THE
"CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN,"
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY
GOODLANDER & HAGERTY,
CLEARFIELD, PA.

ESTABLISHED IN 1827.

The largest Circulation of any Newspaper in North Central Pennsylvania.

Terms of Subscription.

If paid in advance, or within 3 months....$2 00
If paid after 3 and before 6 months..... 2 50
If paid after the expiration of 6 months... 3 00

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Transient advertisements, per square of 10 lines or less, 3 times or less.....$1 50
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Auditors' notices..... 2 50
Cautions and Estrays..... 1 50
Dissolution notices..... 2 00
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Job Work.

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Over 25 of each of above at proportionate rates.

GEORGE R. GOODLANDER,
GEORGE HAGERTY,
Publishers.

CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

GOODLANDER & HAGERTY, Publishers. PRINCIPLES; NOT MEN. TERMS—$2 per annum in Advance.

VOL. 47--WHOLE NO 2304. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1873. NEW SERIES--VOL. 14, NO. 4.

Cards.

JOSEPH R. M'ENALLY. DANIEL W. M'CURDY.
McENALLY & McCURDY,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Legal business attended to promptly with fidelity. Office on Second street, above the First National Bank. 9:11:72

WILLIAM A. WALLACE. FRANK FIELDING.
WALLACE & FIELDING,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Legal business of all kinds attended to with promptness and fidelity. Office in residence of William A. Wallace. jan1:72

G. R. BARRETT,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Having resigned his Judgeship, has resumed the practice of the law in his old office at Clearfield, Pa. Will attend the courts of Jefferson and Elk counties when specially retained in connection with resident counsel. 2:14:72

T. H. MURRAY,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW.
Prompt attention given to all legal business entrusted to his care in Clearfield and adjoining counties. Office on Market st., opposite Naugle's Jewelry Store, Clearfield, Pa. je14'71

A. W. WALTERS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the Court House. [dec3-1y

H. W. SMITH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
n14:72 Clearfield, Pa.

WALTER BARRETT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Office on Second St., Clearfield, Pa. [nov21,66

ISRAEL TEST,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the Court House. [Jy11,'67

JOHN H. FULFORD,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Market St., over Joseph Shawers' Grocery store. Jan.3,1872.

THOS. J. M'CULLOUGH. WM. M. M'CULLOUGH.
T. J. McCULLOUGH & BROTHER,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Locust street, nearly opposite the residence of Dr. R. V. Wilson. We have in our office one of Hiseock & Bro's largest fire and burglar proof safes, for the protection of books, deeds, and other valuable papers placed in our charge.

JOHN L. CUTTLE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
And Real Estate Agent, Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Third street, bet. Cherry & Walnut.
Respectfully offers his services in selling and buying lands in Clearfield and adjoining counties; and with an experience of over twenty years as a surveyor, flatters himself that he can render satisfaction. [Feb. 28,'63tf.

J. BLAKE WALTERS,
REAL ESTATE BROKER,
AND DEALER IN
Saw Logs and Lumber,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Masonic Building, Room No. 1. 1:25:71

J. J. LINGLE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
1:18 Osceola, Clearfield Co., Pa. ypd

ROBERT WALLACE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Wallaceton, Clearfield County, Penn'a.
All legal business promptly attended to.

D. L. KREBS,
Successor to H. B. Swoope,
LAW AND COLLECTION OFFICE,
P.&11,'72 CLEARFIELD, PA.

John H. Orvis. C. T. Alexander.
ORVIS & ALEXANDER,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
Bellefonte, Pa. [sep13,'65-y

J. S. BARNHART,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Bellefonte, Pa.
Will practice in Clearfield and all of the Courts of the 25th Judicial district. Real estate business and collection of claims made specialties. n1'71

DR. T. J. BOYER,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office on Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
Office hours: 8 to 12 a. m., and 1 to 3 p. m.

DR. E. M. SCHEURER,
HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
Office in Masonic Building,
April 24, 1872. Clearfield, Pa.

DR. W. A. MEANS,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
LUTHERSBURG, PA.
Will attend professional calls promptly. aug10'70

J. H. KLINE, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
HAVING located at Pennfield, Pa., offers his professional services to the people of that place and surrounding country. All calls promptly attended to. oct. 13 tf.

DR. J. P. BURCHFIELD,
Late Surgeon of the 53d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, having returned from the Army, offers his professional services to the citizens of Clearfield county.
Professional calls promptly attended to. Office on Second street, formerly occupied by Dr. Woods. [apr4,'66-tf

McGAUGHEY & CO.'S
RESTAURANT,
Second Street,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
Always on hand, Fresh Oysters, Ice Cream, Candies, Nuts, Crackers, Cakes, Cigars, Tobacco, Canned Fruits, Oranges, Lemons, and all kinds of fruit in season.
BILLIARD ROOM on second floor.
n21'71 D. McGAUGHEY & CO.

