Storing Roots for Winter.

Thousands of bushels of potatoes and other roots are lost annually through insufficient protection from the cold. It is not necessary to store roots in a cellar. A well covered pit out of doors will keep them fresher and with equal safety. Only the small quantity of potatoes and other roots which a family needs during extreme cold weather should be kept in cellars under dwelling houses. There is some degree of fermentation and decay in large bodies of any kind of vegetables, even in cold weather, and the effluvia from these is a cause of fevers and other diseases often prevalent in some houses every winter and spring. But to keep potatoes in pits requires some judgment and understanding of the business. Last winter ground exposed to the weather froze in some places four feet deep, and this extreme cold was a source of great loss. Of course no farmer would think of burying potatoes four feet deep, and even if he did they might be frozen, as the heap would necessarily be a mound on the surface of the ground completely exposed to the weather. The great secret of success is to have the earth piled in layers with some substance between which will lay loosely, and thus hold a quantity of dead air, one of the best non-conductors of heat. Anything which will keep a quantity of air undisturbed between the roots and the blast of winter will answer the purpose. The best way to do this is to have not less than two, and better still if three, coverings of coarse, dry straw, lying as loosely as possible, and each well covered with a good coating of earth. If potatoes are dug early they may be covered at first only with straw and potato vines. As danger of frost approaches cover with six to seven inches of earth. Then give another liberal coating of coarse straw—the coarser the better—and cover this at least ten inches deep with earth. If more covering be needed, another layer of straw, lightly covered with earth, will afford ample protection in the severest weather. It is not the depth of soil so much as the imprisoned air confined with and under the straw which insures success.

Domestic Receipts.

TAPIOCA PUDDING.—One cup of tapioca; one quart of sweet milk; three tablespoonfuls of sugar; a little salt; flavor as you like.

FRITTERS.—Take two or three eggs; a little sweet milk; stir in a little flour, and beat it well; drop with a spoon in hot pork fat; turn in a second or so, as they cook very quickly. These are excellent and very hearty.

REMEDY FOR CROUP.—A lady correspondent of the Maine *Farmer* says the following is an effective remedy for croup: Half a teaspoonful of pulverized alum in a little molasses. It is a simple remedy, one almost always at hand, and one dose seldom fails to give relief. If it should, repeat it after one hour.

SAUSAGE MEAT.—If you want it extra nice, take two nice fresh hams and one shoulder; take off the skin, and have it chopped nicely; season it with salt, pepper, sage, and a very little sugar. If you like spiced meats, use with that a few cloves, some mace and nutmeg. Keep it in a dry, cool place, and fry it in balls, or stuff the skins when you first make it for dry sausages.

SIMPLE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.—Boil a small potful of potatoes, and bathe the part affected with the water in which the potatoes were boiled, as hot as can be applied, immediately before going to bed. The pain will be removed, or, at least, alleviated by the next morning. Some of the most obstinate rheumatic pains have lately been cured by one application of this novel and simple remedy. So says an exchange.

The Foot of a Horse.

The human hand has often been taken to illustrate Divine wisdom—and very well. But have you ever examined your horse's hoof? It is hardly less curious in its way. Its parts are somewhat less complicated, yet their design is simple and obvious. The hoof is not, as it appears to the careless eye, a mere lump of insensible bone, fastened to the leg by a joint. It is made up of a series of thin layers, or leaves, of horn, about 500 in number, and nicely fitted to each other, and forming a filling to the foot itself. Then there are as many more layers, belonging to what is called the "coffin-bone," and fitted into this. These are elastic. Take a quire of paper and insert the leaves one by one into those of another quire, and you will get some idea of the arrangement of the several layers. Now, the weight of the horse rests on as many elastic springs as there are layers in his four feet—about 4,000; and all this is contrived, not only for the conveyance of his own body, but for whatever burdens may be laid on him. —*Rural Home.*

A Fatal Prize Fight.

A prize fight took place in the coal regions of Illinois, and in the vicinity of Ottawa, which was fatal in its results. A correspondent says: In the community duelloes of the fist are frequent, and the position of local champion or "best man of the mines" is aspired after by many.

It was thus that the recent fight was brought about. Jack Lewil has been considered—especially by himself—the best man in La Salle county; and, when another miner, named Jim Rogers, hailing from California, and bearing the sobriquet of the "California Pet," came to this section of country and made pretentions to the possession of some pugilistic skill, it was not long ere the friends of both got up a match. Articles were signed whereby the men agreed to fight a square, stand-up fight for $200 a side, and both men went into training. The arrangements were kept very quiet, as the local authorities all over the State are specially on the alert since the breaking up of the fights at Chicago and East St. Louis, and it was not until the night before that the "office" was given to a favored few.

