

Miscellaneous.

TWO WONDERFUL CLOCKS.

One of the most curious clocks ever made was completed not many years ago by Karl Ketter, a German miner of Pennsylvania. It so nearly resembles the Strasburg as to seem almost an imitation; but Ketter declares that he has never seen the great clock of Strasburg, and that he never even heard of it until his own work was nearly completed. At any rate, some account of Ketter's clock will be of interest to American boys and girls, as the first piece of mechanism of this sort on our continent has produced.

Ketter was occupied three whole years in the construction of this wonderful time-piece, during the last of the three working at it day and night, and often so absorbed in his undertaking as to forget both food and sleep. He was a man of very limited education, without any of the advantages of travel or wide observation, and the whole work of this curious clock was performed with no other tools than two common jack-knives.

The clock is eight feet high and four broad, has sixteen sides, and is surmounted by a globe, over which is a cross. There are four dial-plates, all carved in curious, emblematic figures of most unique design. One of the dial-plates shows the day of the month another, the day of the week; a third, the minutes and seconds; and the fourth, the hour of the day. Above the dial-plates, a gallery extends about half way around the clock, and in the center of this gallery is a carved wooden figure of the Savior, while at each end is a small door opening into the body of the clock. Over the right door is an eagle, and over the left a rooster. Twice a day—that is, at noon and midnight—there is a sweet chiming of bells, during which a small door at the right opens, twirling wooden figures, personating the twelve apostles, march in procession, with St Peter at their head, all along the gallery. Each in turn, as he passes the Lord, bows with face toward him, and then, resuming his former position, walks slowly forward till he reaches the door at the left, which they all enter. When Peter salutes the Lord, the clock crows; and when Judas, who is in the rear with one hand shielding his face and the other grasping a bag, reaches the clock, it crows twice. At the extreme corners of the clock, placed on pedestals, are beautifully carved statues of Moses and Elias, and in the rear are two obelisks of the Egyptian style, inscribed in hieroglyphics and designed to symbolize the ancient period of history. The clock will run thirty-two hours, and by special attachment, the procession of the apostles may be repeated whenever desired.

But the most astonishing thing I ever heard of in the way of a time-piece is a clock described by a Hindoo rajah, as being a native prince of Upper India, and jealously guarded as the rarest treasure of his luxurious palace.

In front of the clock-disk was a gong swung upon poles, and near it was a pile of artificial human limbs. The pile was made up of the full number of parts for twelve perfect bodies, but all lay heaped together in seeming confusion.

Whenever the hands of the clock indicated the hour of one, out from the pile crawled just the number of parts needed to form the frame of one man, part joining itself to part with quick, metallic click; and, when completed, the figure sprang up, seized a mallet, and walking up to the gong struck one blow that sent the sound pealing through every room and corridor of that stately castle. This done, he returned to the pile and fell to pieces again. When two o'clock came, two men arose and did likewise; and so through all hours of the day, the number of figures being the same as the number of the hour, till midnight, the entire heap sprang up, and marching to the gong, struck one after another, each his blow, making twelve in all; and then fell to pieces.

CURING AND FEEDING CORN FODDER.

Cornfodder, as we term it, is very good feed for farm stock when cut at the proper time and well prepared for the barn. I do not think this fodder has been appreciated at its true value, though there has been much thought and written on the subject.

When I was a boy I never saw an acre of corn treated in the same manner that we now use in this section. I have seen many farmers practicing now in Vermont as far as I know.

It was not uncommon in my young days in New Hampshire for farmers to feed the bulk of their cornfodder until it is thoroughly ripened or killed by successive frosts. The top stalks were removed about September—first of the month in average years. When the corn commenced to harden these stalks were bound in small bundles and stood on the adjacent grass land, and when cured were very nice fodder. But the bulk of the fodder still remained, and by the exposure and ripening was ruined.

When the corn was harvested the cattle would eat it, and so they will dry corn cobs, were not one per cent. of nourishment can be found. One man says he plants a small kind of corn, that the fodder may also be of a fine quality. I think I can suggest an improvement on his plan.

I have a kind of eight rowed corn which is as large as any of the kind I have seen. I get over a hundred bushels of ears per acre with ordinary culture. But the stalks are small, not growing much if any more than six feet high. A year or two since I had very good luck in curing them in our yard and fed them to my oxen and cows, and I can easily carry in my arms at once every stalk they left.

