

BOLD CHINESE PIRATES.

They Loot a British Vessel Off Hong Kong.

After Killing the Captain They Escape With \$30,000.

News arrived at San Francisco, Cal., by the steamship Oceanic, from Yokohama, Japan, that the British steamer Namoa had been attacked and looted by pirates. The daring of the pirates can be easily conceived when it is known that they made the attack only about forty-three miles from Hong Kong, China.

The vessel had on board 245 Chinese in transit and only five or six Europeans when met by eight-five pirates, who asked to be taken on board as passengers. At 1.15 p. m., while the officers were at lunch, the pirates divided into four bands and attacked the bridge, saloon, forward hold, occupied by the petty-officers, and filled the cabins with stink pots.

A passenger, Captain Peterson, lighthouse keeper at Lanouks, who was eating on deck, was instantly killed, and a quartermaster, forward, was shot and thrown overboard. They shot at the engineer, hitting him in the wrist. He, however, succeeded in getting to the engine room, and, securing his revolver, he afterward killed two of the pirates.

The captain, who was in the saloon, was told that if he would submit to the ship's being looted, no harm would be done him or the passengers, but he no sooner stepped out than he was shot dead.

After getting about \$30,000 from the officers, passengers and crew they smashed every boat the steamer had and then turned her toward the coast. When five miles off they gave three blasts with the whistle, which was the signal for their partners in crime to come out in six junks, into which the booty was placed. When all was ready the pirates departed.

Before leaving, however, they threw to the fireman, who had assisted them by drawing the anchor, a bag containing \$300. The ship was then taken back to Hong Kong by the chief officer, where she presented a most deplorable sight.

Captain Foscock was one of the best known men on the Chinese coast, and his death is much regretted. The steamer is one of the Douglas, Lapraik & Co. line. Four of the officers, who were badly wounded, were taken to the Civil Hospital at Hong Kong, where the local magistrates took their depositions.

It is reported in Hong Kong that the chief of the pirates is the same who led the famous attack on the Greyhound some years ago. He was only recently released from prison. On December 30 four of the pirates were arrested and held in the police court at Hong Kong for trial. The affair has created great excitement throughout the Chinese Empire, and is almost the sole topic of discussion in the newspapers.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

OKLAHOMA is covered with snow.

NEW YORK has 1000 millionaires.

ORCHIDS sell as high as \$4 per bloom.

LOSTON'S net debt is over \$31,000,000.

A REVOLUTION has broken out in Chili.

CHINA MEN are scarce in California now.

WATERMELONS are ripe at Dannelion, Fla.

LAKE GENEVA, Switzerland, is frozen over.

A HISMAK party is to be formed in Germany.

THERE are seven feet of snow on a level in Austria.

THERE are 6000 monks and 6289 nuns in Germany.

HEAVY snowfall is reported in Southwest-Texas.

MARYLAND oyster beds are reported to be exhausted.

THE pension payments during February call for \$23,000,000.

RAVENOUS wolves are infesting the border countries of Kansas.

NEBRASKA has seventeen hundred men guarding the border.

LAST year about 65,000 immigrants arrived at the Port of Boston.

THE order to disarm the Indians in Oklahoma has been revoked.

THE butter production of Iowa last year was 130,000,000 pounds.

THE Southern Presbyterian Church now has three colored presbyteries.

SEVENTEEN HUNDRED of the Sioux are members of the Episcopal Church.

NORTH DAKOTA farmers are forming a combination to fight the harvesters trust.

ELEVEN MILLION acres of land in the United States are owned by British subjects.

WOLVES and other wild beasts interfere with the sheep industry of Southwest Texas.

THE bodies of 901 suicides were exposed in the Paris (France) morgue during the year 1890.

THERE were 5650 foreclosures of farm mortgages in Kansas during the past six months.

EVERYTHING appears to indicate that there will be a scarcity of fat cattle for the spring market.

CALIFORNIA'S present orange crop is an enormous one, the largest in the history of the State.

THE Maine State Commissioner of Labor reports that there are 3915 abandoned farms in the State.

THE treaty of 1884 with Nicaragua is made public. It binds the United States to build the ship canal.

THE anthracite coal tonnage for the year 1890 amounted to 35,465,350 tons, an increase of 285,011 over 1889.

