Farm, Garden and Household.

Liming Land.

Will you allow me to propound one or two questions for your consideration, which have been induced by reading in the agricultural department of the *Weekly Tribune* of Jan. 8, some experiments by a Pennsylvannia farmer in regard to liming land. Says this correspondent: "I have found exactly the same results on strips of land treated with lime and wood ashes alternately." Now, then, lime being an alkaline substance, or largely so, will not plants, in the absence of potash in the soil, make use of lime as a substitute, and use it with equal effect. Common salt being about one-half soda, an alkali, will not these two substances, lime and salt, used on land fully supply the place of potash?—[W. P. Gates, Windham Co., Conn.]

Reply by S. W. Johnson, author of "How Crops Feed."

The fact that lime and wood ashes may produce the same effect on a soil, is due to the fact that they are commonly almost identical in composition. Shell-lime and lime burned from many limestones contain, independently of matters introduced by fuel, less than one per cent. of other ingredients. Limestones are, however, often admixed with clay, sand, or carbonate of magnesia, and the impurities obtained from them is, after slacking and exposure, quite like *leached wood-ashes* in all essential points of composition. Unleached wood-ashes contain, of course, some 10 to 15 per cent. of potash (as carbonate of potash) in addition. The action of leached ashes must, therefore, be nearly that of ordinary lime when the latter is used after air-slaking, or when it is applied in light doses or on soils whose quality does not admit of much alteration by the chemical energies of quicklime.

Mr. Gates' first question, viz: whether, "in the absence of potash from the soil, plants will not make use of lime as a substitute, and use it with equal effect," is one which can be answered with the most positive certainty; no! The numerous and exact experiments which have been carried out with extraordinary labor and patience by Prince Salm-Hortmar, Sachs, Knop, and many others of the German agricultural chemists during the last 20 years, have demonstrated that lime and potash are generally indispensable to plant growth. These experiments have altogether failed to give any indication that one of these alkalies can be substituted for the other in the plant. The evidence on that subject cannot be given in less than book-limits, being contained in a large number of detailed journal articles. It is to be regretted that none of these are to be found in an English dress. The only fairly adequate account of the results of these investigations is contained in "How Crops Grow," pp. 166 to 172.

Before proceeding to the second question, it must be remembered that while lime cannot take the place nor fulfill the offices of potash *in the plant* it may in certain cases take the place of potash in manure. If the soil is deficient in potash no quantity of lime can be a substitute for it, but if on the other hand, the soil be deficient not in potash absolutely, but in available potash, *i. e.*, in potash which is obtainable or digestible by the plant, then lime serves as a substitute for manuring with potash, by making available the potash which exists in the soil, but only in insoluble forms. Plainly, it amounts to the same thing, whether we apply to the soil a fertilizer containing soluble potash, or a chemical agent which liberates and makes soluble the potash of feldspar, mica, and other materials that are a part of the soil.

The second question as to common salt is answered for the most part in the foregoing paragraphs. Potash is a substance for which nothing can be a substitute in the plant, and which an alkali often absent from and generally unessential to the growth of plants. Even marine or salt-strand plants grow perfectly in absence of soda. Just, however, as lime may accomplish the solution of potash in the soil and render it attainable to vegetation, in sufficient quantity and with sufficient rapidity to make possible the development of a crop, which might fail in its absence, so salt and all saline fertilizers operate, and thus salt, neither of whose ingredients is required by many crops, sometimes has a strikingly beneficial action when applied as a fertilizer. E. Wolff analyzed samples of buckwheat raised from the same soil and seed, one of which was manured with common salt, two others with carbonate and nitrate of potash respectively, and one was unmanured. The unmanured contained in its ash 36.4 per cent. of potash, and 4.6 of salt; the manured with salt contained 38.6 per cent. of potash and three of salt. Those to which potash-salt were added contained 40.1 and 42.4 per cent. of potash and 3.2 and 3.8 of soda. The effect of salt was to increase the proportion of potash rather than that of soda.

Agricultural Notes.

The cry which we heard some time ago that farming, as a whole, does not pay, has ceased, because those who could not make it pay have starved to death or gone into some other line of business.

If your cows eat wood, we should think it an indication that they do not get green food enough. Give them turnips, beets, carrots, or potatoes once a day and see if they do not leave off eating their mangers.

It is said that the Farmer's Club at Avon, Ill., saved $3,000 last year by purchasing their supplies of implements, groceries, etc., in bulk. One of their number acts as agent, and is allowed a commission of three per cent. for his services.

The cattle of New-England and the Middle States command the highest prices in the markets. Three year old steers in Maine average a value of $83; in Rhode Island, $66; in Massachusetts, $65; In New Hampshire, $63.88; in Vermont, $63; in Connecticut, $55.50, and in New York, $52. An average Texas steer is worth only $11.54, and a Florida steer, $14.40.

