Farm, Garden and Household

Economical Fertilizers.

An exchange describes a method of feeding cattle when forage is dear and labor cheap, which combines many excellent points. The materials are roots, hay and meal. The preparation is made by pulping the roots, chaffing the hay, crushing the grain, and steaming the whole together. By two months of such feeding, cattle are made to increase as much in weight as by four months with unprepared food.

For a hundred head of cattle, a sixty horse power engine is required, a root pulper, a chaff-cutter, and a steaming apparatus. The cutter is able to reduce a ton of hay in an hour into chaff of half an inch in length. The pulping and chaffing is done upon a floor or platform, or above the feed box. The roots are fed to the pulper from a floor above it, from which they are shoveled into the hopper with great rapidity. When steaming is practised, the feed is mixed in the proportion of one pound of hay to fourteen pounds of roots; 112 pounds of this mixture, with four pounds of meal, is sufficient for the daily rations of a fattening beast, along with a modicum of dry hay or straw as an appetizer or in the way of change.

The required quantity is mixed and thrown into a steam-tight vat, which is covered, and the steam is then turned on for thirty minutes. It is then cooked, and by and by it is emptied into a cooling vat where it is reduced to blood heat; then it is fed to the animals, and they eat with avidity. When not steamed, the mixed food is heaped upon the floor, where it remains two or three hours before being fed. In this period, it ferments and heats, and undergoes a change somewhat analagous to cooking, by which it is rendered readily digestible.

How Much Timothy Seed to the Acre?

I sow on good land one peck, on poor land one and one-half to two pecks, for the reason that on good land it will stool more, and if the seed is good, and the land in good condition, a good stand will be secured from one peck, and the first crop will not have to be allowed to become dead ripe, that the seed might scatter to help out the stand that ought to be had from the seeding. Many farmers practice this plan, but it is poor economy.

The liberal sower will reap liberally. I therefore would advise that seed enough be sown at first, even if it takes two pecks to the acre. At two pecks to the acre, it costs less than to seed one acre in wheat, at $1 per bushel, while wheat has to be sown every year, and timothy seed from one to five to fifteen years, if a complete stand is desired. I practice the same rule in sowing all other grasses and grains, and for the same reason.

As to time, I prefer on my land to sow in the two last weeks of February, on snow if possible. I have never failed to secure a stand sown at that time, and have nearly always failed to secure a stand sown in September. I am aware that a difference of opinion exists among farmers as to when is the best time to sow, but my experience is decidedly in favor of February seeding.

Timothy, and indeed all other grasses, stands a much better chance to making a stand if sown alone, than if sown with wheat, barley, oats, or any other crop. If sown alone, fall seeding will sometimes allow a crop to be cut the first season, if the seed is well put in and the ground is in fine condition, as all land ought to be, if a good crop is desired or expected.—*Rural World.*

Sociability Among Farmers.

There is no class of beings where sociability ought to be sought for so much as among farmers. No one farmer professes to be proficient in all branches of his business, and as the plan of operations is more or less experimental to a large number of farmers, an exchange of ideas seems almost necessary for the welfare of each. But it is often the case, that the duties and position belonging to this class hinder their sociability. Scattered over hills and valleys, often many miles apart, it is not so easy to keep up intercourse with general society. Nearly all other classes of business men concentrate in cities and villages, where they can enjoy a daily exchange of thoughts and opinions, and greatly increase their fund of information. In this way ambition is aroused, thoughts are awakened, and much is added to the general happiness of life. Such a state of things ought to be more prevalent among farmers. The longer farmers live in a solitary way, the less likely they are to change their habits. And is it not often the case that this course of action, if carried beyond its limits, results in an ungenial, morose state of feeling? The most ardent and cultivated minds would become dull and inactive placed in a a position that many occupy in this world. The man who has access to a large field of thought and information, will accomplish more, and meet his designs better, and with more ease and comfort to himself, than the man destitute of information.

Feeding Horses.

I have seen, says a correspondent of the Germantown *Telegraph*, post-horses (mail-stages) in Holstein and Hanover fed on brown rye bread, made of rather coarse, unbolted white rye flour, somewhat sour, owing to the lactic acid (sour milk risings) employed in making dough, but well baked in kilns constructed expressly, wherein the loaves, varying in weight to upward of forty pounds, stay sometimes twelve to fourteen hours, according to the condition of the firing, consisting of peat, turf parings, brown coal (bituminous), wood, stubble, etc. I saw a large solid loaf brought out, from which chunks of the size of a large walnut were cut into a portable manger, and small beer poured on, well mixed up. The horses greedily fell to, and with a moderate watering atop a large lock of nice hay, drove off at a rattling pace. This is a handy lunch, and no doubt sustained the animals well.

To Measure Hay in the Mow.