TEN THOUSAND farmers have left their homes in Kansas, ruined by poor crops, privations and hardships.

GRADE crossings were responsible for over 100 deaths in Chicago, Ill., and throughout Cook County during 1890.

THE Bolivian Congress has passed a law authorizing the coining of \$50,000 in small nickel coins, the work to be done in the United States.

JOHN F. HEWITT, an ex-soldier and a pensioner, living at Los Angeles, Cal., returned his pension certificate on the ground that he can make his own living.

PRUSSIA expects to make \$1,000,000 yearly from the manufacturers of Koch's lymph.

Of this Dr. Koch is to receive \$250,000 and his two assistants \$65,000.

In his message to the Legislature of California, Governor Waterman recommends an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 to displace the resources of California at the World's Fair.

THE Hatfield-McCoy vendetta, which has been quiet for some months, has broken out again in Logan County, W. Va., near the Kentucky line. In a recent fight between adherents of the respective factions six men were killed.

THERE were in the Indian Territory prior to the opening of Oklahoma seventeen reservations. The Indian population is estimated at 70,000. The Cherokee number 17,000; Chickasaw, 6000; Choctaw, 16,000; Creek, 13,000; Quapaw, 1300; Seminole, 3500; other tribes, 16,000.

THE authorities at Monte Carlo are said to be seriously alarmed by the attacks of the Parisian press and the growing demand throughout Europe for the suppression of that gambling place.

DURING the last year sixty-eight persons had their names changed in New York, in the manner prescribed by law.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

In the Senate.
33rd DAY.—The Finance bill was taken up, and speeches in favor of Mr. Stewart's amendment were made by Mr. Allen and Mr. McMillan. Mr. McMillan introduced a bill to pension the widow of General Custer at the rate of \$100 per month. Mr. Quay introduced a new Force bill, empowering the President to use the army and navy to resolve decisions where he thinks proper.
34th DAY.—The debate on the Finance bill was continued, Messrs. Sherman, Allison and Aldrich making speeches against free coinage. The report on the House Appropriation bill was presented by Mr. Hale, from the Committee on the Census.
35th DAY.—The Senate, after many hours of debate, passed, by a vote of 39 to 27, the Free Coinage bill adopted June 17, 1890, as a substitute for the Finance bill. The Senate at 12:12 A. M. agreed to take up the Federal Elections Force bill. The vote stood 33 yeas, 33 nays, and the Vice-President voted in the affirmative. The Senate then adjourned.

30th DAY.—Mr. Morgan introduced a resolution declaring the appeal taken to the Supreme Court, in the Behring Sea case, to be an affront to the Government. Consideration of the Election bill was resumed, Mr. Everts making a speech in favor of it. Mr. Manderson introduced a bill to establish a branch mint at Omaha, Neb., and Mr. McConnell one for a mint at Boise City, Idaho. Mr. Dawes reported a resolution directing an inquiry into the condition of Indians in North and South Dakota, Montana and elsewhere.
37th DAY.—The debate on the Election bill was continued, an all night session being held. Mr. Mitchell introduced a bill to provide for a temporary government in Alaska. On motion of Mr. Everts the House bill for the loan to the Saratoga Monument Association of certain bronze cannon captured from General Burgoyne at Saratoga, N. Y., was passed.

In the House.
29th DAY.—A select committee was appointed to investigate the alleged "silver pool." The Army and Navy Appropriation bill was up, and Mr. Stone made a speech against the Lodge Election Force bill. The Senate bill for a public building at Providence, R. I. (at a cost of \$300,000), was passed.
30th DAY.—The Army Appropriation bill was considered. Mr. Lodge made a reply to the attack made upon him by Mr. Stone, of Missouri. Mr. McKinley reported the bill providing that the commercial reciprocity treaty with the Hawaiian Islands shall not be impaired by the Tariff act.
31st DAY.—The Army and Navy Appropriation bill was passed. The House went into Committee of the Whole on the District of Columbia Appropriation bill. Mr. Enloe introduced a resolution protesting against the Canadian appeal to the Supreme Court in the Behring Sea case.