Cards.

JEFFERSON LITZ,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
HAVING located at Osceola, Pa., offers his professional services to the people of that place and surrounding country.
All calls promptly attended to. Office and residence on Curtin st., formerly occupied by Dr. Kline. [May, 19:1y.

J. HOLLOWBUSH . . . . . R. DAVIS CAREY.
HOLLOWBUSH & CAREY,
BOOKSELLERS,
Blank Book Manufacturers,
AND STATIONERS,
218 Market St., Philadelphia.
Paper Flour Sacks and Bags, Foolscap, Letter, Note, Wrapping, Curtain and Wall Papers. feb24,70-1ypd

GEORGE C. KIRK,
Justice of the Peace, Surveyor and Conveyancer,
Luthersburg, Pa.
All business intrusted to him will be promptly attended to. Persons wishing to employ a Surveyor will do well to give him a call, as he flatters himself that he can render satisfaction. Deeds of conveyance, articles of agreement, and all legal papers, promptly and neatly executed. *25mar72

JAMES C. BARRETT,
Justice of the Peace and Licensed Conveyancer,
Luthersburg, Clearfield Co., Pa.
Collections & remittances promptly made, and all kinds of legal instruments executed on short notice. may4,70tf

DAVID REAMS,
SCRIVENER & SURVEYOR,
Luthersburg, Pa.
THE subscriber offers his services to the public in the capacity of Scrivener and Surveyor. All calls for surveying promptly attended to, and the making of drafts, deeds and other legal instruments of writing, executed without delay, and warranted to be correct or no charge. 10ja72

J. A. BLATTENBERGER,
Claim and Collection Office,
OSCEOLA, Clearfield Co., Pa.
Conveyancing and all legal papers drawn with accuracy and dispatch. Drafts on and passage tickets to and from any point in Europe procured. oct5'70-6m

F. K. ARNOLD & Co.,
BANKERS,
Luthersburg, Clearfield county, Pa.
Money loaned at reasonable rates; exchange bought and sold; deposits received, and a general banking business will be carried on at the above place. 4:12:71tf

JOHN D. THOMPSON,
Justice of the Peace and Scrivener,
Curwensville, Pa.
Collections made and money promptly paid over. feb22'71tf

E. A. & W. D. IRVIN,
DEALERS IN
Real Estate, Square Timber, Logs
AND LUMBER.
Office in new Corner Store building.
nov15'71 Curwensville, Pa.

GEO. ALBERT. HENRY ALBERT. W. ALBERT
W. ALBERT & BROS.,
Manufacturers & extensive Dealers in
Sawed Lumber, Square Timber, &c.,
WOODLAND, PENN'A.
Orders solicited. Bills filled on short notice and reasonable terms.
Address Woodland P. O., Clearfield Co., Pa.
je26-1y W. ALBERT & BROS.

FRANCIS COUTRIET,
MERCHANT,
Frenchville, Clearfield County, Pa.
Keeps constantly on hand a full assortment of Dry Goods, Hardware, Groceries, and everything usually kept in a retail store, which will be sold, for cash, as cheap as elsewhere in the county.
Frenchville, June 27, 1867-1y.

THOMAS H. FORCEE,
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturer and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. [*jy18'72

CHARLES SCHAFER,
LAGER BEER BREWER,
Clearfield, Pa.
HAVING rented Mr. Entres' Brewery he hopes by strict attention to business and the manufacture of a superior article of BEER to receive the patronage of all the old and many new customers. *125aug'2

J. K. BOTTORF'S
PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
CROMOS MADE A SPECIALTY.
NEGATIVES made in cloudy as well as in clear weather. Constantly on hand a good assortment of FRAMES, STEREOSCOPES and STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS. Frames, from any style of moulding, made to order. apr28-tf

JAMES CLEARY,
BARBER & HAIR DRESSER,
SECOND STREET,
Jy23] CLEARFIELD, PA. [1y

REUBEN HACKMAN,
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. ap'rl,67

HENRY RIBLING,
HOUSE, SIGN & ORNAMENTAL PAINTER
Clearfield, Penn'a.
The frescoing and painting of churches and other public buildings will receive particular attention, as well as the painting of carriages and sleighs. Gilding done in the neatest styles. All work warranted. Shop on Fourth street, formerly occupied by Esquire Shugart. oct19'70

G. H. HALL,
PRACTICAL PUMP MAKER,
NEAR CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
Pumps always on hand and made to order on short notice. Pipes bored on reasonable terms. All work warranted to render satisfaction, and delivered if desired. my23:1ypd

ELI HARMAN,
PRACTICAL MILLWRIGHT,
LUTHERSBURG, PA.
Agent for the American Double Turbine Water Wheel and Andrews & Kalbach Wheel. Can furnish Portable Grist Mills on short notice. jy12'71

E. A. BIGLER & CO.,
DEALERS IN
SQUARE TIMBER,
and manufacturers of
ALL KINDS OF SAWED LUMBER,
8:772 CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.

