AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Continue to sow early kinds of beets for late use and for greens.

Blight attacks without warning; cut away the branch or tree, as the case may be, and burn.

If the tomato rot appears, cut away and burn all affected fruit as soon as a spot appears.

Plant bush beans for succession.—When Limas reach the tops of the poles pinch off the ends.

Next year's crop of asparagus will depend upon a vigorous growth of tops this Summer; do not allow them to be cut away.

Sow turnips of the Ruta-baga sorts the first of July. The "Long White French" is superior to all others for the table.

The greater the distance from market the harder should peaches be when gathered. The fruit should still be firm when it reaches the market.

Keep the ridges on which sweet potatoes are growing free from weeds.—When the vines begin to run, do not allow them to take root; lift them occasionally.

Early varieties of apples and pears keep but a short time after they are gathered, and are readily bruised. If assorted and properly packed in crates they are often more profitable than later.

If cucumber seeds are to be saved, mark the earliest and finest specimens before any are cut for use. To prolong the bearing, cut away all of proper size, whether needed for use or not. Sow seeds for pickles.

Celery should now be planted; make well manured rows three feet apart, plowing out furrows, manuring them and turning back the soil; roll and harrow until the surface is fine, and set out the plants six inches apart.

If the vines of the late squashes take root at the joints, do not disturb them. Continue to hand-pick and crush the eggs of the squash bug. Squashes of late kinds that set too late to ripen should be used for the table; they are superior to any early kinds.

July is seed time for plants of the turnip kind. There are, indeed, cold, heavy soils where Swedes need to be sown in June to make a crop, but generally the former half of July is early enough, while for those known as English turnips, if sown the latter half, and up to the 10th of August, they will give good returns.

Newly planted trees usually have a struggle for existence in July. It will be wise to mulch these before dry weather begins. The object of a mulch it to prevent evaporation of moisture from the soil, hence litter of any kind, chip dirt, or even stones will answer.—If the surface of the soil can be frequently stirred and kept light this will answer the same purpose as mulching.

Judge Miller, in the *Rural World*, tells us that fine grass mowed and let get perfectly dry is a nice material for mulching strawberries, but if it is put off until the fruit is nearly ripe, it should be perfectly dry, or it will injure the fruit. The evaporation of the sap in green grass will give the berries a bad taste, as well as give them the appearance of being scalded. One trial of this, forty years ago, taught him not to repeat it.

Try the plan of selling half of the cows if the supply is not ample for heavy feeding, and then give all the food the whole lot would have received to the remainder, and see if there won't be as much income. When Winter comes there will be less to keep over.—This is the proposition: if the cows last year averaged 150 pounds of butter, see if half the number of cows wont' average 800 pounds. And thus figure out the advantages. It can be done, and are you not smart enough to do it?

Our hot sun and dry weather ripen grain and grass, or at least bring it forward so that it is ready for the scythe and sickle much earlier in the season than in the climate of Europe. July is really the first and perhaps the most important harvest month. The great grass crop is to be cut, cured and harvested. Winter grain, over a great part of the country, is to be cut this month, while, at the same time, when from any cause short crops are anticipated or are to be provided against, it is even now not too late to get in a crop of millet or of fodder.

Splitting of Cabbage Heads.

The *Husbandman* recommends the following to prevent a very common trouble with cabbages. The remedy is not new, but is that adopted by nearly all growers: "If a season of drought occurs when the cabbages have begun to head, the heads will harden prematurely, and then, should a heavy rain fall, the plants will start into a new growth and many of the heads will split in consequence. This should be carefully guarded against by going frequently over the piece while the heads are setting and 'starting' every cabbage of which the head is nearly formed. A stout potato hook applied just under the leaves and pulled to one side sufficient to break the roots slightly will accomplish what is needed. If after having been 'started' in this way, some heads still seem inclined to burst, start these slightly on the other side. The heads of such plants will often attain, without bursting, to double the size they were at the time of starting."

In this country every boy, rich or poor, is the better off for a trade. The lad favored by fortune does not require mechanical knowledge to earn his living, of course; but an industrial training may develop in him a genius for invention that would benefit the race; and a trade in the hands of a poor boy is sure means of gaining a living. If all classes are to be reached, therefore, it is hard to see how this can be done without an industrial training department in each school.

The boys in Shenandoah, this State, gather sulphur diamonds and sell them for $40 a pound.

A Pioneer's Tussle With Indians.

