IN A COAL MINE.

BY JIMMEL.

A car-full of car'less ones A car-nul of car ross ones The day was ours to spare-As students did we seek a mine To see coal laborers there.

We found the place—'twas miles away To west, and then by south: And though was ours a joyous mood, We look down in the mouth.

Of that dark cavern an' thro' sight By courage were not fitted, To plunge away beyond the light; We felt we should be pitted,

But on we went; and thoughts of ill Flew off while we were flyin'. And each one from a car-edge oried Behold, all this is mine!

Not only pleasure did we hope To find for us in store, We sought as well a higher path, To get a little lore.

We found a pencil wain-T state What no one will deny-for. Although there was no lack of slate, "Twas not a place to sigh for.

The star lamps gleamed before our eyes What constellation finer-Though borne by many a bearish chap Who was no worse a miner

And so we studied o'er the mine While bright ideas budded, And when we turned away we knew The mine was much ore-studded.

And when we saw daylight again, Delight did us enfold, Although we found each one had got A very little coaled.

For we were glad that no mishap To sorrow had been doomin' us, And that no wayward mass of coal Had sealed our fate by toombin' ns,

ST. JOHN'S BREAD."

An Interesting Sketch.

[From the Lancaster Express.]

And his bread was locusts and wild honey."

Passing along one of the principal streets of the City of "Brotherly Love," near the close of a beautiful day in the month of October, I indistinctly observed upon a fruit stand a number of dark brown, oblong, fiattened objects, that might very easily have been mis-taken for what the lovers of the narcotic weed call "Plantation cigars." On inquiry, I was informed by the obsequious and 'somewhat loquacious vender of spent several years in California, informs these and other et ceteras, that they that country feed almost evolution in were "St. John's Breed!" the broad the thet country feed almost evolution in the broad the b were "St. John's Bread"-the bread that John the Baptist lived upon in the Wilderness of Judea-and "going for only five cents for three of them." I tasted and purchased; and found them a large brownish colored bean-like pod, the largest about six inches in length, and in saccharine substance and flavor, not much unlike that of the common date, but not so moist and soft. In short these pods were the fruit of the "Carob Tree"-Ceratonia siliqua-which is generally considered to be the locust tree of Scripture, and hence many people, and especially in Spain, where it grows abandantly and is eaten, call the fruit of it 'Saint John's bread,' and believe that John the Baptist partook daily of this fare whilst he was preaching in the wilderness. A want of a knowledge of natural history, as well as of eastern manners and customs, has induced others to fancy that the "locusts" which

THE DAILY EVENING BULLETIN .- PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1866.- TRIPLE SHEET. to could not possibly have been of the same species of order, as the one to which illiterate Americans apply that than is ordinarily the case when shingled; what carponters call one-third pitch would answer. Such a roof, name. From the first appearance of the Cicada septendecim until its final well laid on, would last as long as, a shingled one, and the sides of the building would endure death and disappearance, it does not in-clude a term, ordinarily, longer than three weeks, and during that period, nothing has been recorded, and no oblonger. An ordinary balloon frame with rafters would be necessary; then nail light strips crosswise of the rafters and servations have been made, eliciting the fact that it eats anything at all; its whole mission, appearing to be, to proframe for attaching the straw. One acre of good, well-saved rye straw will roof from from five to seven squares, each vide for the continuance of its species; shortly after which it dies, and becomes containing one hundred squares, each Wheat and oat straw, about one-quarter less. It is about the same labor to put foor for other animals. The three locust, or pod-bearing trees, which I have named, must not be by it on the roof as to nail on roof-boards and shingles. The cost of the material any means confounded with a plant to the farmer is a mere nothing. Most of the work may be done by the farmer called the *lotus*, of which both the seeds and roots are edible. This latter is an aquatic plant, and belongs to the "Water-lilles"—*Lymphea*— abounding in the hottest parts of India, Africa, and America, but more particulate to and his help. Roofs, at least, over stockyards, might be made in this way suffiient to shelter the entire crop of grain