JOHN TROUTMAN,
Dealer in all kinds of
FURNITURE,
Market Street,
One door east Post Office,
aug16'71 CLEARFIELD, PA.

THE REPUBLICAN.

CLEARFIELD, PA.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 22, 1873.

THERE IS NO DEATH.

There is no death? The stars go down
To rise upon some future shore,
And bright in heaven's jeweled crown,
They shine forevermore.

There is no death? An angel form
Walks o'er the earth with silent tread,
He bears our best loved things away,
And then we call them "dead."

Born unto that undying life,
They leave us but to come again;
With joy we welcome them—the same
Except in sin and pain.

And ever near as though unseen,
The dear immortal spirits tread;
For all the boundless universe
Is life—there are no dead.

—*Bulwer.*

ABOUT PATENTS.

BY WM. R. HOOPER.

The vast majority of patents contain no remarkable invention; they merely make some slight progress upon existing facts. Not in one great tide of invention does improvement come, but rather in small, gentle waves, each advancing almost imperceptibly further than its predecessor. And it is that slight difference that gives success to patents. The inventive mind is so constantly on the stretch that similar claims are constantly made by rival inventors. When petroleum first began to enlighten our darkness, there were twenty-five claimants at one time before the office, all asking for substantially the same mode of raising oil out of the solid earth. And when velocipedes so suddenly leaped into fashion a few years ago 432 applicants for velocipede patents were filed within four months, and of these thirty-three were cotemporary claims for the same idea—Every spring brings forth a crop of stove patents, each manufacturer preparing for the coming winter by striving to surpass his rivals in the prettiest pattern, and the greatest warmth-giving power. Few persons think much of the form of the lamp they buy; yet lamp patents are renewed every year. At one time the student lamp, with its argand burner, yields its manufacturer a small fortune; the next year some fortunate genius notices that two wicks give an imperceptibly larger light than the argand; and the patent he obtains brings him prominence in all the lamp markets of the country. One of the most essential elements in patents is novelty; yet applications are continually made for patents based on ideas as old as the Christian era. Pliny, writing in the first century, describes harvesters for heading grain as then in existence on the plains of Gaul; and Paladius mentions them again in the fourth century; but both of these lacked some idea that would adapt them to general use. Tailor's machines were in smooth running order in Paris long before Hunt and Howe perfected the present invention. It remained for the Americans to lighten the domestic cares of the female sex throughout the world.

Most patent-rights are limited in their application; and never attain to general circulation. But a patent of wide use, however small the royalty it pays, benefits the happy inventor with a large profit. Inventions for sewing machines, of which one company makes about three thousand a week, inventions for the use of India-rubber, for agricultural implements, fire-arms, and modifications of leather and paper, have accumulated fortunes. Nor is it possible to tell the extent of the ramifications of a patent. A few years since all the dentists of the country combined to break an India-rubber patent; every one of them had to pay a royalty whenever he inserted a set of teeth on vulcanized rubber. Their combination failed, and the royalty still is paid. One of the most profitable patents ever issued in this country was for the manufacture of horse-shoes. In England one of the most lucrative has been the Bessemer manufacture of steel. Most patents concern themselves with agricultural or domestic labor. In one year two hundred and twenty patents were granted for cultivators, two hundred and ten for plows, one hundred and eighty for churns, one hundred and seventy-five for washing-machines, one hundred and fifty-one for sewing machines, one hundred and forty for stoves, and another hundred and forty for gates. Nearly eighteen hundred patents have been issued for sewing-machines and their attachments; and the applications for newer inventions come in daily.

For these applications for patent-rights increase much faster than the population. In 1851 there were two thousand of them; in 1870 nineteen thousand one hundred and seventy-one, of which thirteen thousand three hundred and twenty-one were granted. Inventive skill does not depend upon education. Prussia is as well educated as this country; but in 1867 only one hundred and three patents were issued in Prussia, as against thirteen thousand in this country.—Vermont has as good schools as Massachusetts; but the Bay State secures ten per cent. of all the patents granted to the nation, while the Green-Mountain State has less than one per cent. To quicken the inventive mind demands a large amount of capital engaged in manufacture, a skilled body of workmen, and a profit in the improvement of manufactures. Where these coexist patents are in demand.