32d DAY.—The Speaker appointed a committee to investigate the "silver pool"; an important business was transacted. Mr. Sayers introduced a resolution requiring the Secretary of War to furnish the House with information as to the amount of deficiencies that will probably occur in the several branches of the military service, during the present fiscal year, in consequence of the existing Indian troubles. The House went into Committee of the Whole for the remainder of the day on the District of Columbia Appropriation bill.
33d DAY.—Obstruction and delay prevented any action on the District of Columbia Appropriation bill. The House at the evening session passed seventy private pension bills, including one granting a pension of \$50 a month to General Franz Sigel; one granting \$100 a month to General Isaac Quinby, of Rochester, N. Y.; one increasing to \$10 a month the pension of Joseph G. Barrett, of New York; and one granting a pension of \$100 a month to General N. P. Banks.

34th DAY.—The House at the evening session passed seventy private pension bills, including one granting a pension of \$50 a month to General Franz Sigel; one granting \$100 a month to General Isaac Quinby, of Rochester, N. Y.; one increasing to \$10 a month the pension of Joseph G. Barrett, of New York; and one granting a pension of \$100 a month to General N. P. Banks.

DEVELOPING THE SOUTH.

The Work of a Great Combination of Southern Business Men.

Much attention has recently been directed to the South on account of the Southern Inter-State Immigration Convention which convened in the city of Asheville, N. C., on the 17th of last December.

That convention was composed of more than eight hundred prominent Southern business men. An important part of the business of the convention was the unanimous adoption of a resolution asking for five hundred thousand Northerners men to come to the South in the next twelve months, and make their homes with the native people. A Bureau of Information was established, the business of which is to furnish information free of cost to all persons in the North. Hon. John T. Patrick, of Raleigh, N. C., was placed in charge; the plan adopted is practical, and will save the Northern man much trouble in finding reliable and trustworthy information. The plan is in brief, as follows: A local organization is established in each Southern town; a descriptive pamphlet is prepared by each organization. Northern men wanting information write to Hon. John T. Patrick, Raleigh, N. C., giving in detail what they wish to know concerning the South, or any part of it. These letters are printed by Mr. Patrick and sent to each of the towns, and in turn the Secretary of each organization corresponds or sends circulars to the enquirers. In this way one letter from a Northern man wanting information puts him in possession of much valuable knowledge, which, coming from the official organizations, can be trusted. If a man should want a farm, water power, site for mills, a gold mine, a tract of timber land, or a winter boarding place, he can, by one letter, get the choice of many places.

KILLED IN THE CAPITOL.

A Police Officer Killed in Denver and Speaker Hanna Shot at.

At an early hour on a recent morning Speaker Hanna, on endeavoring to enter the hall of the House in the Capitol at Denver, Col., was shot at by one of Speaker White's bodyguards. The bullet just astray. Police Inspector Hawley, being in the vicinity, rushed to the door just in time to be shot through the heart by Harley McCoy, one of White's doorkeepers. Patrolman Norris received a bullet through the abdomen on endeavoring to arrest McCoy, after which the latter surrendered.

All day long the Assembly was surrounded by a cordon of police and the State militia. No compromise is expected, and it is more than probable that Colorado will be found with two Houses of Representatives. Governor Hoyt has expressed himself for Speaker Hanna, while the Ramp Republican-Democratic majority refuse to bow to the Governor's command.

THE CREW DROWNED.

Fatal Result of a Collision Between Steamers in the Frith of Forth.

The steamer Britannia, from Leith, and the steamer Bear, from Grangemouth, collided in the Frith of Forth, Scotland, on a recent morning.
The Bear sank immediately. The Britannia launched a boat which rescued two of the Bear's crew, but twelve were swept away by the current and drowned.
The Britannia was badly damaged by the collision, and the steamer Thames, which came up soon afterward, took the Britannia's forty-five passengers off and started to tow the disabled steamer to Leith.
The cables snapped, however, and before the connection could be re-established the Britannia foundered.
The crew took to the water with their life belts, and all were rescued except the chief engineer, who was drowned.

HUNTING THE SEA OTTER.

SINGULAR METHODS OF THE ALUETS OF ALASKA.

The Animal Surrounded and Speared—Dividing the Skins—Some Queer Notions of the Natives.

Having been duly prepared for the hunt, the party, consisting of from twenty to forty skilled otter hunters, armed and equipped with all the paraphernalia and supplies essential to an extended absence, proceeds to the spot previously selected as the camping ground, and which must not be visible from the sea. Here they establish themselves temporarily, and, having settled matters pertaining to camp duty, are then ready and anxious to commence operations at the first opportunity afforded by a smooth sea.