A daughter of Adam Poe, known to the present pioneer-history reading generation as Adam Poe, the Indian fighter, is the oldest person living in Wayne county, Ohio, writes a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*. She is ninety-five years of age. In speaking of the conflict with Bigfoot she states that her father's account of the fight differ's from the account given by historians, who wrote that her father, Adam Poe, had the encounter with Bigfoot, when she says that her father always told that his brother, Andrew Poe, had the hand-to-hand fight with the Indian chief, while he, Adam, shot and killed the Indian. Her recital of her father's account is as follows: "A body of seven Wyandottes made a raid upon a white settlement on the Ohio River, near Fort Pitt, and killed an old man who was alone in a cabin. The news of the murder soon spread, and my father and Uncle Andrew, with some neighbors, set out to capture and punish the murderers. They followed the Indians all night, and next morning found a trail leading to the river. My uncle Andrew did not go directly to the river, but left father and the others and went through the thicket. He stole down to the bank and discovered Bigfoot and a little Indian with guns ready waiting for the pursuing party. Unce Andrew concluded to shoot Bigfoot, and raised his gun and pulled the trigger. The gun only snapped, and did not discharge. The snapping attracted the attention of the Indians and they discovered Andrew, who saw it was too late for him to run, so he sprang toward the Indians. He caught them both and threw them down. The little Indian got loose and drew his tomahawk to kill Andrew, who kicked backward and knocked the tomahawk from the little Indian's hand. Meanwhile Andrew was holding Bigfoot. He finally released him, and seizing a gun belonging to the Indians, shot the little Indian. Bigfoot again grabbed Andrew and they rolled into the water, and Andrew got Bigfoot's head under water, and, supposing the Indian was drowned, he released his hold. His supposition was not correct, and they both started for shore. Bigfoot reached the shore first, and picked up the gun with which Andrew had shot the little Indian. At this time my father appeared on the scene, attracted there by the report of the gun. His gun happened to be empty, and both he and Bigfoot started on a race to load. In his hurry Bigfoot jerked his ramrod out too far, and it fell out of his hand. My father loaded first and shot Bigfoot just as the Indian was raising his gun. Seeing Andrew in the water, my father looked after him, and found that he had been wounded in the wrist by the little Indian's tomahawk. Andrew called to father that he could hold himself, but father was anxious for his safety and went to his assistance, while Bigfoot, in his dying struggles, rolled into the river and his body was carried off by the current. The remainder of the pursuing party came up, and seeing Andrew in the water, took him for an Indian and shot him in the shoulder, but he soon recovered. The other Indians were overtaken and killed, and in that fight my father was wounded.

A Typical Irishman.

Pat Power, of Donegal, was a furious dre-ss-eater, but an amusing character withal. He was of rough exterior, had small regard to his dress or personal appearance, and was possessed besides of a most mellifluous brogue. These peculiarities, while traveling in England, made him the object of some practical jokes, which, however, rather recoiled on those designing them. For instance, on one occasion, when seated in a tavern, a group of "bucks" of the period honored him with their regards. They sent the waiter to him with a gold watch, belonging to one of them, with the request that he would tell the time by it. Power calmly took possession of the watch, sent his servant to fetch his pistols, and with one under each arm, approached his would-be tormentors and politely requested to be introduced to the owner of the watch. The request was received in silence. He then put the watch in his pocket, declaring that he would keep it safe till called for at the same time stating his name and where he was to be found should the owner desire its return. It was not claimed. On another occasion, under similar circumstances, a waiter was sent to him with a plate of potatoes, which he ate with apparent relish.—Then, ascertaining from the attendant to whom he was indebted for the repast he caused his servant to bring in two covered dishes, one of which was placed before the gentleman in question, and the other on the table at which he sat. The covers were removed, and under each a loaded pistol was seen. Power, taking up his weapon, cocked it, and invited his volunteer entertainer to do likewise, assuring that gentleman that if he killed him he was perfectly ready to give satisfaction to the friend who sat behind him. Needless to say, the practical joker declined the invitation.

Paris Dangerous for Pedestrains.

