Rural Economy.

GIVE THE BOYS A WORKSHOP.

Every farmer who has boys, should provide them a workshop. It should be neatly vain. Such a variety of materials did it ties, dyes of hues most brilliant, with cabi- coffee. made, and pleasantly situated, for it should be attractive to those for whom it is intended. It should be tight and comfortable, furnished with a small stove, so as to make | implements. it warm in winter. It should be provided with a workbench and vice, a shaving-horse but not essential, however. The other tools should be two or three planes, augurs of different sizes, a few chisels, a bit-stock with bits, drawing knife, saw, and hammer. For those who cannot afford the whole, a small part of these would answer, and to those who can, other tools may be addedthe cost of the tools would be but a trifle compared with the advantages one would derive from the use of them. The greatest is the assistance it will render the cause of practical education: It has been said that "the best inheritance any man can leave his children, is not wealth to support them, but the ability to help and take care of themselves"

A young man, whose natural ingenuity is so developed by practice that he can at any moment mend a rake, fit a helve in an ax, set a clock in running order, mend a broken harness, give edge to a pair of shears, mend tin-ware, repair an umbrella, white-wash a ceiling, paper a room, make a bee-hive, bottom a chair, or mend a broken rocker, and do a hundred other little jobs, will pass through the world more comfortably to himself, and profitably to those around him, than the one who is obliged to send for a mechanic to do such little jobs which he is too helpless to perform himself. Another important advantage afforded by such a workshop is its moral influence, furnishing pleasant employment to boys during stormy weather, or other leisure hours, and lessening the temptation to frequent taverns, and to attend places of diversion-which often leads to the most pernicious habits.

for the use of tools, from the moment his hand grasps a jack-knife and he begins to whittle. Provide cheering work for your sul, and Messrs. Elcock and Hoes served boys, something that will be relaxation from the drudgery of the plow tail, and the compost heap, something that will satis fy their longings for progress, and open to them new realms of thought. If they are not skilled with the mallet and the chisel, the saw and the plane at home, they will quite likely become adepts at the pipe and the bottle abroad.—Cor. Rural N. Yorker.

AGRICRLTURAL STATISTICS.

"It is a matter of great regret," says the Country Gentleman, "that the agricultural returns called for in taking the State and National census can be received with so probably the widest in the world, for either little confidence by the public. Collected hurriedly by enumerators who, for the most part, only care to get through the job as easily as possible, from farmers who don't generally keep very accurate records and often make random replies to the questions wonderful character. We are going to put—they are also marred, in too many throw together a few of the traits of this cases, by blunders of carelessness or igno- river, which justify what we have just said rance which go unnoticed until too late to of its surpassing interest. It is the largest rectify them, even if then observed by river in the world. More properly, it is the some more thoughtful or critical official. largest system of rivers, for no great river may be presumed that the average of error | four thousand miles in reaching the ocean. will not be very different in different States | In this one respect, it is not certain that or at different times: so that we may get | the head-waters of the Missouri are behind some idea at least of the leading changes in it; but in volume of water there is an imour agriculture from one decennial period to another, or as to the radical differences in its returns in different localities.

"These remarks are prompted by an additional instance, just afforded us, of the the junction of the Huallaya, takes the fact that the census returns, taken piecemeal, are so little able to bear intelligent mile wide, and rolls a deep, strong current, scrutiny. Mr. Secretary Harold, of the capable of being navigated by large steam-Queens County Agricultural Society, has been looking into the figures officially submitted for that county in the State census for 1865. It gives the gross value of market garden products for the town of Oyster over one million. It has twenty large Bay, at \$5998, when it is believed that rivers as its tributaries. The largest of the single article of onions alone, raised at these, the Rio Negro, is more than two Matinecock, sold for twice that amount, and probably asparagus for an equal sum. Mr. Harold adds that, according to 'returns procured by the State Aricultural Society in 1862, the produce of market gardens in one town (Newtown) was valued at \$368,-915, while this year, from the whole six towns, the value is only returned at \$491,-806. But the most singular fact is, a return by one enumerator of about 4000 pounds of butter from one district, yet not a single cow to make it from. This is not striking ile, but is a very curious way of striking butter."