The long looked for quiet day having at length arrived, the party, after a brief invocation of the mightier spirits, embarks, fully equipped, two and two, in their bidarkas. A bidarka is a sort of canoe made of the skin of the sea-otter or hair-seal stretched over a light wooden frame, and though seldom exceeding twenty-five feet in length by thirty inches in breadth, and weighing less than 100 pounds, yet so strong are they that, exclusive of a crew of 300 pounds, goods aggregating as much as 800 pounds are often carried in them. With the exception of two circular holes equidistant from either end and from each other, in which the occupants of the frail craft "squirt" upon their heels, the bidarka is completely decked over.

Clad in their kamleikas, water-proof shirts of whale, seal or bear intestines, the bottoms of which they fasten under the combings of the hatches, their sleeves secured tightly to the wrist, and the opening for the head drawn up closely about the neck, whole seas might wash entirely over both boat and occupants without a drop of water getting inside. This is a necessary precaution, as, though smooth and calm enough at the start, it is quite possible and even likely, owing to the long distance which they have to go, that the party may meet with heavy weather ere they reach the land. As an additional security, when the sea is too heavy to make headway against, they collect in groups of three or four canoes, and lashing them together, ride out the storm in safety. When any water finds its way inside, which it sometimes does through the seams of the skin, it is pumped out by means of a small wooden tube which the native sucks full, then by removing his finger, which he has placed over the lower end of the tube, to retain its contents until clear of the bidarka, the water runs out into the sea. The operation is continued until the boat is dry.

Once started on a voyage the peredovchik or leader assumes entire command and silence falls on the little flotilla. When, in his opinion, they are nearing the vicinity of their quarry he makes a sign, and immediately, without a word being uttered, the canoes separate, forming a huge semi-circle, each bidarka from fifty to a hundred yards distant from the next, and the occupants keeping always a vigilant lookout both on the surface of the water and the other boats.

As soon as a hunter sights the glossy head of an otter, he raises his paddle and points in the direction in which the animal was seen. The scattered bidarkas then close up so as to form an extended circle about the spot indicated, and still in silence await the reappearance of the otter. This is sure to be in about ten minutes, as at the end of that interval he must come to the surface to breathe, going down again after remaining there a few seconds. Should he come up within the circle of boats they gradually close in, beating the water with their paddles to bewilder the animal and to keep it within the ever-narrowing ring. Occasionally, however, the otter, after diving, alters his course, and appearing at a distant without the line, the canoes are thus compelled to change their base before finally securing the prize.

As soon as the pursued animal shows himself within spear's throw the earnest hunter, rising to his knees, hurls a shaft at it. Lodging in its skin near the head, we will say, the otter immediately tries to dive. In view of this trait the spear is constructed in just such a manner as to retard its progress as much as possible. To that end the head is set so loosely in its socket that the recoil of striking causes the shaft to detach itself, leaving the head securely embedded in the flesh. Wound round and round the shaft is a fine cord or line of braided sinew some three or four feet in length. One end of this is attached near the base of the barbed ivory head, while the other culminates in a bridle, each end of which is secured to either extremity of the shaft. This causes it to drag broadside to, in which position it offers the greatest resistance to the water. On some spears there is attached near the foot an inflated bladder used as a buoy, though it also acts as an additional drag.

Naturally, with all this to prevent his rapid escape, the otter shortly comes to the surface, pretty well exhausted with his exertions, and at no great distance from where he was first struck. As he makes his appearance, spears, arrows and darts are how indifferently launched at his devoted body. The poor animal dives rapidly and frantically endeavors to escape, but worn out from his tiresome efforts and bleeding wounds, his motions have less energy and vigor, and he soon floats up to receive his death stroke. The carcass is then skinned in the water, care being taken not to dislodge any spear or arrow heads from the skin, and taken into one of the bidarkas, when, if the weather is still propitious, the hunt continues.

On the return of the party to land each otter skin is inspected by the chief in the presence of all hands, and the ownership of the different skins ascertained by means of the points embedded therein, each of which is marked with the owner's sign or brand. Curiously

enough, the weapon nearest the tail carries off the prize, whereas he who first succeeded in placing a barb, which virtually was the means of the animal's destruction, receives but from \$2 to \$10 from the owner, according to the value of the skin.