Paris is the most dangerous city in the world for the foot passengers. There is no rule of the road and no policemen to guard the crossings. The pavements are mostly smooth, silent asphalt and all the cabs are insured in a company for that purpose, so the drivers are reckless, and so if a man gets in the way of a cab he is arrested for obstructing the traffic. If he has been run over it is all the worse, for he has more effectually obstructed the traffic and besides collected a crowd. In the principal streets of London this sort of thing is better regulated than any where else in the world. In the middle of the street there is a guarded safety spot. All traffic must keep to the left of the direction in which it is going. A person crossing has only to look for vehicles one way. A policeman stands in the center to see that foot passengers have a fair show for their lives. A little of that kind of tyranny would not be a bad importation to introduce in some of our American cities.—*Detroit Free Press.*

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Winged Scavengers of the South.

The so-called turkey buzzard is not a buzzard, but a vulture. By insisting upon this distinction the buzzard tribe could improve its reputation for cleanliness. It is against the law in almost every southern state to shoot a turkey buzzard. There are two excellent reasons for this prohibition; the buzzards are the scavengers of the south, and there is no telling what sort of a pestilence a dead turkey buzzard would bring on if anybody should kill one.

The turkey buzzard is a knowing bird. He knows he is not good to be eaten—though his knowing this does not imply that he has superior knowledge—and he is not shy of mankind. He hovers over the market places in the southern cities, waiting for business to close; and when the crowd of purchasers has departed the buzzard descends and feasts upon the odds and ends that have fallen from the butchers' and the fishmongers' knives. The scarcity of hash, mince pie and fish chowder in the southern states is something for which the buzzard should have credit. In Charleston there is a big public market down by the water, and the buzzards always clean up after business hours.

The wisdom of the turkey buzzard is known also by one of his expedients for getting rid of work, which is fatiguing in the southern states. He goes to the mouth of rivers, where the conflicting forces of current and tide deposit on the banks a considerable proportion of the carrion and other unwholesome things that are borne toward the sea on the river's flood, and there he accommodates his not very fastidious appetite to the movement of the tides. All animals that perish inland are found by the buzzards. It is even said that flocks of these birds will hover for days and nights over a horse or cow that is on its last legs. A northerner was driven out of southern Georgia last winter by some one telling him that the buzzards were beginning to keep an eye on him. Last summer the sheriff of a county in Florida disappeared in the woods after having loaded up a big revolver, and told his wife he was going to shoot himself. Some little effort was made to learn was made to learn whether he had kept his promise, but after a day of searching in the cypress swamps the searchers sat down in the shade of their houses and said they would wait three days; when the buzzards would find him, and then they would find the buzzards.

The turkey buzzard, despite his formidable look, is a harmless bird. Not only does he never strike a creature till it is down, but he hardly ever strikes it till it is dead.—*New York Sun.*

How to Get Rid of Rats.

An attempt to catch rats by traps or poisoning them suddenly, will fail. Old rats know too much and can only be caught by kindness. To destroy them give them a good meal every day. Do not put any poison in the food, but simply prepare a dish for them daily, as a free lunch, composed of corn meal moistened with milk, into which an egg and a little salt (to season) has been beaten. At first they may not touch it, but keep it before them, making it fresh daily. They will soon try a little, and if not injurious their suspicions will be allayed. In a week or ten days they will expect it, and every rat on the place will be at the appointed place for the treat. Give them plenty of it, so as to induce all the rats in the neighborhood to join in. Do not be in a hurry to prison them. If they eat all the food give them a large quantity the next time. As soon as they have thrown off all suspicion go to your druggist, get some phosphorus paste, or other rat poison, mix it with the food, and be sure you give them enough and something to spare, so as to induce all to eat. They will either be killed or become so suspicious of all other food as to leave, and not a rat will remain. Hence, to destroy rats take plenty of time, gain their confidence, and finish them when they least expect it.

Ruling Passion Strong in Death.

Dr. Swan relates a very sad case of the ruling passion strong in death. I always believe a doctor's story, except in a case of cure. If the patient dies, you never hear anything but the truth. If he lives, the doctor has to find some explanation of the phenomenon. Doctors, of course, see a vast variety of human nature, and especially its weak sides. This is a touching story of a young and fair girl, leaving the bright world while the dew of life was still laying on its morning glories. You can imagine the sadness of the scene. The growing certainty of the end, the passing beauty of the world the bright vision of all the happiness and the joy, the heavy shadow hanging over all.

"It is hopeless," said the gentle doctor. "You cannot live."

"And must I die?" she asked.

"You can not live."

"Tell me, doctor, one thing before I go."

"What is it?"

"Does the hair change color after death?"

"No."

