Birds that Help the Farmer.

The material is largely in hand in the newly organized division of economic ornithology of the department of agriculture for a series of bulletins upon the relations of several common species of birds in this country to agriculture. Dr. C. H. Merriam, the head of the division, places the English sparrow as chief of the pests which threaten destruction to the valuable branches of agriculture. This bird, which was imported for the protection of shade trees from caterpillars, etc., has multiplied to such an extent as to become a greater scourge than the one it was expected to counteract. The new territory which it invades is estimated at more than 130,000 square miles annually, and its destruction of fruit is almost incomputable. The bob 'olink of the north is found to be helpful to grain growers, as it lives upon field insects and the seeds of destructive weeds, but in the south its ravages in the rice fields are estimated to cost the planters from $3,000,000 to $4,000,000 annually. Dr. Merriam says that ornithologists are convinced that the services of hawks and owls are of great value to farmers. Not more than three out of upward of thirty different species prey upon domestic fowl, and even these more than remunerate the farmer by killing field mice. The other species live entirely upon field mice, grasshoppers, beetles, and other vermin which are great destroyers of grain. The crow has received considerable attention from the doctor and his correspondent, but the evidence in hand is not sufficient to warrant a verdict. So far as it goes it creates impressions in its favor. It is a corn thief to be sure, but its pilferings may be guarded against, while on the other hand it destroys some kind of field vermin in great numbers, to say nothing of its work as a scavenger.

MEDICAL SCIENCE IN CHINA.—The Chinese have a medical literature of a kind, but they know nothing about even the the elementary principles of anatomy and physiology. A Chinaman who wishes to become a doctor does not go through any training or spend money in buying a practice; he has only to purchase a pair of spectacles and gather some herbs, a few spiders and some snakes, which he places in bottles in the window of his shop. The bottles are his advertisement; they tell all who are in need of healing to come to him. His favorite prescription is a horrible pill, compounded of parts of snakes, wasps, centipedes, toads, and scorpions, ground small and mixed with honey.

Another pill, supposed to be of extraordinary efficacy in cases of extreme weakness, is made of the bones of tigers. The belief in its merit is based on this strange piece of reasoning. "The tiger is very strong; the bone is the strongest part of the animal"—therefore, a pill of this must be pre-eminently strengthening." These facts speak eloquently as to the state of medical science in China. The lamentable consequence is an excessive mortality. It is calculated that 33,000 die daily, and this number is of course largely increased during an epidemic, which is no uncommon visitor.

BUTTERMILK AS A DRINK.—A great physician one said that if every one knew the value of buttermilk as a drink it would be more freely partaken of by persons who drink so excessively of other beverages, and further compared its effects upon the system, to the cleaning out of a cook stove that has been clogged up with ashes that have sifted through, filling every crevice and crack, saying that the human system is like the stove, and collects and gathers refuse matter that can in no way be exterminated from the system so effectually as by drinking buttermilk. It is also a remedy for indigestion, soothes and quiets the nerves, and is very somnolent to those who are troubled with sleeplessness. Its medicinal qualities cannot be overrated, and it should be freely used by all who can get it. Every one who values good health should drink buttermilk every day in warm weather and let tea, coffee and water alone. For the benefit of those who are not already aware of it, I may add that in the churning of it, the first process of digestion is gone through, making it one of the easiest and quickest of all things to digest. It makes gastric juice, and contains properties that readily assimilate with it, with very little wear upon the digestive organs.

THE telescope was an accidental discovery. The children of a Dutch spectacle-maker, named Lippershey, were playing with some of their father's glasses before his door, setting them this way and that, and peeping through them in turns, for fun, when, by a certain accidental arrangement of the glasses, they were surprised to see the spire of the distant church brought to all appearance, close to their eyes. The spectacle-maker was called to witness the phenomenon, and was filled with a strange delight with what he saw. He from this set about the construction of the telescope, and when it was finished, took the instrument to Galileo, who improved upon it, and astonished the Doge and the nobles of Venice by one day presenting it to their wondering eyes to look through.