Five hundred cubic feet, or a cube of eight feet each way, of closely packed timothy hay will make a ton; 700 feet, or a cube of nine feet each way, of clover and timothy in equal parts, will make a ton. Light meadow hay consisting of blue grass, red top, white bent, or loosely packed clover hay will require 1,000 cubic feet, or ten feet each way for a ton. Allowance must be made for differences in the state of compression in which the hay may be. Clover hay tightly pressed down in a mow under a quantity of grain might only require 700 or 800 feet for a ton. A ton of loose hay is a much larger quantity than most people suppose, and estimates of weights are more frequently too large than too low.

Hair Dressing.

A Boston lady writes: "I am using a hair dressing new made from a recipe sent me by an old physician. Take an ounce each of thoroughwort and garden sage, add one pint of water, and steep until the strength is extracted. Strain, then add one ounce of glycerine and one gill of white brandy. It makes a nice hair dressing. I wash my head once a week in borax water, then rinse with cold water. After my hair gets dry I put on some of the hair dressing. It removes all dandruff from the head, and makes the hair soft and glossy."

PAINTING.—An inexpensive but durable method of painting old buildings is as follows: First give them a coat of crude petroleum, which is the oil as it comes from the wells, and which can be procured for about $4 or $5 a barrel. Then mix one pound of "metallic paint," which is brown or red hematite iron and finely ground, to one quart of linseed oil, and apply this over the petroleum coat. The petroleum sinks into the wood and makes a groundwork for the iron and oil paint. The color of the iron paint is a dark reddish brown, and is not at all disagreeable; it is a color not easily soiled, very durable, and is fire-proof.

"Oh, Edith, won't you kiss Dr. McCluskie?" "I'm so shy, mamma. You kiss him first."

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Interesting Items from Home and Abroad.

The recent outrages in Columbia county, Georgia, are denounced by all good citizens. Two negro men named West and Jim Lovelace stole a bale of cotton from an old white man. The negroes were arrested, and voluntarily submitted to a whipping. Subsequently an armed party called at Lovelace's house. Not finding him, they proceeded to a house where an old negro man was staying, and shot him. They also shot a negro named Griffin in the hand, and killed Griffin's wife..... The famous Emma Mine has been attached by suit of the county collector for taxes, and also upon suits of T. W. Parker—one for the recovery of $110,000, advanced the company by Parker previous to Dec. 1, 1872, and the other for $10,000 on a promissory note given to the Illinois Tunnel Company. It is not expected that these attachments will interfere with the working of the mine..... The Portland *Argus* says that it has been discovered that owing to blunders in the Legislature there is not at present, nor has there been for two years, any Maine Liquor law, or any law against selling liquor. The Attorney-General was in Portland in consultation with the best legal authorities in regard to the matter..... Henry Hagans, of Backwoodtown, N. J., went to market, taking an extra mule to assist in getting on the hard road, and a little boy to take the mule back. It was supposed that the boy went to sleep while returning and fell off, his clothes entangling in the gearing, as the mule was found the next day at Chew's Landing, dragging the lifeless remains of the child, horribly mangled..... The Council has refused to commute the sentence of Wagner, the Isles of Shoals murderer. The vote was two for commutation and five against. The Council has unanimously advised the Governor to fix the last Friday of January next as the time for his execution..... One hundred and thirty-four revenue suits were begun by importers against the Government in the District Court of New York to recover excessive duties paid by them.

At the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland General Craft, from the Committee on the Thomas Monument, reported that a commission had been given to J. Q. A. Ward for an equestrian statue of General Thomas, the statue to be completed in three years, and to cost $35,000, exclusive of pedestal. The War Department has donated eighty-eight bronze cannon, which will be sold, and the proceeds used for this purpose. This will leave about $12,000 to be collected by subscription..... The First National Bank of Wellsboro, Pa., was broken into by masked men, and robbed of $50,000..... The New York Democratic State Convention at Syracuse nominated Samuel J. Tilden for Governor, Wm. F. Dorsheimer for Lieutenant-Governor, Adin Thayer for Canal Commissioner, George H. Wagner, for State-Prison Inspector, and Theodore Miller for Judge of the Court of Appeals..... Samuel B. Dobbins has been nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Second District..... W. H. Betts has been nominated by the Republicans of the Third Congressional District of Alabama..... Wm. J. O'Brien and Thomas Swann have been renominated for Congress in the Third and Fourth Maryland districts..... The Republicans of the First Ohio Congressional District have nominated John K. Green, and of the Second District, Jos. Stevenson.

Judge Walton, of the Supreme Court, of Maine, has decided that the liquor law is in full force in that State, notwithstanding the assertions to the contrary. The argument for its supposed repeal has not, in his opinion, the merit of plausibility..... The grasshopper plague has been so severe that aid to the inhabitants of different parts of Nobraska and the Northwest has been found absolutely essential. A society has been formed in Omaha for this purpose..... Hon. Henry H. Hathorn, of Saratoga, N. Y., was renominated for Congress in the Twentieth District by the Republican Convention..... At a meeting of the cotton and woolen manufacturers at Providence, R. I., the following resolution was unanimously adopted: *Resolved*, as the sense of this meeting, That an immediate curtailment of the production of our cotton and woolen mills is absolutely necessary for the conservation of the interests of our State and community..... Six of the nine Gibson county, Tennessee prisoners were examined before United States Commissioner Garrett, and were held in $3,000 bail each. There being no evidence against the remainder, they were discharged.