In the noticest parts of India, Africa, and America, but more particularly in the ponds and rivers of Jamaica, and along the banks of the Nile, in Egypt. It is not likely, therefore, that the Scriptures allude to this plant as the *meat* upon which the Baptist fed. That locusts in the West, at. a very small outlay by the growers. Cost of Building in New York. The Commercial and Financial Chronicle of New York city has the following interesting article on the cost of buildwere eaten in various ages and by va-rious people of the world, has been well ing: "Until about the middle of 1863 buildauthenticated, and, therefore that John the Baptist should have made them his ing materials sympathized but little with the general advance of prices: for chief food, is not at all remarkable. It was permitted to the Jews to feed on them; and Diodorus Siculus, who lived full sixty years before the birth of our the reason that large stocks were on hand, which, in connection with a dullness in the trade and moderate wages, <u>cc19-2t</u> enabled new buildings to be erected at a 413 nominal advance upon old prices. From Savionr, gives a description of the locust eaters of Ethiopia, and also their mannominal advance upon old prices. From that time up to the spring of 1865 the advance was by no means proportionate with that of produce and manufactures. At that period, however, the demand became so pressing, and the stocks of timber and lumber so largely reduced, ner of catching them and preserving them for future use. Pliny remarks that even the wealthy Parthians made their food of grass-hoppers, or locusts—as they are most commonly called—and the Arabs who inhabit the desert while wages were also doubled, as com-pared with former rates, that the prices of Sahara often welcome the ap-praach of the locusts as a perfect of materials at once rose to about one God send, and as a means of saving them hundred per cent. over those current at the commencement of the war. This from famishing with hunger; notwithadvance was followed by a reaction of about ten percent; which has since been succeeded by another upward movestanding their presence is such a terror to the inhabitants of the more fertile parts of the country. Indeed locusts are regarded as a great delicacy among nament; so that to-day the cost of building regarded as a great dencacy among na-tions who are abundantly supplied with other kinds of food, especially among the Moors, Arabs and Jews of Barbary, and when the locusts abound in Central averages more than at any previous period. Below we give an interesting table showing the prices of the various building materials in September for five Africa, the natives become quite fat in feeding on them. Roasted locusts is a vears: PRICES OF BUILDING MATERIAL IN common dish among the Assyrian Arabs of the present day, and we need not go beyond the Continent of North America to find abundant examples of locust-SEPTEMBER FOR FIVE YEARS.

eating. A very esteemed, intelligent and long-standing friend of ours, who that country feed almost exclusively on a large species of locust, or grasshopper, during that portion of the year when they are in season, and esteem them a great delicacy. They scald them in salt "As a natural result these high prices have led to the use of inferior workmanwater, and after divesting them of their ship in the crection of buildings. A lower legs, wings, and antennæ, they pound class of timber, imperfectly seasoned them into a paste in a mortar, and afterlumber, and inferior materials of masonry wards bake them in cakes, which he has often tasted, and were it not for the preand furnishing have been in greater de-mand. The scarcity of labor has also judices due to our civilization, they necessitated a freer employment of infewould be deemed excellent, and of an rior workmen, and at the full rate of agreeable flavor. Were we indeed to wages. As a consequence a large proportion of the buildings now being erected are of a class less adapted for durability quote only a tithe of the testimony to which we have access, that locust eating than formerly. In fact the exhaustion of the supply of well seasoned lumber has caused an advance in that kind is a common custom now, and has long been so among many nations of the earth, we could form a book upon that subject, of very respectable magnitude; of material out of proportion to that of but this is not at all necessary. Taking it for granted therefore that. John the Baptist preached and fed upon locusts and wild honey in the wilder-ness of Judca, what does it all amount

NEW PUBLICATIONS. DUBLISHED THIS DAY. L A NOVEL FULLY FOUAL TO "IVANHOE," OR "WAVKELY," BY SIE WALTER SOUT,

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ohn the Baptist fed upon were the tender shoots of plants, and that the "wild honey" was the pulp of the pod of the Carob tree.