The experience of each passing season adds proof that corn, as well as other grains, can be more be more advadtageously improved by selecting the largest ears and best-formed kernels for seed, and by careful cultivation, and abundant manuring, than by taking pains to introduce new varities from a distance. Corn is not deteriorated by long acclimatization, but is by careless husbandry and neglect to "select the fittest." An old author who wrote before the Christain era knew how it was himself, and said: "I have seen seeds for a long time selected, and with much labor culled out, nevestheless to degenerate unless the largest were year by year carefully chosen by the hand."

The Money Needed to Begin With.

I beg leave to suggest, says a Kansas correspondent, that a man can start comfortably on a farm in Kansas or Nebraska on at least half the amount of $2,500. If he has served as a soldier in the Rebellion he can obtain 160 acres of land within railroad limits for nothing; if a citizen, he can acquire the same amount for $200, by first preempting 80 acres at $2.50 an acre, and afterward homesteading the other 80. Two hundred dollars is sufficient to erect a house that will be comfortable, and amply sufficient for a time; mine cost $100, is 12x16, and ceiled within; but I am only a single man, and allow an extra $100 for family accommodation. The barn can easily be dispensed with; a wall built up of tough sod, and a roof of boards, furnishes as comfortable a shelter for stock as any wooden barn in existence; is, in fact, more impervious to our searching winds. The roof and woodwork of this would cost about $20. A corn crib would be needed; would cost about $50; $200 will purchase a good farm team here; from $80 to $100 a wagon; $30 a 12-inch breaking-plow, and $60 a couple of good milch cows. The fencing I item we dispense with altogether here; we have a herd law in force which affords far better protection to our crops than most of the average fences do. The total of the above estimates is $860, which is exclusive of the cost of getting here, of living, and of small tools, &c., but 250 or $300 will amply cover these items.

Subsoil Cultivation.

My experience of thirty years has more and more convinced me of the vast importance (after drainage) of thereby breaking the pan and disturbing the subsoil, thus rendering it more friable and accessible to air, water, and to the roots of the plants, rendering it in many cases much more capable of absorbing and retaining the water needful for the growth of plants, and preventing the drying up of the crops on certain soils in hot dry summers. I do not mean merely pulking points through the subsoil, but by following in the track of the common plough in dry weather, breaking up and partially turning over the subsoil without bringing to the surface, but allowing the top soil at the next turn of the upper plough to fall lightly on a broken and friable mass, instead of on a sort of cast-iron floor. The land should be manured before ploughing and subsoiling so that some of the manure falls among the subsoil.—[*Mr. Mechi.*

A Canadian lunatic was lately restored to sanity by escaping from an asylum and spending three weeks in the woods during the coldest weather.

An Old Newspaper—Interesting Reminiscences.

What is more entertaining than an old newspaper? Yesterday's is stale and dull; but to take up one that was printed a hundred years ago, and scan its dingy columns, its news, its gossip, and still more its advertisements, is like receiving direct communication from another world. Such a paper lies before me at this moment. It is a copy of the *New Jersey Gazette*, printed by Isaac Collins, at Trenton, New Jersey, on the 24th of March, 1779. The contrast it presents with the papers of today represents the growth of more than a century. It is yellow and dingy with age, of insignificant proportions, and is printed on coarse paper in large but not inelegant type. Although published in stirring times, it contains but little news, and that is packed away in odd corners, without any of the headings or display now in vogue to call attention to important intelligence. The whole of the first page is taken up with a communication in defense of Continental currency against the attacks of some sordid individual who preferred "hard money" to the greenbacks of the period. It is very spicily written, and shows that newspaper vituperation is not altogether a vice of modern growth. The writer accuses his antagonist of being a "British spy"—the old story of "British gold!"—calls him "an awkward braggadocio" who has "the effrontery to talk big of his birth, education, figure and breeding," whereas "this *Hard-Money*, amidst all his straining at high figure to cover real fact, and pretending to derive his genealogy from the *sunbeams*, is well known to be descended of as low, obscure, mongrel, and motley a mixture as any to be met with. The old man of the family is a mulatto; the mother an Indian," etc., etc. It is easy to imagine "Hard-Money's" feelings on taking up this number of the *Gazette*. We have no copy of the paper containing his reply; but who can doubt that it was pitched in the same lofty strain of scorn in which editors, Congressmen, and belligerent correspondents of our own day are accustomed to "hurl back" injurious accusations?

Turning to the other pages, we find the latest news from London to be under date of December 9. Among its items is one to the effect that 12,000 British troops are to be sent to New York in the spring. Another announces that "all the bishops but four, to their immortal honor, declined voting for that diabolical engine of cruelty, the American proclamation, and avoided countenancing the vindictive shedding of Christian blood." We also learn that "the vacancies in the Hessian troops alone, now at New York, it is said, require upward of 4000 to fill them up." A correspondent "from camp at Fazzel's place in Georgia," under date of January 27, gives a spirited account of the repulse of a British attack upon the camp. A "personal" states that "Major-General Arnold hath obtained leave to retire a while from the duties of his station to take charge of his domestic affairs."