As a general rule, valuable inventions are the result of long years of close thought and much expenditure of time and money. Capital never offers itself to the inventor without the promise of an enlarged and speedy return. Nor do valuable ideas often enter the mind of the outsider on any subject. Abraham Lincoln was a very able lawyer of Illinois when, in May, 1849, he obtained a patent for lifting steamboats over river bars; but it may be doubted if that patent has ever been used, or would have been applied for by a marine engineer.

The amount of misapplied talent engaged on inventions that can never be used is as wonderful as it is prolific. There is a ludicrous element in many of the patents, and more of the applications, which is well worth investigation; and we extract, from the records of the Patent Office, an account of some of these, that show more genius than common sense, and have produced more laughter than profit.

In 1870 the owner of certain bee-hives, irritated by the loss of his honey by the bee moth, asked for a patent for a combined hen-roost and bee-hive. He had noticed that the bee-moth travels at night, while the busy bee works by day. His desire, therefore, was for a device that should admit the worker by day, and keep out the thief by night. This his ingenuity effected by the erection of a hen-roost pivoted upon a bee-hive provided with gates. The bees were expected to be in their cells just before dusk; the hens, lighting on their roosts, were then to close the gates of the hive, and keep them shut all night. The early rising of the fowls would automatically open the gates again, and return the bees—their honey all safe—to the airs of heaven and the flowers of earth. He received his patent.

Another applicant asked for a patent-right for an artificial moon, that should light each town that used it without expense. His eye had often been struck by the reflection of distant windows at sunset, and how far that light traveled. He therefore proposed a balloon for each town, sufficiently large to raise a huge reflector that was to be hoisted every evening at dusk (about the time the hens had shut in the bees). The reflections of the sun's rays, cast downward upon the village, was sure to light it through all the darkness of night. Fortunately for himself, this inventor presented his application through a patent attorney, who told him it was doubtful if it could be obtained.

In the fall of 1871, a gentleman, probably from California, applied for and received a patent for building houses on wheels or rollers, so that, in case of earthquakes, they might roll forward or backward, but not be shaken to pieces.

Only three years have passed away since a very ingenious gentleman from the rural districts applied for a patent to prevent cows from switching their tails! He presented two modes—one shaped like a bottle, around the neck of which the cow's tail was to be curled; the other consisted of a square block, with a hole through the center, wherein the tail was to be put, and then tied in a knot, so that the animal could not withdraw it. On the presentation of the application, the official examiner thought it could not be granted, because of a similar device in "Don Quixote," where Sancho Panza, trying to sleep in a hay-loft, was kept awake by the braying of his donkey below. His wakefulness gave Sancho time to reflect that, when riding the donkey, the animal always switched his tail when he brayed.—Descending hastily from the hay-loft, the squire tied a block to the donkey's tail to prevent him from braying.—But as this device originated with a Spaniard, and had never been repeated in this country, the office decided to grant the patent. Our readers will, therefore, remember that they cannot tie a cow's tail to prevent its switching without payment of royalty to the owner of this privilege.

If "Don Quixote" anticipated one of our American patents, Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner" performed the same office for another, when he says:

"The air is cut away before,
And closes from behind."

Noticing how vessels are delayed by the necessity of pushing aside the water that obstructs their way, an ingenious gentleman asked for a patent for putting in front of the vessel a series of hollow wheels, whose blades should act as paddles. These wheels would lift the water so speedily out of the way that the vessel would have to rush in to fill the void. This motion of the vessel would give the wheels another turn, and then the wheels would once more lift away the water, and thus draw the vessel on.—And so the motion of the vessel would turn the wheels, and the turn of the wheels would draw the vessel. This applicant for perpetual motion was so certain of success that, to provide for the only difficulty he could foresee—which was in the too rapid motion of the vessel, that would tear itself to pieces—he provided an anchor, with a spring cable to it, that he might check the vessel from its too rapid speed. The examiner, however, might have given his decision in the next verse of the "Ancient Mariner":

"Fly, brother, fly! more high, more high,
Or we shall be belated;
For slow and slow that ship shall go,
Till the mariner's trance is abated."

An applicant for a patent for wooden pavements proposed to mount each block of wood on springs. He claimed that this would remove all jar in riding, and obviate the necessity of springs on carriages.

Another gentleman applied for a patent for heating canals by steam, so that boating could go on in winter as well as in summer. The office decided that this invention was worthy of protection, and gave him his patent.