The seeds or beans of this tree, are said to be very nutritious, and in the South of Spain, where it is very common, they often formed the principal food of the British cavalry horses during the war of 1812. There seems to be better reason to suppose, according to some writers, that the shells of the carob pod might have been the "husks" which the prodigal son desired to partake of with the swine; because, although the seeds no doubt are most nutritious, yet the pods themselves contain an agreeable saccharine matter, not at all ungrateful or unappeasing to the appetite of a hungry

The common American locust-Robinia pseudacacia—bears a similar pod to to the carob, only much smaller and less fleshy; yet, before they become too dry, they are often sought by the boys, for the sugary matter which some of them the sugary matter which some of them contain; and this is especially the case with a species commonly called the "honey locust"—Gleditschia triacanthos-which, although always a larger thorned and podded tree, yet does not usually attain the large size of the former, or "post locust," as it is sometimes

But in good truth, without denying the possibility of the thing, and without assuming any force from the literal record that John's meat was locusts and wild honey, we do not think that the Scriptures alludes to the pod of the Carobtree at all, as the bread of John the Baptist. Availing ourself of the only other biblical reference to which we have access, we find in our German New Testament that "seine speise aber war heuschrecken und wilder hong." Now "speise" means food, nourishment, vic-tuals; avd "heuschrecken" literally literally translated, means, according to the German dictionary definition, locusts, grasshoppers. From this and other testimony there is abundant reason to infer that John the Baptist's food was locusts; that is, insect food -probably the Locusta migratoria of Asia and Africa; the nearest resemblance to which. in habits and form, in this latitude, is what we commonly call a "grasshopper." The name of *locust*—the seventeen year locust for instance, which we apply to an insect of another natural order, and of different antomical structure, different form and different habits, is entirely a misnomer. That insect belongs to the genus *Cicada*; and cies, is peculiar alone to the con-tinent of North America, yet, there are over two hundred and fifty species of them described, as existing in different parts of the world not me parts of the world, not one of which has received a name that can by any means be translated, corrupted or contorted, into that of locust. In England they have received the common name of "harvest flies," and among other nations, other appropriate common names. In the United States alone they appear to have received the name

to? and how muchare we really wiser in the knowing of it? if there is not a spirit that underlies the literal history, which is applicable to the moral experience, and spiritual proaress of the human family, in all places and all ages of the world. John's mission, and the mission of Him whom he foreshadowed, and the corre-spondential representative of whose word he was, were both short; but in that short period was accomplished the most sublime work ever witnessed in the infinity of worlds—nothing less in fact than ma-king possible the salvation of a fallen humanity, that otherwise must have been irrecoverably lost. How often in the daily experiences of mankind is a John the Baptist beheaded, and a Christ crucified! yet the eternal principles of truth which they embodied and reflected are still living as freshly, and are as binding upon the consciences of men as they were in the days when the "generation of vipers" were warned to "filee from the

wrath to come." To show how far the word of God transcends any other word, truth, or doctrine in the world, it is said that among them that are born of women, there has not risen a greater than John the Baptist, notwithstanding he that is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he." In other words, that the internal or heavenly quality of Gode word, is for for the internal that the internal or neavenly quarty of God's word, is far superior to its ex-ternal quality and meaning, such as John the Baptist taught it; and such as the literal teaching of that word is at the literal leacning of that word is at the present day, among so many who assume to "prepare the way of the Lord and make his path straight." The truths John taught were of the most common and general character, and wielded e placeing delight to these to yielded a pleasing delight to those to whom they came with acceptance; and hence, it is said that "his meat was hence, it is said that "his meat was locusts and wild honey"—locusts, in sub-ordination to use, and not in abuse, as with Pharaoh in Egypt, where they have have a different spiritual meaning. GRANTELLUS.

