Rural Economy.

JACOB STRAWN AGAIN.

MR. EDITOR :--- In your paper of the 12th inst. you have an article headed "Jacob Strawn-the Great Illinois Farmer," in which are many misstatements, and a slander on the energetic, enterprising, benevolent citizens of the town of Jacksonville. The individual who wrote that article was either ignorant of the facts, or wrote a deliberate falsehood, and the only charitable construction that can be given is, that the writer confounds the honorable Senator Funk of Illinois (who was probably as wealthy a farmer, and a better man,) with Jacob Strawn.

The writer states that "he built pretty much the whole village of Jacksonville." Now, sir, that is not true; the only house he ever built in the town was a two-story building known as Strawn's Hall, in which are three storehouses on the first floor, and the hall occupying the second story; the foundation of this building was not laid until the fall of 1857. The building is a good one, cost a large sum of money, but it is very inferior to any building in Phila delphia at such a price.

The town of Jacksonville is a place of eight or ten thousand inhabitants. The Illinois State Institution for the Insane is located here; also the Deaf and Dumb, and the Institution for the Blind-all State Institutions. The Illinois College, the Presbyterian Female Academy, and the Illinois Conference Methodist Female College are all located here. And yet the writer states that Jacob Strawn built nearly the whole of the village. Instead of being any advantage to the town, he was rather a disadvantage, especially in its earlier days. He did not encourage the business men, for in earlier days he would go about town and borrow money from the business men, or wherever he could get it, and go to St. Louis, buy goods and groceries, and then sell them to his employes-thus depriving the business men of the town of so much trade. He no doubt was a very singular man, for he would borrow money from persons here for a few days, and then, at the appointed time, return the identical money which he borrowed.

The writer also states that "he represented his district in the legislature." Now, sir, that is not true. He never represented this district, or any other, in the Legislature of Illinois. And therefore his "noted available good sense" did not render any assistance to that honorable branch of our State Government; and it is doubtful if he could have done so if he had been there, unless they wanted to drive a trade in cattle.

Time will not permit the notice of any more of the misstatements in that article. It is sufficient to say, that he was not the him is, that he was energetic, industrious, persevering; was a good judge of cattle and made money. He was not a Christian man, never was a member of a church, and he did, it was at the eleventh or twelfth hour.

There are many better men, whose have passed away, whose praises are un- be any; and the plant is safe. printed, unheralded and unsung. Respect for the family and friends of the deceased requires that the mantle of Christian charity be let fall over much that might be said of him. A CITIZEN. JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS, April 16, 1866.

Don't neglect to white wash the walls and ceiling overhead. Then give the cellar a free airing when the weather is warm and dry. Provide, also, for a free circulation of air throughout the entire season. We believe that farmers' cellars can often justly be charged with producing much sickness, and the proper cleansing of them is a matter that cannot be safely neglected during the coming season. Clean up the yards also, and be watchful that there is no decaying vegetable matter in proximity to the dweling

PLANT STRAWBERRIES.

All should have as many strawberries as they want to eat, and spring is the time to set out the vines. They will grow in almost any situation, aud under almost any circumstances. It is nearly as cheap to have a bed of strawberries as a bed of sorrel. They will grow upon the same kind of land, and with as little care, but, perhaps, there is no fruit that pays better for having good cultivation.

If you are determined to have strawberries, and not take any care of them, plough the ground and set the vines about a foot apart, and let them cover the ground as soon as possible, merely pulling up the weeds as soon as they get high enough, and you will have strawberries in due season, and all that you deserve.

But we hope you will do better than this, and dig up the ground as deep as you can afford to, and set the vines about two feet apart, and keep them hoed, and cut off the runners as fast as they come, and see what nice, large hills they will be by next fall (as large as a peck measure); and such fruit as you will get off such vines! Try as large a bed as you can of the best varieties that you can find, and you will not be sorry .- Farmer's Almanac.

EXPERIMENT IN GRASS CULTURE.

An English farmer writes to the Mark Lane Express an account of an accidental experiment in grass culture which occurred on his farm a few years ago. He says that his plowman mistook orders and plowed half an acre in one of his grass fields before the mistake was discovered. This was in the fall, and the land lay with the roots of the grass turned up to the weather during the winter. In the spring the sods were turned down carefully and the land rolled. The result was, that the grass grew richer and higher in the plowed part than in any other portion of the field, so much so that the difference could be noticed from a considerable distance. The improvement in the grass of the plowed part has been permanent.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Set out the annuals you may have got forward in windows or frames, that is the ing discrepancies between the Bible and said, 'heaven must be a very forgetful place hardy ones. The plan used to be to set out man to hold up as an example worthy of in a shower; but the plan is barbarous. emulation to the young men of our coun- No wonder, with such old fogyish rules, our try. The best that can truly be said of handsome young ladies are disgusted with gardening. Let the girls lift the seedlings carefully from the soil in the pots, set the roots in a saucer of water, take them to their assigned places in the garden, and gave no evidence of a religious life; or, if from the water dibble them at once in. Cover for twenty-four hours with an inverted flower-pot-next day cover only six hours during the middle of the day,-next Christian life of industry and good deeds but an hour or so during hot sun, if there

