Rural Economy.

AMONG THE STONES.

In passing through the country how much we see that needs improvementhow much that, with a little outlay of time and means, could be made convenient, tasteful and beneficial, is now by lack of appreciation or want of energy suffered to remain year after year in the same improvident and unsightly condition, when the material needed to improve it is at hand, viz: Stone. I propose to notice a few of these.

The barn is often set on posts or blocks of wood which soon decay, or is placed on the ground, when new sills soon become necessary. In the first place, there should be a ditch dug the size of the barn and filled in with small stone to near the surface; then a wall laid up with mortar at least three feet above the surface, on which the sills may rest. The ditch should have an outlet that the water from the barn and vard may not run under the mow and spoil a ton or more of hay each year. It would also be well to fill in the bottom of the mow with small stone a foot in depth, which will prevent much moisture from coming in contact with the hay. If farmers should build cellars under their barns with firm and walks along the banks. walls they would find them a great convenience; it might also induce them to cultithe rural attractions of our villages might vate more roots, which they would find to be improved. Each, however, has its pe be a source of profit in the rearing of stock. culiar points of beauty. Combined and The bottom of the yard, after being made/ persistent effort is most wanting to produce in the proper form, might be also paved the best results in the future. Such imwith advantage. The drive-ways into the doors of the barn should be built up with stone and covered slightly with earth. The foor of the stables, when made of cobblestone, paved in earth or sand, which soon becomes solid, are much better than those of plank. The rear of a poultry house is best when excavated out of a bank and the put them in a preserving pan with cold water enough to cover them; let them rewalls laid up with stone and mortar, thus preventing the ornamental combs of some main on the fire until the water simmers breeds from being frozen during severe weather; hens will also lay much earlier well; then take off, and allow them to stand until half cold, putting the plums to drain. when thus protected during the winter.

Probably a majority of the fires in dwellings throughout the country originate in the careless or rather criminal manner in which ashes are deposited in and around. them. Instead of being stored in boxes, barrels, etc., they are better and very much safer when placed in a building of stone, which may be made to answer the double purpose of an ash and smoke house. What is more frequently seen, on the appearance of a shower in summer, than the females of the household placing all the empty barrels, tubs and pails under the eaves, with old boards leading into them, for the purpose of saving enough soft water to do the washing of the ensuing week? Around such premises on the approach of winter you will usually see these several utensils, "lying around loose," in various stages of dilapidation. Now, in one day an expert person will dig a pit and a mason in another day will lay up a wall and cement a cistern of sufficient size to furnish a family with an abundance of water during the year. Each house should also have a well of pure cold water with a suitable pump thereininstead of the spring across the meadow or over the hill, from which the mother or children are compelled in sun and storm to carry all the water used for culinary pur

The cellar, instead of being a "hole in the ground," without form, should have a cement bottom, be nicely laid up with a ortar wall, well drained with stone or tile and well ventilated-thus insuring safety to its contents from frost and decay, and health to the occupants of the house above. The walks leading from the house to the barn and out-houses it payed with stone will protect the feet from the mud of spring and autumn and the rain and dew of summer, besides adding much to the cheerfulness and good temper of the housewife and daughters in lessening their labors in cleanwith stone and the earth from each side brown on them, thus forming a ditch, will soon become compact and solid and can be used at all seasons of the year without being soft and muddy. The highway across each person's premises, if stone is udiciously used, can be made as firm and mooth as a pavement and be a charm and leasure to all who travel them. When stone are applied to the various ses hinted at above, I think what yet remain will be so "few and far between' that they will not seriously incommode those who labor "Among the Stones."-Cor. Rural New Yorker.

village and its surroundings productive of | satisfactory, is that the early life on shippain and regret to a refined and correct board hidders growth. The highest stattaste, instead of pleasure and satisfaction. ure found was 6 feet 10 inches. The men If, from a neighboring eminence, one takes who measured over 6 feet 4, numbered a bird's eye view of many of our villages several hundred. He had convinced himthe most striking effect is that produced by self that these tall men did not wear as two or three clumsy steeples rising among well as the shorter by a great deal. He a mass of glaring white, ill-shaped dwell- called attention to the difference in height of ings, varied, perhaps, by the sharp, angular the men enlisted for different States. He has computed the average height for each chimneys of a manufacturing establishment year of age. The years showing the greatwhose dirty, cumbered yards are also prominent features. And an interior view of est average height were different in the various States, but those greatest averages such a town will not disclose more attractive rural beauty. There is little temptawere as follows, in inches :---Maine, 68.6; Vermont, 68.1; New Hampshire, 67.9; Massachusetts, 3 classes, tion for the stranger to sojourn there. A rural town should be empowered in