GRANTELLUS.

Thatching Buildings.

A vast amount of grain has been damaged this year throughout the West in the stack. This has happened before, and will, very likely, yet occur many times. This result is, in a great measure, attributable to a careless method of stacking. But at the hurrymethod of stacking. But at the hurry-ing season help scarce and it is frequently impossible for the farmer to secure his grain in proper condition. For the pre-sent, adequate barn room for storing the vast haryests of the West, is en-tirely out of the question, But ff per-manent and sufficient shelter for un-threshed grein could hesupplied cheaply thrashed grain, could be supplied cheaply with material in the hands of every grain farmer, its use would save mil-lions of dollars yearly to the grain growers of the West. This kind of shelter for grain may be

provided by using straw for the roof and also for the sides of the barn, so far down from the eaves as it may be necessay to extend them for adequate shelter from storms, or even to the ground if desira-ble. Rye, wheat and oats straw are they appear to have received the name of locust. Any thinking reader of Scripture, or of profane history, giving an account of the rayages of the migra-gratory locusts of. Asia and Africa, could not be very long in coming to the conclusion that the insects there alluded

quately supplied. This probability is all the greater from the circumstance that dealers will be reluctant to buy, at present prices, stocks to be held for years in the face of a sweeping decline in values during the interim. For this reason it would seem reasonable to anticipate that, for a somewhat protracted period, building is likely to run largely upon second-class erections. This is one of the thousand disadvantages flowing from the derangements consequent upon the war, unnoted by the common ob-server, but which really tell very materially upon the comfort and welfare of

the community. "To the very common inquiry—What is likely to be the future course of values connected with building? the obvious answer would seem to be that the cost must be controlled in great part by the same considerations which determine the value of products generally. The question is, perhaps, chiefly one of wages. The cost of a building depends not merely upon the rate paid for the labor employed in working and putting together the several materials, but still more upon the wages paid for the more upon the wages paid for the pro-duction and transportation of those materials. In fact, it may be said that the principal cost of a building resolves itself into wages and interest upon the capital employed in its production. It can scarcely be argued that the great scarcity of dwellings, by necessitating a demand for more houses, will tend to keep up the cost after com-modifies have begun to decline; for there is the same comparative scarcity in products generally as exists in relation to buildings. If, then, there is reason for anticipating a decline in wages, there is ground for expecting a fall in the value of house property. That the price of labor must be reduced there will be no question; but there would seem to be little reason for expecting that the de-cline will be immediate, or that it will be otherwise than steady and protracted. * * * "We could wish it were possible to present a more satisfactory prospect as to the future cost of building, for the current high rents have a direct tendency to support the prevailing high dency to support the prevaling high wages, and the heavy cost of erecting buildings of industrial purposes neces-sarily checks investment in new manu-facturing enterprises. The marvelous recuperative power of the country may, however he relied upon to work out an however, be relied upon to work out an earlier relief from the restrictions upon

building operations than would occur, under similar circumstances, in any other country."

EXTIRPATION OF WILD BEASTS.—A bill has just been passed by the legislature of Natal, which says a local newspaper, will one day be regarded with the same sort of amused interest with which Euglishmen now read the wolf edict of King Edward. The bill authorizes the government of Natal to offer a reward of £1 for every tiger or panther killed; 10s, for every hyena, wolf, wild dog, or alligator of four feet in length; and 2s, 6d. for every jackal or wild cat. Where the skin is not produced, the skull and the ear-tips must be presentable. Mr. Barton, the member who introduced the bill, stated to the house that he had per-sonally killed twenty-four tigers in his own neighborhood, and that his stock had been decimated by ravenous beasts.

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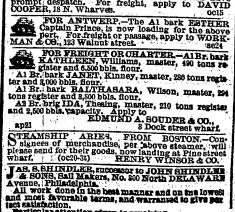
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