A drove of Western cattle on a stampede, at Brighton, Mass., was run into by a gravel train. A dozen were killed. Twenty-one gravel cars were wrecked, and the engineer and fireman narrowly escaped death. The regular trains were delayed three hours..... The suit which was brought against ex-Mayor Martin Kalbfleisch, of Brooklyn, by Mrs. Wade for alleged breach of promise, and which was pushed against his estate after his death, was finally settled by the decision of the Court of Appeals, which sustained Judge Nelson's opinion, and ruling that actions of this kind cannot be brought against a deceased man's executors..... The following order has been promulgated, by which it will be seen that although Congress made no appropriation for the Civil Service Commission, its rules continue to be extended; It appears to me from their trial at Washington and at the city of New York, that the further extension of the Civil Service rules will promote the efficiency of the public service. It is ordered that such rules be, and they are hereby extended to the several Federal offices at the city and in the Customs district of Boston, and that the proper measures be taken for carrying this order into effect. U. S. GRANT..... The account of Capt. Ariza of the battle of Yareyabo, in which Gen. Calixto Garcia was taken prisoner and thirty-six insurgents were killed without a single casualty to the Spaniards, seems to be purely an emanation of the brain. Letters from Santiago de Cuba and Manzanillo say that a truce of ten days had been agreed upon between the Spanish commander of the district, Gen. Marin and Gen. Calixto Garcia for the adjustment of certain questions, and Garcia and his officers appointed a place for the conference. The place of meeting became known to some Spanish officers, among them Capt. Ariza, and the latter, being unable to resist the prospect of promotion, obtained permission from his superior officer to take 100 men and attempt the capture of Garcia, in which he succeeded. Gen. Garcia's mother resides here, and calling upon Capt.-Gen. Concha she obtained permission to telegraph to President Serrano, asking him to spare her son's life..... Ex-Vice-President of the Franklin Savings Bank of Chicago was arrested in New York, charged with embezzling $100,000..... A collision, with some loss of life and several severe injuries, took place on the Belvidere Delaware Railroad, a road of 67 miles in length, which extends from Manunka Chunk to Trenton. The disaster resulted from an open switch..... The Grand Officers elected for the ensuing term by the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F. of the United States at the late session are as follows: Milton J. Durham, of Kentucky, Grand Sire; John W. Stokes, of Pennsylvania Deputy Grand Sire; James L. Ridgley, of Maryland, Grand Secretary; Joshua Vansant, of Maryland, Grand Treasurer.

Unbuttoning a House.

The Paris residence of the late Duke of Brunswick, now in course of demolition in the Avenue Friedland, was a most extraordinary house, as all discovered who attempted to enter it; for, like a coat or waistcoat, it had to be unbuttoned to get in. At the front gate was a metal button, and a visitor would have to press this. It instantly set a number of bells ringing in violent commotion. Admitted into the garden, you still found yourself excluded from the house. Another button had to be touched, and that done, you found yourself in an unfurnished hall. There was no staircase communicating with the upper rooms where the Duke slept. More buttons had to be pressed, and at last you found yourself sitting in an armchair, and raised by hydraulic lift apparently to the living rooms which the Duke used to occupy. The walls of the bedroom were armor. By an ingenious mechanism, and touching a button, a panel in the wall was removed and entrance gained. The strong box nearly killed the workman who endeavored to open it, for it sent off a mitrailleuse-like discharge. The Duke de Treviso has bought the house, and has stipulated that all the treasure discovered in it shall belong to him.

AUSTRIAN POLAR DISCOVERIES

The Farthest Northern Point Reached—Other Expeditions to Follow.

To Austrian enterprise belongs the honor of having discovered the most northern land yet reached by polar expeditions. The narrative of the adventurers on the Tegetthoff is full of interest to all who have followed the history of Arctic explorations. Captain Payer and Lieutenant Weyprecht have secured for themselves and for Austria a permanent lease of fame. In leaving Bremen June 13, 1872, their expectations appear to have been limited to the hope of exploring the coast of Northern Siberia, and did not include the intention of reaching much higher latitudes. Count Wilczec conveyed to them some stores and provisions in his yacht while they were off the coast of Nova Zembla, and left them there in the following August, provisioned for three years. From that time till their return nothing was heard from them, except in the negative evidence of Capt. Isaksen, a Norwegian fisherman, who satisfied himself by circumnavigating the northern extremity of Nova Zembla without finding traces of them, that the explorers had departed thence.