lime, or other disinfectant, in various places. found in ruins known to belong to the Roman period, and that bronze and iron weapons often occur in juxtaposition in Roman remains "The bronze swords, the bronze shields, the bronze spears, the bronze dag-

gers which have been found in Britain, are all Roman in character and in their primary origin. . . . In this part of the world, the use of bronze did not precede that of command, on the second day of the battle iron."*

the three periods of Stone, Bronze, and described :---Iron is thus seen to be arbitrary; and the "When a surgical examination had retheory of the advance of the race from rude | moved the last ground of hope for his rebeginnings by successive stages marked by covery, and a chill came over him which he improvements in the arts of life-a pro- took for the last, he said, 'Now death can't gress requiring immense epochs for its de- be far of;' but presently he added, ' heaven velopment-is simply conjectural It is is a better country than this.' Then, turnnot a necessary sequence from the facts of ing to his brother, he inquired, 'Asa, do science. It is quite as credible that the you think heaven comes, that is, immedi-human race began its existence with a high ately after death? Well, I shall be there degree of intellectual endowment, and that, and know all about it pretty soon.' Then in later times, the civilized and the barba- followed messages of love to absent friends, rian, the iron and the stone, were cotempo- tender words to those by his side, particu-

rary phases of humanity. The Biblical account of the origin of the and thoughtful instructions about his affairs, world and of man has certain internal all as calm and tranquil as if he were in marks of Divine authenticity. The sacred pefect haslth. The last night of his life, books of other ancient peoples are eminently as his brother was sitting by his side by autoethonous in their spirit and fabulous in | midnight, he seemed to be awake and thinktheir antiquity. They magnify the ances- ing. Presently he said, 'I have been runtry and the duration of the races to which ning everything over in my mind to see it they severally pertain. But the sacred I had left anything undone towards them; books of the Hebrews do not attempt to meaning his wife and children. 'I can't magnify them as a people in their origin or think of anything I have left.' When their antiquity. Adam is not the progeni- assured that he had remembered everytor of the Jews, but of mankind. His thing and had nothing to do but just to lay home is not in Palestine, but in Mesopota- | himself in Jesus' arms, and rest, he smiled, mia. He is not a being of the fabulous as if well pleased; and when asked, 'You past, but one whose personality is reached | can love and trust him ?' he said, 'yes, I by a well-connected tradition.

Genesis, there are no absurdities or puerili- | ' Rock of ages, cleft for me;' and he repeated ties, such as discredit all other ancient them after them. His brother happening cosmogonies in the light of modern science. The sublime simplicity of the narrative is a note of its inspiration, and its grand out- must not forget him.' Instantly carrying lines accord with the latest results of science. | the significance of the words forward to We cannot doubt, therefore, that any seem- | that world whither he was so soon going, he science in respect to the antiquity of man if I do.' Sabbath morning, the day of his may be harmonized, whenever the facts death, he greeted his sister with the salushall be finally established. But in the tation, 'To-day I shall get my marching present unsettled state of the question, we are not shut np to the alternative of har monizing science and the Scriptures, or tifully?' he answered; 'just like a sleeping its own evidence, abiding the issue of fact. to harmonize them, it might yet be that both the Bible and Nature were from God,

and both are true. In one point certainly they are agreed.

Moreover, the very implements which | "Still a mere freshmen in apparent age are said to characterize distinct epochs are and size, and mistaken for such when he intermingled in many of these "pre-historic first came upon the college-grounds, some finds." An eminent authority in the arch- of the fathers of the freshman-class were æology of Great Britain-Mr. Wright- disposed to patronize the young man, and says : "The mere presence of a stone im- more fatherly sophomores undertook to give plement does not prove that the deposit him good advice touching his duty to his was British any more than Roman. Stone superiors. He enjoyed the mistake too well implements have often been found on Ro- to correct it; and his amusement was only man sites in this island; they have often | equalled by their surprise when they disbeen found in Saxon graves in Kent; and covered their error by finding him in the I have myself found flint flakes, evidently tutor's chair, and themselves sitting under placed there by the hand of man, in Saxon his instruction. About the same time a graves in the Isle of Wight, perfectly re-sembling those of which the geologists have talked so much of late." Similar flint flakes have been found in Roman graves in made up his mind to take a shorter course Normandy. We have the same authority, into the ministry. The clergyman pro-sustained by that of De Caumont and other ceeded to argue the point, insisting on the distinguished archæologists, for saying that superior value of a college education, when the bronze implements are very frequently the tutor enlightened him by saving, 'Perhaps you do not understand my reasons for not entering college; it is because I have already been through, and knew all about it by experience.'" When the call came for three hundred

