

Whitewash for Roofs

The New Hampshire Journal says: "Farmers who are about to renew shingle their houses, sheds, or barns, will do well to have the shingles dipped in whitewash with a little salt put in. Let the mixture be hot, that is to say, make your wash with boiling water, dip immediately and lay the shingles the next day, or after drying a little. The Hon. Frederic Smith, of Manchester, N. H., bought hemlock shingles fourteen years ago, at a cost of \$1.50 per M., and treated them in this way, and the roof is tight now, no moss having accumulated on them, while neighbors in the same time have re-shingled with the first quality of pine was used without any preparation. Probably a better quality of materials so treated, would last much longer than hemlock, but whether long enough to cover the extra cost is doubtful. This wash is also a preventive against fire. To do any great good it should be used in the manner described, rather than put on after the roof is covered." "The whitewash can do no harm, certainly, and will be likely to have some good effect. The boards under the shingles may well be whitewashed also. Ed. American Agriculturist.

MIRACLE OF HONESTY.—At a party one evening, several contested the honor of having done the most extraordinary thing; and a reverend gentleman was appointed sole judge of their respective pretensions. One party produced his tailor bill with a receipt attached to it.—A buzz went through the room that this could not be done, when a second proved that he had arrested his tailor for money loaned him.

The palm is his, was the general cry, but a third put in his claim. Gentlemen, said he I cannot boast of the feats of either of my predecessors, but I returned to the owners two umbrellas that they left at my house. "I'll here no more," cried the astonished arbitrator; this is the very *plus ultra* of honesty and unheard of deeds; it is an act of virtue of which I never knew one capable.

Hold, said another, "I've done more than that." "Impossible," said the company, "but let us hear it."

"I've been taking my newspaper for twenty years, and pay for it in advance."

A GOOD EXCUSE.—In one of our neighboring towns the lads of a school acquired the habit of smoking, and resorted to the most ingenious methods to conceal the vice from the master. In this they were successful until one evening, when the master caught them at it, and stood before them in awful dignity.

"Ha now!" Shouted the master to the first lad; "how dare you smoke tobacco?" "Sir," said the boy, "I am subject to headaches, and a pipe takes off the pain."

"And you? and you? and you?" inquired the pedagogue, questioning every boy in his turn. One had a "raging tooth;" another "cholic;" the third a "cough;" in short, they all had something. "Now, sirrah," belittled the master to the last boy, "what disorder do you smoke for?" "Alas! all the excuses were exhausted; but the interrogated urchin, putting down his pipe after a farewell whiff, and looking up in his master's face, said, in a whining, hypocritical tone; "Sir, I smoke for corns!"

SOLD HIMSELF.—A correspondent of a Nashville paper tells a good story of a person who was going to Chattanooga on the Railroad. When the train entered the tunnel and total darkness, ensued he asked a stranger how long it would be going through. Stranger was a bit of a wag, and replied—two hours. Person thought he would avail himself of the opportunity to don a clean shirt, and about the time he had "shucked himself," the train dashed out into daylight, exposing his person to the astonished gaze of some hundred pair of eyes belonging to passengers. He had no linen, and about as much other nothing as the Apollo Belvedere—a no chance to run.

The following anecdote was once related by Wendell Phillips: A colored man once went to Portland, Me., and attended church. He went into a good pew, when the next neighbor to the man who owned it said—"What do you put a darkey into your pew for?" "Darkey! he's no darkey, he's a Haytian." "Can't help that, he's black as the ace of spades." "Why, sir, he's a correspondent of mine." "Can't help that I tell you he's black." "But he's worth a million of dollars." "Is he, though? Introduce me!"

This life's contradictions are many. Salt water gives us fresh fish, and hot water produce coolness. Why is a wooden post like a flower seed?—Because it will propagate. A knoekular demonstration—blow in the eye. Great Rebellion Stimulant—the Cotten Gin. To stop potatoes from rotting—eat 'em. The Soldier's Fare—half price.