During two years they continued to make the Tegetthoff their home—two winters in which the night was seven months long. In the summer of 1873 they made desperate endeavors to free their ice-bound vessel, but their work of sawing and blasting met no success. Carried onward by the ice-pack, in the fall they were unexpectedly conveyed to the shores of a mountainous country 200 nautical miles north of Nova Zembla. They spent the winter of '73 74 at a distance of three miles from this land, without any harbor, in lat. 79 deg. 51 min. N., long. 59 deg. E. Between March 9 and May 4, of the present year, they made the series of excursions on sledges over this mountainous country which have so redounded to their credit; these extended from 79 deg. 54 min. to above 83 deg. The new-found country was named, in honor of the Emperor, Francis-Joseph Land. Its longitudinal development is at least 16 deg., and from the highest mountain tops they were unable to perceive any boundary. It is principally a plateau, the height being about 5,000 feet; the most elevated portion visited was in lat 85 deg. 5 min. The difficulties encountered in crossing the glaciers and broken ice are represented as extreme. The most northerly point, in lat. 83 deg., was named Cape Vienna.

Life in those dreary solitudes was not attractive; they failed to find any considerable amount of game, and vegetation was exceedingly scanty. Even in the Sound adjoining, driftwood was scarce and only icebergs were abundant. The mountains consist of dolorite—certainly not a cheerful mineral. The temperature during the sledge excursions fell to 58 deg. Fah. below zero, and on the vessel to—51 deg. The ice lifted their vessel and she became unseaworthy. On May 20 they at length resolved to abandon her, and began a journey of 96 days in boats and sledges that was full of danger. At 70 miles from the North Cape Nassau, in latitude 77 deg. 40 min., they left the pack ice forever behind them, and on Aug. 15 were skirting along the coast of Nova Zembla in the open sea. But the day of their deliverance was at hand. On Aug. 24 they hailed the little Russian schooner Nikolaj, Capt. Feodor Boronin, which safely landed them at Vardoe, on the Norwegian coast. Norway gave the adventurers a hearty reception; the towns they passed through were bright with flags and rejoicing, and at Hammerfest they met the returning English expedition which had been dispatched to ascertain their fate.

These discoveries lend a new significance to the value of the pathway toward the Pole selected by American discoverers, showing that if it is to be reached by water, Smith's Sound is the most if not the only available route. A strong pressure will now be brought upon the English Government to equip a new expedition for Arctic discovery, and the endeavor to plant their country's flag on earth's northernmost surface will probably be shared by other nations. As yet no American has stepped forward to seize the opportunity left vacant by the death of Capt. Hall, but in the enthusiasm for Arctic explorations the narratives of the Polaris and the Tegetthoff are sure to inspire, some new competitor for the frozen laurels of the Pole will not long be wanting in this country.

A Question Answered.

"Suppose," asks a correspondent, "a man is sent to State Prison for three years. After serving two years he escapes, and is not caught for two years afterward, or one year after his term of imprisonment would have been fulfilled had he remained in prison, can he be made to serve the unexpired part of the term of imprisonment to which he was sentenced?" We had occasion to decide this same question some months ago, and then decided that the convict was liable to imprisonment for the unexpired portion of his sentence. The correctness of our decision was disputed by an "Old Policeman," and an "Ex-Warden of Sing Sing Prison." We applied to District-Attorney Phelps as to the correctness of our answer. He replied that our decision was correct according to both common law and common sense. But still O. P. and Ex-W. of S. S. P. cling to their opinion. Now we have proof that must convince the most skeptical that we were right. In the case of one Thomas Haggerty, Judge George M. Beckwith, of Clinton, has just decided, upon a writ of habeas corpus, that although the term of three years, for which Haggerty was sentenced to the State Prison at Clinton for robbery, had all expired some time since, counting from the date of the sentence, yet inasmuch as Haggerty had escaped from prison and had been for a long time at large, he must now serve out the full period of the sentence. This case was complicated by the fact that while Haggerty was at large after his escape he was arrested on a charge of burglary, and was tried, convicted, and sentenced for that offense also. Judge Beckwith holds that there is nothing in the second sentence to invalidate the first, and that after the full period of the first has been served out, Haggerty must begin to serve out the second.—*New York Paper.*

Little Graves.

Sacred places for pure thoughts and holy meditations are the little graves in the churchyard. They are the depositories of the mother's sweetest joy, half unfolded buds of innocence, humanity nipped by the first frost of time, ere yet a canker worm of corruption has nestled among its embryo petals. Callous indeed must be the heart of him who can stand by a little graveside and not have the holiest emotions of the soul awakened to thoughts of purity and joy which belong alone to God and heaven, for the mute preacher at his feet tells of life begun and ended without stain; and surely if this be vouchsafed to mortality, how much purer and holier must be the spiritual land, enlightened by the sun of infinite goodness, whence emanated the soul of that brief sojourner among us? How swells the heart of the parent with mournful joy while standing by the earth-bed of lost little ones! Mournful, because a sweet treasure has been taken away; joyful, because that precious jewel glitters in the diadem of the Redeemer.

A Dog Sedative.

