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☞ Letters and communications, by mail, shall have prompt attention.

I'M GROWING OLD.

BY JOHN G. SAXE.

My days pass pleasantly away,
My nights are blessed with sweetest sleep;
I feel no symptoms of decay,
I have no cause to mourn nor weep;
My foes are impatent and shy,
My friends are neither false nor cold,
And yet of late, I often sigh—
I'm growing old!

My growing talk of olden times,
My growing thirst for early news,
My growing apathy to rhymes,
My growing love for easy shoes,
My growing hate of crowds and noise,
My growing fear of taking cold,
All tell me in the plainest voice,
I'm growing old!

I'm growing fonder of my staff,
I'm growing dimmer in the eyes,
I'm growing fainter in my laugh,
I'm growing deeper in my sighs,
I'm growing careless in my dress—
I'm growing frugal of my gold,
I'm growing wise, I'm growing—yes—
I'm growing old!

I see it in my changing taste,
I see it in my changing hair,
I see it in my changing waist,
I see it in my growing heir;
A thousand hints proclaim the truth,
As plain as truth was ever told,
That even in my vaunted youth,
I'm growing old!

Ah, me! my very laurels breathe
The tale in reluctant curse,
And every boon the hours bequeath,
But makes me debtor to the years!
Even flattery's honied words declare
The secret she would fain withhold,
And tell me in "How young you are!"
I'm growing old!

Thanks for the years, whose rapid flight
My sombre muse too sadly sings;
Thanks for the gleams of golden light
That tint the darkness of their wings!
The light that beams from out the sky,
Those heavenly mansions to unfold,
Where all are blest, and none may sigh,
I'm growing old!

FAREWELL ADDRESS OF GOV. GEARY

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS TERRITORY.

Having determined to resign the executive office and retire again to the quiet scenes of private life, and the enjoyment of those domestic comforts of which I have so long been deprived, I deem it proper to address you on the occasion of my departure.

The office from which I now voluntarily withdraw was unsought by me, and at the time of its acceptance, was by no means desirable.—This was quite evident, from the deplorable moral, civil and political condition of the Territory—the discord, contention, and deadly strife which then and there prevailed—a painful anxiety with which it was regarded by patriotic citizens in every portion of the American Union. To attempt to govern Kansas at such a period, and under such circumstances, was to assume no ordinary responsibilities.—Few men could have desired to undertake the task, and none would have been so presumptuous without serious forebodings as to the result. That I should have hesitated is no matter of astonishment to those acquainted with the fact, that I accepted the appointment was a well grounded source of regret to many of my well tried friends, who looked upon the enterprise as one that could terminate in nothing but disaster to myself. It was not supposed possible that order could be brought, in any reasonable space of time, and with the means at my command, from the then existing chaos.

Without descanting upon the feelings, principles and motives which prompted me, suffice it to say that I accepted the President's tender of the office of Governor. In doing so, I sacrificed the comforts of a home, endeared by the strongest earthly ties and most sacred associations, to embark in an undertaking which presented at the best but a dark and unsatisfactory prospect. I reached Kansas and entered upon the discharge of my official duties in the most gloomy hour of her history. Desolation and ruin reigned on every hand; homes and firesides were deserted; the smoke of burning dwellings darkened the atmosphere; women and children driven from their habitations, wandered over the prairies and among the woodlands, or sought refuge and protection even among the Indian tribes. The highways were infested with numerous predatory bands, and the towns were fortified and garrisoned by armies of conflicting partisans, each excited almost to frenzy, and determined upon mutual extermination.—Such was, without exaggeration, the condition of the Territory, at the period of my arrival. Her treasury was bankrupt. There were no pecuniary resources within herself to meet the exigencies of the time. The Congressional appropriations, intended to defray the expenses of a year, were insufficient to meet the demands of a fortnight. The laws were null, the courts virtually suspended, and the civil arm of the Government almost entirely powerless. Action—prompt, decisive, energetic action—was necessary. I at once saw what we needed, and without hesitation gave myself to the work.—For six months I have labored with unceasing industry. The accustomed needed hours for sleep have been employed in the public service. Night and day have official duties demanded unremitting attention. I have had no proper leisure moments for rest or recreation. My health has failed under the pressure. Nor is this all: to my own private purse, without assurance of reimbursement, have I resorted, in every emergency, for the required funds. Whether these arduous services and willing sacrifices have been beneficial to Kansas and my country, you are abundantly qualified to determine.