POULTRY.

The greatest number of eggs laid in one day by my thirty two hens, during the quiari is about eight miles an hour, and it month of February, was twenty-seven; the average cost of the food of the hens was class. The secondary affluents of the Amaseven cents. A hen with the best care, zon, the branches of its branches, would be will not commence laying until she has enwhile pullets begin when they are seven or in the spring you can get chickens, the earlier next fall you will have eggs. My brother's chickens, hatched in February, brother's chickens, hatched in February, made their nests in October, and his March pullets furnished him two or three dozen

A CHEST OF OLD IRON.

he called the "old iron chest." It was as a depository of the old "odds and ends" of iron not in immediate use. There you would find old bolts, nuts, washers, screws, rivets, horse shoes, clevises, plow points, as well as the common fruits and woods of venient, call and take the needed supply. The soft band and hoop iron, strips of tin, tropical climates. Herndon, of the U.S. The coffee is put into a pot or digestor in

old files, staples, etc., etc.

als. Very seldom was it appealed to in resins of the most varied and useful proper- in the habit of partaking, and calling it contain, that a search would generally reveal within its depths the desired article needed in the repair of the various farm

The economy of having an "old iron chest," so strongly commends itself, that and starch, bananas and rice. Pine-apples for using the drawing-knife, and perhaps a no farmer should let another month pass small foot-lathe, which is very convenient, without providing a depository for such worn, broken and surplus articles as are not wanted for immediate use. - Cor. Rural New. Yorker.

GROWTH OF TIMBER.

It is a singular fact, that what were vast treeless prairies in Illinois, twelve years ago, are now covered with a dense growth of thrifty young forest trees, comprising various species of oak, hickory, cotton-wood, ash, etc. So rapid has been the change in many localities, that where some of the earlier settlers located, twenty-five years ago, without a tree around them, they can now cut and hew good building timber a foot square. Prairie land, when kept from the annual fall burning formerly practiced by the Indians, rapidly produces a growth of trees. Some of the old citizens, who greedily located the timber land when they came to this country, and were careless about acquiring prairie, now find the latter of more value than the former, their timber having grown faster than they used it.

VALUABLE GRANT TO AMERICANS.

Three American gentlemen, Messrs. Moses, Elcock, and Hoes, have recently had conferred on them, in the island of Borneo, East Indies, by the Sultan, a grant of a large tract of most valuable land, vielding largely various samples of commerce, together with pearl fisheries and extraordinary water facilities, rendering them wealthy almost beyond the power of Almost every Yankee boy has a longing the part of certain Englismen who were scheming to secure these favors for themselves. Mr. Moses is the American Conas officers in our army during the late re-

Scientific.

AGASSIZ AND THE AMAZON.

A great degree of interest is felt among

us generally in the results of the scientific expedition to the Amazon, with Agassiz as its leader and chiet investigator. Some reports of his wonderful success in finding new species of fishes have already been made public. The field of exploration is the man of science or the man of business. We have all been taught from childhood that the Amazon is the greatest river in the world, but, it is probable, we have not so generally become familiar with its really mense difference. The Amazon is made up of a considerable number of streams, rising on the eastern slope of the Andes, and uniting so soon that when the river, at name of Maranon, it is already a third of a boats. It drains a region of country variously estimated at from two millions to twenty-five hundred thousand square miles. The Mississippi is supposed to drain a little over one million. It has twenty large miles mide for some distance above its mouth. The amount of internal navigation on its main and tributary streams, is thought to be fifty thousand miles, twice the circum-ference of the globe. It is united by a natural canal with the Orinoco, the second river in size of South America, an instance not paralled, or very partially so, elsewhere in the world. This natural canal, the Casiquiari, is formed by a natural bifurcation of the Orinoco, one portion running to the north of the Duida Mountain, and forming the main stream of the Orinoco: the other, a stream about about equal to the Rhine, turning to the south, after a rapid course of one hundred and eighty miles, entering the Rio Negro, the great northern affluent of the Amazon. The current of the Casiis navigable for steamboats of the largest