Another applied for a combination of clock and bed, so ingeniously contrived that, when the clock struck, the bottom of the bed dropped out. He claimed that this plan would probably awaken the sleepers.

Speaking of combinations, he must have come from Missouri or Kansas who asked for a patent for a combination of cannon and plow. For this purpose he filed three applications, making the elongated handles of the plow hollow, so as to form two cannons. These were to be kept loaded till the guerillas were after him; the cannon were then to be fired, the guerillas shot down, and the farmer to go on his plowing way, rejoicing.

And he, too, must have come from the borders who asked for a patent of a combination of trunk and house.—The trunk was made with triple sides, moving up and down. Doing duty all day in guarding clothes, when night came on, and no cabin near, the goods were to be taken out, the triple was elevated into one, and the benighted traveler safely housed.

As early as 1817, Mr. James Pashile patented a swivel-gun in England, with the motto:

"Defending King George, your Country and Laws,
Is Defending Yourselves and the Protestant Cause."

The novelty of this plan was that his gun fired two kinds of ball, a square ball and a round one. The round ball was to be used in all fights against Christian nations; the square balls, that would mangle the flesh more, only in contest with Turks and other heathen. This gentleman of old time must have been the ancestor of Mark Twain, in this country, who so lost his temper because the Secretary of War refused to recommend his gun for a patent. Mr. Twain's idea was to have a swivel-gun that should load at the center and fire off at both ends. In case of a seige, he proposed to load the gun, set it a whirling, and drop it just outside the city walls. Before the balls left the mouth of the cannon, they would acquire such a rotary motion that they would sweep round the walls outside of the town, killing off all the besieging host. We must acknowledge, however, that we have looked in vain, on the records of the office, for Mr. Twain's name, and hence we infer he never received his patent.

There would be much of the ludicrous, were there not more of the horrible, in the device of an American embalmer for a patent. Knowing that the office required a working model or drawing in all cases, he obtained the corpse of a little infant, embalmed it in his best manner, and forwarded it with accompanying specifications. The corpse was immediately returned to him.

One ingenious gentleman wants the nation to let him build a water-wheel that should cover the whole front of Niagara, and whose shafting and power should reach all parts of the land.

Another asked for a patent for the invention of the generation of steam by boring a hole in the ground till he reached the waters that are boiled by the internal fires of earth. He set forth, among the advantages of his plan, that there would be no danger of explosions, no expense for fuel, no necessity of engineers—all of which statements are undoubtedly true.

It must have been a relative of this last gentleman, and one equally acquainted with the laws that govern the hidden heart of this planet, who applied for a patent for boring the earth for artesian wells for purposes of irrigation. He gravely set forth that he had made the discovery that quicksilver was heavier than common earth. He therefore proposed to start a hole, and to empty into it a little mercury. By the laws of Nature, that mercury would be sure to work its way downward till it struck water, and the water would then be sure to work its way upward till it struck air.

Should it be said that such patents as this last, as that for the prevention of cows switching their tails, for artificial moons, for plows doing the work of cannon, etc., must be jokes, we can only reply that shrewd Yankees are not wont to pay thirty-five dollars even for practical jokes, and that none of these designs have culminated into patents under less than that sum, and, when attorneys were employed, under double and quadruple that sum.

The *Journal* is not large enough to contain the account of singular patents applied to domestic use. More than one application has been made for rat-traps with a mirror in the center. The rat seeing another rat, of his own size and age, nearer the toasted cheese than himself, would be sure to spring for it. There have been quite a number of tape-worm-traps applied for, where a delicate bait is let down the throat by a delicate thread, and the hungry worm speedily drawn up. Constant application is made for patents for flying-machines and for balloons. One contriver arms his balloon with cannon, another with Greek fire that should burst and explode when just over the hostile army. An English gentleman actually received a patent for putting a howitzer on horseback, and mounting the horse on springs, so that the recoil of the howitzer should not break the legs of the pony. And, as late as September last, a gentleman in this country applied for and received a patent for accelerating vegetable growth by the use of alternate strips of white and violet glass. In short, there is no idea so ludicrous, so wonderful, or even so old, that some person of good sense and inventive ability has not endeavored to throw around it, or something like it, the protecting ægis of the law of patents.—*Appleton's Journal.*

CORN FOR FUEL.—The Iowa papers recommend people to use their corn for fuel. The Council Bluffs *Nonpareil* says: We are glad to see that many of our citizens are taking advantage of the low price of corn to lay in supplies of it for fuel. We have experimented with it the last week, and find that it is an admirable substitute for both wood and coal, and at present prices there is both economy and comfort in its use. A ton of corn, 33 bushels, at 17 cents per bushel, $5.60. We consider this equal to a cord of hard wood, as supplied and measured in our market at $7; the cutting of this cord is $1.50; total $8.50. Thus making a saving of nearly three dollars a cord. For kitchen fuel it is superior to wood, except hickory, and cheaper than that. It makes a very hot fire with a great deal of blaze. We judge that three tons of corn are equal to the heat of one ton of hard coal, while in economy of its use it is equal to one and a half tons of coal. In small families and small houses, there is always a great waste of hard coal, while there is none in the use of corn.