Some of the advertisements are very curious. Here is an amusing sample:

Was found the day of the battle at Monmouth, the 28 of July, 1778, by one of the company of militia under Capt. Parker, of Col. Frelinghuysen's battalion, and put into Capt. Parker's baggage wagon, a good shirt, marked E. L., and a pair of trowsers or drawers, inclosed in a knapsack. Whoever gives the further particulars and proves property shall have them by applying to me at Rockbridge.

HENRY DALGLISH.

Shirts and trowsers were evidently scarce and precious in those days; and the honesty of Mr. Henry Dalglish in advertising them, at an expense of two dollars (that being the rate for "advertisements of moderate length" in the *Gazette*), deserves to be put on permanent record.

Several other advertisements carry us back to a phase of society which has long passed away in the Northern States, and from which the whole Union is now happily free. Mr. Samuel Henry, of Trenton, offers twenty dollars reward for the return of "a negro man named Tom," who is described as "a well-set fellow, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high." Tom did not leave his master's house empty-handed; he had on a short bear-skin coat, white vest, buckskin breeches, and a round hat; he likewise took with him a brown coat lined with brown shalloon, one striped Damascus vest, and sundry other clothes." A postscript to the advertisement states that he was supposed to have taken "the York road," with the intention of getting "to the enemy." Most of the advertisers of goods, lands, etc., state that the Continental "emissions (of paper money) of May 20, 1777, and April 11, 1773, will be received in payment."

No history could give so graphic and living a picture of the time as this dingy, insignificant sheet affords. It is the time itself. And if a newspaper not quite a hundred years old is so precious a memorial of manners, customs, and events, what would we give if we could have as faithful a record of the olden days of Greece and Rome? An eminent scholar has said that a copy of the *Athens Times* (had such a paper ever existed) of the days of Pericles would out weigh in historical value all the researches and discoveries of the most learned of antiquarians. The old Romans had something of the kind, but no copies have come down to us. The Chinese, who seem to have anticipated by ages many of the most important inventions of the European nations, claim also to have been the first to establish a newspaper; and if it be true that the files of the *Pekin Gazette*, preserved in the imperial library at the celestial capital, run back in unbroken succession three or four thousand years, according to the rather extravagant assertions of Chinese historians, it may be that they contain much that is curious and valuable, which the researches of scholars may some day bring to light for the benefit of outside barbarians.

Story of the Little Boy.

Mr. Stephens (Hon. A. H.) of Georgia in a recent address at a meeting in Alexandria for the benefit of an orphan asylum and free school of that city related the following accident: "A poor little boy, on a cold night, with no house or roof to shelter his head, no paternal, maternal, guardian or guide to protect or direct him on his way, reached at nightfall the home of a wealthy planter, who took him in, fed and lodged him, and sent him on his way with his blessing. These kind attentions cheered his heart and inspired him with fresh courage to battle with the obstacles of life. Years rolled; Providence led him on, and he reached the legal profession. His host had died; the cormorants that prey on the substance of man had formed a conspiracy to get from the widow her estates. She went for the nearest counsel to commit her cause to him, and that counsel proved to be the orphan boy long before welcomed and entertained by her deceased husband. The stimulus of a warm, tenacious gratitude was now added to the ordinary motive connected with the profession. He undertook her case with a will not to be resisted; he gained it; the widow's estate was secured to her in perpetuity, and," Mr. Stephens added, with an emphasis of emotion that sent an electric thrill throughout the house, "that boy stands before you."

The Same Old Horror.

When a custom once becomes firmly established, it is nearly impossible to suddenly break it up. So it is with the custom which has long prevailed among pedestrians, of walking on a railway track, and stepping out of the way of a train approaching on one track, directly in the way of another train on the other track. This fe at is one which is extremely easy of performance, but except to those wishing to commit suicide, it is nearly always a very unsatisfactory one. Two men tried it the other day, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and must have been disagreeably astonished by the suddenness with which an unexpected train proceeded to dissect them. So many men have been killed in precisely the same way, that every one knows the danger of stepping on to a railway track without looking to see if a train is approaching. The practice has attained the dignity of a custom in some parts of the country, and warning and remonstrance seem to be of no avail against it.

Labor in Massachusetts.

The fourth annual report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor is a voluminous document of seven hundred pages. The employment of children of tender years, from ten to twelve, or younger, is condemned by the report as "barbarous." The reduction of the hours of labor in Lowell and Lawrence is spoken of, and the report says: "We are strong in the belief that a still greater reduction could profitably be made."

The whole number of laborers under the class of agriculture, is, males, 32,855; females, 31; under the class of professional and personal service, including clerks, laborers, sailors, &c., males, 52,874; females, 1,645; under manufactories, mechanics, and mining industries, males, 215,258; females, 70,861.