called first-class rivers in Europe. tirely recovered from the effects of moulting, which is not often until February; and of course the climate tropical. But eight months old; consequently the earlier this trait of its position is modified by the higher latitudes of the temperate zones. It begins in regions abounding in the trees eggs weekly in the middle of the next which charaterize a semi-arctic flora; and winter. Never keep a hen after she be in its gradual descent, passes through regins to moult, unless she has some pecu- gions representing the animal and vegetable liarly good qualities.—Cor. Rural New productions of all but the frigid zones. So that a population inhabiting and cultivating the soil bordering on this great stream. could, by means of river navigation, without leaving their own country, give and re-When I was a boy, my father kept what ceive in trade the productions of all the it is ready for roasting. The coffee required climates of the earth. Among its more is roasted daily at large establishments; simply a heavy, hardwood box with iron- characteristic natural productions, this while warm it is ground, and put up in corners, and a till in one end. This served great valley yields in large amounts the glazed papers of a conical shape, holding as a depository of the old "odds and ends" cinchona, a Peruvian bark; the sarsaparilla from two ounces to half a pound, and sealed plant; the caoutchouc, or India rubber; up. Gentlemen, as they leave their places cacao, or chocolate tree; the coffee plant, of business for home and dinner, when con-

joined to deposit any old iron they found | zinc and tin; from the sands of its tribunot beiled, but steeped; from this digestor "lying loose around" in the chest. When taries you may wash gold, diamonds, and anything was to be repaired or built, the precious stones; from its forests you may have your cup of coffee. It is coffee, and a old iron chest" was almost sure to be gather drugs of virtues the most rare, spices beverage, delicious, health giving; not the called upon to furnish some of the materi- of aroma the most exquisite, gums and bitter, acrid, filthy, nauseous drug we are net and building woods of the finest polish and most enduring texture." Besides the things already named, we may add cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, indigo, maize, four crops in the year, cassava, good for bread grow wild in great abundance. In a word, as to mineral and vegetable products, the valley of the Amazon may be considered a world in itself.

But this bare enumeration gives little

idea of the profuseness and splendor of vegetation in this wonderful region. Under the stimulus of a fervid heat and abundant moisture, acting on a soil of unsurpassed fertility, every form of vegetable life is urged into the intensest growth. Vast forests of majestic trees are filled with a dense undergrowth of shrubs and twining plants, the latter especially like huge serpents stretching from tree to tree and interlaced with each other, often armed with thorny prickles, producing a body of vegetation so dense that no animal of any considerable size can traverse it. On the banks of the rivers, the boat navigators will often see openings in the dense forest growth, where animals of various sizes and habits, by a kind of compelled co-operation, keep a path tredden by which they can come down to the shore of the stream to drink. When startled by the passing canoe, they do not attempt to regain the forest by breaking through, but stalk leisurely along between the river and the hedge, or edge of the forest, until they have reached the nearest opening, when they disappear through it. To this wonderful growth in the valley of the Amazon Humboldt says the term primeval forest may best be applied; a forest so truly impenetrable that it is impossible to clear with an axe any passage between trees of eight or twelve feet in diameter for more than a few paces; the chief obstacles being not the enormous climbers, but an undergrowth of plants filling up every interval The animal life is, of course, abundant and varied; but owing to the impenetrable character of the forest growth, has been but little studied, by far the larger part of the whole region being still a wilderness, and the few settlements, mostly on the banks of the rivers, communicating with each other by boats. Some of our readers may have seen the exquisite collection of pictures by one of our New England artists, lately on exhibition at the store of Messrs. Williams & Everett, representing some of the beautiful birds, chiefly humming-birds, of Brazil, as well as choice specimens of insect and floral beauty. There are but few danger-ous animals, the jaguar being the largest beast of prey. Monkeys in great profusion, and of most astounding vocal powers, in-habit the forest, and at times make night hideous with their cries, as they fly in terror from the attack of the jaguar and other beasts of prey that hunt them even in their leafy retreat among the tree-tops. Humboldt describes such a nocturnal commotion. and in contrast with it the stillness of a noonday of intense heat. "At such times, the larger animals seek shelter in the recesses of the forest, and the birds hide themselves under the thick foliage of the trees, or in the clefts of the rocks; but if, in this apparent entire stillness of nature, one listens Their only value, as we have remarked heretofore, is for purposes of comparison—taking our chief crops for large areas, it ing of insects close to the ground, and in the lower strata of the atmosphere. Everything announces a world of organic activity and life. In every bush, in the cracked bark of trees, in the earth undermined by hymenopterous insects, life stirs audibly. It

