THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, THURSDAY. MAY 17, 1866.

Rural Economy.

FARMERS' SONS.

What inducements do most parents hold out to their sons to persuade them to adhere to the business of their fathers ? Have they any chance to work for themselvesare they allowed an acre or two to cultivate as they please, and from which they may receive the profits? Are they encouraged to read horticultural and agricultural papers, and to comment thereon, instructed by their parents in the elements of science necessary to the perfect understanding of reading, as in every other duty? Are they encouraged to spend a part of their money in books—to form a library—to love them and their companionship? Are country boys encouraged and taught to observe the phenomena of nature, so interesting to a with wonders, the interest of which is inof delight may be found; or do they not regard everything around them with about into her productions, the study of her wonwhich man has become civilized to the exthe penalties of ignorance and mental pov- | leaving the flowers uninjured. erty. How many farmers instruct their sons in the reasons for every process carried on upon the farm? How many ever attempt to instruct them in a knowledge of plants; their classification, properties and uses? How many ever encourage them to This is usually done at the first hoeing, but study the soil and rock, and minerals around should be delayed till danger from the grub, them, or make collection of objects of natu- or cut-worm, is over. Unless careful labor ral history, or of farm products, for their ers are employed, many hills will be ne-own improvements? How many, in short, glected. Superfluous stalks may be removed care anything about training the minds of at any convenient time, even in lowery their sons in the way that would attach weather, when the soil is too wet to be them to their business, by rendering it in- worked with cultivators or hoes. The best teresting to the young mind? Since few manner of doing this is to cut them off close or none do so, need we wonder at the dislike the young feel for the mill-horse round of labor which brings to them no pleasure should be removed from the middle of the and no profit?

A FEW WORDS ABOUT PLOUGHING.

We have seen, within ten days, and within ten miles of New York city, fields ploughneither lapped nor spaced, but dovetailing in and shutting in every blade of grass. It was on good land, with a deep soil, as could of the entire region. The ancestors of these owners have probably ploughed thus for at least 250 years. We have said the work was beautiful. But the beautifully turned sod was only two and a half, or at most three inches thick. When will the owners of good as the old. We advise t hem to ex-

are excellent for this purpose. It seldom freezes hard in a hemlock or cedar thicket;

or a warmer wall for the north side of my of arbor vitae. Delicate and tender plants protector.

TO RETAIN THE COLOR OF FLOWERS

The following method has been given in each article they read, and trained in habits a late number of the Journal of the Society of industrious, methodical and thoughtful of Arts : A vessel, with a moveable cover, is provided, and having removed the cover from it, a piece of metallic gauze of moderate fineness is fixed over it, and the cover replaced. A quantity of sand is then taken, sufficient to fill the vessel, and passed through a sieve into an iron pot, where it rightly-trained mind. Are they taught to is heated, with the addition of a small look upon the whole world as a museum filled | quantity of stearine, carefully stirred, so as to thoroughly mix the ingredients. The exhaustible, and wherein a perpetual round quantity of stearine to be added is at the rate of half a pound to one hundred pounds of sand. Care must be taken not to add as much intelligent concern as does the too much, as it would sink to the bottom horse or the ox? This exercise of mind and injure the flowers. The vessel, with upon the phenomena of nature-research | its cover on, and the gauze beneath it, is then turned upside down, and the bottom ders-is one of the processes by which man | being removed, the flowers to be operated has raised himself above the brute. It is upon are carefully placed on the gauze and this exercise of mind, in connection with the sand gently poured in, so as to cover that growth which springs from obedi- the flowers entirely, the leaves being thus ence to the teachings of the Creator, by prevented from touching each other. The vessel is then put in a hot place, such, for tent we find him. Are the sons of farmers | instance, as the top of a baker's oven, encouraged in this pleasant duty?-for it is where it is left for forty eight hours. The a duty every one owes to himself to inform flowers thus become dried, and they retain himself of the ways of the Creator, whether their natural colors. The vessel still rein the physical or moral world; and no maining bottom upwards, the lid is taken off, man can refuse to do so without suffering | and the sand runs away through the gauze,

THINNING CORN IN THE HILLS.