A genius on Arbor Hill has made a discovery which will prevent a dog from barking, says the Albany *Times*. The arrangements are as follows: "A post is put up alongside of the dog-house; on the top of the post is a pulley; a clothes line is attached to the collar of the dog and passed through the pulley, and from thence to the bed-chamber of the sleeper. The dog barks, and Bill pulls the rope. Soon the dog's head is heavenward, and his feet leave the ground. A moment suspended, he is let down, and with tail turned inward, forward he scoots for his kennel, with no further desire to elevate himself by his bark. Two pulls for the first night is a permanent cure."

Mark Twain on the Stage.

Mark Twain has been writing a play called the "Gilded Age." It was put on the stage, and at the end of it Mark was called before the curtain. In the course of his remarks he said:

I am killing only one man in this tragedy now, and that is bad, for nothing helps out a play like bloodshed. But in a few days I propose to introduce the small-pox into the last act. And if that don't work I shall close with a general massacre. I threw all my strength into the character of Colonel Sellers, hoping to make it a very strong tragedy part and pathetic. I think this gentleman *tries* hard to play it right and make it majestic and pathetic; but his *face* is against him. And his clothes! I don't think anybody can make a tragedy effect in that kind of clothes. But I suppose he thinks they are impressive. He is from one of the Indian reservations. Oh! I can see that he tries hard to make it solemn and awful and heroic, but really sometimes he almost makes me laugh. I meant that turnip dinner to be pathetic, for how more forcibly could you represent poverty and misery, and suffering than by such a dinner, and of course if anything would bring tears to people's eyes *that* would; but this man eats those turnips as if they were the bread of life, and so of course the pathos is knocked clear out of the thing. But I think he will learn. He has an absorbing ambition to become a very great tragedian. I hope you will overlook the faults in this play, because I have never written a play before, and if I am treated right maybe I won't offend again. I wanted to have some fine situations and spectacular effects in this piece, but I was interfered with. I wanted to have a volcano in a state of eruption, with fire and smoke and earthquakes, and a great tossing river of blood-red lava flowing down the mountain side, and have the hero of this piece come booming down that red hot river in a cast-iron canoe; but the manager wouldn't hear of it; he said there wasn't any volcano in Missouri—as if I am responsible for Missouri's poverty. And then he said that by the laws of nature the hero would burn up; his cast-iron canoe wouldn't protect him. "Very well," I said, "put him in a patent fire-proof safe and let him slide—all the more thrilling—and paint on it, 'This safe is from Herring's establishment,' same as you would on a piano, and you can pay the whole expense of the volcano just on the advertisement." But the manager objected, though he said heaps of pretty things—among others that I was an ass—and so I had to let the volcano go."

Child-Life with the Shakers.

Children that are placed with the Shakers at Lebanon are indentured to Benjamin Gates, or some authority, until they "become of age," he agreeing in the papers to provide them food, clothing, etc. They are then placed in the "children's order," under the charge of sisters designated to care for them, and she commences at once to instil into their minds the glories of the creed. In management never a blow is struck. Refractory ones are punished by being laid flat upon the floor, face down. When they have been kept thus prostrate for a length of time, they are taken up and "talked to," the enormity of their offence pointed out, and are exhorted to behave better in the future. Those from eight to a dozen years of age "go to confession" every Sunday, and "own up" (or are supposed to) to the little sins of the week that have escaped the notice of the guardians. And as they receive special approval after an apparently very full confession, they early learn to conjure up quite enormous stories, knowing that they "spill" their confessors into a deeper belief in their penitence. "Now don't you feel better after confessing all that?" asks the ancient virgin who has heard the story. "Yea, yea," says the little miss, and tipping a wink to her companions, she walks out as sedately as a spinster of seventy. Another method of punishment is to put the youngsters into a large sack, tying it lightly round the neck. Should the child refuse to get into the bag, it is drawn over the refractory ones, and then, head, feet, and all enveloped, he or she is left to repent of the offensive disobedience.

The children are sent to school four months each year—the boys in the winter and the girls in the summer. Coeducation hasn't the slightest support here. The girls and boys must not converse together. If they happen to meet, and if a roguish youngster is bold enough to break silence with some pretty maiden, the maiden must be deaf and dumb to him. "Isn't there some boy here that you are *just a little fonder* of than the others?" is a standing question in the confessional. The reply always is, "Nay," and the blind old goodies believe it.—*Pittsfield Eagle.*

Protection of Game.

The Sportsmen's convention at Niagara Falls adopted a series of resolutions declaring the objects of the association. They are:—First, the protection of game and fish in all the States and Territories, in the passage of national and local laws prohibiting the destruction of fish and game during the breeding, nesting and spawning seasons, and for a reasonable time preceding and following such seasons; and prohibiting the destruction of certain game birds by nets and traps at all times; and prohibiting in our rivers and lakes the destruction of fish by nets, traps, dams and chemicals. Second, to insure the enforcement of these laws. Third, to establish the right of property in useful hunting dogs. Fourth, to secure the passage of laws prohibiting at all times the destruction of all song and useful birds that are not game birds, and to establish clubs and associations throughout the country for the promotion of the objects indicated.