From the table presented in appears that the total wages paid in the industrial and mechanical employment was $117,785,661; the number of persons engaged, 277,654; average wages of males per pay, $2.42; females, $1.07; youth and children, 68 cents. A table is also given of the wages of unskilled laborers. The subject of the cost of living is considered, and it appears that the average yearly expense of a family of about five persons is $697.71.

An interesting feature of the report relates to the savings; the number of deposits during the past year was 500,515, the deposits amounting to an average of $84.84 to each depositor. Of 35,603 depositors in thirty-six banks, 25,000 are wage laborers. This would give an average of seventy per cent. against sixty per cent. for last year. A table gives the number of deposits during the last year in sums of $5 and under; between $5 and $25, up to $1,000, with the amount of each division. Reports were received from ninety-six banks, showing that 173,495 deposits were made of $50 and under, amounting to $3,472,549.89; that 72,303 deposits were made between $50 and $300, amounting to $88,000,975.82; of this sum, $12,273,525.71 were deposited in amounts less than $300. "These figures," the report says, "are not estimates, but the actual amounts as reported by the bank officers. In our report of last year we gave the average under $50 as $19.28. It will be seen that the average this year is $20.14. The average deposit under $300 was given in the last report as $58.84. By these returns it is $50.35. The average deposit exceeding $300 is $607.26, or $100,726 higher than the estimated average of last year. It will be noted that our estimated averages of last year were more favorable to the higher classes of deposits than the actual figures will warrant. The statement of last year is then repeated that 1-7 of the amount of deposits belong to parties who are able to deposit more than $500 at one time, and that the deposits of 13-14 of the whole number of depositors amount to little more than the deposits of the remaining 1-14. The next table shows that 33,655 depositors, holding amounts of $50 and under, average 19.87; that 30,168 owned amounts between $50 and $300; that 63,823 depositors owned sums under $300 amounting to $4,920,241.50; while 12,055 depositors owned amounts over $300, and amounting to $7,347,784.18. Part first of the report ends with statements in regard to the hours of labor. A return from one of the largest manufacturing corporations of Lowell shows a reduction in time of 18.06 per cent., a gain of twenty per cent., and an increase in wages of men of 49 cents per day, and of women 39 cents.

A New Business in Paris.

A singular business has lately been discovered at Paris. Two elegantly dressed ladies were pricing some cravats at the Magasin du Louvre, when the clerk noticed that some had disappeared, and, as the ladies were alone at the counter, they were politely asked to step up stairs, where they would be searched by persons of their sex. Of course they were very much offended, but had to comply, and they were stalking up the stairs, when, lo! they dropped a collection of small articles along the way, which the people behind them picked up with great hilarity. It seems that the trick of these females was to throw down what they wished to steal, and, wearing large shoes, would slip them off and pick up the object with their foot; then lifting it as high as possible, hold it there, (the object, not the foot,) which can only be done after much practice; still it seems that ascending stairs is not feasible. Well, seeing their thefts discovered, they cried and fainted, and offered large sums of money to be let free, but in vain. Seventeen hundred francs' worth of articles were seized on them then, and they were taken to prison. They are Spaniards and lady-like in appearance, living in rue Lafayette, and sisters; one is married and her husband pretends to be a broker; their son was in one of our best schools, and they lived in great style. When the husband heard of his wife's arrest, he drove to his son's school, took him away, and left for parts unknown. Forty thousand francs' worth of goods of all kinds were seized in their apartment, nearly all belonging to the Magasin du Louvre, which they seem to have largely patronized.

A Remarkable Marine Engine.

The largest compound engine ever made in this country is now building by John Roach & Son, at the Morgan Iron Works, this city, for the United States frigate Tennessee. The vessel ranks second rate, is 335 feet long, 45 feet beam, and has a mean draft of 21 feet, with an immersed midships section of 725.47 square feet. Her displacement is 4,105 tons. The new engine is intended to take the place of the machinery known as the vibration lever engine.

There are ten cylindrical boilers, double-riveted throughout and with composition tubes. In each boiler there are two furnaces, thus giving a total of 478 square feet of grate surface, 12,836 square feet of heating surface, and 600 square feet of superheating surface, with a working pressure of 80 pounds absolute pressure. The surface condenser attached contains 7,297 square feet of condensing surface.

There are four cylinders, two high pressure and two low pressure. The engine has three thousand horse power, will make fifty-three revolutions every minute, and give a speed of fourteen knots an hour on a consumption of less than eighty tons of anthracite coal per day. The former consumption of the Tennessee for the same speed, with simple engines, was one hundred and twenty tons each per day. With the new machinery a twelve days' supply of coal can be carried in less space than a week's supply with the vessel's former engines. The ship will also be fitted with a four-bladed composition Hirsch screw, having a collective area of one hundred and eighteen square feet.—*N. Y. Paper*

A NEW CONFIDENCE GAME.—A well-dressed young man stopped at a Vermont hotel last week, for a few days, and made acquaintances. The evening of the second day of his arrival a nice young lady came along, unattended, and instantly attracted the attention of the impressible youngsters, who canvassed her charms fully as they sat apart from her at supper. The stranger youth even went so far as to say that he would marry her if she would have him, and offered, for a substantial wager, to pop the question and have the marriage ceremony performed right away. The wager was accepted, and also the proposal of marriage, made so suddenly to her by the young man, and the parson called in, who soon united the twain. The sum wagered was paid over to the happy bridegroom, and he and his bride set out next day on their marriage tour. What lends romance to the circumstance is the fact that the young couple had already been man and wife for a year.

