of Kingsdale, presided over the picnic, which was a most successful one. The picnic was held at Kingsdale, and was a most successful one.

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A SOURCE OF HARD TIMES.—Speaking of the vast and to a great extent available destruction of timber in this country, the Freeman says that fires are increasing, both in numbers and destructiveness, far more rapidly than the increase of wealth and production.

It is computed that from an annual loss by fire in 1875 of \$15,000,000, the annual loss, exclusive of exceptional ones such as that of Chicago (if they may be called "exceptional") has increased to \$100,000,000. The full significance of this statement cannot be realized unless noted. This is a loss of \$85,000,000 in value, in excess of and above the value of the lumber produced in this country in 1875. It is a loss of \$85,000,000 in value, in excess of and above the value of the lumber produced in this country in 1875.

CAUSE OF THE FAMINE.—Our Chinese writer argues that the famine in China is largely attributed to the culture of opium.

Stating his reasons for this belief he says the drug has had a most debilitating effect upon the people, and they have been less industrious, less energetic, and less able to produce their own food. The result has been a general famine, and the people have been reduced to a state of starvation.

A HIGHLAND OMB.—A few days ago a widower who occupies a croft at Drumstrath, near Inverness, thought proper to take to himself a second wife, 85 years of age, and being offered a young girl residing in the district, and the marriage came off the other day in the house of the bride.

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Deaths.

On Sunday, September 1st, Emily Lewis, daughter of James K. and C. S. Lewis, aged eleven months, died of cholera.







Literature.

THE LADY OF ABERNATHY HALL

OR THE MILLINER'S FORTUNE

CHAPTER XIII

It was night, but she knew the way well—every spot in the vicinity was familiar to her, for it was the haunt of her happy childhood. Like a wild deer she flew on and reached the mouth of the secret passage without molestation. The great stone swung back at her touch on the hidden spring, and gave her ready progress to the passage. She ascended to their recess, and, removing the sliding panel, gained Winifred's chamber. Mother and child were both sleeping, and both would have fallen a sacrifice to the rage of the demon but for Winifred's sudden and providential awakening. Once again, on a succeeding night, was her design frustrated in the same manner.

The third time she had been partially successful. The presence of Rosy had prevented her from murdering the mistress, so she contented herself with stealing little Willie. The child she pursued to carry to the lodge, and kill at her leisure; but the poor innocent cries for its mother were so piteous, and its struggling rendered it such a burden, that her patience gave out. She strangled it, and it fell dead on the banks of the river, where the unhappy father had subsequently discovered the remains. Melicent succeeded in reaching the lodge without discovery and then with a singularity that went far to establish the fact of her insanity, she released the two negroes, whom she had constantly fed during their incarceration, told them what she had done, and gave herself up to sleep at once.

The extraordinary exertions which she had made, and the exposure that she had undergone, threw the miserable woman into a raging fever, which lasted three weeks. At the expiration of that time, her disease took a favorable turn, and for more than a month it was expected that she would ultimately recover. But a relapse occurred, and her fate was decided. Mr. Wintrop saw her decently interred by the side of her parents, gave the negroes who had served him so faithfully their freedom, shut up Bellemeade, and returned to Maplewood, to find his home desolate.

He had remembered Winifred's words at the time she had brought home the dead child, and he had fulfilled her threat, and would return to him no more. Suspecting also, that she had heard rumors of his baseness, he had double reason to believe that it would be useless to prolong his stay at Maplewood in expectation of her appearance; and leaving the house in charge of his servants, he returned to Washington without seeking for her rest.

Three weeks before the fatal deed, Brandon Lawrence, the cousin of Melicent, had arrived in America. An accidental meeting had taken place at Washington between the former friends, and some bantering words were exchanged. Mr. Lawrence, on his part, was in no way provoked by the reply of his cousin. He had thought Mr. Wintrop to mortal combat. This was the substance of his confession. Winifred could only compassionately before her, and commit him, with many prayers, to the mercy of God.

Mr. Wintrop grew wiser. His wounds healed faster than he had expected, and he was able to go out again. With vain longing for a little more of the fever called life, and clinging closely to the hand of his wife as though she could keep him back, the spirit of Milford Wintrop passed into the bar of his Judge.

ating the stranger, sought her acquaintance, and divided with her the task of holding the child. The mother thought it best the messes, as it had been exposed to them and the skin had something of that appearance.

About half-way to the village before mentioned, the woman child left the coach—the latter being unable to ride further. Winifred performed the remainder of the journey, which occupied a week alone. Arrived at the terminus of her stage journey, she rested two days at the hotel, and then engaged a private conveyance to take her to Castle Hill.

During the last few days, a strange languor of spirits, and lassitude of body, had oppressed her; and now her temples throbbing hotly with a raging headache. The jolting of the carriage increased the pain almost beyond endurance, and she feared that her strength would not sustain her through the tansit. She became incredibly anxious to get on—the horses went a snail's pace, and the bold avowal of Castle Hill was so long in breaking up her view!