The brutal fight continued until the 37th round was reached, when Lewis was found to be too weak from loss of blood to continue, and fainted away. He was taken to his home and soon after died. It was a cruel and brutal affair from the first round, Lewis being overmatched by his antagonist.

ENJOYMENT. — Dr. Hopkins — What does your enjoyment of a witty man depend upon?

Student—It is in proportion to his wit.

Dr. Hopkins—Supposing he is a good man?

Student—It is in proportion to his goodness.

Dr. Hopkins — Well, supposing he *knows* a great deal?

Student—In proportion to his nose.

The Island of Cuba.

How Havana was Captured Many Years Ago by the English.

The only power that ever attacked Cuba was Great Britain. On the first occasion the invasion ended most disastrously; on the second Havana fell into her hands. The particulars of the siege appended is at this moment instructive reading.

In 1741 Admiral Vernon, with a large fleet and 12,000 troops under Lord Cathcart, was dispatched to the West Indies for the purpose of attacking the commerce of Spain and capturing her most valuable possessions in America. He made an attempt to reduce Carthagena (Ecuador), in which he failed, after suffering very heavy losses. He returned to Jamaica with a fragment of his beaten and dispirited expedition, and determined to fall upon Cuba. His military force was reduced to 3,000 available men, which he augmented by 1,000 negroes, who were drilled and armed for the enterprise. Vernon sailed for the southeast part of the Island and anchored in Guantanamo Bay, in which is situate Santiago de Cuba, where the massacre of the passengers and crew of the Virginius took place. The troops were landed and encamped at a distance of 20 miles further up the river. He found Santiago too strong to attack, however, and his men remained entirely inactive. The Spaniards likewise resolved to let Vernon alone. He remained until November, when the expedition returned to Jamaica. On mustering the troops the picture is represented as being sadder than if they had come from a fierce campaign. The fine army that had left England 12,000 strong was now reduced to 2,000. Disease, caused by bad salted provisions in a state of putridity and excesses in rum, while in Cuba, cut off in a few months over half of Vernon's troops. When the news of the disastrous result reached England the kingdom was filled with murmurs and discontent, and the people were depressed in proportion to that sanguine hope by which they had been elevated. But, though Vernon's expedition accomplished nothing beyond the loss of his soldiers, the rechristening of Guantanama Bay by the name of Cumberland Harbor, in compliment to one of the King's brothers (a name it very briefly retained) and his own disgrace, it would appear that it was not sufficient to cause Great Britain to abandon a project which, it was believed, promised booty even beyond reach of calculation.

England had all along kept a greedy eye fixed upon the French and Spanish possessions in America. Her aggressions in Canada and in the West Indies led to the formation of what is known in history as "The Family Compact" between France and Spain. The two latter Powers were charged with using undue means to induce Portugal to enter into an alliance with them to resist Great Britian. This was in 1761, 20 years after Vernon's disastrous enterprise before Santiago de Cuba. War existed with France, and Sir James Douglas had captured Martinique. The English Ministry professed its anxiety to remain at peace with Spain, while it secretly collected a large fleet and army to make a descent on Cuba. When war was again declared, in June, 1762, a squadron sailed from Portsmouth, under Admiral Pococke, with 20,000 troops, commanded by the Earl of Albemarle. These were joined by Sir James Douglas' vessels, and, thus united, the expedition consisted of 19 ships of the line, 18 smaller ships of war and 150 transports. Pococke boldly explored a perilous way along the Bahamas, and without the slightest accident appeared before Havana.

The arrival of the English was a surprise, for it was the first intimation the Cubans had of the existence of war. Neverthelsss, Havana was of sufficient strength, by art and nature, to make a vigorous defence. The city was fortified with the utmost skill, cost and care, as the great mart and centre of Spanish American trade. Within the harbor lay 12 ships of the line; within the ramparts was a large army, including the country militia, scarcely inferior to the attacking force. Besides these, the strong works flanked with bastions, which defended the main body of the place, the narrow entrance to the harbor was secured by two forts well nigh deemed impregnable. And here it may be mentioned that the only use made of the fleet during the siege was to sink three of them behind a strong boom at the mouth of the harbor. The English landed June 5, two miles southeast of Havana, without loss or opposition. They were divided into two corps. One, under General Elliott, advanced a considerable way into the country while the other, under General Keppel, besieged Morro Castle. The difficulties attending the operations seemed insurmountable. The construction of batteries commenced June 12, but so thin was the soil and so hard the rock beneath, that the advance was made very slowly. To cover their approaches the English had to use bales of cotton, brought from Jamaica by Sir James Douglas.