vate soldier, but was soon promoted to the rank of captain, and fell at the head of his of the Wilderness, and died after sixteen The division of pre-historic times into days of suffering. His last hours are thus

y a well-connected tradition. In the account of the Creation given in him, such as 'Jesus, lover of my soul,' and to pass between him and the light, he asked, Who is that?" 'Your brother Asa; you

rejecting the Bible. Let each stand upon angel.' Then he smiled, and added, 'But I don't look much like one, do I?' Thus And though we should never be able fully cheerfully did he obey his last orders; thus naturally did he die, just as he lived, just like himself; thus beautifully did he pass from the Sabbath on earth to the Sabbath in heaven. And now he has fought his last Science teaches that man had a beginning. | fight, and conquered the last enemy.", There was an epoch when he appeared for It was on the 22d of May, in the hospital passed eulogies upon it. For sale a at Fredericksburg, that he passed away. His was one more brilliant name added to the long sad, glorious list of patriot martyrs. SUFFERERS FROM DYSPEPSIA READ! REFI FCT!! ACT!!! TARRANT & CO. Gentlemen, I am a resident et Curacoa, and have often been disposed to write you concorning the real value of your SELTZER APERIENT as a remedy for Indigestion and Dyspepsia, I desire to express to you my sincere gratitude for the great benefit the SELTZER has done my wife. For four or five years my wife has been sadly affio-ted with Dyspepsia, and after being under the treat-ment of several Doctors for two or three years, she was finally induced to seek the advice of a learned Physician, Boctor Cabialis, of Venexuela, who imme-diately treated her with your EFFERVESCENT SELTZER APERIENT the began to improve at once and is now PERFECTLY WELL. I teel it to be my duty for the good of humanity to make this statement, feeling that a medicinese vanue-ble should be widely known. Trusting you will give this publicity, and repeating my earnest gratitude and thanks. I am very respectfully yours. S. D. C. HENRIQUER, Merchant, Oursoer, S. A. NEW YORK, June 28th, 1865. WEASK The suffering millions in our land to give this reme-dy a trial; convinced that by its timely use many may be relieved, many cured of Dyspepsia, Hearburn, Sour Stomach, Sick Headache, Diszinces, Indigestion, Piles, Costivences, Bilious Attacks, Liver Complaints. Rhead the Pamphlet of Testimonials with each bet-ule, and do not use the medicine against the advice of your Physician.



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THOMPSON BLACK & SON,

THE GARDEN.

The garden is a bound volume of agricultural life, written in poetry. In it the far-mer and his family set the great industries of the plow, spade and hoe in rhyme. Every flower or fruit-bearing tree is a green syllable after the graceful type and curse of Eden. Every bed of flowers is an acrostic of her own alphabet. Every bed of beets, celery, or savory roots or bulbs, is a page of blank verse, full of belles lettres agriculture. The farmer may be known by his garden. cate certain facts about the weather, but | tory of man. the garden, lying on the sunnyside of the But, on the other hand, it must be rehis tastes, the bent and bias of his percepup the mirror of his inner life to all who pass; and with an observant eye they may see all the features of his intellectual being in it. In that choice rood of earth he records his progress in mental cultivation and professional experience. In it he marks, by some intelligent sign, his scientific and it you may see the germs of his reading, and you can almost tell the number and nature of his books. In it he will reproduce the seed-thought he has culled from will post an answer to the question whether he has any reading at all. Many a nominal farmer's house has been passed by the book agent without a call, because he saw a blunt, gruff negative to the question in the garden or yard.-Elihu Burritt.

CLEAN THE CELLARS.

We advise farmers and others to be particular and thorough in cleaning their cellars, sinks, &c., and in removing all filth and rubbish from the vicinity of their dwellings. We advise it as a cholera preventhe approach of various forms of sickness to which we are particularly liable in the summer season. Do not wait until hot weather comes, and the foul smell of de work a necessity, but purify your premises

vegetables keep better if removed to an upper room where the air is dryer. After retake it away, and then scatter some quick. I advances, to the age of iron.

Scientific.

HOW OLD IS MAN?

