Early Days of the Marvelous Man at Ments Park-Called a Lanatic-Arrival in Bos-ton-Ills First Night's Work-The Begin-ning of a Very Wonderful Career.

The marvelous discoveries of Prof.
Thomas A. Edison of Menlo Park, N. J., have excited universal interest. His stock indicator, automatic and duplex instruments, telephone, electro-motograph, airograph, electric pen, and, above all, his speaking machine, mark him as the Napoleon of inventors. Indeed, at the professor's age, Bonaparte had barely reached the rank of First Consul. As any particulars of this exuments.

'He's as good an operator as I ever met.'

'At the close of the first night's work, Tom's friend Adams took him home with him. The first question was:

'What kind of a man is this Milliken? Do you think he'll let me experiment in the office when I'm not on duty?' Adams replied that Milliken himself was somewhat of an inventor, and he thought that he would not only let Tom experiment as much as he pleased, but that he would also take a personal interest in

of the Western Union office in Memphis. He was a gawky boy, about eighteen or nineteen, and was reading everything about electricity he could pick up. He had a lean and hungry look, and always seemed to be under the influence of some secret excitement. He had gar into his experiments, and when the grand secret was discovered hadn't money enough to pay for filing a caveat for a patent."—

New York Sun.

Worth, the Man Milliner. ecret excitement. He had got into his head the idea of sending duplex despatches, and all his spare time was devoted to experiments in the office. Coleman stood it for some time, but at last began to growl. He allowed that Tom was crazy, and said that 'any blamed fool ought to know that a wire can't be worked both ways at the same time.' He declared that he wouldn't have Tom puttering around the office with such illiness, and finally discharged him in disgust. The boy went back home to some town in Michigan, and I lost track

"Some time afterward I was transferred to the Boston office. At that time wire No. 1, as it was then called, was considered the crack wire of the country. The fastest men were working it. to take his place. A half dozen fellows tried it, but found it too much for them. One after another they dropped it like a hot potato, and sloped wiser than when they came. There was a man in the office named M. F. Adams. He thought the world of Tom Edison, and recommended him for the place, vouching for him as a first-class operator. G. F. Mil-liken, the manager, telegraphed to the little town in Michigan, asking Tom if he would come on and accept the posi-tion. Tom answered yes, and without further words started for Boston, via the Michigan Central and Grand Trunk Railroads. In running through Canada he got snowed under, and was kept on the track in one spot for twenty-four hours, cold and hungry, without a bed. As usual, he owned but one suit of clothes, and that was on his back. Unfortunately, it was a summer suit. He might have frozen to death had he not bought an old rough roundabout over-But he finally got through all right.

"I was in the Boston office when he arrived, and I must say," continued Mr. Stewart, bringing his fist down upon upper lip-a habit that he had-he inquired for the manager, and was sent to Milliken.

"Are you the boss?" Tom asked. Milliken smiled, and said he was manager. Tom then introduced himself, and asked when they wanted him to go to work. Milliken stared at him as though he couldn't believe his ears, and said 'At half past five,' It was then well along in the afternoon. Tom began to look around the office for a clock, and Milliken said: 'Young man, you have to work a pretty heavy wire.' Tom gave what he called his mustache an extra twist, and with all the assurance in the world blurted out: 'All right, boss. I'll be here at half past five.' He sloped so quick that it made Milliken's head swim.

"The operators burst into a peal of laughter. They had seen and heard everything, and their remarks were anything but complimentary to Tom. 'Oh,' said one of them, 'he won't last as long as that Jerseyman that tackled the wire the other day.' 'Why, that fellow can't read by paper, let alone by sound,' shouted another. A third declared that Tom was 'the worst he ever raw,' and when a fourth wondered whether the walking between Michigan and Boston