We commend these objects to the general attention and support of the American people, says the New York *Herald*, because they are objects which, if faithfully and generally carried out, considered in a financial view, will be the gaining and saving annually of millions of dollars to the country. The fish of our rivers and lakes and the game of all kinds of our forests, mountains and prairies are rapidly disappearing, and unless the work of destruction be speedily checked there will soon be neither game for the hunter nor fish for the angler of any value within the limits of the United States. On the other hand, with proper and universally enforced laws for the protection of fish and game we may within a few years, and throughout the country, have an abundance of game, and we may so far restock our lakes and rivers and brooks with excellent fish as to bring even fresh salmon, shad, bass and trout, in their season, to the tables of the humblest classes of our people.

Fire-Damp in Coal Mines.

The subject of the connection between explosions in coal mines and the weather has attracted the attention of Messrs. Scott and Galloway in England during the past four years. Their third report has recently been presented, covering the year 1873, from which it appears that the number of fatal explosions was 70, causing the loss of 163 lives. Of these explosions 58 per cent. are due to changes of barometric pressure; 17 per cent. to great heat; 25 per cent. are not attributed to meteorological agencies. The number of explosions is not found to have any apparent dependence upon the direction from which the wind blows. The results place it beyond the possibility of a doubt that the escape of fire-damp and the consequent explosions are related mainly to the conditions of atmospheric pressure, and that a careful watch over the barometer is, above all, necessary in each colliery.

Remember that appearances are often deceiving. Many a pale, thin young lady will eat more corned beef than a carpenter. Because you find her playing the piano in the parlor, it is no sign that her mother is not at the corner grocery running in debt for a peck of potatoes.

Mme. Viardot's Tooth.

Mme. Pauline Viardot, the ever-to-be-remembered Fides, in Meyerbeer's "Prophete," had one of her incisive teeth in her lower jaw longer than the rest of her pearly jewels, which somewhat damaged the beautiful expression of her physiognomy. A few evenings before the production of the "Prophete," during one of the general rehearsals of that opera, Meyerbeer went into her room in the theatre, and advised her that he could not consent to let her sing Fides.

"How so?" exclaimed the great artist, stupefied at such a dreadful revelation. "Am I wrong in the interpretation of any part of the role? If so, you should tell me, sir, and I will correct myself."

"Madame, you are a perfect Fides, and I could not dream of any tragedian songstress to sing and play better than you," answered the maestro; "but—but—you cannot perform Fides—unless—"

"Unless what?" quickly replied Pauline Viardot, bursting into tears.

"Unless you submit to a painful surgical operation; and I guess you won't, madame."

"What do you think, sir?"

"Simply this, madame. You must have that overgrown tooth sawed to the level of the others."

"Oh! sir, it must be horrible. Surely, I'll be dead before the incision is over."

"Not at all, madame. I have just ordered the dentist of the Queen of Prussia to come to Paris for the express purpose of attending your operatic majesty, and you may rely upon his unsurpassed skill."

As it was the *sine qua non* condition imposed by the hard to please maestro, Pauline Viardot made up her mind to confide her beautiful head to Herr Mullkeistrom, M. D., who first chloroformed her and with a magic dexterity removed at once the obnoxious bit of ivory.

A few nights after that "terrible" trial, Pauline Viardot won her crown of immortality in that role of Fides, in which she will never be equalled.

When the tremendous echoes of the enthusiastic applause and *rappels* had abated, and the artists were allowed to leave the stage, 'Giacomo Meyerbeer, trembling like a child with emotion, respectfully took Fides' right wrist, to which he adjusted a diamond bracelet worth 30,000 francs, in the middle of which, and surrounded by rubies, stood the small piece of tooth, that for so many years had been prominent in the great artist's features.

Underclothing and Stockings.

A correspondent writes as follows: I am convinced every year I live, that both children and adults die every winter from the want of sufficient clothing upon the body, and especially upon the feet. The stockings should be thick and warm—coarse woolen I think preferable to fine merino or cotton; but by coarse woolen I do not mean a stiff and harsh material, but soft, pliable, and yielding. Though the "doctors disagree" about the material, and some recommend woolen and some cotton, I have provided myself with some soft lamb's wool stockings, and my feet return thanks for them daily. Then for boots, I was fortunate enough to procure a thick, stout pair of Canadian boots, made out of the thickest black felling, and lined with crimson plush.

For children's undergarments I would make "drawers night-gowns" of colored flannel, which continuous, loose-fitting waist with long sleeves, and drawers gathered a little on to this waist, but made small enough at the bottom to tuck into the stockings, thus covering the child from the neck to the ankles, leaving no air-holes. If flannel is injurious to the skin, make the garment of cotton flannel, or soft you feel better after confessing all that?" asks the ancient virgin who has heard the story. "Yea, yea," says the little miss, and tipping a wink to her companions, she walks out as sedately as a spinster of seventy. Another method of punishment is to put the youngsters into a large sack, tying it lightly round the neck. Should the child refuse to get into the bag, it is drawn over the refractory ones, and then, head, feet, and all enveloped, he or she is left to repent of the offensive disobedience.