NATIONAL PRINTING OFFICE
The building is 330 feet by 60, built with brick, 3 stories high, surmounted by a cupola and an eagle. It was erected by Cornelius Wendell, esq., in 1855, as a private enterprise, by whom the Public Documents have been printed for a number of years for the government, with great credit to the establishment. By joint resolution of Congress, June 13, 1860, the Superintendent of Public Printing was authorized to contract for or purchase a building and materials for a government printing office. It resulted in the purchase of Mr. Wendell's establishment at a cost of \$135,000, which included the main building, paper warehouse, 79 by 59 feet; machine shop, 25 by 22 feet; boiler house, 27 by 23 feet; coal house, 27 by 23 feet; wagon shed, 25 by 14 feet, and stable, 41 by 23 feet, are of brick, and built in the most substantial and durable manner.

On entering the printing office, we find 3 Hoe cylinder printing presses and 23 Adams presses, arranged on each side of the room, all operate by girls, affording facilities for printing over 200 reams per day. In another apartment on the same floor, are the troughs and apparatus for wetting the paper; also a drying room for drying the sheet which is done by steam pipes, with great rapidity.

In the third story is the spacious composing room, one of the largest, probably in the world, containing 100 double "stands" for compositors, and lighted by 60 windows. Here also is the room in which the Executive job work is done, such as blanks, checks, &c., for the various departments of the government. In this story are, also two proof-reading rooms, of ample size and well lighted;—also the building office and consulting room.

In the third story is the folding room, occupied by females, who earn from \$6 to \$15 weekly; the "Executive binding room," and a paper ruling room—all supplied with the latest improved machinery. The fourth story is occupied as a room, &c., where works in progress are piled in large quantities.

Altogether, this is one of the finest and most extensive printing establishments ever collected together. It is thoroughly lighted and ventilated in every part. The machinery is propelled by a forty-horse power engine, and the building is warmed throughout with steam pipes. The materials are methodically arranged, and are kept in place in perfect order. The composition room gives employment to some sixty compositors, under the supervision of Mr. James English, whose skill and experience eminently qualify him for the position. There are at present about 250 hands employed in the establishment, two thirds of whom are females.

To those familiar with the difficulties encountered by the government officials in years past, in their efforts to procure the execution of the public printing in a superior style under the contract system, and avoid imposition, fraud, and robbery, the advantages of organizing this government Printing Bureau must be apparent. It came to be a matter of absolute necessity, and its conception and accomplishment cannot fail to become a source of great convenience and economy to the government.

The present Administration have appointed John D. Defrees, esq., of Indiana, Superintendent of Public Printing; and he enters upon his duties with the long experience in the business of printer, publisher and editor, with which he combines an excellent business capacity—qualities which render the selection a peculiarly fortunate one for the future success of one of the largest and most efficient printing establishments in the world.

Gen. George B. McClellan, Commander of the Army of the United States—half a million of soldiers—as he approaches the completion of his 35th year of his life and the 15th of his military career. Yet he is above rather than below the average years of the great Captains whose names are handed down as the great Chiefs of their age and generation. Alexander the Great had achieved a reputation at the age of eighteen. He ascended the throne before he was twenty and at twenty five he reached the zenith of his glory, having already conquered the world. He died before he was thirty-two.

Julius Cesar greatly distinguished himself before he was the age of twenty-two.

Hannibal joined the Carthaginian army in Spain when he was twenty-two, and was made Commander in Chief at the age of twenty six.

Charlemagne was crowned king at the age of twenty six, conquered Aquitaine at twenty eight, made himself master of France and Germany at thirty, placed on his brow the iron crown of Italy at thirty-two, and conquered Spain at the age of thirty six.

Children and fools, says the old adage, always tell the truth. "Mother sent me," said a little girl to a neighbor, to "ask you to come and take tea with her this evening."

THE "REPUBLICAN"
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