That I have met with opposition, and even bitter vituperation, and vindictive malice, is no matter for astonishment. No man has ever yet held an important or responsible post, in our own or any other country, and escaped censure. I should have been weak and foolish indeed, had I expected to pass through the fiery ordeal entirely unscathed, especially as I was required, if not to come in conflict with, at least to thwart evil machinations and hold in restraint wicked passions, or rid the Territory of many lawless, reckless and desperate men. Besides, it were impossible to come in contact with the conflicting interests which governed the conduct of many well disposed persons, without becoming an object of mistrust and abuse. While from others, whose sole object was notoriously personal advancement at any sacrifice of the general good and at every hazard, it would have been ridiculous to anticipate the meed of praise for disinterested action; and hence, however palpable might have been my patriotism, however just my official conduct, or however beneficial in its results, I do not marvel that my motives have been impugned and my integrity maligned. It is, however, so well known that I need scarcely record the fact, that those who have ascribed my labors to a desire for gubernatorial or senatorial honors, were and are themselves the aspirants for these high offices and powers, and foolishly imagined that I stood between them and the consummation of their ambitious designs and high towering hopes.

But whatever may be thought or said of my motives or desires, I have the proud consciousness of leaving this scene of my severe and anxious toil with clean hands, and the satisfactory conviction that He who can penetrate the inmost recesses of the heart and read its secret thoughts, will approve my purposes and acts. In the discharge of my executive functions, I have invariably sought to do equal and exact justice to all men, however humble or exalted. I have eschewed all sectional disputations, kept aloof from all party affiliations, and have alike scorned numerous threats of personal injury and violence, and the most flattering promises of advancement and reward. And I ask and claim nothing more for the part I have acted than the simple merit of having endeavored to perform my duty. This I have done, at all times and upon every occasion, regardless of the opinions of men, and utterly fearless of consequences. Occasionally I have been forced to assume great responsibilities, and depend solely upon my own resources to accomplish important ends; but in all such instances I have carefully examined surrounding circumstances, weighed well the probable results, and acted upon my own deliberate judgment; and in now reviewing them, I am so well satisfied with the policy uniformly pursued, that were it to be done over again, it should not be changed in the slightest particular.

In parting with you, I can do no less than give you a few words of kindly advice and even of friendly warning. You are well aware that most of the troubles which lately agitated the Territory were occasioned by men who had no special interest in its welfare. Many of them were not even residents; while it is quite evident that others were influenced altogether in the part they took in the disturbances, by mercenary or other personal considerations.—The great body of the actual citizens are conservative, law-abiding, peace-loving men disposed rather to make sacrifices for conciliation and consequent peace, than to insist for their entire rights, should the general good thereby be caused to suffer. Some of them, under the influence of the prevailing excitement, and misguided opinions, were led to the commission of grievous mistakes, but not with the deliberate intention of doing wrong.

A very few men, resolved upon mischief, may keep in a state of unhealthy excitement and involve in fearful strife an entire community. This was demonstrated during the civil commotions with which the Territory was convulsed. While the people, generally, were anxious to pursue their peaceful callings, small combinations of crafty, scheming and designing men succeeded, from purely selfish motives, in bringing upon them a series of most lamentable and destructive difficulties. Nor are they satisfied with the mischief already done. They never desired that the present peace should be effected; nor do they intend that it shall continue if they have the power to prevent it. In the constant croakings of disaffected individuals in various sections you hear only the expressions of evil desires and intentions. Watch, then, with a special, jealous and suspicious eye, those who are continually indulging surmises of renewed hostilities. They are not the friends of Kansas, and there is reason to fear that some of them are not only the enemies of this Territory, but of the Union itself. Its dissolution is their ardent wish, and Kansas has been selected as a fit place to commence the accomplishment of a most nefarious design. The scheme has thus far been frustrated; but it has not been abandoned. You are entrusted not only with the guardianship of this Territory, but the peace of the Union, which depends upon you in a greater degree than you may at present suppose.