OILED FURNITURE.—When oiled walnut begins to grow dingy, it can be made to look as fresh as new by re-oiling. Linseed or even olive oil can be used, but pure, good kerosene oil is much the best. Rub it well in with a soft woolen rag, and polish with clean, dry flannel.

The Andre Papers.

The following are copies of the original letters and documents found in the boots of Major Andre when he was captured by the immortal patriots, John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Wert.

No. 1. Pass.

(Endorsed) Pass from General Arnold, dated September 20, 1780, to Joshua Smith and Mr. John Anderson, to pass the guards at King's Ferry.

HEAD QUARTERS, ROBINSON'S HOUSE, September 20, 1780.

Permission is given to Joshua Smith Esquire, a gentleman, Mr. John Anderson, who is with him and his two servants to pass and repass the guards near King's Ferry at all times.

(Signed) B. ARNOLD, M. Gen'l.

No. 2.

(Endorsed) Sept. 22, 1780.

Pass to Joshua Smith to pass to White Plains.

HEAD QUARTERS, ROBINSON'S HOUSE, September 22d, 1780.

Joshua Smith, Esq., has permission to pass the Guards to the White Plains, and to return, being on public business, by my Direction.

Signed B. ARNOLD, M. Gen'l.

No. 3.

(Letter enclosed to)

"Thomas Smith, Esq., Haverstraw"

ROBINSON'S HOUSE, Sept. 25, 1780.

Dear Brother:—

I am here a prisoner, and am therefore unable to attend in Person. I would be obliged to you if you would deliver to Captain Cameron, of Lee's Dragoons, a British uniform Coat, which you will find in one of the drawers in the room above stairs. I would be happy to see you. Remember me to your family. I am, affectionately yours,

(Signed) JOSHUA H. SMITH.

Thomas Smith, Esq.

No. 4.

(Endorsed) Items.

Hennirut, (a word not intelligible.)

Elijah Hunter.

Mr. J. Johnson, B. R——r.

Mr. J. Stewart to the care of Joshua Smith, Esq., to be left at Head Qrs.

Isaac Adams, 3, 5, 5.

No. 5.

[Endorsed] Gen'l Arnold's permission to Joshua Smith.

21 Sep., 1780

to Dobb's Ferry &c., &c.

HEAD QUARTERS, ROBINSON'S HOUSE, Sept. 21, 1780.

Permission is granted to Joshua Smith, Esq. to go to Dobb's Ferry with three Men and a Boy in a Boat with a Flag to carry some Letters of a Private Nature for Gentlemen in New York and to return immediately.

(Signed) B. ARNOLD, M. Gen'l.

N. B. He has permission to go at such hours and times as the tide and his business suits.

B. A.

Endorsed. No. 6.

Sept. 22, 1780.

Pass to Joshua Smith to pass to Dobb's Ferry.

HEAD QUARTERS, ROBINSON'S HOUSE, Sept. 23, 1780.

Joshua Smith, Esq., has permission to pass with a Boat and three hands and a flag to Dobb's Ferry on Public business and to return immediately.

(Signed) B. ARNOLD, M. Gen'l.

No. 7.

[Endorsed] Arnold to John Anderson —Pass.

22d Sept. 1780.

HEAD QUARTERS, ROBINSON'S HOUSE, Sept. 22, 1780.

Permit Mr. John Anderson to pass the Guards to the White Plains, or below, if He chuses, He being on Public Business by my Direction.

B. ARNOLD, M. Gen'l.

No. 8.

(In Arnold's handwriting) Gustavus to John Anderson.

The following document is one of the highest importance to the British, inasmuch as "in case of alarm," it made the British—who would have caused the alarm—fully acquainted with the disposition of all the American forces in that vicinity, and thus enable them to conduct an attack to the best advantage. It is of course in the traitor's own handwriting:

No. 9.

(Endorsed) ARTILLERY ORDERS.

WEST POINT, Sept. 5th, 1780.

The following disposition of the corps is to take place in Case of an alarm:

Capt. Dumville with his Company at Fort Putnam, and Lieut. Detach an Officer with 12 men to Wyllye's Redoubt, a non-Commissioned Officer with 3 men to Webb's Redoubt, and the like number to Redoubt No. 4.

Captain Thomas and Company to repair to Fort Arnold.

Captain Simmons and Company to remain at the North and South Redoubts, at the East side of the River, until further orders.