was very good 'there was a general roar, "Well," continued Stewart, "half-past five came, and so did Tom. Everybody was on the qui vive. Milliken was just taking from the vault the supply of blanks for the night operators, As Tom came up he pointed to a pile of them, saying, 'Take what blanks you want and I'll show you your table.' Tom innocently picked up the whole bundle and followed Milliken to his table. The operators began to grin and snicker. They all thought that he would get bounced after trying to catch one message. It was the No. 1 wire to New York. Jerry Borst, then considered one of the fastest senders in the country, worked the New York end. As Tom seated himself he heard the call 'B.' and turning to Milliken asked if that was the call for Boston, 'Yes,' replied the manager, watching Tom's movements with intense curiosity. Thereupon Tom opened his key and ticked the answer, 'I, I!' Jerry began to 'whoop 'em up' in his best style, and every eye was turned on Tom. He displayed no anxiety, but kept right sage. It was the No. 1 wire to New displayed no anxiety, but kept right along at his work as though he had been taking Jerry all his life. For four mortal hours did Jerry keep it up a hundred pounds to the square inch, and four mortal hours did Tom take it down in handwriting as neat and plain as reprint. For the first time in his life Jerry had rushed it until he was tired without a break from the receiver. He was astounded. When he had finished, the following messages passed between From Jerry.

Who the dence are you, anyhow? From Tom.

I'm the new man. My name is Tom Edison. From Jerry. Well, you're the man I've been looking for

for the last ten years, and you're the only man I ever found that could take me without a break. Shake. "And they shook. The astonishment of the boys in the office was unbounded. There was no more jibing nor snickering. Everybody was Toms friend at in Georgia.

once. The next day Milliken picked up a sheet of Tom's manuscript, and re-flectively stroked his long beard. 'I never saw such pretty copy,' he said.
'He's as good an operator as I ever

Consul. As any particulars of this ex-traordinary young inventor must prove of more than usual interest, the writer was the duplex despatches that gave details a conversation with Mr. George S. Stewart, better known as "Fattie" Stewart, an old telegraph operator, now employed in the office of the Associated Press:

"I first knew Tom Edison," said Mr.
Stewart, "in 1866. At that time I was an operator in Tennessee. Tom was employated by Col. Coleman, the superintendent earned for material for his experiments, and when the grand secret was disconding the control of t

Worth, the Man Milliner.

Kate Field gossips about Worth, the celebrated man milliner, of Paris, as follows: Worth is a tallish man, with a big clever head and a very prominent forehead, His brown eyes are singularly shrewd in expression, and their seizure of detail is surprising-that is for a man. As a rule, men have no more eye for detail than owls have for the sun. Worth takes you in at a glance, and knows what your style ought to be, which is such a comfort. When I go to a dress-maker, I don't care to " work my passage." I went to order my harmony in one or two colors, and to encounter of the ne brains aqual to the occasion. Worth's taste, when allowed full play, is irreproachable. "I prefer simplicity to anything else," he says, "but there are women who don't believe in the value of For some cause the operator in Boston women who don't believe in the value of resigned. It was difficult to find a man a dress unless it is loaded with trimming. They drive me mad, for they can't take advice. Now, what is becom-ing to one person, is hideous when worn by another. I study to make the best out of a subject given me, as, unfortunately, we can't have people made to order, can we? If I had my own way all women should be slight, graceful and pretty, Then, dressing would be an artistic pleasure. A dress should never overpower the wearer. It should merely be an appropriate frame for a charming picture, bringing out the beauties of the picture but never detracting attention from it. So few women understand this, Why, when I find I can make a costume for less money than had been agreed upon, I actually annoyed clients by telling them so. They think it cannot be as handsome as it ought to be, and the would rather have more material added. however much the design might be marred, than pay less. I assure you this is a fact. Consequently, when I from a Canuck railroad laborer. meet ladies who know that dressing is an art, I take very great satisfaction in them as patrons. It isn't every woman arrived, and I must say, "continued Mr. Stewart, bringing his fist down upon the table, "he was the worst-looking specimen of humanity I ever saw. The and sit down. To walk with style is rare modern telegraph tramp isn't a marker.

