

THE COLUMBIAN AND DEMOCRAT, BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA.

Miscellaneous.

Pearl Rivers and Sharks.

The pearl divers of the Cormandor Coast are not unfrequently attacked by ground sharks, as a rule, a shark will leave a man with a dark skin alone; but when hungry it rarely makes a difference between a European and a Hindoo. Knowing this the divers frequently arm themselves with a stout bamboo, in the shape of a cross, with the extremities made sharp. With this four pointed dagger they will dare any shark to seize them, for, as the monster turns on its back and opens its mouth for the bite, they dexterously thrust the bamboo cross between the jaws.

Great care is taken of strength of the bamboo; the consequence is that the shark, on closing its mouth to get the first taste of its anticipated meal, drives the spikes well home into the jaws.

Fishermen say that once a shark has a sturdy, well pointed and placed bamboo in its distended mouth, no efforts of the creature can rid it of the wood. Its efforts are being described as being most curious and comic. The diver, as soon as he has impaled his enemy, has to get out of the way as fast as possible, for a blow from the tail of an irritated shark is no joke. As for the comic side of the picture, it must be a jolly sight for little fishes to witness, to see their bated, but now impotent, arches wildly tearing about, either to escape or in the deep, with a crasshaw between his distended jaws.

SOWING RYE IN DRILLS.—Persons who have only small farms, or garden plots, and wish to grow a little rye, for the sake of the straw or for other purposes, can do it very successfully in drills, which should be at such a distance apart as will admit of hoe culture. In this way, with a little competition in the furrows, I have grown it, even or rather thin soil, at the rate of twenty-five bushels per acre, and the straw from five and a half to six feet in height. Such a yield is much better than the average broad cast culture. The culture is a small item, and the harvesting, without implements, adapted to it, is more trouble than is necessary, for ten thousand dollars, and then it is not so good as the wider drill.

A Cleveland druggist received \$300 from Mill Creek township, Mercer county, for damages to his samples caused by his tumbling in the mud on account of the bad condition of the road.

An Iowa woman examined a straw cutter in a hardware store, and she has just recovered \$300 damages for the loss of two fingers, and is glad that the machine was not installed.

Williamsburg lumber manufacturers estimate that two hundred millions of feet of lumber have already been cut and hauled on the streams ready to be floated to the boom when the spring freshets set in. A bus season is anticipated at the mill.

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The easiest way to get a living," says a vagabond poet, "is to sit on a gate and wait for good luck. In case good luck don't come along, you are no worse off than you were before."

An insurance agent, urging a citizen to get his life insured, said: "Get your life insured, for ten thousand dollars, and then if you die, you will be the widow's heart will be broken."

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Johnathan presented himself and his intended to the minister, for the purpose of being married. Being questioned if they had been published, oh, I guess so! I told it to Uncle Ben, and he told his wife mom's a fool."

A little four year old child in Portland could not understand why he was being repelled by his mother and relatives. He was sorry, he was told it was his fault, and he asked his parent and exclaimed, "Papa I am sorry you're a fool."

A fellow coming out of a tavern one cold frosty morning, rather top-heavy, fell on the door step. Trying to regain his foot he remarked, "If it be true that the wicked stand on slippery ground, I must be third, the fool that is not satisfied with being a fool, but underdressed, in addition to the difference will be clear. And it is natural that this should be the case. Almost any vegetation let to take care of itself after seedling or planting, with no soul stirring to mitigate the severity of droughts, cannot make the growth it would with good cultivation. Rye is no exception. It might not pay so well on a large scale; but even if not certain, in case we had implemented adapted to this mode of culture.

Workingmen.

Before you begin your heavy spring work after a winter's rotation, your system needs cleansing and strengthening to prevent a attack of Ague, Biliousness or Spring Fever, or some other Spring sickness that will unfit you for a season's work. You will save much sickness and great expense if you will use one bottle of Hop Bitters in your family this month. Don't wait. See another column.