There was no water in the vicinity. It could be had in the neighborhood of the camp, but it was so impure that instead of affording relief it would only prove deadly. The only good water that could be obtained was at a distance of three leagues, and could only be procured in boats. Having no other way to get a supply, Albemarle's troops had to depend upon the ships. The labor of cutting roads through the woods and drawing the artillery was so excessive that many dropped down dead with fatigue. However, the batteries were raised to assail the Morro and the ships; a sortie in force was repulsed, but one day three ships of the English fleet stationed themselves as close as they could to the fort, and during seven hours attempted to dismount its guns. They were compelled to withdraw without producing the slightest effect, after sustaining great injury from the Morro's fire. The principal English battery was also destroyed. It had required the labor of 600 men for 17 days to complete it. It was consumed in a few hours, and all had to be constructed anew. Disease had reduced the invading army to half its number; 5,000 soldiers were unfit for duty and 2,000 sailors were in the same condition. An expected reinforcement of four thousand troops from New York had not arrived. A lodgement was at length made in the covered way, and an attempt made to dislodge the besiegers proved unsuccessful. The succor long waited for and so much needed at last reached camp from New York, a breach was made in the walls, and, on July 30, the fort was stormed and carried. Four hundred Spaniards were drowned and as many more laid down their arms. Velasco, the Governor, and the Marquis de Gonzales, the second in command, were killed after bravely resisting to the last. New works were now commenced to attack the city. The Governor was summoned to surrender. He returned a civil but firm refusal. Albemarle opened his batteries with such effect that flags of truce soon appeared, and on the 13th of August, 1762, after 44 days' siege, the city was occupied by the British forces.

The Virginius Crew.

An Havana paper at hand gives the following account of the crew of the Virginus, their execution, etc. It says: Tcose of the prisoners who were found disguised in common clothes and concealing their names were also treated with courtesy when it was found out who they were. Clean clothes and toilet articles were given them, and a distinction was made in their fare. The naval court-martial met at six A. M. on the 6th, and never got through its work till seven A. M. on the 7th. It was presided over by the strictest rectitude. Thirty-seven of the crew were sentenced to death, twelve to different greater or less punishments, and three acquitted, having proved their perfect innocence. This shows the rectitude of the proceedings and the good conduct of the Judge-Advocate. The thirty-seven condemned to death were at once sent to the chapel. Captain Fry bore himself becomingly and preserved a constant coolness, with no sort of braggadocia. The law was executed at five P. M. of the same day, the 7th, and at that solemn moment there was heard the voice of some one who called out, "Long live free Cuba!" The cry was drowned in the rattle of the volley. A notable incident occurred, a victory for our holy faith. Twenty Protestants were converted in the condemned chapel to our Catholic Church, filled with the most fervent faith, and therewith received the sacrament of baptism. They confessed, communicated, and with the greatest devotion prayed to God to receive their souls. Of the trials of those on shore it came that, beside those previously named, Guillermo Valls, Insto Consagra, Francisco Borras, Poln, and and Herminio Quesada, being twelve in all, were sent to the condemned chapel at ten P. M. on the 7th. The pen refuses to describe the behavior of this brilliant company of youth in the presence of the crucified. It seemed a very bacchanalian orgie of soulless men, utterly ignorant that they must soon be called to account for all their acts. They paid little heed to the exhortations of the excellent priests who besought them to die well, and if they confessed it was with so little faith that it is doubtful if it did them any good. With the like indecency they marched to their death. A few phrases uttered in low tones proved that in those solemn moments they cherished the hate of us which had been instilled into them, and, with a scarcely audible "Viva Cuba Libre!" the sentence was carried out.

Boss Tweed in Prison.

Wm. M. Tweed of New York was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment in the County Penitentiary and to pay a fine of $12,400.