The question of man's age upon the globe becomes really serious in presence of the caves and of the drift period. The evidence of the "finds" in the drift, especially, points to the existence of man on the earth at a period far back of the assumed Biblical date of his creation. We cannot well doubt that the weapons and implements of stone found so abundantly in the drift were of human workmanship; nor is it easy to nature, written in the illustrated capitals | to account for their deposit in such a formation without allowing a vast margin of time for the pre-historic races. Such evidence cannot be set aside by an appeal to Genesis; it must stand upon its own It contains the synopsis of his character in | merits, and every well-attested fact must letters that may be read across the road. | be received without reference to the ques-The barometer hung by his door will indi- | tion of harmonizing it with the Mosaic his-

house, marks with great precision, the de- membered that the data are as yet too meagree of mind and heart culture which he | gre for a scientific determination of the has reached. It will embody and reflect antiquity of man; and, as was forcibly said by Mr. Wright at the Birmingham meeting tions of grace and beauty. In it he holds of the British Association, "there is a spirit of too hasty generalizing in relation to these pre historic times, as shown in the theory that they were divided into three periods or ages, distinguished by the names of Stone age, Bronze age, and Iron age." According to this theory, man existed at successful ceremonies in the cornfield. In only implements were of unpolished stone. bronze enabled him to fashion his implements of that material. Still later, he acquired the more difficult art of working the printed pages of his library. In it he iron, when stone and bronze disappeared from common use.

> But this is arbitrary, and is not borne out by facts. The use of rude implements marks a state of barbarism, but not necessarily a high antiquity, nor the primordial type of existence. Upon the American continent, the stone hatchet and flint

arrow-head of the Indian are contemporaneous with the locomotive, the sewing-mathe Anglo-American. The household utensils and personal ornaments of the Eng. lish peasantry and the Irish tenantry are in striking contrast with the skilled labor of tive, and, likewise, as a procaution against Leeds and Birmingham. The rude occu. was treated, but had forgotten how: "Well, pants of the Swiss lake-huts and of the Danish sea-board may have been cotempo raries of the civilized nations of the East. History, tradition, language, monuments, caved vegetables in the cellar renders the and physical geography all point to Middle Asia as the cradle of the human race; and it is as rational to believe that man, endow-

Soon as danger from freezing is over, all ed by the Creator with supremacy over the physical world, started at a high level, and that wandering tribes of pioneers degenermoving such from the cellar, and clearing ated--as is the tendency of such m grations away the debris, it is well to scrape off a -as that man began his existence at the little of the bottom, if it be of dirt, and low level of the stone age, and rose, by slow

the first time on the surface of the globe It teaches also that there was nothing in nature adequate to the production of such a thing. And even on the theory that he began to exist at the low level of the Stone age, he there appears as the inventor, the builder, the master of nature, adapting all physical materials to his own use, exterminating monster creatures, gaining the as cendency over the world, "replenishing the earth and subduing it, and having do-minion over the fish of the sea, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."-Hours at Home.

* Wright on Bronze Weapons; Anthropoogical Review, No. 12, p. 81.

Miscellaneous.

SAMUEL FISKE.

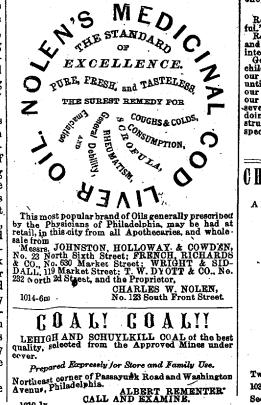
The following reminiscences of Rev. Samuel Fiske, popularly known as "Dunn Browne" are from an article in the last Congregational Quarterly.

Professor Tyler says of him :---

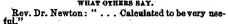
"Entering Amherst College in the autumn of 1844, as, I believe, the youngest, and, as I know, the spallest, and, as his classmates will all agree, the brightest and smartest of his class, he took at once high rank as a scholar. Perhaps his forte was in mathematics; but he excelled also the first in a rude, savage state, when his in the classics and all the departments. * * I remember just where he sat, At a much later period, the invention of and just how he looked when he was a Junior under my own instruction. In my mind's eye I see him now, curled up in the corner of his seat, scarcely occupying more room than a kitten, playful as a kitten too, still the boy, and in promise the coming man of the class, his eye flashing with interest, his face beaming with intellectual life and joy, and his whole body vibrating and throbbing in spontaneous sympathy with his active mind."

Many of his sallies are remembered, as well as his drawing food for mirth even from the Hebrew grammar. One recollecchine, the telegraph, the Sharp's rifle of tion must suffice. At an examination of the class by the professor in theology, being questioned upon some topic, he omitted one point to which the professor called his attention. He remembered he said, that sir," said the professor, in his peculiar and genial way, "suppose you were on a Western steamboat, and somebody should ask you about that point, how would it do for you to answer, that Professor ----- said something about it, but you did not really know what?" "Ah," replied he, "nobody will ever catch me on a Western steamboat without notes of Professor ----'s lectures under my arm !" The imaginary scene was altogether too much for the gravity of the professor and the class In 1852 he returned to Amherst, where he spent the next three years as tutor.

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