You should therefore, frown down every effort to foment discord, and especially to array settlers from different sections of the Union in hostility against each other. All true patriots—whether from the North or South, the East or West—should unite together for that which is and must be regarded a common cause—the preservation of the Union and he who shall whisper a desire for its dissolution—no matter what may be his pretensions, or to what faction or party he may belong—is unworthy of your confidence, deserves your strongest reprobation and should be branded as a traitor to his country. There is a voice crying from the grave of one whose memory is dearly cherished in every patriotic heart, and let it not cry in vain. It tells you that this attempt at dissolution is no new thing; but that even as early as the days of our first President it was agitated by ambitious aspirants for place and power. And if the appeal of a still more recent hero and patriot was needed in his time, how much more applicable is it now and to this Territory.

"The present dissolution of the Union he says, "has at length become an ordinary and familiar subject of discussion.—Has the warning voice of Washington been forgotten? or have designs already been formed to sever the Union? Let it not be supposed that I impute to all of those who have taken an active part in these unwise and unprofitable discussions a want of patriotism or of public virtue.—The honorable feelings of State pride and local attachments find a place in the bosoms of the most enlightened and pure. But while such men are conscious of their own integrity and honesty of purpose they ought never to forget that the citizens of other States are their political brethren; and that, however mistaken they may be in their views, the great body of them are equally honest and upright with themselves. Mutual suspicions and reproaches may, in time, create mutual hostility, and artful and designing men will always be found who are ready to foment these fatal divisions, and to inflame the natural jealousies of different sections of the country. The history of the world is full of such examples, and especially in the history of republics."

When I look upon the present condition of the Territory, and contrast it with what it was when I first entered it, I feel satisfied that my administration has not been prejudicial to its interest. On every hand, I now perceive unmistakable indications of welfare and prosperity. The honest settler occupies his quiet dwelling with his wife and children clustering around him unmolested, and fearless of danger. The solitary traveller pursues his way unharmed, over every public thoroughfare.—The torch of the incendiary has been extinguished, and the saloons which by it were destroyed have been replaced with more substantial buildings.—Hordes of banditti no longer lie in wait in every ravine for plunder and assassination. Invasions of hostile arms have ceased, and infuriated partisans, living in our midst have emphatically turned their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Laborers are everywhere at work—farms undergoing rapid improvements—merchants are driving a thriving trade, and mechanics pursuing with profit their various occupations. Real estate, in town and country, has increased in value almost without precedent, until in some places it is commanding prices that never could have been anticipated. Whether this healthy and happy change is the result solely of my executive labors, or not it certainly has occurred during my administration. Upon yourselves must mainly depend the preservation and perpetuity of the present prosperous condition of affairs. Guard it with unceasing vigilance, and protect it as you would your lives. Keep down that party spirit, which if permitted to obtain the mastery, must lead to desolation. Watch closely, and condemn in its infancy, every insidious movement that can possibly tend to discord and disunion. Suffer no local prejudices to disturb the prevailing harmony. To every appeal to these turn a deaf ear, as did the Saviour of men to the promptings of the deceiver. Act as a united band of brothers, bound together with one common tie. Your interests are the same, and by this course alone can they be maintained. Follow this, and your hearts and homes will be made light and happy by the richest blessings of a kind and munificent Providence.

To you, the peaceable citizens of Kansas, I owe my grateful acknowledgments for the aid and comfort your kind assurances and hearty co-operation have afforded in many dark and trying hours. You have my sincerest thanks, and my earnest prayers that you may be abundantly rewarded of Heaven.

To the ladies of the Territory—the wives mothers, sisters and daughters of the honest settlers—I am also under a weight of obligation. Their pious prayers have not been raised in vain, nor their numerous assurances of confidence in the policy of my administration failed to exert a salutary influence.

And last, though not least, I must not be unmindful of the noble men who form the military department of the West.—To Gen. Persifer F. Smith, and the officers acting under his command, I return my thanks for many valuable services. Although from different parts of the Union, and naturally imbued with sectional prejudies, I know of no instance in which such prejudices have been permitted to stand in the way of a faithful, ready, cheerful and energetic discharge of duty. Their conduct in this respect is worthy of universal commendation, and presents a bright example for those executing the civil power. The good behavior of all the solders who were called upon to assist me is, in fact, deserving of especial notice. Many of these troops, officers and men, had served with me on the fields of Mexico against a foreign foe, and it is a source of no little satisfaction to know that the laurels there won have been further adorned by the praise worthy alacrity with which they aided to allay a destructive fratracidal strife at home.