CLEANING CHIMNEYS.—A simple and effectual way to clean out chimneys, and also to remove clinkers from stoves and furnace grates, is to burn a piece of zinc about the size of one's hand. The soot in the chimney is converted into fine white ashes, which rise and are carried off like smoke. What chemical action takes place in case of the clinkers we do not explain, but can testify from experience as to their thorough removal by throwing a small piece of zinc on the fire.—*Congregationalist.*

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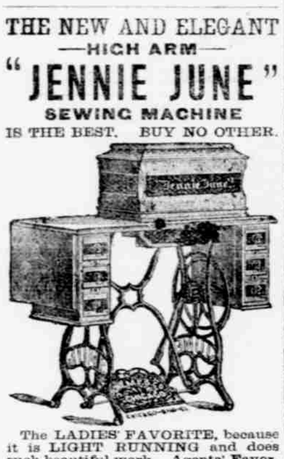

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The True Story of Mazeppa.

Leading Facts in the Life of the Rider Celebrated in Poem, Painting and the Drama.

A portrait of Mazeppa, painted from life has been discovered at Kief, in Southern Russia, and is being engraved by the Russian academician, Demery Kowkosky.

It will surprise nearly every one who hears that Mazeppa was a real, living man who could sit for his portrait—he seems so like a purely mythical being like Bellerophon or like one of the Amazons. Yet he was a real man and cut quite a figure in his part of the world 200 years ago.

John Stephanovitch Mazeppa was a Cossack, who made a successful war upon the savage Tartars who desolated Southern Russia, driving them back to the Caspian.

This so recommended him to Peter the Great that he invited the Cossack to his court and covered him with honors and gifts. But when Peter sent him against the invading Swedes under Charles XII he betrayed the Russian and went over with his followers to the enemy.

Peter defeated them both and drove them into Turkish territory, where, fearing to fall into the hands of his former relentless master, Mazeppa killed himself.

He had before this hidden all the treasures which he had amassed in his wars and through gifts from those he had served, in caverns in the hills around Kief. The portrait now discovered was probably hidden at this time.

The incident by which we know him actually did occur.

He was by birth a Cossack, but when very young he was sent to serve as a page in the court of the Polish King.

There his beauty and bravery won him great favor, especially with the ladies.

With one of them, the wife of a certain noble, he was suspected of too great an intimacy and the jealous husband in revenge ordered him to be bound naked to the back of a wild horse, that had never been ridden. The horse was a Tartar horse, from the Steppes, and when loosed he rushed madly back to his native country with the unwilling rider bound to his back.

The Cossacks received the unhappy youth when nearly dead from exhaustion, and he grew up among them, remarkable for strenght and bravery.

Byron got his story out of Voltaire's "Life of Charles XII," and worked it up into his dashing and attractive poem

A story so dramatic was at once seized upon adaptation to the stage and it was prsented here as early as 1825 by an englishman named Hunter. He also was a very hansome man and made a great stir in the town. This was at the circus which is now the Walnut Street Theatre.

The picture of Mazeppa bound to the horse's back, which everybody knows so well, was painted by Horace Vernet, one of the greatest of French artists. Vernet, of course, got his inspiration from Byron, to whom we all owe whatever knowledge we may have of the brilliant Cossack rider and soldier.

Mazeppa's real motives for betraying Peter are not certainly known. The Poles, who look upon him as a hero, always have maintained that he had in view the welfare of the Polish nation, and they point to the fact that he stipulated with the Swedish King for the independence of Poland.

If this be the truth, it gives a certain dignity to the act, but the Russian story runs more in accord with what otherwise is known of him. They say that he was led to go over to the enemy by the blandishments of a certain Polish princess. This would better correspond with the rest of his adventurous career.

Few men, however, who are simply adventurers get their actions recorded by a historian like Voltaire, and celebrated by a poet like Byron, and painted by a master like Vernet, and get to be known by all school boys who speak the English language, and all this not from any act of doing, but one of suffering merely.—*Philadelphia Times.*

A NATURAL LAWYER.—A man dropped in on a Stocton lawyer the other day and wanted to borrow ten dollars.