deciduous trees; its broad smooth streets 67.4, 67.3, 67.3; Rhode Island, 67.5; Connecticut, 67.5; New York, 5 classes, 67.8, should be shady avenues lined with rows of majestic elms, umbrageous lindens, stately tulips, or beautiful maples. Far beyond the village limits these shady ave-67.8, 65.8, (sailors,) 67.2, 67.0; New Jersey, 67.7; Pennsylvania, 3 classes, 67.8, 67.5, 67.6; Ohio, 3 classes, 68.8, 68.3, 68.1; Indiana, 68.7, 68.6; Michigan, 67.8; Wisconsin, 67.7; Iowa, 69; Louisinues should extend to prolong the pleasure of a rapid drive or a loitering stroll. There ana, 67.3; Minnesota, 68.3; Missouri, 68.5 is appropriate room in the middle of the -seamen, 66.8; average all, 68, which broad streets, or the centre of the "four corners," for picturesque fountains, fed by disposes of many things said in disparagegushing springs on the hill-sides, whose numerous plashings and gleaming spray ment of American soldiers. The Adjutant-General of Iowa was very

reluctant to have the record in his office delight the senses, and whose cool, abundant water proclaim their utility. If a examined, because he did not wish to have stream meanders near the town or a lakelet the soldiers from his State appear at a disspreads out its glassy mirror before it, their beauties should be made accessible by drives advantage, and no muster-rolls of the first and tallest troops had been kept. "Those were men worth looking at," he said.

Prof. Agassiz thought that smaller men would choose the navy. He said that it took lime to produce large frames, and the West was a limestone region. Dr. Gould said that the limestone theory could not account for the difference in height between provement is necessarily a work of years, the New England States. This most interesting and valuable paper called out many questions and considerable discussion. The results of these and other investigations as to the vital statistics of the Union army, which have been carried on by the Sanitary Commission, are soon to be published.

Lary Commission, are soon to be published.
BAROMETRICAL MEASUREMENT AT DIFFERENT HOURS OF THE DAY.
Prof Guyot presented a paper "On the influence of the hour of the day upon the heights obtained by barometrical measurement." He said that the barometric method of measuring mountains had been found altor gether the best, but went on to show the drawbacks and uncertainties to which it was exposed, and especially to set forth one source of error and the necessity of correction depending on the hour of the day at which observation was made, and varying with the season and month. The amount and theory of this correction were given by him at considerable length. He said that he was engaged in the preparation of tables was engaged in the preparation of tables which should greatly facilitate the use of the barometer for measuring heights, by lightening the labor of calculating the observations when made, making it a less than a five minutes' job for each observation. This he did because he had such faith in the usefulness of barometric obser one pound of fruit. Warm the jars before vations, and wished to have them indefinitely multiplied and spread all over the country. He had himself measured some 1500 heights between the White Mountains and Georgia. It was necessary to exercise a cautious judgment in choosing the time and circumstances of an observation; if that were properly done, its result could be relied upon with a great deal of confidence.

part which Prof. Guyot had already, years ago, taken in aiding such observations, by STATURE OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS. tables which the Smithsonion Institution Dr. B. A. Gould was next in order with had published and distributed, and which ow called fo ea all over the world; he hoped that the new and improved tables would be made public in the same way.

Miscellaneous.

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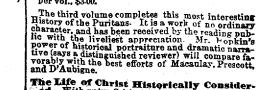
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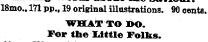
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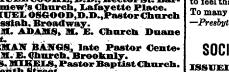
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THE RURAL ASPECT OF VILLAGES.

We often wonder at the negligence and adifference of the citizens of many of our most thriving villages towards all work ending to add to the public convenience and the rural beauty of their town. What ^{s true} in this respect of the villages that have been under our observation we suppose is likewise true, to a great extent, of others throughout the country. Yet the act is plainly before all that the village hich offers the greatest attractions in easant, shady streets, public parks, well pt, tasty private lawns and gardens and th, safe side walks, is the chosen home the citizen of wealth and leisure, and frequent summer resort of the denizen the metropolitan town. It follows that village property rises constantly in ue, society is attractive, and mutual enefits result to the property holders, and transient pleasure seekers. Hence, in pecuniary view it is greatly for the interof the people of our rural towns to orn their own homes, and contribute erally of money and effort to beautify public property and general aspect of village.