The children are sent to school four months each year—the boys in the winter and the girls in the summer. Coeducation hasn't the slightest support here. The girls and boys must not converse together. If they happen to meet, and if a roguish youngster is bold enough to break silence with some pretty maiden, the maiden must be deaf and dumb to him. "Isn't there some boy here that you are *just a little fonder* of than the others?" is a standing question in the confessional. The reply always is, "Nay," and the blind old goodies believe it.—*Pittsfield Eagle.*

Opportunity to Try an Organ Before Purchasing.

Many a person is half persuaded that a Cabinet Organ would be a capital thing for his family; worth much more than its cost. Yet they are not sure that it would be permanently valued, but fear that after a few months' use the family would tire of it, and so it would prove a poor investment. The Mason & Hamlin Organ Co. now offer their famous Cabinet Organs on terms which will satisfy all such. They will rent an organ with privilege of purchase. The party hiring may try it as long as he pleases, paying only the rent for it while so doing. If he concludes to purchase within a year, all the rent he has paid is allowed and deducted from the price of the organ.—*Com.*

Two of the Killed.

The Richmond (Va.) *Enquirer* supplies the following: Capt. J. M. West, "the printer," who was killed in the street fight in New Orleans, was originally from Ohio. He left that State twenty-six years ago for having, in the heat of passion, killed the foreman of a printing office in which he was employed by a blow on the head with what, in the technical language of the craft, is called a "sheeps-foot." He went to Texas, and has always lived in dread of being reclaimed by the authorities of Ohio. In fact, his enemies there did go so far as to obtain a requisition for his rendition, but he evaded it by leaving the State and joining Walker's expedition to Nicaragua. He returned shortly before the war, and during Butler's occupation of the city was sent to "the Fort" for writing something that was construed into "disloyalty against the government" in the *True Delta*, of which he was a reporter. West was a man of more than ordinary abilities as a writer, and early won for himself a very respectable journalistic reputation.

Ernest A. Toledano, the second victim named in the citizens' party, was a member of the oldest Creole families of New Orleans. In a street *rencontre* the year before the war Mr. Toledano shot and killed Dr. Graham, who had killed Col. Loring, of California, in the St. Nicholas Hotel, New York, in 1854, a tragedy that caused an immense sensation at the time. Dr. Graham, after serving a year or two in Sing Sing, was pardoned out through the influence of his Louisiana friends, and returning home resumed his former position in society. Toledano was his cousin, and a member of the City Council, and had refused to vote for Graham, who was a candidate for the office of city physician. This enraged the doctor, and he threatened Toledano's life, who, being informed of the fact, and knowing the desperate character of his cousin, went in search of him, and when they met an altercation took place in which Graham was killed. Mr. Toledano was tried and acquitted on the ground of justifiable homicide, and shortly afterward the war breaking out he came to Virginia as a lieutenant in the Washington Artillery. He was a brave and devoted soldier, and noted for his fine personal appearance.

Chances of Living.

A medical writer of eminence has been collecting evidence as to the chances of life which children have, upon being born, in different countries. Out of 10,000 children born it is found from official statistics that in Norway as many as 7,415, or roughly speaking, three out of every four, live to be twenty years of age. In England only 6,627 so live, or 788 fewer than in Norway. In the United States boys have nearly as good a chance of life as in England, while girls have not. But in France only 5,022, or scarcely more than one out of two, reach twenty. While in Ireland no more than 4,855, or actually less than one out of two, attain that age. More surprising still are the statistics regarding old age. Out of the same 10,000, for example, we learn that in Norway 3,487, more than one out of three, reach seventy; in England almost one out of four; in the United States, still men only, one out of four—a trifle higher than in England; in France 1,776, or about one out of 8½; and in Ireland only 681, or one out of 11½. If this table is to be depended upon, we learn thus that of all countries in the world, Norway offers the new-born child the best chance of long life; while Ireland offers the worst. And France, universally admitted to be, so far as soil and climate are concerned, one of the most favored regions of the earth, offers but little better chance than Ireland.

College Fun.

The annual rush between the Sophomore and Freshmen classes of Yale took place at Hamilton Park. At three o'clock in the afternoon they marched to the park, where, forming each in a compact column, four abreast, they moved upon each other. Three rushes were made and in each the Freshmen class, which contains several stalwart members, swept the Sophomores from the field. No bones were broken, as is sometimes the case, but not a few garments and hats were ruined. Several wrestling matches took place, and in these the Freshmen were also successful.

How Grapes May be Kept.

Gather your grapes when quite ripe, and pack them in sawdust, using, instead of boxes, common nail kegs from a hardware store. After carefully packing the kegs, bury them in a trench dug in high ground, beneath a shed where rain can neither fall nor soak in. Be careful to dry the sawdust in an oven before using it. In this way grapes, after being buried for months, are as sweet and finely flavored as if fresh from the vines. The process is cheap and can be easily tested. Malaga and California grapes are preserved in this manner for months.