"Haven't got it," said the lawyer.

"Well returned the modest man, "can't you borrow it for me?"

"I might; but you must pay back that five dollars you borrowed of me a year ago first."

He left. The next day he came again, and brought the five dollars.

"Thank you, thank you," smiled the member of the bar, pocketing the piece.

"That ain't the proper thing to say; 'thank you' is too tame."

"Yes?"

"Yes."

"What should I say, then?"

"Why, you ought to say, 'Come on, old boy, let's go down and have somethin'."

"Well, then, come on, old boy!"

They went down and had something, and the "old boy" called up all his friends.

There was just three dollars and ten cents left out of the half eagle

That afternoon the "old boy" dropped in on the lawyer again.

"How about that ten dollars?" he asked.

"What ten dollars?"

Why that ten dollars you were going to lend me if I brought back the five. I've come to get it."

"Great Cæsar! Say, just sit down over there and go to studying law. I need a man just like you; I'm going to make you my partner."

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has heretofore been made in the treatment of rheumatism, neuralgia, and nervous or sick headache. This is evidenced by the failure on the part of thousands of sufferers to find relief, even though they have exhausted the skill of various physicians and tried numerous so-called remedies. To such Athlophoros is offered as a *safe, sure,* and *quick cure.* Its success has been phenomenal, and yet it is not surprising because it *will* do all that is claimed for it. The Athlophoros Co. will gladly refer any who desire to make an investigation to reliable parties who have been cured by it.

Warrensburgh, N. Y.

Enclosed find postal note for one-half dozen bottles of your Athlophoros. It is wonderful how it cures every case where I can persuade them to try. The sales are increasing. My sister-in-law was given up to die by the doctors; they sent for me; I took a bottle of Athlophoros and persuaded her to try it, the second dose gave relief. She had not lain in bed for two weeks; the next night she went to bed and slept all night; in one week she was up and at work around the house. Many thanks.

MRS. JNO. D. NUTTING.

It is owing to Athlophoros that I am alive. I have suffered with inflammatory rheumatism for years, most of the time being perfectly helpless. But one bottle of Athlophoros has cured me. There is nothing like it for the speedy relief and permanent cure of rheumatism, so I recommend it to all, knowing it will accomplish what it claims to do. MRS. E. VICKERS,
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A beautiful Temperance Picture. Old and young may look at it and learn a lesson. Endorsed by Mrs. Hon. Judge Edmonds, Rev. Dr. Talmage, Mrs. Frances E. Willard and others of the N. W. C. T. U. It is not a picture, nor a chromo, but a genuine Rembrandt Etching, size of plate paper, 22x34, executed on rollers ready to hang on the wall. Sent postpaid to any address in the United States or Canada. This is not a lithograph. This is an etching. We will show it and it sells itself. Satisfy yourself and friends, for sample copy and terms, address R. W. KELLEY, 721 Sansom St., Phila., Pa. Mention this paper.

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25 YEARS IN USE.
The Greatest Medical Triumph of the Age!
SYMPTOMS OF A TORPID LIVER.
Loss of appetite, Bowels costive, Pain in the head, with a dull sensation in the back part, Pain under the shoulder-blade, Fullness after eating, with a disinclination to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, Weariness, Dizziness, Fluttering at the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Headache over the right eye, Restlessness, with fitful dreams, Highly colored Urine, and CONSTIPATION.
TUTT'S PILLS are especially adapted to such cases, one dose effects such a change of feeling as to astonish the sufferer. They increase the Appetite, and cause the body to Take on Flesh, thus the system is nourished, and by their Tonic Action on the Digestive Organs, Regular Stools are produced. Price 25c. 44 Murray St., N.Y.