"Then I die happy. I'll look as well as those Smith girls on the day of judgment, anyway."—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

A Cautious Chap is John Chinaman.

Among the passengers on a north side car was a disciple of Confucius, who earns a living by washing shirts and stockings in a Clark street basement. Suddenly the Chinaman held up his hand, focused his oblique eye on the conductor and calmly waited for the car to come to a full stop before he ventured to step off.

"That's just the way with these chaps," said the conductor, giving the bell two vicious jabs. "A Chinaman will never get on or off a car unless it is standing perfectly still. We always have to stop for them. They are more particular than an old woman with the rheumatiz. I have been a conductor for six years, and in all that time never saw a Chinaman get on or off a moving car. I have talked with the other boys, and they say it is a full stop every time for a Chinaman. Why is this so? I give it up. You ought to be as good at guessing as I am."—*Chicago Herald.*

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Try it for toothache,
Try it for backache.

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Thomas' Eclectric Oil is the best thing going, pa says. Cured him of rheumatism and me of earache—two drops.—Master Horace Brenner, Clinton, Iowa.

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Try it for a lameness,
Try it for a pain,
Try it for a strain.

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Try it for a bruise,
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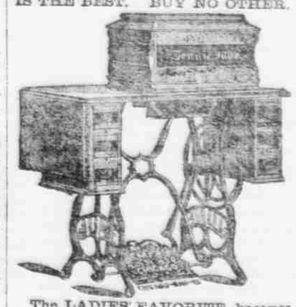

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Children and Nature.

Children have quick perceptions, and therefore are good observers of sorts. The observations they make, however, regarding the animals and plants about them, while often in themselves quite accurate, lead to very incorrect conclusions. This is because children do not reason deeply. It takes a long time for them to learn that not once or twice, but a great many times must one phenomenon follow certain other preceding phenomena to warrant the use of the logical terms effect and cause. Caution in forming deductions comes only with experience and education. Children have keen eyes for any strange peculiarities as well as for real or fancied resemblances, and are quick to appreciate the qualities of plants. An enthusiastic botanist and teacher, speaking of children, said: "They bow as to some fetich before poisonous plants." Monstrosities in Nature fascinate them. Double apples, strangely shaped knots from trees, grotesque roots, curious lichenes to get hold of the properties of plants explains how it is that children (boys particularly, because they are more in the outdoor world) find so many things to eat in the woods and fields. A boy accustomed to tramp about will seldom go a hundred rods afield before he begins to nibble or chew something that he finds growing in his path. Can you not recall a dozen wild things of which you were fond in childhood which long ago passed from your list of edibles? Sassafras bark, both of twig and root, spice wood, "slippery-elm," the buds of the Linden-tree, the shoots from the spruce and larch, all tickle the palate of the boy or girl. Men whose boyhood was passed anywhere in Northern New England may recall how fond they once were of something which was called "silver," the cambium layer of the white pine. In certain places it is the fashion to chew the leaves of the Antennaria, "Indian tobacco"—in others, thistle-blossoms. Will ever honey taste as sweet as did the dainty drople taken direct from some unfortunate bumble-bee captured and dismembered by the boy seeking what he may devour?—*Popular Science Monthly.*

The Queer Vehicles of Persia.

The cajavahs and taktravan are substitutes for wheeled vehicles, to be used when there are no wagons. The former name is given to two light frames with box bottom which are suspended one on either side of the horse or other beast of burden. The cajahvah is more available than the taktravan, and safer in most places. The sides have to be equally balanced. So if the occupant of one side is of less weight than the person in the other side, the difference is adjusted by the addition of a stone or some part of the luggage. The top is provided with hoods over which canvas is fastened, thus affording a protection from sunlight and rain. The taktravan may be described as a box set in the center of two parallel poles. The ends of the box, serve as shafts. In these a horse is hitched, the head of the rear horse being tied to the box. These conveyances are usually made of wood, and of water-tight top slides. The vehicle is suspended by rings to loops attached to the pack-saddles.

A Happy Man.

A man on his own farm, well cultivated and kept well stocked, with good modern dwellings and barns and outbuildings, master of both time and acres, tied to no hours by the calls of bells or whistle, free to come and go according to the necessities of none but himself, mostly in his own fields, performing his healthful labors within sight of the smoke of his own chimneys, is surely as rich in the genuine sense of that word as any man can be. He has nothing to fear, and nobody to envy. Of one thing he is sure, and that is a suf