Lieut. Farber, with 20 men of Capt. Jackson's Company will repair to Constitution Island, the remainder of the Company with Lieut. Mason will repair to Arnold.

Capt. Lieut. Sprygenant Lieut. Blake with 20 Men of Capt. Treadwell's Company, will Repair to Redoubt No. 1 and 2, the remainder of the Company will be sent to Fort Arnold.

Late Jone's Company with Lieut. Fisk to repair to the South Battery.

The Chain Battery Sherburn's Redoubt, and the Grass Field pieces will be manned from Fort Arnold as occasion requires.

The Commissary and Conductor of Military stores will in turn wait upon the Commanding Officer of Artillery for Orders.

The Artificers in the Garrison (agreeable to former Orders) are to repair to Fort Arnold, and there receive further Orders from the Commanding Officer of Artillery.

J. BARNES, Major Comm. Artillery.

No. 10.

(In the Traitor's own hand).

[Endorsed] Estimate of the Force at West Point and its dependencies Sept. 1780.

Estimate of Forces at West Point and its dependencies Sept. 13, 1780.

A Brigade of Massachusetts Militia and two Regiments of Rank and file New Hampshire—inclusion of 166 Batteaux men at Verplanks and Stoney Points	992
On command and Extra Service at Fish Kills, New Windsor, &c., &c., who may be called in occasionally	852
Three Regiments of Connecticut Militia under the Com'd of Colonel Wells on the lines near N. Castle	488
A Detachment of New York Levies on the Times	115
	2,447
MILITIA.	
Colonel Lamb's Regiment	167
Colonel Livingston's at Verplank and Stoney Points	87
Colonel Sheldon's Dragoons on the lines about half mounted	142
Batteaux Men and Artificers	250
Total	3,086

No. 11.

(In Arnold's hand).

[Endorsed] Estimate of Men to Man the Works at West Point 30th of Sept. 1780.

Estimate of the Number of Men necessary to Man the Works at West Point and in the Vicinity:

Fort Arnold	620
" Putnam	450
" Wyllye	140
" Webb	140
Redoubt No. 1	150
" 2	150
" 3	120
" 4	100
" 5	130
" 6	80
" 7	78
North Redoubt	120
South "	130
Total	2,438

VILLEFANCHE, Engineer.

N. B. The Artillery Men are not included in the above Estimate.

The virtuence and malice of Arnold's treachery are nowhere more manifest and detestible than in the following document. See how the arch fiend exposes the weakness of the Forts—the ease with which they could be set on fire—the facilities of approach—the commanding heights and rising grounds, etc. The whole too, an expose intended expressly for the British, and yet endorsed as if it had been a memorandum for his own private use and for General Washington.

No. 12

(Endorsed)

Remarks on Works at Wt. Point a copy to be transmitted to his Excell. General Washington.

Sept. 1780.

Fort Arnold is built of Dry Fascines and Wood in a ruinous condition, incomplete, and subject to take Fire from Shells or Causter.

Fort Putnam stone wanting great repairs the wall on the East side broke down, and rebuilding From the Foundation at the West and South side have been a Chevaux de Frise on the West side broke in many Places. The Eastside open, two Boom Proofs and Provision Magazine in the Fort, and slight Wooden Barracks, commanding piece of ground 500 yards West between the Fort and No 4—or Rocky Hill.

Fort Webb Built of Facines and Wood, a slight Work very dry and liable to be set on fire as the approaches are very easy, sullient defense saves slight obstacles.

Fort Wyllys built of stone 5 feet high the Work above plank filled with Earth the stone work 15 feet the Earth 9 feet thick.—No Bomb Proofs, the Batteries without the Fort.

Redoubt No. 1. On the south side wood 9 feet thick, no cannon in the works, a slight and single Abatters, no ditch or Picket. Cannon on two Batteries. No Bomb Proofs.

Redoubt No. 2. The same as No. 1. No Bomb Proofs.

Redoubt No. 3, a slight Wood Work 3 Feet thick very dry no bomb Proofs, a single Abatters, the work easily set on fire—no cannon.

Redoubt No. 4. A Wooden work about 10 feet high at four or five feet thick, the West side faced with a stone wall 8 feet high and four thick. No Bomb Proof. two six pounders, a slight Abatter, a Commanding piece of ground 500 yards Wt.

The North Redoubt on the East side built of stone 4 feet high, above the stone wood filled in with Earth. Very Dry, no ditch, a Bomb Proof, three Batteries without the Fort, a poor Abatter, a Rising piece of ground 500 yards So. the approaches under Cover to within 20 yards. The work easily fired with Faggots dipted in Pitch, &c.

South Redoubt much the same as the North, a Commanding piece of ground 500 yards due East—3 Batteries without the Fort.

No. 13.

(In Arnolds hand-writing.)

Undated. Copy of a Council of War held Sept. 6th 1780.

At a Council of War held in camp Bergen County Sept 1780.