With the firm reliance in the protecting care and overruling Providence of that Great Being who holds in His hands the destinies alike of men and of nations, I bid farewell to Kansas and her people, trusting that whatever events may hereafter befall them, they will, in the exercise of His wisdom, goodness and power be so directed as to promote their own best interest and that of the beloved country, of which they are destined to form a most important part. JOHN W. GEARY.

Lecompton, March 12, 1857.

THE HOTEL ACCIDENT AT WASHINGTON.

The cause of the explosion at the National Hotel, in Washington, is very justly exciting attention, with the view not only to its prompt removal, but in order to preserve other establishments from a similar affection. A medical writer in the National Intelligencer thus expresses his views in regard to that matter:

The disease originated in and has been confined to the hotel, affecting the guests, proprietors and servants of the house very generally, and occasionally the casual visiters. The disease was of a peculiar and unusual type, not readily yielding to medical treatment, frequently recurring, and has not been, so far as the writer knows, fatal here in any instance.

With regard to the cause various conjectures and explanations have been given, and it is easier to say what it is not than what it is. The story of the poisoned rats in the cistern is false; the use of copper vessels in the kitchen was abandoned, at an early period; the drinking water is the same as that drank at Brown's Hotel and in the neighborhood without any detriment and is perfectly pure and wholesome. The writer does not believe that the cause was either in the food or drink, for these rare sons. The symptoms of the disease were not such as are produced by any mineral or vegetable poison; persons living on every variety of diet were equally attacked, and some who lived in or frequented the house, but neither ate nor drank there, were seized. The invasion of the disease was in some cases too remote in time from the exposure to be consistent with the idea that a corrosive position was the agent, as is also the fact that frequent relapses have occured in those who have left the city.

The affection resembles somewhat that which is caused by a peculiar animal or organic poison sometimes generated in sausages, pork, cheese, &c., but then how can we account for those of the house who neither ate nor drank in the house were attacked. Nor is it probable that all the victims partook of the pernicious articles, even if such existed.

My own explanation or theory (differently expressed) is that the disease was caused by a poisonous *miasma*, generated in and rising from the sewers, cesspools and sinks about the lower parts of the house. A large public sewer runs down Sixth street, and receives all the waste and filth from two large hotels, some restaurants and livery stables, public bath house, &c. Last fall a stink-trap was placed at the principal opening at the corner of Sixth Street and the avenue, and thus the escape of the effluvia (previously most offensive) into the opening air was prevented. The inevitable result would be that the pernicious miasm would find its way through the communication between the house and the sewer, and I have just been informed that such a communication does exist. The house is deficient in ventilation, and a large steam boiler in the cellar, by rarifying the air has aided in discriminating the poison through all the premises. During the warm weather in February, when the doors and windows were all thrown open, no new cases of the disease occured, but as soon as the weather became cold and the avenues of ventilation were closed, it broke out afresh.

Now, for the removal of the cause. Let all parts of the establishment be put and kept in a state of perfect cleanliness; let every opening into the public sewer be closed or guarded by stench traps have the steam boiler taken out of the house entirely; construct ventilating shafts from the cellar to the roof, provide means of letting fresh air in and foul air out of the public halls and parlors, and I feel assured that the National Hotel will be as healthful as any other one in the city.

If there be any truth or justice in these hastily penned remarks, it would be well for other hotels and houses to take measures of the precaution against similar causes of danger to themselves.

Washington is, I honestly believe, the healthiest city of its class in the country. The past Winter has been very exempt from fatal disease, as is proved by the fact that in the month of January there were but sixty three deaths in a population of sixty thousand. Strangers do often get sick, and sometimes die here; but this is often due rather to their imprudent mode of life and habits than to any insalubrity of climate or place.

The Population of the World.—According to the American Almanac for 1857, the most reliable estimates of the population of the globe are as follows: Africa 100,000,000; America, 57,678,882; Asia and Islands 626,000,000; Australia and islands, 1,248,000; Europe, 262,517,521; Polynesia, 1,500,000.

☞ Kossuth still owns 1,000 acres of prairie land in the vicinity of Corpus Christi, in Texas, which were presented to him when he was in this country.