At one o'clock in the morning, says a New York paper, Mr. Tweed passed through the iron gates of the Tombs, where he was temporarily committed until his removal to the Penitentiary on Blackwell's Island. The doors of the Tombs were thrown open on the arrival of the carriages by the watchman, whom Tweed greeted in his usual genial way, and said, "Well, John, how are you? I never expected to meet you here like this." "John," with evident sincerity and considerable feeling, said, "Yes, Mr. Tweed, I am sorry to have to meet you here like this." This little incident over, the prisoner passed a little way into the corridor, and had a short, confidential conversation with Mr. Shields, who quietly intimated to his prisoner that all was ready, and he passed within the enclosure, with his son, Mr. Dewey and Shields, to the court yard and was placed in No. 6 cell, which is on the lower tier of the prison. A short time time was spent in making the preparations for the night, and his friends, who had accompanied him, bade him "goodby" and left him with manifest evidences of sorrow to spend his first night in prison. To the last moment Mr. Tweed kept up his average flow of spirits, and assumed that bravado and heroic air for which he has been so remarkably distinguished throughout his extraordinary career.

In reply to an inquiry as to what he thought of the sentence, Mr. Tweed said, "Directly he began to put the counts into groups of four, I thought what he was going to do, and I was not mistaken. He imprisoned me on the Keyser counts and fined me on the others." "Did you expect 12 years then?" inquired the reporter. "No; I thought he would have stopped at the 10; but I guess he stumbled on the two odd counts, and so made it 12."

Allusion was made to "Dick Connolly." "Ah," said Mr. Tweed, "Dick is living in clover in Europe on $3,000 a year, and he is the cause of all this trouble and ought to be where I am."

Fata Morgana.

On Sunday morning, while three persons were seated, quietly engaged in conversation at a residence in Berkley, the skies became lowering and gave indications of an approaching storm. Suddenly the conversation was interrupted by one of the party, who exclaimed: "See through yonder window!" Instantly all eyes were turned that way, and a scene met the vision, rarely, if ever before, witnessed in this vicinity. There, at her anchorage off the Naval Hospital, lay the United States steamer Worcester, while far above the clouds and a little to the eastward of a vertical line was plainly mirrored the noble ship. Every portion of her stately hull was plainly delineated, including her yard-arms and tapering masts, her boats, &c. Intently did the group gaze for an hour in admiration at the grand apparition, or perfect counterfeit of the frigate reflected in the clouds far above. This may have been an omen of success for the ship and gallant crew, perhaps shortly to be enveloped in the smoke of battle. Time will tell.—*Norfolk Landmark.*

A Boy's Fight with an Eagle.

The New-Bedford *Mercury* says that a few days ago Nelson H. Stevens, a boy living at East Fair Haven, Mass., saw a large eagle swoop down on a flock of fowl, seize one and fly into the woods. The boy went for his gun, which was loaded with shot for rabbit-shooting, and, on pursuing the eagle, found that the fowl had escaped, and that the eagle was chasing it through the bushes. He then fired, wounded the eagle, and a fierce hand-to-hand tussle ensued, in which the boy thought he had killed it. He seized his prize and, starting for home, threw it over a wall which came in his way, when it again flew back to the wood. The boy followed, and in another fight made sure of killing the bird. He then took it home, and found that it weighed eight and a half pounds and measured six feet nine inches from tip to tip.

The Late John Parker Hale.

John Parker Hale, whose death is announced, was born in Rochester, Strafford County, N. H., March 31, 1806. He received an academical education at Phillips Academy, in Exeter, N. H., and matriculated at Bowdoin College in 1823, graduating in the class of 1827. He was a fellow-student of Longfellow, Hawthorne, S. S. Prentiss, Prof. Stowe, and the late President, Franklin Pierce. In 1828 he took up his residence at Dover, N. H., where he continued to live, with intervals of absence at New York, where he practiced, and at Washington and Madrid, in the performance of public duties, till his death. He studied law, and was admitted to the Bar at Dover in 1830. He was, in 1834, appointed by President Jackson United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire, and was removed by President Tyler in 1840. The Democrats, in 1843, elected him to Congress, where the discussion of the slavery question had already begun. Mr. Hale took sides with the opponents of slavery. The Democrats, however, renominated him in 1845, but the Democratic leaders called a new convention, and nominated another candidate in his district. He ran as an independent candidate, but as a majority of all the votes cast was required to elect, the district was unrepresented in that Congress, no candidate having received the requisite number of votes. He was returned to the Legislature in 1846, and was chosen Speaker, and then United States Senator. He took his seat as the first, and at that time the only Senator elected on the Anti-Slavery platform. His position and pronounced opinions on this question brought upon him attacks from both the great parties—Whig and Democratic—of that day. Here his wit and genial humor served him well.