But the truth of the famous old adage at "what is everybody's business is noy's," is here well exemplified. Genethere is lack of systematic effort, and tshing of plans and a jumble of designs, renders the landscape effect to the

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a paper on the "Stature of the American Soldiers." Mr. Gould apologized for lack of complete preparations, as he had not ex-pected to read to-day. He had here the results as to the stature of 1,000,000 men Clerks had been sent to the Adjutant-Generals of the different States, who had transcribed from the muster-rolls. The results have shown how much more satisfactory the statistics would be if we had the stature of the earlier troops, who must ing floors and carpets The track in the have been a sturdier class of men. The lanes from the barn and yards, if filled in rules of the army require that the height have been a sturdier class of men. The shall be given at the nearest one-fourth

These are some of the means by which

but it is, likewise, a work of profit.

TO PRESERVE GREEN GAGES

The following recipe appears to be

good one : Pick and prick all the plums;

To every pound of plums, allow one pound

of sugar, which must be boiled in the

water from which the plumbs have been

taken; let it boil very fast until the syrup

drops short from the spoon, skimming care-

fully all the time. When the sugar is

sufficiently boiled, put in the plums, and

allow them to boil until the sugar covers

the pan with large bubbles; then pour the

whole into a pan, and let them remain until

the following day; drain the syrup from

the plums as dry as possible, boil it up

quickly, and pour it over the plums; then set them by; do this a third and fourth

time. On the fifth day, when the syrup is

boiled, put the plums into it, and let them

boil for a few minutes; then put them into

jars. Should the green gages be over ripe,

it will be better to make jam of them,

using three-fourths of a pound of sugar to

putting the sweetmeats in, and be careful

Scienkikic.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

(Continued.)

not to boil the sugar to a candy.

inch. Yet the number whose height was given in whole inches was four times what it should be, and the number whose stature ended in a half inch was twice too great, showing the tendency of the measurers to take round numbers. Another striking fact developed is that the time of

reaching the maximum height is very much later than is generally supposed, being 28 in men born in America. Again, it is found that the height of those at 35 is not so great as that of those at 29 and 30. This he attributed to the consolidation of the cartileges of the backbone. It might be said that the height decreases during

the day, and that by carrying heavy weights, etc., the height was diminished for a few hours. He thought, however, that the error for this cause must have been eliminated by the great number of measurements made at all hours of the day. The attempts to indicate a rate of growth have not been found very satisfactory. The age for maximum stature comes earli est in States where the height is found to be the greatest-an unexpected result. Again, the men of foreign birth were considerably shorter than those of American nativity. But, strange to say, the stature seems to depend more on the place in which they were reared than on that in which they were born. A Massachusetts man reared in Iowa is an inch taller ! The average height of the first 50,000 of New the waters raged and swelled, and the York troops was 67.4 inches; of the mountains shock at the tempest. second 50,000, 67.5; of the third, 65.8. The fact is indisputable. And He had thought that this third result must be wrong, and had made an unavailing effort to correct it. He finally found that two-thirds of the men composing this especial count were enlistments in the navy; so that it seemed at least as if the shorter men preferred that manner of life. A similar examination of the books of the

Navy Department confirmed this result, showing that the sailors are two inches shorter than the soldiers! while the landsmen enlisted in the navy were found to be about the same height as the soldiers. The only explanation of this fact that is at all

NATURAL SCIENCE AMONG THE JEWS.

These people, at the very remote epoch, emerged from a country highly civilized but sunk in the superstitions of natureworship. They invaded and mingled with tribes whose superstitions were even more debased, silly, and foul than those of the Egyptians from whom they escaped. Their own masses were for centuries given up to nature worship. Now among those Jews arose men-a very few-sages-prophets call them what you will, the men were inspired heroes and philosophers-who assumed toward nature an attitude utterly different from the rest of their countrymen and the rest of the then world; who denounced superstition and the dread of 'nature as the parent of all manner of vice and misery; who for themselves said boldly others, at that they discerned in the universe an order, a unity, a permanence of law, which gave them courage instead of fear. They found delight and not dread in the thought that the universe obeyed a law which could not be broken; that all things continued to that day according to a certain ordinance. They took a view of nature totally new in that age; healthy, human, cheerful, loving, trustful, and yet reverent-identical with that which happily is beginning to prevail

in our own day. They defied those very volcanic and meteoric phenomena of their land, to which their countrymen were slaying their own children in the clefts of the rocks, and (like Theophrastus's superstitious man) pouring their drink-offerings on the smooth stones of the valley; and declared that, for their part, they would not fear, though the earth was moved, and though the hills were carried into the midst of the sea; though

The fact is indisputable. And you must pardon me if I express my belief that these men, if they had felt it their business to found a school of inductive physical science. would, owing to that temper of mind, have achieved a very signal success. I ground my opinion on the remarkable, but equally indisputable fact, that no nation has ever succeeded in perpetuating a school of inductive physical science, save those whose minds have been saturated with this same view of nature, which they have (as an historic fact) slowly but thoroughly learnt from the writings of these Jewish sages.-Kinysley's Lectures.