Thinning should always be done as soon as practicable after the corn has come up. to the ground with a sharp knife, and drop hill, that the remaining plants may stand as far from each other as possible; the farther they stand apart, the larger the ears will grow. When the stalks are pulled up, they will often loosen and break the roots of tho: that are left, but, if cut off as directed. the ed beautifully ; every furrow as straight as roots soon die. If care be not exercised in an arrow, uniform in width, fifteen inches dropping only a proper number of kernels an arrow, uniform in width, fifteen inches dropping only a proper number of kernels as nearly as the eye can measure, the sod in a hill, much labor will be required to thin out a large field. Still, it is better to do so than to allow five or six stalks to grow where there should be only three, or at most four.

How TO MAKE AN OLD-FASHIONED SHORT-CAKE .--- Take three teacups of sour cream, (or one cup of butter and two of such farms learn that they have two other butter-milk,) one teaspoonful of saleratus; only when the prestige of the first Napoleon farms under the old one, each every whit a little salt; do not mix very stiff. Bake began to decline in this respect, that men in a l

stalks than on a larger number.

against the effects of cold winds. They | "In some experiments lately tried on the without machinery, I forced into the water, animals seek shelter under the boughs of by aid of the steam from a 1-horse power kindred which journalists disparage by that such evergreen shrubs and trees, and there boiler, about 1000 gallons of air a minute, false adulation they deal in. I hate all the suffer but little from the effects of cold and obtained a speed of three miles an hour cant of "cousinship," but call them our weather. I should desire no better shelter through the water. If the London had own bone and blood; speak of them as a garden, then a close, well-trimmed hedge the steam from the boiler of her donkey- as ourselves-sturdy, determined, untiring, will flourish wonderfully under such a genial safe from foundering in a few minutes."

CLIMBING PLANTS.

The Academy of Sciences at Paris has received from M. Duchatre a highly interesting communication on certain wellknown plants called oreepers, because their stalks, too weak to support themselves, tend to twine themselves around the nearest objects. They generally do this from left to right, that is inversely to the motion of the sun, but some species turn to the contrary direction, and it is impossible to make either the one or the other change its direction. Palm, Von Mohl, Dutrochet, and latterly Ch. Darwin, have successfully expressed the opinion that light was the cause of this tendency; but further experiments being wanting to confirm this theory, M. Duchatre, who discovered that the Chinese yam could live a long while in the dark, resolved to try the effect of absence of light upon it. At the end of May, 1865, he placed one in a pot, and as soon as it showed its stem above the ground he took it down to a cellar, where it remained in complete darkness until the 2d of August following The stem, in the course of seven weeks grew to the length of a metre and a half. It looked withered and whitish, but was upon the whole strong and even stiff, and perfectly straight, showing nowhere a tendency to twine itself round the stick which had been placed there for its support. An other yam was planted nearly a month later, and left exposed to daylight until it compass and value. It comprises a choice selection was then taken and placed in the cellar, ate to all parts of where its stem, still obeying its natural tendency, went round once more, but in a more vertical direction than before; after which it grew straight up along its pole, to which it was fastened as it grew. It was now again taken up into the garden, where In Muslin. it immediately began to twine round again, In Sheep....... making five close turns; and when it was in Merocco..... once more taken down into the cellar, it In Turkey, gilt, or red edges...... 2 00 continued its growth again in a straight line, and so on, according as it was alternately in the light or dark.-Every Saturday.

Miscellaneous.

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OUR DEALINGS WITH FRANCE.

[FROM "BLACKWOOD'S" POINT OF VIEW.]

"Nulla vestigia retrorsum" is the motto over the Tuileries, so long as the wolf lives. His hold upon the French people is, that since he has been at their head they have bullied Europe. From the helpless insigeasily be seen by the geological structure There will be more and better grain on four nificance of the position they occupid under Louis Philippe, they have risen to, be the first power of the world. Part of this they have acquired by hard knocks, and a large part by mere menace. Frenchmen will forgive a great deal to him who makes them formidable to every other people. It was

I never knew I liked America so well till Thames, in propelling a large boat with air I began to speculate on this war. I never suspected that there really was that tie of been properly fitted upon the above plan, people who have the same leading traits engine would have rendered her perfectly unyielding-taking their share of hard knocks to-day, with a fixed resolve to repay them to-morrow; in a word, of that stuff that makes right trusty friends and very terrible enemies. Regard them in this light, and say, if a war should break out

wait the event.