Flipkins says that there are three sexes—the male sex, the female sex, and the insects.

An Unexplained Phenomenon.

Scores of the infidels who mock at "faith" as considered in its religious sense, show themselves to be living contradictions of their own professed belief. For instance, what faith men possess in the security of the world, notwithstanding all hints of the elements to the contrary! If an earthquake shakes buildings from their foundations, man rebuilds them; if a village be destroyed by flood, man repairs the mischief done; if a volcano vomits forth death and destruction to the dwellers within its shadow, man, hardy man, returns to the haunts which have proved fatal, and in the very jaws of peril, eats, drinks, and sleeps soundly. Humanity lives in the present quite forgetting past dangers. That it is best so need not be demonstrated here. *Apropos* of this subject comes a reminiscence of the "dark day" in New England—the 19th of May, 1780—when, for five mortal hours, the sun hid his face, and night fell on the land. Previous to that time of terror, a vapor had filled the air for several days. There was a smell of sulphur. The morning of the 19th was overcast with some clouds, and rain fell over the country, with lightning and thunder. Scarcely any motion was in the air, what wind there was came from the southwest. By 9 o'clock in the forenoon, without previous warning, the darkness stole gradually on, with a luminous appearance near the horizon, as if the obscuring cloud had dropped down from overhead. There was a yellowness of the atmosphere that made clear silver assume a grass green hue. Then a dense, undefinable vapor settled rapidly and without serial movement over all the land and ocean from Pennsylvania to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the darkness it caused, sinking by degrees until the sunlight was effectually shut out. Ordinary cloud it was not. The rapidity with which so large an extent of country was enveloped precludes the possibility of supposing this to have been a natural cloud moving laterally. Besides this, the day was too calm to imagine such a thing. Down came the darkness, thicker and thicker. By ten o'clock the air was loaded with a thick gloom. The heavens were tinged with a yellowish or faint red; the lurid look increased; few, if any, ordinary clouds were visible. The sun disappearing, took on a brassy hue. The lurid, grassy color spread everywhere, above and below. The grass assumed the color of the sky, and all out of doors wore a sickly, weird and melancholy aspect—of a dusky appearance as if seen through a smoked glass. By 11 o'clock it was night itself, and from that time until 3 in the afternoon the darkness was extraordinary and frightful. In doors, candles became an absolute necessity. Without, stages put up at the nearest inns, or else carried candles and lanterns to guide the perplexed drivers on their way. The brute and feathered creation seemed puzzled and agitated. The herds of cattle on New England's thousand hills sought the shelter of the shed or barn yard, lowing as they came to the gate, and sheep huddled around the circle with their heads inward—the invariable token of apprehended danger. Dogs whined, and ran away as on the approach of an earthquake. Frogs piped their evening concert. The birds ceased to fly, and hid themselves in the branches of the trees. As the darkness increased, they sang their evening songs as they do at twilight, and then became silent. Pigeons on the wing took to the shelter of the forest as they do at night. The whip-poor-will, as if it were truly night, cheerfully sang his song through the gloomy hours. Woodchucks, which are night-birds, whistled as they only do in the night time. Bats came out of their hiding places and flew about. The fowls marched solemnly to their roosts, as they do only at nightfall, and, after cackling for a while over the mystery of so short a day, became still. Cocks crew, as is their custom at nightly intervals and the early breaking of day. The human family was equally terrified. Men left their occupations and sought their houses, where they were met on the threshhold by trembling women. Schools were dismissed. Travelers sought shelter, seeming to crave companionship. A deep gloom settled on every face, and terror filled every heart. Toward evening, the darkness was succeeded for an hour or two by a partially clear sky; but this interval was followed by a return of the obscuration with greater density, that rendered the first half of the night hideously dark beyond all former experience of probably a million of people who saw it. The phenomenon has never been explained. The theory of some, that it was smoke and ashes from forest fires, then extensively raging, was disapproved. No fires in the forest could have been sufficient to spread a dense cloud over the whole of New England and even some parts of the Middle States. Notwithstanding the researches of learned men, a satisfactory explanation cannot be given of the mystery, consequently the "dark day" remains an unexplained phenomenon.