He wore a pair of jean breeches six inches too short for him, a pair of very low shoes, the Canuck jacket, and a broad-brimmed butternut hat, a relic of his life in Memphis. The wide rim was would rather be seen every day in a new would rather be seen every day in a new tellet. badly torn, and hung down so you could | toilet, however hideous, than wear one see his ear through the opening. There was the slightest trace of dirt on his upper lip, that he called a mustache. His hair hadn't been combed for a week, out of it, and trying experiments. I and he wore the blackest white shirt have just made a dress for Madame Nillthat was ever seen on the back of a son, in which she appears better than I human being. Nervously pinching his ever saw her before, and I have begged her to wear that dress constantly in Russia, if she wants to produce a most charming effect. As she is sensible, I think she will take my advice, which, you perceive is against my interests, but, gracious me, money is not my only ob-

> not to deform it." You'd appreciate how fine an artist Worth is, by going to his villa at Suresue. It is one of the marvels of Parisian suburbs. I never saw such harmony of ensemble, every bit fitting into every other bit as though it were a mosaic. Worth has been his own architect, gar-dener, designer, upholsterer. There's not a carpet nor a curtain that he did not invent. Stuffs and chairs have been made for him, and for him only. The hangings in his library are works of art in the way of embroidery. The rare old china, which is Worth's particular china, which is Worth's particular frenzy, and with which many of the walls are inlaid, would drive Mr. Gladstone mad with delight. The eye is perpetually gratified, and when you step into the garden, the view of Paris, the Bois de Boulogne, and the country for miles around, is a dream of beauty.

ject. Art is intended to beautify nature,

This villa lies directly beneath Mont Valerin, the finest sight in the neighborhood of Paris. Then there are ruins in the garden, made out of stones, pillars and statuary brought from the Tuilleries, and bought by Worth after the Com-mune had done its worst. Seated on a lovely terrace made out of the imperial wreck, listening to an Æolian harp, gazing at the city of splendor at my feet and breathing air steeped in glorious sunshine. I passed one of the most charming afternoons of my life. Worth, in a quaint, flowing gown and skull cap, that made him look tremendously like Hogarth, entertained the Duchesse de - and ourselves with stories of the Commune, and when we left we were firmly convinced that one of the cleverest men England has produced in this century is Worth, the dressmaker.

Spiders Traveling Around the World. At a recent meeting of the Philadel-





The New Silver Dollar.

In accordance with the provisions the silver bill recently passed Congress, a new silver dollar is in p cess of coinage. The above cuts ar faithful representation of the new co Two designs were submitted to the co mittee having the matter of selection charge, and they chose the above known as the "Morgan dollar" becau it is the work of Mr. George E. Morgan English engraver, who has been in temploy of the United States for about two years. The new Addlerie lighter two years. The new dollar is lighter weight than the trade dollar, by two cent., but there is no apparent diff ence in the two coins in either size weight. The coinage of the new dol will begin at once at the various min but some time must elapse before it of get into general circulation. The s of the new coin is accurately given

A Governor of Lepers.

The San Francisco Chronicle says: Our Honolulu exchanges announce in brief the death of Wm. P. Ragsdale governor of the leper settlement on the island of Molokai, Sandwich islands. The decease of so noted and remarkable a man in the prime of life deserves a more extended obituary. Bill Ragsdale, as he was popularly known, was a Hawaiian by birth, his mother having been a native and his father an American. By profession he was a lawyer, speaking English as fluently as Hawaiian and the most vertex of the in, and the most noted orator of the Hawaiian kingdom, whites and natives included, and among the latter there are many conspicuous orators. The manner in which Ragsdale discovered that he had the leprosy, as told by himself, is most interesting, and especially from a scientific point of view. The deceased resided for a number of years on the Island of Hawaii, and had an office at Hilo, capital of the island. One night he was studying up a law case in which h was deeply interested, when the chimney from his lamp fell on the table. Although the chimney was hot as fire, "Bill," in his excitement, picked it up and set it in its place without experiencing the least inconvenience, such as would naturally result to a really sound person handling a red hot lamp chimney. He reflected for a moment, looked at his hand, but could not discover the least sign that he had been burned. He then took off and put on the chimney repeatedly, and with the same result. This experience convinced him that he was among the afflicted, and he lost no time in communicating Dr. Trousseau, for years a physician at Honolulu but now a resident of the island of Hawaii, made the principal examination. Up to this time no person on the islands ever dreamed that Bill Ragsdale had the leprosy, and some doubted even after the examination if he was so afflicted. Bill, however was personally convinced that he was so afflicted. The police did not arrest him, however, owing to his exalted position, common with those suspected of being lepers; so he voluntarily delivered himself up as a victim of the terrible disease. He was then sent to Molokai and installed governor of the leper settlement, which position he held for a number of years up to the time of his death. Soon after his isolation from the world and his friends the disease made itself more apparent, and there were none so incredulous as to believe that he was not forever afflicted with the leprosy. During his administration of affairs he was as successful as he was popular. There were and are about eight hundred lepers on the settlement, but by his tact and kindheart-edness Ragsdale made the most extra-ordinary and saddest community on the face of the earth as cheerful and as happy as the unfortunates could be. By his advice the government made many reforms, and the lepers recognized Hogs: Live him as a father. The leper settlemer is under the taboo; that is, no huma being is permitted to enter the dreadf locality without a special permit fro the board of health at Honolulu. It very difficult to get this permit, so the