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> We invite to i's examination all of our Churches in which it has not been introduced. PBICE:

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Our Business Superintendent (the Rev. S. W. Crittenden) is making the selection of suitable libraries for Sabbath schools a specialty, and has adopted a plan for accomplishing this in the most satisfactory manner. DISCRETIONARY ORDERS may be sent him, simply indicating the amount to be expended, and giving some general direction as to the size and kind of books desired, and sending a list of books already in the library that they may not be duplicated. Such orders will be filled from any and all other publishing houses where sound, readable, attractive, live books can be found; and any books sent on such orders may be returned at the Committee's expense if found unwholesome in moral tone, or in any way unfit

for the place they are designed to fill. Concerning a recent order for two hundred and fifty books, thus filled at discretion, a well-known pastor began to decline in this respect, that men of Central New York writes :- "I wasso pleased with im. You may he enlection that I presented the subject to Preshv tery, and much interest was expressed by the pastors in the features of your plan. I thank you for the prise by enactments; you may torture trade evident care exercised in filling our order, persuaded Cottage Organ. with petty regulations, and reduce the press as I am, even from the cursory examination I have to insignificance. All these will be borne been able to give the books, that for the same number so long as Frenchmen feel that they are the of volumes it is the best selection we have had for our Sabbath-school library, far better than we could have Are not only unexcelled, but they are positively nequalled by any reed instrument in the country for WEETNESS of TONE, POWER and DURABILI-YY. For sale only by made for ourselves. Both of our librarians concur in this judgment." One of "the pastors" referred to in this letter writes :- "Brother H---- reported to Presbytery so favorably of your Sabbath school libra-No. 18 NORTH SEVENTH STREET. ry selected for them, that I think we shall soon send Also, constantly on hand, a complete assortment o the **PERFECT MELODEON**. A. Bradbury's first-class PIANO FORTES. Also, SHEET MUSIC. ocl-ly o you to get us one, and doubtless others will." N. B.-OUR TERMS for furnishing the Sabbathschool books of any publishing house shall, in all cases, be as liberal as could be secured from the publishers themselves.

OR.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

REV. EDWIN M. LONG, 1210 Chestnut Street, Phila



plore a little on their home lots.

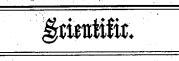
Now, gentle reader, do not think we are going to exhort you rashly, regardless of the quality of your land, and without reference to the cultivation you have heretofore given it, to plough deep, deeper, deepest. No such thing. But we do exhort you, if your land is such as we have described, if there is no peculiar reason in your case for shoaling, if there is only a coldness and sourness in your sub-soil, easily remedied by sunning and airing, to plough a little deeper each year, till you shall have explored those two under farms of yours. Hitch a trifle higher in the clevis each year, lengthen the chain a little if need be, and don't ride the handles to keep the plough out, but put on a stronger team, if necessary, and plough one inch deeper each year. At that rate, the right of the Chinese to their part of the globe will not be invaded by you for a long time to come. In eight or ten years, you will be in possession of those under farms, and will find them just as good as the upper one.-Evangelist.

RURAL ORNAMENTS.

There is such a hing in rural economy as laying out, embellishing and arranging blest, if he only has the taste."

the highway, because this is more secure from dust, and is safer from the unsorupulous gaze of the staring traveler. The yard in front should be occupied by ornamental trees and shrubbery, rather than with fruit trees. Where the latter are set out, the ground must be occasionally under the decks, would by their bulk premanured, and ploughed, and cultivated through one or more seasons; therefore a good greensward cannot be maintained under them, and the falling of unripe fruit and leaves must keep the surface more or less polluted and unsightly. Fruit trees and shrubbery, indeed, every farmer should bave; but a place for these should be appropriated, as in the orchard and gardens. But the front yard, to be handsome and to afford a good shade, should be occupied ship. The bags, of (say) from twenty to fifty only by ornamental trees, such as sugar maple, elm, linden, horse-chestnut, etc., under which the grass may grow. They too should be so set out and intermixed, as to produce beauty by contrast, and not so ger, other bags could be inflated in propor

warm and lighten the domestic retreats. moment. In the case of the steam and Lam downright grateful to the Amer-The evergreens should occupy positions on could be filled by air forced by the steam and Lam downright grateful to the Amer-the north in order to shelter the premises in a few minutes. the north, in order to shelter the premises in a few minutes.