Vinegar Bitters the Greatest Yet.

A few doses stir the life-current; sluggishness departs, pain vanishes, and after a continued use of the remedy the whole body glows with a new energy and a new being. Purge the blood and every organ will perform its function perfectly. The stomach will be no longer tortured with dyspepsia the lungs will be free from consumption, the liver active, the heart healthy, the brain clear, the nerves braced, and the mind elastic. Use the "Vinegar Bitters," and purge your blood. Whether the disease be fever, consumption, dyspepsia, affection of the liver, or kidneys, dropsy, catarrh, rheumatism, gout, or pains and aches of any kind, attack it in its stronghold, the blood—the fountain of life—and it will soon surrender and abandon the outposts. To do this you must have the "Vinegar Bitters;" there is no complaint to which the human system is liable, that will not yield to its influence, and there are thousands which no other remedial agent will remove.—*Com.*

A Famous Medical Institution.

"The name of Dr. R. V. Pierce has become as familiar to the people all over the country as household words. His wonderful remedies, his pamphlets and books, and his large medical experience have brought him into prominence and given him a solid reputation. The Times, in the present issue, presents a whole-page communication from Dr. Pierce, and our readers may gain from it some idea of the vast proportions of his business and the merits of his medicines. He has at Buffalo a mammoth establishment, appropriately named "The World's Dispensary," where patients are treated, and the remedies compounded. Here nearly a hundred persons are employed in the various departments, and a corps of able and skilled physicians stand ready to alleviate the sufferings of humanity by the most approved methods. These physicians are in frequent consultation with Dr. Pierce, and their combined experience are brought to bear on the successful treatment of obstinate cases. The doctor is a man of large medical experience, and his extensive knowledge of materia medica has been acknowledged by presentations of degrees from two of the first Medical Colleges in the land. How meritorious his works are may be inferred from the fact that his pamphlets and books have been translated into German, Spanish, and other foreign languages, and have been in heavy demand. As an evidence of the business of the dispensary it is only necessary to state that for the quarter ending March 31, 1874, the sum expended for postage alone, not to speak of that paid on newspapers received was $2,080.70. A perusal of the communication will be found interesting reading, and will show to what proportions a medical institution can grow under able management and well-directed effort."

If you would patronize Medicines, scientifically prepared by a skilled Physician and Chemist—use Dr. Pierce's Family Medicines. Golden Medical Discovery is nutritious, tonic, alterative, or blood-cleansing, and an unequaled cough remedy; Pleasant Purgative Pellets, scarcely larger than mustard seed, constitute an agreeable and reliable physic; Favorite Prescription—a remedy for debilitated females; Extract of Smart-Weed, a magical remedy for Pain, Bowel Complaints, and an unequaled Liniment for both human and horse-flesh; while his Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy is known the world over as the greatest specific for Catarrh and "Cold in Head," ever given to the public.—*Chicago Times.*

Elmwood Collars are now all the rage in society. Elmwood Collars make the homeliest man look stylish. Elmwood Collars fit the neck beautifully. It beats all how closely the Elmwood Collar imitates linen.—*Philadelphia Evening Star.*

Among the fine arts not lost is the art of children making holes in the toes of boots and shoes. Time taken about ten days. Silver Tips are an excellent remedy, never known to fail.—*Com.*

To have good health the liver must be kept in order. Sanford's Liver Invigorator has become a staple family medicine. Purely vegetable—Cathartic and Tonic—for all derangements of Liver, Stomach and Bowels; clears the complexion, cures sick-headache. Shun imitations. *Try Sanford's Liver Invigorator.—Com.*

Victims of consumption seeking relief and restored health should use Dr. Wishart's Pine Tree Tar Cordial. This is the only preparation that develops the full virtue of Tar.—*Com.*

The Rice Divorce Suit for fraud in age, is causing great excitement in Boston. It should warn young men not to marry in haste. Rice is but 22; his bride 37. He swears that she made him believe she was but his own age, by using MAGNOLIA BALM upon her face, neck and hands. Poor youth! He probably found her elbows weren't quite so soft and pretty. Ought Hagan to be indicted? We know of many similar cases. This Balm gives a most wonderfully pearly and natural complexion, to which we don't object. We like pretty women. To finish the picture they should use LYON'S KATHAIRON upon the hair. With pearly chin, rosy cheeks, and soft luxurious tresses, they become irresistible.

On Everybody's Tongue.—Eulogiums of the great National Regenerator of Health, PLANTATION BITTERS, are on everybody's tongue. This gratuitous BIG DOG advertising is better than all the paid-for puffing to which the owners of bogus bitters are obliged to resort. It has a spontaneous heartiness about it which carries conviction to the mind of the auditor.

Fell from a Railroad Car, and nearly broke his neck. Pat picked him up, rubbed him with MEXICAN MUSTANG LINIMENT, and sent him on by the next train. Falls, bruises, cuts, contusions, lameness and such accid