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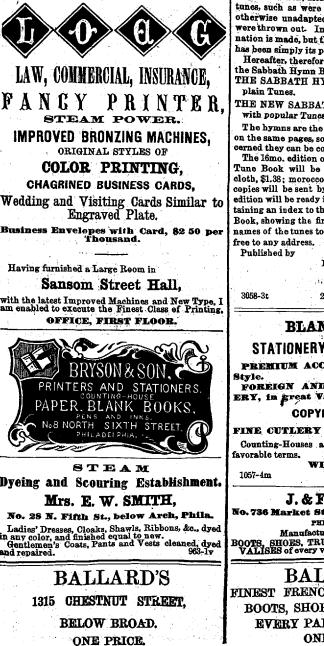
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THE PLUME-LINE PAPERS. Being a Series of Essays, or Gritical Examinations of Difficult Passages of Scripture; together with a Careful Inquiry into Certian Domas of the Church. By Rev. T. M. Hopkins, A. M., Geneva, New York. Fourth Edition. Wm. J. Moses: Auburn, N. Y. KIND READER: Would you like to see it demon-strated, that the story of Samson and his Forces, and that of the Dial of Abaz, are evidently a mistransla-tion f-the Stopping of the Sun and Moon by Joshna, an interpolation f and that the word of God contains nothing of theses, as they are in our common Transla-tions? Would you like to inquire, among the institu-tions of Jesus Christ, for certain dogmas of the Church, and not find them there? Would you see in what sense men are born in the Image of God? Be-sides, Infidelity has asserted, that if the dead were to rise to-day, and to occupy as much space as when they were alive, they would cover the whole earth to the depth of some eight or ten feet; would you see it and singhter of Adam? The above-named Book will do this and something more; you may obtain it forward it to you post-paid. When you have read it, if you do not find it is o, return the Book and I will return the money. The Move-named Book will do this and something more; Wou may obtain it forward it to you post-paid. When you have read it, if you do not find its o, return the Book and I will return the money. The Move have read it, if you do not find its o, return the Book and I will return the money. The Move have read it, if you do not find the source is the source read it, if you do not find the source is the source read it, if you do not find the source is the source read it, if you do not find the source is the source read it, if you do not find the source is the source read it, if you do not find the you have read it, if you do not find the you have read it, if you do not find the you have read it, if you do not find the you have read it, if you do not find the you have read it, if you do not find the you have read it, if you do



The high appreciation of the Sabbath Hymn Book, and its wide introduction by the churches, about one thousand of which now have it in use in one or other of its forms, have encouraged the publishers to still further efforts to increase its usefulness, by furnishing it in different editions, and especially in connection with tunes which shall be adapted to various

tastes. The Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book as originally published, furnishes an edition of the work with tunes which are generally very plain and simple in rhythm and melody, and meets the wants of those who regard such tunes, and such only, as well adapted to Congregational singing. It is in use in nearly six hundred churches. The new edition, now announced, is designed to furnish the Hymns in connection with the tunes of a different character. The aim in its preparation has been to make the most complete collection possible of all these tunes which have proved most popular in use throughout the country. It does not present any new tunes, but brings together from all sources such tunes as have been most attractive and successful in use. In preparing the

original edition, after collecting together the popular tunes, such as were believed to be too difficult or otherwise unadapted to the congregational singing were thrown out. In the new book no such discrimination is made, but the test for admission of any tune has been simply its popularity.

Hereafter, therefore, there will be two editions of the Sabbath Hymn Book with tunes, viz: THE SABBATH HYMN AND TUNE BOOK, with

THE NEW SABBATH HYMN AND TUNE BOOK. with popular Tunes.

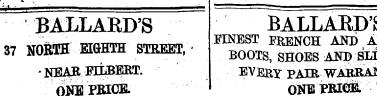
The hymns are the same in both editions, and are on the same pages, so that as far as hymns are concorned they can be conveniently used together. The 16mo. edition of The New Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book will be ready in September. Prices : cloth, \$1.38; morocco. \$1.88; on the receipt of which copies will be sent by mail, post paid. The octavo edition will be ready in a short time. A circular containing an index to the New Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book, showing the first lines of the hymns, and the names of the tunes to which they are set, will be sent

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