A fashionable young lady in New Orleans lately tried to drag a fashionable bridegroom to the altar, and was doomed to the mortification of failure. She had visited the rectory of a fashionable church, and in a very unfashionable manner told the minister of her prospects, the retiring disposition of her intended, and asked him to perform the marriage ceremony on a certain day. Arrangements were made, and on the day appointed, the young couple presented themselves at the minister's residence. The church was opened and a large congregation was in attendance to witness the ceremony. The young man would not budge an inch from the minister's quiet parlor. The minister refused to marry the couple at his house. The young man would not go to the church; the tears and entreaties of his intended bride being of no avail. The minister was obliged to dismiss the congregation, and that man and woman are yet two.

Napoleon III.

Napoleon III. was the son of Louis, a brother of the first Napoleon, and of Hortense Beauharnais, the daughter of the Empress Josephine, and was born in the palace of the Tuilleries on the 20th day of April, 1808. He was, therefore, in his 65th year at the time of his death.

His was truly a chequered life. Born "in the purple," the downfall of the first Empire in 1814, banished him from France in his early childhood, and it was not until he had entered his 28th year that he endeavored to claim his imperial inheritance. His effort at Strasbourg in 1836 was a ridiculous failure, his subsequent attempt at Boulogne in 1840, was equally unfortunate. For the first he was pardoned and released, for the second he was imprisoned in the Castle of Ham, whence he managed to effect his escape. Eight years afterwards, when the Orleans throne was overturned, Louis Napoleon was chosen a Delegate to the National Assembly and afterwards President of the Republic of France, but on the anniversary of the coronation of the first Napoleon, he perpetrated the infamous *coup d' etat*, and declared himself Emperor. All may remember with what horror we read of the people of Paris being massacred in the streets by the regular army, under the orders of the military President they themselves had helped to elect. He ascended the throne over violated oaths to the Constitution of the Republic, and after causing the murder of thousands of his countrymen.

Then came the Crimean war, and the war with Austria, and finally the war with Germany—the fortune of which was to break his throne to atoms and send him and his family to seek refuge in England. That Napoleon ruled France in peace from 1848 to the day of the outbreak of the German war—with the two comparatively small exceptions already named—is his greatest glory. He gave to that singularly whimsical people a stable government—one which secured public tranquility, and with tranquility, an unexampled degree of individual prosperity. They never fared better before, and are by no means likely to fare better in the future. It was owing to the wise policy of Napoleon that France has been able to meet the enormous payments to Germany without remarkable difficulty.

The fourth Napoleon now takes his place as one of the numerous claimants to the possession of that uneviable seat—the throne of France.

Educating Girls for Household Duties

Educating girls for household duties ought to be considered as necessary as instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic, and quite as universal. We are in our houses more than half our existence, and it is the household surroundings which affect most largely the happiness or misery of domestic life. If the wife knows "how to keep house," if she has learned how things ought to be cooked, how beds should be made, how carpets should be swept, how furniture should be dusted, how the old clothes should be repaired, and turned and altered and renovated; if she knows how purchases can be made to the best advantage, and understands the laying in of provisions, how to make them go the farthest and last the longest; if she appreciates the importance of system, order, tidiness and quiet management of children and servants, then she knows how to make a little heaven of home; how to win her children from from street; how to keep her husband from the club house, the gaming table and the wine cup. Such a family will be trained to social respectability, to business success, and to efficiency and usefulness in whatever position may be alotted to them.

It may be safe to say, that not one girl out of ten, in our large towns and cities, enters into married life who has learned to bake a loaf of bread, to purchase a roast, to dust a painting, to sweep a carpet, or to cut and fit and make her own dresses. How much the perfect knowledge of these things bears upon the thrift, the comfort and the health of families, may be conjectured, but not calculated by figures. It would be an immeasurable advantage to make by attaching a kitchen to every girl's school in the nation, and have lessons given daily in the preparation of all the ordinary articles of food and drink for the table, and how to purchase them in the market to the best advantage, with the result of a large saving of money, an increase of comfort, and higher health in every family in the land.—*Hall's Journal.*

WHAT HE KNEW ABOUT THRESHING.—The Titusville *Press* gives an account of a young man from an Eastern city, who had been visiting rural friends in this vicinity. After seeing a farmer thresh out a "flooring" of oats the other morning, he asked and received permission to swing the flail a few minutes, upon assuring the agriculturist that he was "perfectly familiar with the art of threshing." Expectorating upon his hands, the young man went at the oats, but at the first pass knocked the horn off from a new milch cow that was leisurely chewing her cud in a neighboring stall. The second swing caved in the head of the farmer, who thought he was safe enough as long as he roosted on top of the fanning mill in the other end of the barn, but without discovering the havoc he was making, the city artist kept at his labors; the third blow fell upon the oats, the fourth killed a hen in a manger near by, and the fifth pass of the deadly weapon was the best of all, for it came around behind the young man boomerang fashion, and taking him under the lower jaw, knocked him down, and thus put an end to the work of slaughter. The mere fact that the city "thresher" returned to consciousness an hour before the farmer did, allowed the former to get several miles out of town before his efforts at threshing oats were discovered by his neighbors.