In 1852 he was nominated by the Free-soil Party for the Presidency, against Gen. Scott and Pierce, the Whig and Democratic candidates, receiving 157,685 votes.

At the expiration of his Senatorial term, in 1853, Mr. Atherton succeeded him. In 1855 he was again chosen United States Senator to fill a vacancy, and in 1858 for the full term of six years. His last public duties were discharged in the capacity of Minister to Spain, to which post he was appointed by Mr. Lincoln.

Coming Home.

In our school days we used to come home for our holidays; in riper years we come home when they are over. Yet it is, after all, a question whether we do not enjoy the return to the domestic roof as much in the later case as we did in the former. A great part of the pleasure of going away undoubtedly lies in the anticipation of getting back again to our old haunts and habits. We take our holidays as a kind of annual sherry and bitters, to give us appetites for our ordinary modes of life; and perhaps there is no morning during our absence so thoroughly welcome to us as that of the day on which we set out for town once more. Everything at home has acquired some fresh charm during our absence. The servants, though they do not belong to a particularly grateful race, are glad to see us back again. The old rooms that we were so heartily tired of before we left, have now a charming freshness about them; and the little sanctum with its books, papers, and pipes, seems a paradise after hotel coffee-rooms and seaside libraries.

A NEW JERSEY BOY'S SURPRISE PARTY.—Mrs. H., who has a fine lawn in Bergen county, says the New York *Sun*, was surprised one pleasant September afternoon to see it filled with girls and boys bent on having a good time. On questioning one of the children, she was informed that the whole school were especially invited by Master Tom, her son, who promised them loads of cake and fruit and fountains of lemonade. Now as Mrs. H. had never given permission for such a bounteous entertainment, though willing to "stand treat," she surprised poor Tom by ordering him immediately to bed, where he had the pleasure of listening to the shouts of his companions and the click of the glasses through closed shutters, and has since decided that as this was the Alpha it shall also be the Omega of his surprise parties.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.—The *Texas New Yorker* says: "An old Scotch physician once said to one of his patients: 'Keep your feet warm, your head cool, and your bowels open, an' there's little 'ilse' can harm ye.' This aphorism is full of wisdom, and expresses exactly what DR. WALKER'S CALIFORNIA VINEGAR BITTERS will do for you. We speak of what we know from nearly two years practical experience in the use of this indispensable family medicine. Its office is to attack a lazy, torpid liver, and impart new life to this vital organ—a proper flow of bile and a prompt discharge of effete matter. A good digestion and appetite are restored to the sufferer. Pure blood, the 'life of the flesh,' is secured, and the patient soon feels himself a *walking electrical battery*. Good health is more precious than fine gold—VINEGAR BITTERS restores it, and is, therefore, above price. The man who discovered it is a philosopher and a benefactor of his race.—*Com.*

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Every farmer who owns a good stock of horses, cattle and sheep, and intends to keep them through the winter, should get at once a good stock of *Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders.* One dollar's worth will save at least a half ton of hay.—*Com.*

CHOLERA AND PAIN-KILLER.—The efficacy of Perry Davis's world renowned Pain-Killer in all diseases of the bowels, even in that terrible scourge, the Asiatic Cholera, has been amply tested by the most convincing authority. Missionaries in China and India have written home in commendation of this remedy in terms that should carry conviction to the most skeptical, while its popularity in communities nearer home is ample proof that the virtues claimed for it are real and tangible. The Pain-Killer has been before the public over thirty years, and has won a deservedly high reputation as an alleviator of pain and preserver of health. It has become a household remedy, from the fact that it gives immediate and permanent relief. It is a purely vegetable preparation made from the best and purest materials, safe to keep and to use in every family. It is recommended by physicians and persons of all classes, and to-day, after a public trial of over thirty years—the average life of man—it stands unrivalled and unexcelled, spreading its usefulness over the wide world. Its large and increasing sale affords positive evidence of its enduring fame.—*Com.*

A CONSUMPTIVE CURED.—Dr. H. James, while experimenting, accidentally made a preparation of Cannabis Indica, which cured his only child of Consumption. This remedy is now for sale at first-class Druggists. Try it; prove it for yourself. Price $2.50. Send stamp for circular. Craddock & Co., proprietors, 1032 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.—*Com.*

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