not one foreigner in a thousand visit the leper world of Molokai. Among the presents at a recent fas ionable wedding in Baltimore was horseshoe set in silver, and engraved gold was this text: "Luck to thee ar thine." The bride, while riding n long ago, saw the horseshoe lying in the road and declared it a lucky omen. T groom elect, jumping from his hors secured the memento and had it decor-ted as described.

In Brussels, Belgium, the milk ca are drawn by women.

At a recent meeting of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, the Rev. Dr. McCook contributed an interesting essay on spiders. One species, Sarotes venatorius, is distributed with little variation in form or color, all around the world. From cabinet specimens, he world, From cab

Discovery of a Lost Art.

A method of reproducing the famous, because rare, fire gilded glass of the Egyptians has been recently patented, and from the results attained, it would appear that the inventor, if he has not discovered the ancient process, has de-vised an excellent substitute. Firegilded glass is glass into which gold is so worked that many hundreds of years have failed to effect any change, or to tarnish the gold. The trustees of the British Museum, were so pleased with the results of the modern process, that they accepted from the inventor, M. D'Hussey, specimens of his recovery of a lost art. The process consists in in-troducing gold-leaf or platinum into the body of the class and amaging the body of the glass, and amagamating the precious metal with the glass by means of a blow-pipe, an operation which also serves to produce a perfectly indestruc-tible covering to the metal and the designs traced. The product so much resembles the ancient work that the method is likely to find a tolerably

Th	e Catholics.	
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000, has undergone much change during the lifetime of the late pontiff. The

church has gained most notably in the United States and England.

A New Beverage. Brazil has made a liberal appropria-tion for the introduction to the people of Europe of sterva-mate, an article largely cultivated in Parana and used in South America to produce a popular beverage, but as yet unknown abroad. Mr. O'Conor, of the British legation, says it will be a capital substitute for the far more expensive and too often adulterated tea and coffee, being more fortifying and alimentary and much more wholesome, and an article that can be sold at a price so moderate as to place it within the reach of all classes.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!! Don't fail to procure Mrs. Winslow's Scothing Syrup for all diseases incident to the period of teething in children. It relieves the child from pain, cures wind co ic, regulates the bowels, and, by giving relief and healthto the child, gives rest to

the mother. It is an old and well-tried remedy Renovation not Prestration.

Did any enfeebled human being ever become strong under the operation of powerful cathartics or salivants? It is sometimes necessary to regulate the bowels, but that cannot be done by setive purgation, which exhausts the vital forces and serves no good purpose whatever. The only true way to promote health and vigor, which are essential to regularity of the organic which are essential to regularity of the organic functions, is to invigorate, discipline and purify the system at the same time. The extraordinary efficacy of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters in cases of debility or irregularity of the organs of digestion, assimilation, secretion and discharge, is universally admitted. Appetite, good digestion, a regular habit of body, active circulation of the bood, and purity of all the animal fluids are induced by this superb tonic and corrective. It has no equals, moreover, as a preventive of chilis and fover, and other types of malarial disease. To immigrants and travelers it is particularly serviceable as a medicinal safeguard.

Is it true economy to use cheap, adulterated baking powder, which is highly injurious to health, merely because it is cheap? Common sense and experience say no! Dooley's Yeast Powder, which has been known for twenty years as an absolutely pure, wholesome, and in every respect, reliable article, is within the reach of all those who practice true economy in this respect

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There are probably a hundred or more persons in this and neighboring towns, who daily suffer from the distressing effects of kidney troubles, who do not know that Johnson s Anodyne Liniment is almost a certain cure. In severe cases, great relief may be obtained, if and a vertex cure.

