Scientifi A NEW COMMODITY． gation are eonstantly andling new sub
atances to those already recogize tances to those already recognized as pos．
eessing a mercantile value．Within a fee sessing a mercantile value． but a more recent discovery promises practi
cal results not only immediate，but having an important bearing upon various interests of somenerce，but grass－sponge heretofore considered useless，）which grows in exhaust less quantities among the coral formations
of the Ba bame Isiands and on the coast of
Mexico and Florida，is ascertained to be ex purposes，and is destined to enter largely into domestic consumption．It grows in
domes and sill or labor for ite production Although the peculiar properties of thi in a recent period，vessels are leaving．New
York and Boston regularly to obtain cargoes nd the substance，as prepared by machi－ in demand for bedding and upholstering purposes far beyond the means nowrat．com
mand for 1 ts supply．As a substitute for curled hair，and feathers which wore to
expensive for any except the opulent classes， it．seems complete．Henceforth the poo man can throw away his bed of straw，and
at a nioderate expense provide himself ivith a place of rest as soft and duxurious as thos more favored with world ly goods．
The newly disco The newly discovered sponge grows in
scraggly form among the corals of the sia－ scraggly form among the corals of the sea
shore，and is gatheered by natives of the $B$ a hamas，and delivered dry at a eertain price
per pound，payable in merchiandise at the per pound，payable in merchiadise at the
varions places of deposit．A schooner be longing to the New York Elastic Spong
Manufacturing Company left this city las week on her fourth trip；and another be
longing to the Americm Patent Sponge the latter company paying a royalty；to the
former．Each vessel brings from 80,000 t 00,000 its．，corapressed in to bales by mach nery．Po render tuis substance merchan
ble，the first procesis to put it into what
paper manufacturers call a ＂＂staff engine， paper manuacturers anla a．＂staff engine，
where it is cut，washed，and freed from oal careous matter and other impurities．It
afterward passed through a series of rabbe rollers，sstarated with glycerine（Which
preserves ites natural elasticity，）and is the seasoned in ovens and baled A A single inc
will expand to twelve times its bulk．Thi prepared the sponge is free from all form tic than othar materials which it seems des
tined to displace－at least to a certain ex tent．One pound is considered equivalen
to one and a half or two of either fent or hair，and its cost is comparatively sual
For carriage npholstery，carsents，church oushions，mattrass，\＆c．，sponge is already
extensive use，and is higbly commended． As a n new commodity；furnishing employ－
ment for skill and labor，starling new pro ment for skil and labor，starling new pro
cesses in machinery，and especially as a fording to all classes additional means on
comfort without a corresponding tax upo
pecuniary resources，the discovery thus an ronnced possesses not little commerci
importance．$-N$ ．Y：Journal of Commerce．

## THE OHOLERA IN ITALY．

## The Italian correspondent of the $N$. ．

The cholera is，alas，rapidly on the 1 crease，and this year seems more than eve
resolved to bafferemedical science．In Ca
tania the cases in one day reached 500 ，the tania the cases in one day reached 500 ；the
own is deserted，the public functionarie having struck．Palermo，too，despite the
unremitting efforts of public authorities soconded by the oitizens，＂seems doomed
＂The streets，＂writes a friend on the 5 th
＂are deserted， ＂are deserted，fear and squalor reign su－ have gone to the contivent；the shops are
closed，the courts and tribuals are abandon ed；neither buyers nor sellers are neen o
the exchange．Despite the use of disinfe tants，of all the preventive measures that
science can suggest，the disease spread with groater energy and rebemence than ever
nearry all of the cases prove mortal and
from barely three hours interyene；a rapidity ex
ceeding that of 1837 Hitherto it was be－ by the awful monstor as its preys but this
year the rich and cleanly bave been the greatest sufferers，and we find the majori of victimis among the upper classes，eve
among families whose sobriety and regalar
habits caniot be contested ．Last yed quarter of the Tribunali was devastated；thi year there are but fow cases，whereas th
quarter of Monte Pieta is disseminated，＂Th phenomenon is noted every where＇that th Cholera has this year become aristocratic． Aosta，
sufferers in the North；but it is imp to form any idea or the number of the vic－
tims．There have been daily cases for weeks in Genoa，but the Municipality insisted on and insisted on a daily bulletin，which com－
menced on the 7 th．Seven cases and an deaths were announced，but as＂a physician
said to me on that very day：＂These steps are nseless，the bulletins only frighten peo－ ple and you do not get at the itrue figure；
yesterday there were forty cases，but the list of those in the hospital was alone publish－
ed．＂Certain it is，that as soon as the offi－ cial Gazette recogrized the existence of the en－
emy，a．yeneral exodus commenced，and soon we shall have shops closed andistreets de－ serted as in Palermo．As for the precau－
tions taken they are nexto naelegs．If
go bence to Florence by stecomer I minst re－

same day．The doctors despair of finding a
remedy the hichest authorities affirm that
they bave made no progress toward the dis－
covery of either cause or cure．When any covery of either caspe or cure．When any
one suggests a method，they say try it，by
all means，we bave no confidence in any－ thing that we attempt．In some parts even
of the North of Italy，chemists＇shops and by the populace and the owners stoned as
＂poisoners．＂