Nowadays, as soon as the result of a hunt has been determined, the peredovchik reminds the hunters of their duty to the church, and with the unanimous consent of the entire party some skin, usually a small one, is donated to that institution, all the rest of the successful hunters uniting to reimburse the donor, to the value of his skin, less his pro rata. When the trip has been an unusually profitable one, the schools also receive presents of this sort.

Should it happen, as it not infrequently does, that the party has been unfortunate in the first day's quest, they simply return to camp and await another opportunity to test their dexterity; for they never think of leaving a place once selected until some others have been captured, no matter how long the delay. Indeed, there are instances recorded where hunting parties have remained on comparatively barren islands for years, supporting life meanwhile by means of fish, shellfish and the eggs of seabirds gathered on the rocks and cliffs.

On his return from a prosperous expedition the Aleut of former times destroyed the implements used on his trip, the hunting clothes, weapons, etc., being all cast into the sea, that the relatives of the dead sea-otters might find them there, which would lead them to believe that the murderer had also met his death by drowning. This accomplished, the hunter was free to enjoy himself without fear of molestation from the powerful spirits supposed to be the champions of these creatures, and who were in duty bound to avenge the deaths of all good sea-otters. Before entering his hut he arched himself from head to foot in the garments prepared during his absence by his faithful and industrious wife. An otter hunter is a man of importance in the community in which he lives, and socially without a peer. Any tool, weapon or implement not in the possession of his own family, which he may wish to see, is to be obtained by the very simple process of going to the place where it is to be had and helping himself to it, using it as long as he may require.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

WISE WORDS.

There is no substitute for success. Charity frequently should begin at other people's homes.

The true heroes are those heroic in the trades of everyday life.

The good who die young have a great deal to be thankful for.

Grown people feel the truth, but it is the children who tell it.

If a woman can deceive another woman she can succeed at anything.

If fathers could be sons to themselves what good sons they would be.

Virtue is its own reward, but vice will bring curses from a dozen sources.

It is no crime to be poor, but in the eyes of many people it is rank felony to be rich.

When the fires of youth go out in a man he wonders that they burn in others.

It takes very little to make a woman happy; it takes much less to make her miserable.

When summoned to the bar of final judgment no pleas of "not guilty" will be allowed.

Death stills the tongues of a man's detractors, but it seldom changes their convictions.

He who refuses to fight and holds his temper rarely fails to defend himself when attacked.

Most men think they could succeed better in what they like to do than in what they have to do.

A death bed repentance is like paying a debt after you're dead; it's only a few removes from moral dishonesty.

Philosophy has used the candle of speculation instead of the sun of Truth for so many years that its eyesight is practically ruined.

It is more blessed to give than to receive simply because the giver can squeeze no end of contentment out of the contemplation of his own generosity.

Spearing Eels Through the Ice.

Every one living near the Passaic between the Avondale and Belleville bridges, and also owning an eel spear, was busy each day and all day long during the cold spells of the winter spearing eels through the ice. The sport is carried on at night by torchlight, too, and the scene on the river after dark is picturesque.

For the first time in several years the stream was frozen from shore to shore, and the fishermen cut oblong holes, about three feet long and one foot broad. Thrusting their barbed pikes through the openings deep into the mud they bring some enormous eels to the surface. The fish at the winter season bury themselves by huddled in the slime at the bottom of the river and compose themselves in fancied security for their winter sleep, which lasts until spring or until the eel spear disturbs their repose.—*New York Herald.*

A Big Cookery.

A kitchen of the following gigantic proportions in a Parisian business house should be able to meet a strain upon its resources: There are fifty frying pans, each capable of cooking 800 cutlets at a time. There are utensils which can bake 110 pounds of meat and 226 pounds of potatoes in the true Parisian fashion. The smallest kettle in the place holds twenty-two gallons of water and the biggest 110. To make the necessary number of omelets no fewer than 7800 eggs are required. There are 230 gallons of coffee made every day. Sixty cooks and 100 assistants keep this establishment in full working order.—*Chicago News.*

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

SHIPPING EGGS.