NEW USE OF CONDENSED AIR.

A writer in the Mechanic's Magazine has the following singular plan for rendering vessels unsinkable :--- "When any part of a vessel gives way and admits the water, the usual remedy is to pump it out as quickly as possible, either by manual power, or in the case of steamers, by steam power, and great importance is often attached to the power of steam-pumps, which, however, are often found useless in the hour of danger. Supposing a serious leak to have occurred. then follows the fight of the crew and passengers for life against the enemy. At one time the crew may gain a little, and at another the water gains a slight advantage; and unhappily this miserable and exhausting battle is not by any means an uncommon occurrence. It seems to me that the whole system of endeavoring to keep down the water by any kind of pump is radically wrong in principle, for by pumping out the water space is left for more to come in.

The true remedy is to pump air into the vessel, whereby each gallon forced in begrounds so as to promote symmetry, order comes a clear gain to the stability of the absurdity to be entertained. That whatand beauty, at the same time that utility is | vessel, and leaves so much less space for secured. A contemporary says :--- "It is the water to occupy. A very little exertion be adopted by every one who resides in the beginning now to be pretty generally un- in this way would soon render a vessel of derstood, that a farmer may have a home | 1000 tons perfectly safe from foundering, which shall be extremely attractive. The without reference to the size of the leak, means are within the reach of the hum- which might increase sufficiently to let the engines and boilers fall through the bottom

The house should be placed back from of the versel, without in the slightest degree adding to the danger of the vessel's sinking.

"I therefore propose that all passenger vessels should be compelled to carry such a number of air tight flexible bags as, when inflated in the different parts of the ship vent the vessel from sinking, even if the water had free access. The expense would not be a very large item, and nothing in able. comparison with the value of the sense of

security to the passengers, and, therefore, of higher passage-money. An iron vessel without compartments, laden with stone or iron, if protected in this manner, would be just as safe from sinking by having a hole knocked in her bottom as a timber-laden or more gallons, could be kept permanently filled with air in all vacant spaces of the ship not required to be visited during the that our hands are free, you'll have to go voyage, and, upon the appearance of dan-

too should be so set out and intermixed, as to produce beauty by contrast, and not so to produce beauty by contrast, and not so as to appear monotonous. The trees on the south side of a house should never be evergreens; but always to support the ship. A bump on the rocks leaving a large hole in the ship's bottom, foliage and let the rays of the sun in to foliage and let the rays of the sun in to foliage and lighten the domestic retreats. warm and lighten the domestic retreats. The evergreenes should occupy positions on

f in their allegiance to) curtail liberty in France, hamper daily life with restrictive laws, and tie down enterterror of Europe, and that there is not a Cabinet on the Continent that does not tremble at their name.

An insult to this sentiment is what they will not bear, and woe to him who would expose them them to it. The qustion then is, Can the Emperor retire from Mexico without incurring this stain? I do not think that in the present case the Americans will employ any unnecessary or un-seemly rudeness. They will treat France with a deference they would not accord to us. I make no complaint of that; I even Presbyterian Publication Committee, see a certain fairness in it. They will not, in all probability, be very exacting as to the day or the hour, but yet, with Yankee tenacity, I think I hear them saying, "Yes, sir, you've got to go. Yes, sir, that's a fact." A more insufferable piece of insolent pretension cannot be imagined than what is called the Monroe doctrine. That my next-door neighbor should not live in a certain style lest the servants in my house should become dissatisfied, is too gross an ever rules I prescribe for my family should same street, is somewhat overbearing; and yet, with all this, I declare I am all for the Yankee in this Mexican row. It is not the justice of the case I want to think of. It is not whether France has right on her side, and whether this demand to retire be one of those mandates a high-spirited nation cannot submit to; my whole consideration is limited to the fact-here at last the great bully of Europe has met his match ! Here is a young, athletic, daring fellow,

ready to go into the ring with that finished pugilist that none of us have courage to fight, and who, even with the gloves on. doubles us up in a fashion far from agree-

America dares to hold language to France that all Europe combined would not utter. There's no denying it; there's no qualifying it If we had a Continental coalition tomorrow, we could not venture to say what America has just said. What Minister of Russia, or England, or Austria, would say to the French Emperor, "We were thinking about something else when you slipped into Savoy and Nice the other day; now back again." We are famous for brave words in our Foreign Office, but does any



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