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GRAY HAIR OR WHISKERS changed to a GLOSSY BLACK by a single application of this DYE. It imparts a natural color, acts instantaneously. Sold by Druggists, or sent by express on receipt of $1. Office, 44 Murray St., New York.

NOT DEAD YET!
VALLIE LUTTRINGER,
MANUFACTURER OF
TIN, COPPER AND SHEET-IRON WARE
AND TIN ROOFING,
Respectfully invites the attention of his friends and the public in general to the fact that he is still carrying on business at the old stand opposite the Mountain House, Ebensburg, and is prepared to supply from a large stock, or manufacturing to order, any article in his line, from the smallest to the largest, in the best manner and at the lowest living prices.
☞ No penitentiary work either made or sold at this establishment.
TIN ROOFING a SPECIALTY.
Give me a call and satisfy yourselves as to my work and prices. VALLIE LUTTRINGER.
Ebensburg, April 13, 1883-tf.

Important to Canvassers.
WANTED—Live Canvassers in every county in the United States to sell FOX'S PATENT REVERSIBLE SAD IRON, which combines two irons, Polisher, Fluter, &c., one iron doing the work of an entire set of ordinary irons. Is self-heating by gas or alcohol lamp. DOES AWAY WITH HOT KITCHENS. Price moderate. A large and lasting income insured to good canvassers. Address, for circulars, &c., FOX SAD IRON CO., 95 Reade St., N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED to canvass for the oldest established, best-known Nurseries in the country. Most liberal terms. Unequaled facilities. Prices low. Genuine and lasting. Established 1846. W. & T. SMITH, Geneva, N.Y.

The Pennsylvania Force-Feed

Fertilizer GRAIN Drill.
Warranted the most perfect Force-Feed Fertilizer Drill in existence. Send for circular. A. B. FARQUHAR, York, Pa.

The Future of Farming.

Nothing is more sure than that the future of farming in this country—if it is to be made to pay at all—can be made remunerative only by a complete change of system. The change can never be brought about so long as wheat growing is made a specialty. It is already proving itself to be the bane of American agriculture, not only in yielding no profit to the grower, but in taking the life's blood out of the soil and shipping it off in the grain. It cannot but be observed, even by the common run of farmers, that farming in this country is carried on to a ruinous disadvantage by reason of growing low priced and soil exhausting crops, coupled with the expense and perishable machinery required to save and repair them for market; and that these are the sources which operate as a perpetual drain on the farmer's income. But, as before said, the change must come, and come only through the aid of grass, and in growing such animals as will produce the highest priced meats, not only in the markets of this country but of the world, whether on the hoof in carcasses or casks. Instead of impoverishing the soil, as do crops of wheat and corn, grass performs the part of an improver of its fertility. It is for the butcher, and not the miller, that the farmer should now be growing crops.

Another thing, land that is much tilled must necessarily be well manured, and as this is very expensive the farmer has no other source to look to than grass and stock. He should, therefore, quit raising so much wheat and raise more of such crops as can be fed on his land, and thus convert them into beef and mutton. Even if there should be no more money in it, it is better than losing on wheat, beside it will enable him to support his family, keep him out of debt, and above all, maintain the fertility of his land, and thus be taking no step backward. But the farmer who relies upon wheat as his principal crop not only fails to make any money by it, but is wearing out his land as well. It hardly needs any argument to prove these facts, and that the men who are improving their opportunities are the men who give more of their attention to grazing stock, and thus not only lay the foundation for an easier system of farming, but keep up the fertility of their land.—*Baltimore Sun.*

NAMES OF SOUTHERN NEGROES.—A Yankee friend of mine in speaking of the Limekiln club, says:

"It is inimitable, only that the names of the members are so exaggerated." When I wrote her a list of the queer names that have become so familiar to me from much hearing she declared that she would retract her opinion of the Limekiln names being exaggerated. The negroes generally take their names either from their surroundings or obtain them from the white people, often mixing up names in the most incongruous style. Lilly is the favorite name for the blackest pickaninny among them. Our old washerwoman named her only child Mary Mandy Selina Pleasant Delightful. A bow-legged young descendant of Ham rejoices in the name of Shadrach Meshach Abednego—though he is generally known as Shad.