A good way to pack choice eggs for shipment is by taking a strong, neat basket, large enough to amply accommodate one or more dozen, placing each egg in a small pasteboard box, just large enough to hold the egg. The egg should be wrapped with a layer of cotton before placing it in the box. Excelsior, or fine, soft hay, or even bran will answer in packing them in the basket and should be neatly and securely packed, filling up the basket and fastening the lid down securely by means of wire, and they will then travel any distance without breakage.—*American Agriculturist.*

FLEXIBLE CURRYCOMB.

The currying of a thin-skinned horse is often an operation as trying to the temper of the groom as to the hide of the animal, and a considerable amount of practical philanthropy is embodied in such inventions as a flexible currycomb, which has recently made its appearance. This comb has a leather back and teeth made of copper wire. The points of the teeth are rounded and flexible, and thus, while effectually cleaning the skin, they obviate the excessive irritation suffered by many horses. It is claimed that by this construction all the good points of the softest rubber combs and those made with sharp teeth are combined, and thus one comb will take the place of two.—*Chicago News.*

BARN SHOULD HAVE GOOD LIGHT.

One of the common faults of old barns, and to some extent of many new ones, is a lack of windows. Not, however, the sliding pieces of board, which have been dignified by the name of windows, but which only let in light when they are open, and which seldom close tightly enough to keep out the wind and rain, but glass windows, which answer all the beneficial purposes for which such things are made. Too many stables are comparatively dark at mid-day, and toward night become entirely so. The darkness is a constant source of dissatisfaction to the owner of the stable, and to every one who has to take care of the stock, and it cannot be comfortable for the animals. In coming from the light yard to the dark stable, the cattle must feel uncomfortable, and as dark rooms are pronounced unhealthy for people, it is possible that the influence of dark stables upon the health of the cattle confined in them is far from beneficial. Cattle like the sunlight, and it will pay to have windows enough in the barn to supply all the light they need. The light will be beneficial to the cattle and to the men who take care of them, and will be fully appreciated by both of the parties.—*National Dairyman.*

REMEDIES FOR BEE MOTHS.

E. B. Havens asks if there is any way to prevent moths from getting into beehives. There is no moth-proof hive. The best remedy or preventive is to "keep all colonies strong," that they may fight their own battle against the moth, and destroy every moth, larva, or chrysalis at sight. With the frequent handling of movable combs, in the various operations incident to the season, a worm in any part of the hive can readily be detected and disposed of, and there is little excuse for allowing them to become numerous. A knife or other sharp-pointed instrument should be at hand to administer speedy justice, as everyone not destroyed soon becomes a host. Combs taken from hives in which bees have been wintered, and later in the season, such spare combs as the moth may have had access to, should be examined, and if signs of its work are seen, the combs should be placed in a box and subjected to the fumes of brimstone.

If, from any mishap or carelessness, a stock becomes so overrun with worms as to be in danger of destruction, the bees should be removed and the hive and contents thoroughly fumigated with brimstone. If any brood should be worth saving, let it be cut out and cared for. The combs unfit for any purpose should be buried or burned.—*Farm, Field and Stockman.*

POULTRY POINTS.

All farmers should keep pure-bred poultry; there is no economy or profit in common barnyard stock. They eat no more, and certainly a thinking farmer prefers the blooded fowl and will keep it and no other. A good farm should naturally demand good stock.

Put all tarred felt on the outside of the building, making the inside white and clean by whitewashing. This will answer two purposes—one shuts out the cold, the other makes the coops bright and cheerful, which makes the flock look well also.

There is nothing so welcome to poultry in winter as green food, nor so hard to obtain at moderate prices. For this reason the nearest substitute comes in the way of clover hay cut in small lengths, steamed and mixed with warm feed in the morning. The hay is stored after harvest each year.

A fattening coop should be away from the flock and roomy enough to accommodate the birds without crowding. If fed on good sound wheat, oats, and bran chop, two weeks should find them in excellent condition for the table. A fowl neatly dressed, entrails taken out, and thoroughly washed, adds much to its attractiveness to the buyer. The price should be the best for choice dressed stock.

The White Minorca has been tried with the Leghorns and found wanting. They are good layers, but the Leghorn is a better one. This has been fairly tested by several of our American breeders simply for their own satisfaction, and to see whether what many have claimed for them was correct. The Leghorn has stood the test for many years, and it will be a difficult undertaking to produce a better fowl.