From the parlor windows Horace Vernon saw the approaching carriage—his heart told him who was its occupant; and he hurried out, bareheaded, into the driving rain to welcome her. Winifred had just strength enough left to murmur: "Take me to the house!" when she fell back unconscious, for the first time in her life.

Horace tore open the carriage door, and clapping the armlets from his arms, bore her into the parlor, and laid her down on a sofa by the fire. With all haste, he despatched a servant for a physician, who was visiting their next neighbor, and in a few moments might be expected at Castle Hill.

With singular foresight, Horace did not remove his mother, who was taking her afternoon nap in her chamber and the children, who were spending the day with their aunt on the other side of the river, were not there to disturb the dear wanderer. In a brief space Dr. Urphan arrived. He examined the patient critically; made some singular inquiries, and shook his head.

"She has the small-pox; of the most violent type, I should judge by the fever. I have seldom felt so high a pulse. She has had three weeks' work before her—poor girl!"

In this time of trial, Horace Vernon's strong decision of character led him to act quickly. He called his mother, gathered together his servants, and bade them prepare for an immediate journey. His mother objected to this plan—but he was firm, and in two hours from the time of Winifred's arrival, the entire household (with the exception of Horace and an old negro, who had had the disease) were on the way to a small plantation belonging to the family, and situated six or seven miles further up the river. Horace Vernon never felt a more intense, thrill of satisfaction than at the moment when he knew that Winifred was to be his charge; that to him she was to owe all the careful tenderness that a sick one requires.

delicacy had good enough for her, in her own opinion. As soon as Winifred was strong enough to talk, she confided her whole history to those excellent friends—keeping back only the portion relating to Gerard Middleton. That she could not bring herself to reveal.

And when she had finished, Horace Vernon longed inexpressibly to take the sweet hand to his bosom, and kiss all tears from the pallid cheeks save those of joy. To the surprise and infinite distress of her friends, Winifred's sense of vision continued to grow less and less, until, in a few weeks, total blindness came upon her!

Physicians, without number, were consulted—they all prophesied that return to health would restore the power of sight; but time passed, and brought no favorable issue. Horace, in a frenzy of doubt and apprehension, besought her to consent to a journey to Paris, where she might have the advice of eminent oculists, but she steadily refused. She felt, she said, that it would only be a useless attempt—and if hope was once re-awakened, it would be doubly hard to crush it out again. And after a time he ceased to urge her.

It was a terrible trial to this proud, beautiful woman; but, in passing through the deep waters of affliction, she learned to put faith in the goodness of a gracious God. All pride, and scorn, and bitterness, went out from her heart—she became humble and trustful as a little child. It was good for her to be afflicted. Her very helplessness endeared her a thousand fold to Horace Vernon. It was his privilege to be her comforter, and to describe to her the sunset skies; paint to her blinded vision the glory of the summer landscape; to soothe and comfort her as a mother does her well beloved child.

His happiest hours were spent with her when, leaning trustfully on his arm, together they took long walks in the glowing calm of the evening, and sat down together on the grassy river-banks. She was gentle and quiet—yet she laid little by way of thanks—yet her love face and sightless eyes were eloquent of gratitude. But it is a hard fate to be shut out forever from the beautiful things of earth! To be blind—groping in darkness—stranded in a night which never breaks into morning!

"God help thee, Winifred! It is hard for thee to realize it!" (Concluded next week.)

LUCKY NUMBERS. Superstition dies hard, and of all superstitions a belief in lucky numbers is by no means the least remarkable for vitality. It is almost as old as the hills, and it seems likely to survive even the blow it received in the case of the Atlantic Lottery, whose apparent luck in the lottery at Naples has been explained on ordinary principles of deliberate cheating and confederacy. However that may be, it is certain that lotteries, more than anything else, tend to foster the popular superstition concerning numbers and the luck attendant on them.