As we are rapidly floating down life's rugged stream of time toward the brink of eternity, let us think, and do nothing, but that which will be worthy of praise by our fellow-travellers, and commendable in the sight of God. We are but mere mortals, having our habitation in the dust, and as year by year we shall bring us to where we shall finally be laid by our earthly friends, let us hasten to sow seed from which, after we have passed away, conquest over conquest will be the fruits. Beware of love for earthly things, we must steel our hearts and minds against even the thought of joys which have no connecting link with the endless chain of heavenly bliss; but, rather, let us fix our affections on heaven—that heaven of everlasting rest toward which the faithful and pious Christian is journeying—the only spot where the sense of mortal honor can terminate.

Many ladies misinterpreted their sufferings. Try a box of "Sellers' Liver Pills." Sold by all druggists.

Washington as a Voter.

Washington voted at all the Fairfax elections until the close of his life, uniformly supporting the Federal candidates. A though living some distance from the Court House, at the Alexandria market, he generally voted early. The polls were reached by a flight of steps outside which in 1799 had become old and shaky. When the General reached the steps he put one foot upon them and shook the crazy ascent as if to try its strength. Instantly twenty brassy arms, one above the other, grasped the stairway, and a dozen men's shoulders grasped it. Nor did a man move until the venerable chief deposited his vote and returned. "I saw his last bow," said one of them half a century afterward: "it was more than kindly."—*Harpers Magazine.*

BLOWING OUT A KEROSENE LAMP.

A very common method of extinguishing a kerosene lamp is to turn down the wick until only a minute flame is visible and then blow down the chimney. This is a very dangerous practice, being very frequently the cause of explosion. People who use kerosene lamps should make it an absolute rule never to attempt to extinguish a lighted lamp in that way, however small the flame. Scientific reasons might be given for such advice, but the best reason that can possibly be given is the fact that explosions frequently result from a neglect of it. It is just as easy to blow into the lower end of the chimney as the top; the only difference being that in the former case the person blowing is required to stoop a little, while in the latter such an infliction of the body is not required.

The city editor of the Des Moines, Iowa Leader has sued a man for \$200 for money loaned. Two hundred dollars a day editor!!! Money to loan!!! Why, what are we? Bless our souls, this looks—! There is need of investigation here.—*Phila. Enquirer.*

A physician told a Chicago man, that he could cure him of his love of whisky, and the horrified man at once notified the doctor that he should employ another medical adviser.

"Merit will win," is illustrated by the rapidly increasing demand for Dr. Day's Pad. For sale by Peoples' Drug Store.

During the eight years in which Thomas Jefferson practiced law he was employed in 948 cases. Revolution, however, turned him from law to statesmanship and he never resumed the practice.

Twenty-five thousand quails are being imported from England to be set at liberty in Pennsylvania.

News from all Around.

Pearl Rivers and Sharks.

The pearl divers of the Cormandor Coast are not unfrequently attacked by ground sharks, as a rule, a shark will leave a man with a dark skin alone; but when hungry it rarely makes a difference between a European and a Hindoo.

"My boy" said a distinguished merchant to his son, who was meditating matrimony, he said, in your selection, to get hold of a piece of goods that will not wash."

A printer, in setting up the sentence, "we are but parts of a stupendous whole," by mistake, put a letter made in red, we are parts of a stupendous whole."

"Take a ticket, sir, for the benefit of the Widows and Orphans Fund society?" "Well, y-a-s-a-don't care so much for the orphans, but go it strong for the widows."

The United States Supreme court has decided that capital invested in national banks cannot be assessed by the State authorities at a higher rate than other money capital.

Religion apparently flourishes in Louisville. The Episcopal parish there have offered Mrs. Latoy of Omaha \$1,200, to sing for a year, and her sister Miss Spoor \$900.

There is a little difficulty with reference to the will of the late Senator Chandler, it having the requisite number of witnesses, and his residence in Washington will have to be sold at auction to give a valid title.

"If it wasn't for the hope the heart would break," at the old woman said when she buried her seventh husband, and looked anxiously among the funeral crowd for another.

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