The last season has witnessed the introduction of large numbers of white Plymouth Rocks among our farmers, with good results as far as has been learned. Like their progenitors, the

white Plymouth Rocks are plump, compact, full-breasted, and heavy-bodied fowls, hardy and good layers, and good table fowls. They are handsome because they are spotless and always show to advantage upon a green lawn or meadow. They are easy to raise, and breed very true—more uniform than the barred variety.

Holland is noted throughout Europe as a center for fine geese, ducks and turkeys. They show keen perception of the demands of the market by producing eggs and feathers, which bring better profits the year round than market broilers. Large flocks of from 1000 to 6000 geese may be seen on some of the best farms close to Amsterdam. The farmer drives his geese to market several miles distant, as we would a flock of sheep. They export large consignments of eggs and geese feathers to the New York commission houses each season, selling them at a good profit and pay expenses of transportation.

One of the largest duck farms located in the New England States has been conducted in such a manner that to-day it earns in net cash for its owner over \$4500. The incubator is the power, with its next friend the brooder, while the duck does her part as the egg producer and does it well. The average number of eggs to each duck during the year has been 157 eggs. This is an average among 2000 ducks. Certainly there is a right and wrong way of managing any business; in this example we have success stamped upon it, brought about by perseverance and good, careful management.—*American Agriculturist.*

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Two and three story barns are a nuisance. See that frost is excluded from your cellar. Too much water ends in bog or swale grass. If you want a thin crop skim the surface. Grass to be permanent must have sufficient moisture. The greatest profit on a pig is in the first 200 pounds. Roasting cotton seed is said to greatly improve its feeding quality. If you do not have running water try a windmill to work the pump. The cheapest feed is that which gives the biggest return for the cost.

The hens like a place where they can hide away to do their nest building. A little well rotted manure was never known to injure either pasture or meadow land. Fresh eggs are in demand these times. Are you doing your share toward supplying the demand?

Trim your fruit trees so as to give a free, open top, no two limbs touching or crossing each other. Farm products that excel in quality and have an attractive appearance never have to hunt a market. Broadcast sowing of corn indicates broadcast sowing of profits, which produces a worthless harvest. Keep an account with the hens this year and see if it don't pay. Find out whether it pays to keep them.

During the dormant days of winter fruit trees will feel the effects of trimming less than at any other season. The cow gets her exercise in gathering food to fill her stomach. She is at rest when she is doing her best in elaborating milk. Hen manure is no better than any other manure unless the food of the hens contains valuable fertilizing elements. If it does not pay to keep poultry on the farm, change your management and see if that does not produce a better supply of eggs.

Hortense Dudley says when Leghorns are cared for judiciously they may doubtless be kept with profit until five years of age. A lot of fat old hens and males, be they old or young, will reduce the average egg production per fowl wonderfully. Reduce the number of these in the flock. If you have no covered run for your fowls, scrape the snow from the ground south of the hen house or barn and give them a path to it and see what they will do on a sunny day.

The export of evaporated apples last year amounted to about twenty-two million pounds. This source of our national income will dwindle down to a very small figure this year. Wood cutting naturally will be an occupation for those who have any cut; it is far easier to cut and cord it before the deep snows fall. It can be hauled out more easily on sleds after a good snow storm.

Fruit growers subjected to premature spring thaws should allow the frost to penetrate well into the ground and then mulch their trees heavily. This will prevent the trees from thawing and starting the buds prematurely. Remove the mulch in early spring. How much grain per day should a dozen chickens eat to do well and lay?—W. G. D. That depends upon what other feed they have. Our flock, which has considerable range and a good many scraps, soft feed in the morning and skim milk to drink, have a good quart of grain to the dozen fowls, half wheat and half shelled corn.

When Alabama Was a Territory.

When Alabama was a Territory its capital was St. Stephens, in Washington County. The convention that framed the constitution under which it was admitted to the Union, was held in Huntsville, where the first Legislature met in October, 1819, and the first Governor was inaugurated. Cahaba became the seat of government in 1820. In 1825 the capital was removed to Tuscaloosa, and in 1846 it was again removed, this time to Montgomery.—*Birmingham (Ala.) Age-Herald.*