is, as it were, one of the many voices of nature, heard only by the sensitive and reverent ear of her true votaries." It seems evident that this region exercised kind of fascination over the mind of the great traveller and scientist, and it can hardly be less attractive to our honored naturalist, who has his own specialty so richly stored with new species and genera in the great river itself. We can hardly help a feeling of apprehension that in the richness and extent of the field opened to his examination, the professor will find it impossible to tear himself away, even to bring to his pet museum the products of his search. Of this vast region, as already said, little has ever been explored. There is nowhere else in the world so great a field for economical enterprise, whenever the obstacles shall be overcome, and a free navigation of these streams grow up to meet the wants and develop the industries of a free and civilized population on their banks. To this end, the expedition of Agassiz, so liberally fitted out by the bounty of our generous fellow-citizens, will contribute its share, by directing attention to the wonder ful features of the great river, and bringing its attractions to the knowledge both of the savant and the merchant.—Register.

COFFEE IN PARIS.

One doesn't find good coffee on every table, especially at this time, when the pure berry has so many counterfeits. But those who love a cup of the genuine article, wellmade, may receive some hints from the French method of preparing it, as set forth

in the following paragraph:-In Paris the coffee is nectar, compared with the beverage we in common call coffee. I was desirous to know how it was prepared, and soon learned. The French use three kinds of coffee, Mocha, Java, and Rio, mixed in equal parts The coffee, before roasting, is winnowed, to cleanse it of dust, etc.; it is then culled or picked over; every black or defective kernal is picked out, as well as small stones, seeds, and rat droppings, which are abundant in most coffee. It is then put into tubs of clean water and well washed, then spread to dry; when dry tropical climates. Herndon, of the U.S. The coffee is put into a pot or digestor in Navy, says: "From its mountains you may cold water, and then set over a lamp expose, etc. Navy, says: "From its mountains you may dig silver, iron, coal, copper, quick-silver, pressly for the purpose, and there heated, New York."

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Navy, says: "From its mountains you may cold water, and then set over a lamp expose, and there heated, New York."

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for the Ladies.



To the Ladies.

LOOK o'er the fashions which old pictures show, As they prevailed some fifty years ugo; At least that phase of fashion which conveys Hints of those instruments of torture-STAYS! And then compare the old, complex machine, With that which in these modern days is seen; No more of steel and whalebone is the chest, Or side, o. liver, terribly compressed; No more are curving ribs, or waving spine, Twisted and tortured out of Beauty's line For skill and colonce both unite to show How much o' realth to dress do women owe.

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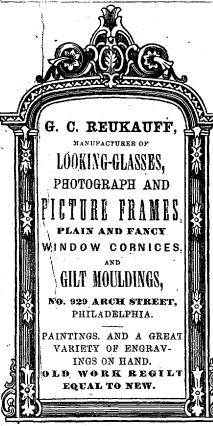
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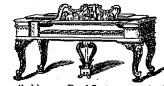


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