THE PRICE OF MONARCHY.—The cost of the British government the last year amounted to the enormous sum of $327,870,000.

Particulars of the Appalling Colliery Explosion in England.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY LIVES LOST—PERILOUS DESCENT INTO THE BURNING MINE.

By the last steamer we received an account of the appalling colliery explosion in the village of Hemmingfield, Yorkshire England. Further particulars go to show that it was the most disastrous calamity of its kind that has ever occurred. On the morning of the 19th of February, about 220 men and boys descended into the pit, having preceded them to ascertain if the pit were safe. At noon a number of the men came out of the pit to dinner—some state 20, some 30—and at that time they had not observed the slightest indication of danger. While the men and the inhabitants of the district were partaking of the midday meal, about half past twelve o'clock a rumbling noise was heard, accompanied with a sensible vibration of the earth, and at the same time a loud report, which was heard at Hoyland, Wentsworth and other villages some miles distant from the pit.—Immediately after the explosion vast numbers of persons rushed to the mouth of the pit, many of whom had relatives among those below; and some idea of the excitement which prevailed may be gathered from the fact that after the explosion the mine was fired and the flames spread with such rapidity and vehemence that they ascended up the air shaft, which is about 260 yards deep, and towered above the copula for some twenty yards, illuminating the country for a distance around. All efforts to extinguish the fire with engines were found to be fruitless, and it was then attempted to rescue some of the unfortunate people within. Three daring fellows ventured down, and succeeded in saving nineteen men, more or less injured by the explosion. After this it was determined to hazard an attempt at exploring the workings of the pit. Among those who went down was Mr. Webster, who gives the following account of the state in which he found the mine during his perilous exploration.

"He said that on getting to the bottom of the shaft they found that the lower portion of the slides and board gates were entirely blown up and destroyed, and on proceeding further they found the coal round the furnace was in a complete state of ignition. The coal and wood work in the upcast shaft had taken fire and the flames were raging furiously. He could compare it to nothing but a river of molten lead being poured down the shaft. They proceeded up the levels and bour l gates as far as they dared to venture, until they came in contact with the inflammable gas, and were obliged to retreat. They returned to the shaft, and then made an examination of the north levels, along which they proceeded for a distance of 400 yards, up to the first board gate. During the investigation they found many dead bodies, and the men who accompanied them brought the remains to the shaft. One man was found dead close to the bottom of the shaft, further on they found ten bodies in a mass.—Not far from the furnace it was supposed that a large number of bodies were lying, as the men generally congregated near the fire at dinner time. The furnace was blown down and the stables (containing six horses) were on fire. When they got near the upcast shaft they saw immense masses of coal and rock falling down. The shaft was like a furnace. They were in the pit above two hours. The stoppages and battresses between the two shafts were completely blown away, and, therefore except in the level, the pit was dead, i. e., full of bad air. They would have succeeded in putting up stoppages, but the fire increased to such an extent that they were obliged to retreat. They were so placed that if they had not retreated they would have been excluded from the air and suffocated, because the air was "backing" direct from one shaft to the other.

Himself, Mr Coe and Mr Maddison, ascended the shaft and held a consultation, but their companions ascended in haste, saying that it was impossible for any one to remain down any longer. Of course they then considered it their duty to acquaint the owners with the position of the mine, and to state that it was imperative to close the shafts, as there was no probability of saving any more lives, and it was the only chance to render the pit in a condition fit for working again. Mr. Webster added—My companions and myself, feeling the awful responsibility which rested upon our shoulders, thought it only prudent to consult with the men who had gone down with us. They were called in seperately, and asked if they were of opinion that it was impossible to get any more bodies out of the mine. They concurred in our opinion that it was impossible, and we acted upon their resolution and our own, by covering over the top of the pits. In a few minutes after we came out of the mine, the cupola shaft was filled with fire, which reached 50 yards above the summit, and the sparks from that body of flame ascended 1000 yards higher.

After ascertaining the number of parties then in the pit, the painfull result was arrived at, that 162 men still remained in the burning mine, of whose escape from the fearful doom not the slightest chance was entertained, as these fires not only last sometimes for days but for weeks and months.

As to the cause of the explosion, no particulars have yet been ascertained nor probably ever will. The survivors are unable to account for it; and the explosion seems the more strange as the pit had been carefully examined only a few hours previously. It is conjectured that a "fall" had taken place in some distant part of the pit, and suddenly let in an overcharge of fire-damp, which by some means ignited and so caused the explosion.