Present the Commander-in-chief. The Commander-in-chief states to the Council, that since he had the honor of laying before the General Officers, at Morristown, the 6th of June last, a general view of our circumstance, several important events have occurred, which have materially changed the prospect of the Campaign.

That the success expected from France, instead of coming out in one body, and producing a Naval Superiority in these Seas, has been divided into two Divisions, the first of which only consisting of seven ships of the line, one forty-four and three smaller Frigates, with five thousand land forces, had arrived at Rhode Island.

That a Reinforcement of six ships of the line from England having reinforced the enemy, had made their Naval Force in these seas amount to Nine Sail of the Line, Two fifties two frigate frigates, and a number of smaller Frigates, a Force completely superior to that of our Allies, and which has in consequence held them Blocked up in the harbor of Rhode Island till the 25th ult. at which Period the British Fleet disappeared, and, no advice of them has since been received.

That Accounts received by the Alliance Frigate, which left France in July, announces the Second Division to be confined in Brest, with several other Ships, by a British Fleet of thirty-two sail of the line, and a Fleet of the Allies of Thirty-six or thirty-eight Ships of the line, ready to put to sea from Cadie, to relieve the Port of Brest.

That most of the States, in their answers to the requisitions made of them, give the strongest assurances of doing every thing in their power to furnish the men and the supplies required for the expected Co-operation. The object of which, however, has been far short of our expectations, for not much above one-third of the Levies demanded for the Continental Battalions, nor above the same proportion of Militia have been assembled, and the supplies have been so inadequate that there was a necessity of dismissing all the Militia, whose immediate service could be dispensed with, to lessen our Consumption, notwithstanding which, the Troops now in the Field are severely suffering for want of Provisions.

That the army of this Post and in the vicinity, in operating Force, consists of 10,400 Continental Troops and about 400 Militia, besides which is a Regiment of Continental Troops of about 500, at Rhode Island, left there for the assistance of our Allies against any attempt of the enemy that way, and two Connecticut State Regiments, amounting to 800, at North Castle.

The Times of Service for which the Levies are engaged will expire the first of January, which, if not replaced, allowing for the usual Casualities, will reduce the Continental Army to less than 6,000 men.

That since the state to the Council above recited, the Enemy have brought a detachment of about 3,000 men from Charles Town to New York, which makes the present operating Force in this Quarter between Ten and Eleven thousand men.

That the Enemies Force, now in the Southern States, has not been lately ascertained by any distinct accounts, but the General supposes it can not be less than 7,000 (of which about 2,500 are at Savannah) in this estimate the Diminutions by the climate of the Climate is supposed to be equal to the increase of Force derived from the Disappointed.

That, added to the loss of Charles Town and Fort Grattan, accounts of a recent misfortune to our Arms have been received, Genl. Horatio Gates, giving advice of a general action which happened on the 16th of August, near Campden, in which the army under his Command met with a total defeat, and in all probability the whole of the Continental Troops, and a Considerable part of the Militia would be cut off.

That the State of Virginia has been some time exerting itself to raise a Body of 3,000 Troops to serve till the end of December, 1781, but how far it has succeeded is not known.

That Maryland has Resolved to raise 2,000 Men of which a sufficient number to compose one Battalion was to have come to this army. The remainder to recruit the Maryland line—but in consequence of the late advices, an order has been sent to march the whole Southward.

That the Enemies Force in Canada, Halifax, St. Augustine, and at Penobscot, remains much the same as stated in the preceding Council.

That there is still reason to believe the Court of France will persevere in their Original Intention of giving effectual succor to this Country, as soon as Circumstances will permit; and it is hoped the second Division will certainly arrive in the course of the fall.

That a Fleet greatly superior to that of the Enemy in the West Indies, and a formidable land Force had sailed some time since from Martinique to make a Combined attack upon the Island of Jamaica, that there is a possibility of a reinforcement from this quarter also, to the Fleet of our Ally at Rhode Island.

The Commander-in-Chief having thus given the Council a full view of our present Situation and future prospects, requests the opinion of each member in writing, what plan it will be advisable to pursue, in order to direct our attention ought to be directed in the course of this fall and winter, taking into consideration the alternative of having or not having a Naval Superiority, whether any offensive operations can be immediately undertaken against the Enemy in Force, or what ought to be our immediate Preparations and dispositions, particularly whether we can afford or ought to send any Reinforcements from this Army to the Southern States, and to what amount, the General requests to be favoured with these opinions by the 10th instant at farthest.

This concludes the famous "*Andre Papers*." A more remarkable set of documents no man ever set foot on before.—The papers themselves look yellow, are much crumbled and worn, and bear evident marks of age.

Every reader can at once see the infinite importance of these papers. Had they been permitted to reach their ultimate destination, in the boot of Major Andre, according to the hopes of the high contracting parties, Benedict, Arnold and Major Andre, what a change would have come over the destinies of these United States. Everlasting gratitude, however, to John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Hert. They arrested the spy, exposed the traitor, and saved the country.

A Sad Story of Defalcation.