We notice that agricultural newspapers all over the country are now exposing the worth lessness of the large packages of horse and cattle powders. We put the ball in motion and claim the credit of it. Sheridan's Powders are absolutely pure and are the only kind worth having.

The Markets.

NEW YORK.

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When Dr. R. V. Pierce was a candidate for State senator, his political opponents published a pretended analysis of his popular medicine, hoping thereby to prejudice the people against him. His election by an overwhelming majority severely rebuked his itraducers, who sought to impeach his business integrity. No notice would have been taken of these campaign lies were it not that some of his enemies (and every successful business man has his full quota of envious rivals) are republishing these bogus analyses. Numerous and most absurd formulas have been published, purporting to come from high authority; and it is a significant fact that no two have been at all alike—conclusively proving the diskenesty of their authors.

Such is the verdict after taking a dose of Quirk's Irish Tes. Sold in packages at 25 cts.

The Greatest Discovery of the Age is Dr Tobias' celebrated Venetian Liniment! 2) years before the public, and warranted to cure, Diarrhes, Dysentery, Colic, and spasms, taken internally; and Croup, Chronic Rheumatism, Sore Throats, Outs, Bruizes, Old Sores and Pains in the Limbs, Back and Chest, externally It has never failed. No family will ever be without it after once giving it a fair trial. Price 40 cents. Dr. TOBIAS' VENETIAN HORSE LINIMENT, in Pint Bottles, at One Dollar, is warranted superior to any other, or NO PAY, for the cure of Colic, Outs, Bruises, Old Sores, etc. Sold by all Druggists. Depot—10 Park Place, New York.

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FREE HOMES

Great Limestone Belt of Kansas.

The Attractive Region of the West.

By Major H. Inman.

The "Great Central Plains" are a geographical feature of the State of Kansas. Covered with a remarkably nutritious vegetation, for centuries they were an immense pasturage for countless herds of buffalo, antelope and other ruminating animals, whose habitat was the far-stretching green prairies that to-day form one of the most beautiful agricultural portions of the Mississippi Valley. Less than ten years ago this region was behaved, by the mass of the people in the East, to be an unprofitable desert, but it is now the acknowledged garden of the Continent. This truly magnificent country can claim the most luxuriant soil of all the "Great Wes:," and a climate that approaches perfection, at least. Dr. B. E. Fryer, one of the most emineut surgeons in the Army, and who was stationed for years at Fort Harker. four miles from the Town of Eilsworth, de clared this to be the "most perfect climate in the world." The whole country is traversed by a series of constant streams, sweet and wholesome springs and spring-fed pools. Delicious water is also always obtamed in wells, by digging, at easily-accessible depths. It is already conceded that the United States is rapidly becoming the granary of the world, particularly in the production of wheat. Kansas, an Empire in itself, is taking the lead in the culture of this cereal, and in a short time will be arknowledged queen of all the States in the production of this great staple. The State, especially her peculiarly wonderful fertile cenal area, comprised in what is now known a the "limestone belt," under the test of only a few years, has proved to the world the immoree average its soil is capable of. Each year increases the limit of the wheat-belt, as the frontier is pushed toward the mountains, within which are found the greatest possibilities, agriculturally. It is a remarkable fact that nearly all the