He believed, or at any rate asserted, that "There was luck in odd numbers," but the rotaries of the lottery—may, the majority of all who pin their faith to numerical influences, have little or no preference for oddness or evenness. They attribute the most potent to a very different source. From a letter written to one of our newspapers a few days ago, a hotel appears to prevail in Venice that "in the event of a stranger dying in one of the hotels there the numbers of his rooms will be lucky numbers in the next lottery;" and the writer of the letter mentions "a singular illustration" not only of the belief, but unfortunately, of its confirmation also. It is stated by the writer that "on the death of the late Sir W. Stirling Maxwell, at Daniel's well-known hotel, the employees of the hotel immediately subscribed to take shares in the numbers in the next lottery corresponding with the numbers of the two rooms occupied by the late member for Perthshire, both of which numbers, strangely enough, were afterwards drawn prizes," to the unspeakable grief of "a person connected with the hotel," who "bitterly lamented that he had been prevented by sudden illness from taking the whole of the lucky numbers, and thus realizing a handsome fortune at one stroke." Some curious instances of the "deivity" connected with certain numbers have been selected by a French journalist from the "Histoire de la Loterie" in the "Entomologist" of the younger Dumas. Here is one: "A poor working man, farrier to a regiment of cuirassiers, took it into his head to make a note of four regulation numbers branded, according to custom, on the quarters of the remounts; he chose a number, accordingly, in the Frankfurt lottery, and nearly went mad with joy on winning 150,000 francs. The first thing he did was to buy as many pairs of trousers as there are days in the year, so that he was known all through the cavalry as 'the man with the 365 pairs of breeches.' Here is another: "A woman dreamed of ten numbers, wrote them down on some little bits of paper, stuck these tickets on sticks and placed them atop of some beans planted in a garden in a strip of her little garden. 'I'll take,' said she, 'the numbers of the first five that sprout, and put them in the lottery,' in due time five came out. She copied the numbers, and gave her son ten francs, all the money she had in the world, saying, 'Run and take me this sequence of five at the office round the corner.' 'All right, mother,' the son spent the money came back, and assured her that he had done as he was told. The numbers won. It is impossible to describe the grief which overwhelmed the poor woman when she learned the truth. She went mad, and, a few years afterwards, her son blew out his brains."

according to a good authority, will ground their bets upon the most puerile and extravagant calculations. An example is drawn from what happened at the Bois de Boulogne on the 21st of April this year. It so happened that the first three races were won by the horse "numbered 7 on the card;" and of course the bettor who had "spotted" No. 7 would be much excited and induced to "back his luck" and try No. 7 again for the next race. Now, No. 7 was the favorite for that race, but he lost. His backers, therefore, would calculate, as we are assured; in this way: "7 has missed this time; that probably means that it will be doubly successful in the next race; in other words, that double 7's turn has come." So the bettor put his money on No. 14; and, lo! No. 14 won. It seems to be hardly credible that human folly should be carried on to so prodigious an extent; but we are told that "on voit des parieurs qui réalisent de très jolis bénéfices sur des combinaisons de ce genre." That such calculations should succeed now and then is, of course, not only possible or probable, but a certainty; on the other hand, the number of times they would fail to the one instance of success is quite appalling to contemplate.

If a belief in lucky numbers does really lead grown men to indulge in such absurdities, one is inclined to regret that the spirit of the times has made it impossible for us to see in our days such a Rhadamanthus-like schoolmaster as he who is famed to have addressed his assembled pupils—"Smith has been convicted of sowing among his schoolfellows the seeds of a dangerous heresy; he has inoculated many of them with a belief in lucky numbers—a mischievous, an immoral, an irreligious belief. I consider that Smith has been guilty of something worse than mere lying; and I shall punish him accordingly. Smith's 'lucky number,' it appears, is 14; well, this is the 14th day of the month, and Smith shall at once receive four-and-sixty strokes with a birch rod, and shall afterwards wear a fool's-cap during school hours for a period of four-and-six days. Smith, so treated, might grow up with unfavorable ideas of schoolmasters' justice; but he would not be likely to put his trust in 'lucky numbers.'"—Pall Mall Gazette.

BECKWITH & SEELY, Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public, etc. Office in CITY HALL, FREDERICTON. Attend at Ormiston and Fredericton Junction, alternate Saturdays. Accounts Collected, and Loans Negotiated. OFFICE upstairs in Wiley's Building, next to W. Logan's Store.

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RECEIVED TO-DAY, 1 CASE WHITE PIQUES, Hamburg Edgeings AND INSERTIONS. DEVER BROS. 20,000 Rolls HOUSE PAPER, JUST RECEIVED. English Room Papers!!

M. S. HALL. HALL'S BOOK STORE. Scrap Pictures. TEA. TEA. 75 HALF CHESTNUT TEA, Just received, and for sale low.

EXHIBITION. T. W. SMITH, PLOWS. PLOWS.

A PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD IN FREDERICTON, ON THE 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th October next. A large, handsome building is now being erected for the purpose, and suitable accommodations for stock is provided. ABOUT \$5,000 IN PRIZES. Premium lists and blank forms of application can be procured by application to the secretary of the several Agricultural Societies, or the undersigned. Arrangements will be made for the conveyance of stock, Produce, Manufactures, by Railways, and Steamers to Fredericton at REASONABLE RATES, and the freight paid will be refunded to Exhibitors. All entries to be made by the 20th September. A Sale of Pure Bred Cattle and Sheep, will take place during the Exhibition. It is hoped that the liberal arrangements made will induce Farmers and Manufacturers to every exertion to make this year's Provincial Exhibition the most successful yet.

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