A fond young mother could not decide what to call her first son, so in her dilemma applied to a young lady, who told her to call him Willipus Wallapus. The name tickled her fancy, and now Willipus Wallapus is added to the list. The same negro has since become the mother of a daughter, and in speaking of her a short time ago, said: "I ain,t sot on no name for her yit, but I'll either call her Queen Victoria or Mrs. Cleveland." She also has a stepson, an overgrown fellow of 17 or 18, who bears the sweet name of Rosebud Tab. But perhaps the most ridiculous names are found in those of the children of a half-witted negro in Alabama. There are three of them, named respectively Heaven, Hell and Moses Smote the Water. A party of picnicers were very much startled in passing her house one day to hear the following command: "Look hyar, Heaven, you niggah, you go down to Hell and git dat ar dipper wot dey got down dere." It was only after a thorough investigation that she could be understood.

SOMETHING ABOUT BATS.—The largest of the bats are the so-calld flying foxes—specimens of which are often landed at San Francisco and shipped east. The face and head much resembles that of the fox, the eyes being large and lustrous. They are especially common in the Indian peninsula, and occasion so much damage in some of the islands which contain large fruit orchards that the planters are obliged to cover the trees with nets. The bats are extrmely large, and when seen hanging from the trees present the appearance of black fruit or seeds. Often as many as 100 will be seen clinging to the same tree, and so powerful or penetrating is the musky odor which they exude that their presence is announced long before they are seen.

These bats are famous for their habits of intemperance, and a party of drunken ones is often met with. Their condition is due to their love for the toddy, which they obtain from the chatties of the cocoanut trees. So intoxicated do they become that they are often found at the foot of trees sleeping off the effects of their debauch, and so fall victims to the vice. Temperance lecturers often use the argument that man of all the animal kingdom is the only one that takes to the flowing bowl, but the bats, monkeys, and elephants are certainly exceptions.

President Garfield's Physician.

Dr. Bliss and other eminent medical men speak in the highest terms of Speer's Wines. Dr. Bliss prescribes these wines in his practice whenever wines are necessary. The following is part of a letter received by Mr. Speer:

I have been greatly pleased with your N. J. Wines, and specially so with the Claret, Burgundy and Port. I wish you to send me two cases of your Claret and one of Burgundy. Also, two cases of Claret and one of Burgundy to my niece Miss——New York City, and send the bill of both orders to me.

Yours truly,
D. W. BLISS, M. D.,
Washington, D. C.

☞ SUBSCRIBE for the FREEMAN.

How's Your Liver?

Is the Oriental salutation, knowing that good health cannot exist without a healthy Liver. When Liver is torpid the Bowels are sluggish and constipated, the food lies in the stomach undigested, poisoning the blood; frequent headache ensues; a feeling of lassitude, despondency and nervousness indicate how the whole system is deranged. Simmons Liver Regulator has been the means of restoring more people to health and happiness by giving them a healthy Liver than any agency known on earth. It acts with extraordinary power and efficacy.

NEVER BEEN DISAPPOINTED.

As a general family remedy for Dyspepsia, Torpid Liver, Constipation, etc., I hardly ever met anything else, and have never been disappointed in the effect produced. It seems to be almost a perfect cure for all diseases of the stomach and liver.
REV. J. A. SHOEMAKER, Shiremanstown, Pa.

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The success of Baugh's $25 Phosphate as an excellent crop producer and permanent improver of the soil, is easily accounted for. It is made of the bones of animals, and with special regard to a general adaptability as a plant food.

Every particle of which bones are composed, is a direct food of vegetables.

We render this food immediately available In the $25 PHOSPHATE

Which we claim to be a very special advantage, as it gives the crop an early start and sustains it until fully matured, besides permanently improving the soil.

MODENA, PA., Jan. 1st, 1886.

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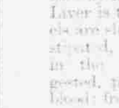

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