The Woes of Kansas.

Under the stimulant of partizan phrensy, many have denied the statements that have been made in regard to the desolation wrought in Kansas by Border Ruffianism. Democratic partizans have declared that such statements were "fusion lies," put forth for mere party effect.

We have now a witness whose testimony ought to secure the belief of those Democratic disbelievers.

When Gov. Geary resigned the Governorship of Kansas Territory, a "Farewell address to the people of Kansas Territory." In that address he fully confirms the tale of outrages which have been published from time to time.—He says:

"I reached Kansas and entered upon the discharge of my official duties in the most gloomy hour of her history. Desolation and ruin reigned on every hand.—Homes and firesides were deserted. The smoke of burning dwellings darkened the atmosphere. Women and children driven from their habitations, wandered over the prairies and among the woodlands, or sought refuge and protection even among the Indian tribes. The highways were infested with numerous predatory bands, and the towns were fortified and garrisoned by armies of conflicting partizans each excited almost to phrenzy, and determined upon mutual extermination. Such was without exageration, the condition of the Territory at the period of my arrival.

A Novel License Law.

In the Assembly, yesterday, Mr. Hanford introduced a bill to license the drinkers of intoxicating liquors. It provides that no person shall drink strong liquors without first obtaining a license, which may be granted by any Justice of the Peace, on the following terms:

For a license to drink lager beer, currant or any domestic wines, 50 cents.

For strong beer 75 cents.

For whiskey and home made liquors, $1.

For French or any imported brandy, $2 50.

For Champaigne, Burgundy or any foreign wine, $5.

No married woman is to obtain a license without the written consent of her husband, and no minor, without a written consent from his or her guardian.

The license can be revoked in cases of gross intoxication, but this section is not to apply to a licensed clergyman or member of the Press. No dealer is to serve liquor to a person without the possession of the license, and then only such liquor as is named therein.

The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole.—*Albany Statesman.*

A RICH CABINET.

The following is given in one of the public journals as an estimate of the wealth in real estate and otherwise of the different members of the Cabinet:

Lewis Cass, say	$2,000,000
Howell Cobb,	500,000
Jacob Thompson	1,000,000
John B. Floyd,	600,000
Messrs. Toucey, Black and Brown,	500,000
Total,	$4,600,000

The foregoing is, of course, a mere guess and it is no doubt extravagant, yet the Cabinet as a whole, is unquestionably rich in a pecuniary point of view. Ambition, honor and elevated station must have great attractions to Secretary Cass, who, with such an immense fortune, is willing, nevertheless, to undergo all the toils and anxieties of one of the most responsible places under this or any other Government. At times, the labors of the State Department are, indeed exhausting. Gen. Cass, too, is quite an old man, upwards of seventy, but fortunately he is in robust health, and his mental faculties are in full vigor.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court of the United States is constituted as follows:

Roger B. Taney, of Maryland.
John McLean, of Ohio.
James W. Wayne, of Georgia.
John Catron, of Tennessee.
Peter V. Daniel, of Virginia.
Samuel Nelson of New York.
Robert C. Grier, of Pennsylvania.
Benjamin R. Curtis, of Mass.
John A. Campbell, of Alabama.

Of the foregoing, Messrs. McLean and Taney were appointed by General Jackson; Messrs. Catron and Daniel by Mr. Van Buren; Mr. Nelson by Mr. Tyler; Mr. Curtis by Mr. Fillmore, and Mr. Campbell by General Pierce. It will be seen that of the nine Judges, five are from the Slave States, and four are from the free.

Horne Tooke was the son of dealer in poultry, which he alluded to when called upon by proud striplings of Eton to describe himself—"I am (said Horne) the son of an eminent Turkey merchant.

☞ I will give you a recipe for cooking hominy with one-fourth the labor of the old way: Put your hominy over the fire as usual, and boil one hour; take it off and put a blanket over it, then turn a tub over that, and it will be perfectly cooked.

There is an old clock in the Philadelphia Library, that tradition says once belonging to Oliver Cromwell, and now lacks but a very little of being two hundred years old.

Agricultural Column

Amalgamation of Potatoes.