My usual way of preparing this fodder is as follows:—Cut the corn at the ground when about half grown or hauled; while the stalks are yet green bind about seven or eight stalks in a bundle, and put from three to five bundles in a stack; set them firmly on the ground and put a band around the top of the stack. A short rain or two will not injure them. When sufficiently cured huck them in the field, or cart to the barn and huck there. You will be pleased with the corn, which will be ripened and ready for the crib.

I usually cut my oats when the straw is about half turned, and if I have good luck in curing it makes very palatable food. After threshing, I take of straw and cornfodder and with alternate layers now them in some convenient place, and feed out in November and December. There will be but little waste, and cornfodder must be very dry if this mow does not mow, as it probably will in most cases. But the cattle do not mind the mow, and eat this prepared fodder readily and do as well on good hay. Farmers can feed from a mow of cornfodder as above and from a mow of hay alternately if they prefer.—Vernon Corrope, of the Germanistown Telegraph.

My daughters say, "How much better father is since he used Hop Bitters." He is getting well after his long suffering from a disease declared incurable, and we are so glad that he used your Bitters.—A lady of Rochester, N. Y.

BULL RUN. Some one wanting to know, has been putting it plumply to Gen. Johnston why he didn't follow up the advantage of Bull Run by the capture of Washington. There are two reasons," he said, "myself and the Potomac." I had reached the age when I knew that an American soldier could not ford a river a mile wide and eighteen feet deep. In brief Washington was on the wrong bank, fortunately.

There is a season of failures, everything failed except Days Kidney Pad. THADEUS STEVENS. When 'Thad' Stevens was a young man in the Pennsylvania Corps, he once let his case by what he considered a wrong ruling of the Judge. Disgusted, he hanged his law books on the table, picked up his hat, and started for the door with some vigorous words in his mouth. The Judge feeling that his dignity was assailed, rose impressively and said: "Mr. Stevens," Mr. Stevens stopped with the Emperor's monogram and a colored representation of the harbor of Otranto, Italy. It also bears the date 1813. The relic is thought to have found its way to Florida in care of the son of Marshal Murat, who went to that State in 1821.

Again Victorious. At the International Dairy Fair, held in New York, December 1879, a committee of the most expert butter makers made the most careful tests of all the different butter brands. The result was the unanimous award of the prize to Wells, Richardson & Co's Perfect Butter. Again this original and perfect color secures a victory as it always does when there is honest and fair competition with any of its competitors. Sold by Druggists and Merchants. Take no other.

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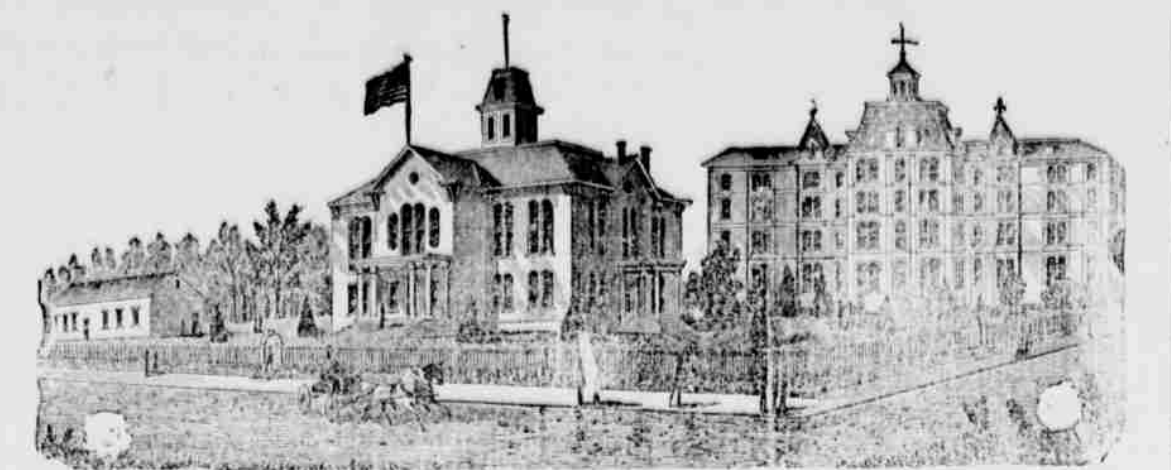
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