lands of the Kansas Pacific Railway are in-

cluded in the limestone region under consider-

ation, and that south of this limit, in that direction, it ceases altogether, and the country presents another geological formation, the soil of which is very sandy, and which, though at present, from fullness of its very primitiveness is capable of producing good crops in reasons of abundant rainfall, lacks the inherent qualities of self-fertilization, and must rapidly deteriorate In this particular the Smoky Hill Valley is immensely superior to the arenacious lands of the region south, which is draiced by the Arkansas and tributary streams. It is well known by every farmer that lime, in some of known by every farmer that lime, in some of its combinations, constitutes the essential in-gredient in all the more valuable grains and grasses. Its presence in the soil is consequent-ly to be considered as a condition of fertility, It also acts as a constitutional ameliorant, of much power, and, when mixed with or under-lying tough or viscid clay, it renders them fri-able and consequently more susceptible to the action of atmospheric forces. Soil in which there is a due admixture of calcareous matter, is not as liable to be injured or rendered plasable and consequently more susceptible to the action of atmospheric forces. Soil in which there is a due admixture of calcareous matter, is not so liable to be injured or rendered plastic by an excess of moisture while under crop. The quality of the wheat raised in this great "limestone belt" is conceded, in all markets, to be the finest grade known. It produces the familiar brands of so-called Southern flour, for which St. Louis is justly celebrated. This is easily accounted for, from the fact that the soil in which the wheat is grown possesses a due admixture of calcareous matter, which has a tendency to make the hull of the grain much thinner, and the farina itself in much great-r quantity, and in richer quality, than in grain grown on the lands which exhibit a deficiency of this earth. All our millers will testify to the peculiar flour-making properties of our wheat, in this essential, surpassing that raised in other sections, and it is attributed entirely to the fact—which the analysis of the soil confirms—that this so-called "limestone belt" possesses all the requisites of the best wheat land in the world. Sand, it is well known, is injurious when it enters too largely into the composition of cultivated soils; in other words, it is useless beyond a certain proportion. That the "limestone belt," or "wonderful wheat region of Central Kansas," as it is sometimes called, has the amount of silex or silica—the basis of sand—fixed in the proper proportion, is evident, from the fact that it requires peculiar conditions to "lodge" the grain in the field, even after the most terrific showers. Considering the question of the relative fertility, particularly in its connection with wheat culture, present richness of soil and endurance must enter as essential elements of success, and the capacity of the self-fertilization of the land, an ingredient not to be overlooked. The latter quality a limestone region alone can possess, se only a limited knowledge of agricultural chemistry clearly demonstrates. Viewing the subjec

coupled with a fair idea of what the culture of wheat requires, the conclusion can lead only in one direction—to the infinitely superior advantage of the "limestone belt."

Prospectively, from purely physical causes, this great inland region must reach the position of one of the richest agricultural portions of the United States. Only a very few years ago—not a decade—husbandry here was purely tentative. From absolutely no dew, eight years ago, this region is as favored in that particular as any that can be named. From ying ontside of the "rain belt," so termed, this region has had to be "taken in." The quantity of water in the streams has angmented springs have burst forth where none existed before—in short, just the couverse of that meteorological phenomenon has been evolved here, under the march of civilization, which takes in a heavily-timbered country under the same social conditions. der the same social conditions.

The following statistics of the rainfall clear-

ly prove the accuracy of the foregoing state ment:
The Fall of Rain and Melted Snow, in inches,
at Forts Hays, Larned and Dodge, for the
last five years, as shown by the Daily Me'eorological Records kept by the United States
Government at the Posts named:

	CENTRAL KANSAS.	KANSAS.	
YEAR.	Fort Hays.	Fort Larned.	Fort Dodge.
1873 1874 1875 1876	21.52 87.06 32.08 36.90 35.40	19.28 27.78 17.80 18.49 31.80	19 00 23,05 16,36 21 55 31,48
Total,	162.96	115.14	111.44
Average per appum.	32 59	23.03	22.29

the agricultural possibilities of this region, and these, coupled with the story of the past barvest, are sufficiently confirmatory of the inducements this portion of the Great Plains

offers.

Under the liberal policy of the government, and the Kansas Pacific Railway Company, immigrants are invited to this really superb region, with the assurance that its beauty and inducements cannot be exaggerated by any pensistens. For further information about Kansas, and specially the region described, address

LAND COMMISSIONER KANSAS PACIFIC RAILWAY,

SALINA, KANSAS. Snown's BRONCHIAL TROCKES, for coughs and colds. 100,000 Pounds Importers' TEAS at 28 & 35c...in quantities to suit-greatest bargains. Importers' & Brokers' Ass'o, 148 Chambers St. N. Y.

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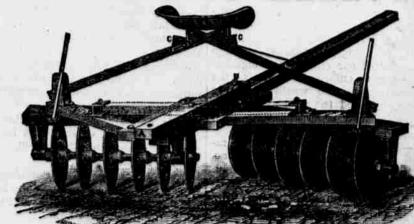
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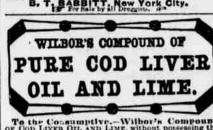
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