A pamphlet has been published in Scotland, by a farmer named Craig, on the potato disease and its cure. By planting three different kinds of potatoes together last year, very favorable results were achieved. Two out of the three varieties planted had been, on previous occasions, affected by the disease; all were found to be perfectly healthy and sound when dug and gathered. He believes that the potato disease may be safely attributed to the violation of one of the laws of nature, and that the generation of the malady is occasioned by the plants being too closely bred, or, in other words, by "sub-breeding," i. e., "breeding in and in."

The lesson we derive from this is, that two or more varieties of seed potatoes should be planted in each hill.

What say our potato philosophers to this? If the argument or objection applies to potatoes, why not to turnips and to all other plants? and why not to grain, grass, fruits, and so forth? What say our farmers? shall the seed be mixed? Here is an important principle mooted—who shall solve it?

It is probable that some plants may dwindle away, degenerate, and finally "run out," and that they require crossing—but why not cross them on fresh seed of their own sort or variety? as among pure blooded horses and cattle? In this way the same quality may be kept up forever.—Plant potatoes on rich, new, dry ground, upon underdrained land, where they shall not suffer from wet or drought, and we believe they will be free from disease. Plant them in old, low, cold, wet, clayey soil with no matter how much manure, and you may count on poor, diseased, watery tubers.—*Farm Journal.*

EXPERIMENTS WITH GUANO.

Dr H. Hawks of Deerfield, communicates to the *Greenfield Courier* the following result of three experiments with guano, from which he arrives at the conclusion that guano is not so good for heavy soil as light and sandy, and that it is more beneficial for broom corn than Indian corn:

No 1. Mixed 150 pounds of guano with twice its bulk of earth, sowed one half the mixture broad cast on 1 acre green sward land, clay soil, and plowed it under; put the remainder in the hill and covered it before dropping the corn; planted the 22d of May. Result—a light growth and no sound corn.

No 2. Mixed guano as in No. 1, put in the hill about 100 lbs per acre, common loam soil; planted 23d of May. Result—a large growth of stalks, about as much soft corn as sound, but ears enough for 60 bushels per acre.

No. 3 Plowed 26 rods of light sandy land, planted six rows with guano in the hill and six rows with ashes in the hill, the same worth of guano, using one lb. of guano to the square rod; planted the 19th of May with broom corn, harvested the last week in Sept., and each six rows was kept seperate. Result—six rows planted with guano 27 lbs. of brush; six rows planted with ashes 27 lbs.; in favor of guano 10 lbs., at 8 cts per lb. would be 80 cts., for making a difference of 22 lbs. per acre, amounting in cash to $0,84 in favor of guano.

☞ Among the highest woods and deepest glens of Brazil, a sound is sometimes heard so singular, that the noise seems quite unnatural. It is like the distant and solemn tolling of a church bell, struck at intervals. This extraordinary noise proceeds from a bird called the arawongo.

The bird sits on the top of the highest trees in the deepest forests, and though constantly heard in the most desert places, it is very rarely seen. It is impossible to conceive anything of a more solitary character than the profound silence of the woods broken only by the metallic and almost supernatural sound of this invisible bird, coming from the air, and seeming to follow wherever you go.

The arawongo is white, with a circle of red round its eyes; its size is about that of a small pigeon.

GOOD ADVICE.—If you wish for a clear mind, strong muscles, and quiet nerves, for a long life and a comfortable one in old age, avoid all drinks but water, and mild infusions of that fluid; shun tobacco and opium, and every thing else that disturbs the normal state of the system; rely upon nutritous food and mild dilutent drink of which water is the basis, and you will need nothing beyond these things, except rest, and the due moral regulation of all your powers, to give you a long, happy, and useful life, and a serene evening at its close.

PRUNING.—Pruning may be attended to this month, and what cannot be done now should be adjourned over to June. Remove all dead limbs from the orchard.—Young apple trees should have their superabundant wood thinned out. Limbs that cross each other should be removed. The head of a tree may be trained to almost any desirable shape by early pruning. A low head formed in the shape of an inverted umbrella, is on the whole the best to give the growing fruit the most air and sunlight.

☞ Domestic economy is a science—a theory of life, which all sensible women ought to study and practice. None of our excellent girls are fit to be married until they are thoroughly educated in the deep and profound mysteries of the kitchen.