## A STAB HIDDEN by a thread David Rittenhouse，of Pennsylvania，was great astronomer．He was skilful in measuring the sizes of planets and deter－ mining the position of the stars．But he found that，such was the distance of the stars，a eilk－thread stretched across the glass and，horeoverer，thatanailk fiber，however amall， atar haced upon the same grass，would cover so placed upon the same glass，would cover so much of the heavens that the star，if a small one and near the pole，woutd remain ob one and near the pole，would remain ob－ sieured behind that silk fiber several seconds． Thus a silk fiber appeared to be：larger in diameter than a atar You know that every star is a hearenly world，a world of lighit，a sun shining upon other worlds as our sun shines upon this other world： Our： <br> yet，seen from a distant star，our sian could yet，Been from a distant star，our sun could be covered，obscured，hidden bebind a thread， when that tiread was icar the eye，although Juen telescope． Just so we． <br> Just：so whe hiave seen some who never could behold the heavenly world．They always complained of dimness，of rision dullness of comprebension，when they looked in the heavivild direction．Fou might strive to comfort them in aflliction，or poiverty，or distress；but no，they could，not pee Jesus as as the Sun of Righteouspess．You might di－ rect their eyes to the star of Bethehem titough the telescope of falth and holy con－ fidence；but alas！there ig a secret thread a flament，a silken fiber，which，holding them in subserviency to the world，in some way obscures the light，and f fesus，the Star of Hope，is eclipsed，and thein hope darkened． There are times when a ver small self－grat－ ification，a very little love pleasure a very sinners Jeeus，，as Saviour，sppears very far off；but far off as He may appear，He cer－ tainly can be and shall be seen where the heart lets nothing，nothing stervene． <br> qurat 等compmy．

## WHEAT AND ITS 本EMiRS

 Every year seems to muldply the enemies turn more uncertain；Hiencefthe scieince，andslkill of the busbandman shduld be exercised oo the fullest extent to mitigato the evils． to the fullest extent to mitigate the evils．
The Hessian fly has beqme a general
enemy to the crop，but muohlcan be done to avert its attacke by observing the proper
atime of sowing．It is the eqfly sown whea time of sowing．It is the egry yown wheat
that is attacked by the fly，If the sowing
is deferred until after the insect has ap． peared，there is little danger from it．Tbis
may be done and still all
cient the trime to become well rooted before cient time to become well rooted before
Winter sets in．We can fix no precise date
for sowing the seed that will apply to all for sowing the seed that will apply to al
sections，but the experienc of the farmer should suggest the proper tme for his par
shicular locality．$\because$ When wheat is attucked by this insect，its mischief is not confined
to the Fall，but remains dyring Winter be－
ween the leaf and the mhin body of the tween the leaf and the mpin body of the
plant，ready to continue its
tion urk of eustrul its period of full maturity in the
tion Spring．Little injury will he sustained from
this insect if the proper tine of so wing the seed is observed． Wheat growing，is its liability to water－k
The injury from this cance depends，in
reat degree，upon the othracter and me great degree，upon the cturacter and me
chanical condition of the soil．Wheat upon
any soil that retains an updue quantity o ny soil that retains an updue quan ty
water，is subject to tlie greitest injury from
kis cause．The only remedy for this ovil upon boil of this eharager，is thorough
drainage－an improvemen that is destined
to work a wonderful reoution in A merican tirming．
of the insect deprydators to whith
wheat is subject，the midg is the most for Wheat is subject，the midgy is the most for
midable．Less than forty years：ago thi enemy first made its appearance in thi
conntry，and for a long timy its depredation
were confined to narrow lite it has dinc spread over a 丈ast area of lour country．It is multiplied in inmense jumberss and w
know of no means by which its rapid in crease can．be checked．If is most destrue
tive in those varieties of wheat that ar characterized by the thifinest cbaff，the eggs forming grain soon after it has gone ont o
blossom．In fields of wheal that come for ward a few days earier than the crop gen
erally，the midge will bo found onlf in th lower and later heads；that bappen to be
soft just at the time the insect is ready to ay its eggs；this fact has suggested to som of the best farmers the importance of pro
curing those kinds of wheot that in the the earliest，so that it may become hard be ore the insect emerges from its Winte
quarters．Wheat，eight or ten days in ad Vance of the ordinary period of ripening
often entirely escapes njury from thisin in
sect．Mr．Tohn Jotnston of Genera $X$ ，secures from half to two－thirds＇of a cro of wheat，by having it ripen 2 fey daye
earlier than others，who often lose their en lire crop．This advantage he derives from
having his oin drained，and the application
of salt and other manures，by whick meanis of salt and other manures，by whick mean
his crop iis advataided serveral days．Ma ad
dition to this，he sows the best early yarie ties of wheat he can procure． There are other casualties to which wheat
is liatle，but the most formidable that
we have not before alluded to，is rust
This we believe，is entirely owing to the
state of the weather at the time the grains are filling．Wet，warm，sultry weather，is
the frititul cause of this malad．Early
maturity is the only means by which this
evil can be avoided． evil can be avoided．
first importance，as a means of avoiding the
evil effects of most of the evil effects of most of these causes．To se－
cure this，the land must first be put in the
best possible order before sowing．Where best possible order before sowing．Where
land is wet，nothing adds more to the early maturity of auy crop than complete drain－
ing．No soil can be warm and suitathe ing．No soil can be warm and suitable for
any growing crop，that is saturated with
water．Warming and stimulating manure afford additional means to promote early maturity．Another，and the most impor－
tant consideration of all，is to secure early varieties for seed．Like all other varieties
of grain，there is a marked difference in the
period of period of maturity of the different kinds now
cultivated amons us and if the cultivated among us；and if the proper
means were emporyed，new varieties mifgbt
be produced that wowld ripen earlier the be produced，that would ripen earlier than
any of the kinds now cultivated．Some of
the best vanieties of the best varieties of wheat now know
among us，bave been obtained by selecting
the largest matured beads that showed marks of superiority over the general crop．
－Rural World．

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