Sure Test of Death.

To learn with absolute certainty whether a person is dead or not, Dr. Hugo Magnus suggests the following simple method: Tie a strong ligature around a finger or toe of the supposed corpse, and if life is still present a reddening, which grows gradually darker until it becomes a bluish red, will occur in that portion of the member beyond the constricted point. Where, from exposure or toil, the skin of the finger has become very much thickened, a toe may be selected. On the other hand, if life is extinct, no change in color will ensue. The bluish coloration of the nails so often seen on the dead body, and also in certain cases of blood disease, need not be regarded as any source of fallacy; for after the application of the ligature, as long as life remains in the body, the whole of the limb, from the place of constriction to the extremity, will be uniformly blue-red; but if the coloration do not take place, or only occurs at a circumscribed spot, it can with certainty be concluded that the spark of life has vanished.

The deep-seated arteries carry blood to the extremities; the veins, which are more superficial, return the blood to the heart. By the ligature the backward flow of blood is arrested, when, if still circulating, it continues to pass into the arteries, and there accumulating gives rise to the peculiar color described. The object of the above proceeding is simply to ascertain whether the blood still circulates, as the complete stoppage of this function, according to Mr. Magnus, is positive proof of death.

It is recommended in the application of this method that the large limbs, such as the arms or thigh, be not chosen, because the necessary amount of constriction cannot be so readily obtained, the numerous large, deep-lying veins of the muscles not being sufficiently compressed by the ligature. In case the fingers or toes are not available, the lobe of the ear may be employed.—*Scientific Miscellany in Galaxy for January.*

Sowing Grass Seeds.

We prefer to sow grass seed early in the fall, or late in summer, so that the plant may get well established before the ground freezes. If sowed late in the fall, and yet early enough for the seed to germinate, the young plants are more likely to winter-kill, and the seed is lost. If the seeding cannot be done early in the fall, wait until February to April. Sown at any time after February the seed will germinate early and get a full season's growth.

We recommend the reseeding of both pastures and meadows. Especially is it important in the case of meadows where the practice is to cut the crop while in bloom or before the seed drops; and especially if it is in the main a timothy meadow. For timothy is a biennal grass and will "run out" in two years if not renewed by reseeding—hence the remark common among farmers that the red clover runs the timothy out. This rule also applies to closely fed pastures.—The constant cropping with only the tough, wiry, wild grasses which the stock will not eat, going to seed, soon runs out the better sorts, unless seed, is sown more frequently than it is. Harrow over the old pastures and give them a reseeding with white clover, orchard grass, timothy, red-top, etc., once in three years, and increased forage will repay the trouble.

Lands that are overflowed in the fall and winter, and are liable to be washed badly by such overflow, whether pasture or meadow, are better for frequent reseeding. Indeed, it is essential, if the tame grasses are to be kept in them at all, otherwise the coarse, innutritious marsh grasses will surely succeed them. On such lands the seeds should be sown as soon as the water has subsided from them in the spring.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Cloth Made of Glass.

A glass-spinner of Vienna manufactures glass which he spins into thread finer than cotton fiber or that spun by the silkworm. Great dexterity and constant care are required, and it is very trying to the sight of the spinner. The wheel he uses is five Austrian yards in diameter, and he runs off three thousand yards a minute. The glass-yard is sold for one dollar and thirty-six cents in gold an ounce. This thread is nearly as fine as silk lint. It is used as a substitute for wool wrappings by patients suffering from gout, and also by chemists and apothecaries for filtering, as it resists acids and heat. The thread has lately been woven into cushions, carpets, table cloths, shawls, neeties, and other garments, also for weaving figures in brocaded silk and velvet. As a material for fancy dresses, embroidery, tapestry, laces, and dressing for the hair, it is particularly brilliant and attractive. It is almost as soft as silk, and to the touch like the finest wool or cotton. It is remarkably strong, remains unchanged by light, heat, moisture, or acids; will wash, and does not fade or burn. The Austrian