A letter from Penn Yan, N. Y., gives the sad results of a defalcation and elopement there. Burns, one of the party, was for four successive terms elected County Treasurer, with a family consisting of a wife and three children. A short time ago he left, and shortly after a young lady, his ward, also left. It was soon ascertained that Burns was a defaulter to the amount of $42,000, and efforts were made to find him. A dispatch received from San Francisco announced that he was there and that he was insane. On the 12th of February the Sheriff and one of Burns' bondsmen, started for San Francisco, and, arriving there on the 20th, took Burns in custody. The meeting between the defaulter and former friend is said to have been most affecting. He grasped the hand of Sheriff Dinturff and wept like a child. As soon as he could articulate a word he exclaimed, "I'm so glad you have come! I'm so glad you have come!" He was then seized with convulsions, and it was some time before he was restored to reason. When he left Penn Yan he wore a heavy black beard, reaching almost to his waist, and his hair was very black. When arrested he had shaved off his beard and his hair was very gray. He is a man forty years of age, but his appearance now is that of a man of sixty.

When the San Francisco officers went to arrest Burns at his hotel, the latter said to his ward, who was with him, "I told you so, Cynthia; I knew they would find us!" and burst into a violent fit of weeping.

In response to inquiries made of him at San Francisco by Sheriff Dinturff, as to where he had been since he left, Burns stated that he and his ward left New York for Central America, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits. The knowledge of his crimes, however, disabled him for business, and he determined to travel, thinking his mind might be quieted of his guilt. He went to England, Ireland, Wales and other European countries, but could enjoy nothing. From Europe he went on a voyage to the Sandwich and Barbados Islands, and finally, on the 10th of January last, landed in San Francisco, a heart-broken, cheerless man. In all his wanderings he was accompanied by his ward, and was haunted continually by the thought that he was pursued. He had a perpetual longing to return to Penn Yan and give himself up, but was restrained by the woman. He said that he never ceased to believe that he would, sooner or later, be apprehended, and arrived at that stage that he was impatient of the delay in justice overtaking him. The happiest moment he experienced since he left Penn Yan was that when he saw Sheriff Dinturff enter his cell, and knew that at last the dreadful suspense was over. He told the Sheriff that he could scarcely wait to reach home, so that he might confess his crimes, receive his punishment, and again commence a new life.

The Scannell Case.

Three weeks were wasted by the Court of Oyer and Terminer in the Scannell murder trial. The jury came into Court after having been out more than twenty-four hours, with the assertion that they saw no probability of agreeing upon a verdict. Judge Brady thereupon discharged them, and sent Scannell back to the Tombs, to take his chance of another trial after a few more months delay. There was no serious denial of the killing. The main defense was placed upon the metaphysical question of moral insanity, which was most elaborately worked out, as though its main object was to produce insanity in the jury. For many months the prisoner sought the life of Donohue, shooting at him three or four times and wounding him once before. He accused him of killing his brother, Florence Scannell, in a fight two years ago, where the two Scannells attacked Donohue and others in a political quarrel.

From that time the prisoner has frequently displayed great emotion when his brother was mentioned, or when he chanced to meet Donohue, whom he had repeatedly threatened to kill. He showed the Court a sample paroxysm while his counsel was summing up. It is very doubtful if he produced any favorable impression. Judge Brady charged the jury on Friday afternoon. He trusted to their good sense for a correct appreciation of the evidence, and fully explained the legal definition of insanity, the occurrence of which would deprive the homicide of criminality. He drew this distinction between unrestrained passion of malice or revenge and that frenzy in which reason and moral responsibility are overthrown and man becomes like a wild beast, dangerous to friend and foe. Sunday morning the jury came into Court. They had not agreed, and wished further light on the subject of insanity. A clear repetition of the law on that point was given them from the bench; yet, after a vain endeavor, they were still unable to agree. It is reported that eight of the twelve had no doubt about their duty to find a verdict of murder in the first degree. Four wondered at the studid obstinacy of twice their number, and voted for the proved insanity of the prisoner.

This result is another confirmation of the truth of an assertion which brought Jack Reynolds to the halter—that "hanging is played out." No other offence is so little likely to be punished in New York as the taking of human life. It may occasion temporary loss of liberty, but the chances of its bringing the slayer to the scaffold are very slim. Life becomes utterly at the mercy of any drunken ruffian in the car or an embittered antagonist in any feud. Scotland requires only a majority of a jury for a conviction. A change of English law is proposed in the same direction; and in the New York Assembly last week, Mr. Voorhis introduced a bill declaring "that after the passage of this act a verdict rendered by two-thirds of a regularly empanelled jury shall be considered in all criminal cases the verdict of such jury." Such a farce as Scannell's case has proved shows that our own statutes might be improved, in the interests of public safety, by a modification of the rules governing trials for murder.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The Modoc Lava Bed.

Jesse Applegate, writing to the Portland (Oregon) *Bulletin*, gives the following description of the lava bed in which the hostile Modoc