

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

Driving Oxen.

I never had any trouble driving oxen, though I knew a man who'd as soon try to drive lions, as to pick up the whip and undertake to "haw back," and "gee bright."

Always commence right with oxen. They don't appear tender hearted, and don't seem to be the casual observer to be longed for sympathy, but oxen have feeling which must be consulted. If you want to yoke up your oxen, take the rope on your shoulder and gently approach the starboard ox. If he moves away, throw his heels in the air, turn about and approach the other, for in the long run it doesn't make a cent's worth of difference which ox is yoked up first, though there are men who always pull on the left bow first, and would persist in it if the house was on fire.

If the harbored ox runs away, don't throw the yoke at him, and jump up and howl. You can't throw the yoke over twenty rods at the most, and the chances are you won't hit him. Take the yoke on your back and saunter across the pasture towards the first ox. Approach him as if you didn't care a cent whether you got the yoke on him or not. Let your face wear a smile, and whistle some careless air. If he shows a disposition to run away, don't go after him.

"Who there—hold on—I'll kill you—blast your eyes—hold on!" Keep up your indifferent demeanor and in about one hour and a half you can put your hand on the ox. Rub his back and speak encouraging words to him, and let him see that you are his true friend. In a little time you can put the yoke on him, and then start off after the other ox on the far side of the field. If he makes a bolt for the barn, preserve your careless air, and above all, don't pound the ox or have already secured. By persistent exercise of patience, you can get the pair yoked up and ready for business by ten o'clock, if you commenced early enough. Don't chain 'em to a stump and maul 'em with a rail after you have them in your power; seek to conquer them by love rather than force.

Few farmers know how to draw out the full strength of a pair of oxen on a dead pull. They set the team off with a yell, kick one, pound the other scream at both, jump over the log and hog and the result is that the bovines jerk and jump and waste their strength. The right way is to send them off gently. Friend that you are untying the chain to go home, and you don't know how much this will encourage them. When the chain is sent, and the oxen are ready to pull give them a kind word, tell them their motto should be "Excelsior," and that England expects every man to do his duty. Don't throw rocks at them.

An experience of forty odd years has convinced me that nothing will discourage an ox so quick as to hurl a stone quarry at him when he is doing his level best to accommodate you.

In driving oxen before a wagon, do not carry a bean pole with a bad-awl fastened into the end.

The ox is not as swift on foot as the antelope or gazelle, and they shouldn't be galloped over ten miles without a rest. There is nothing so good to rule the brute creation as kindness. The true farmer will, if necessary, sit up all night with a pair of wild oxen, giving them kind advice explaining matters, and rubbing their spinal columns with a comb to bring out their gentle natures and win their confidence and esteem.

Managing Small Fruits.

If the currents are more than a year old, cut the tops off close to the roots. With grapes, if the top is of the previous year's growth, and has buds near the roots, leave one or two. If not of last year's growth, cut it all away. The top of raspberries should be all removed. Then, when the roots get the machinery at work, they will send up canes that will fruit well the next season. But if the top is left on it will require all the energy of the roots to support it, and if the plants do not die the first winter it will be feeble and sickly the next summer, and linger along year after year until the plant condemns the variety and throws them away in disgust. Last spring I filled an order for raspberries, and before sending them I cut the tops back to two feet, and came near having them returned for doing so. I told the dealer that they should be all cut off when planted out. He said he knew that very well, but his customers did not; they would have plants that would bear the first year, and it was the top that sold them, not the roots. But my advice is, see that you get good roots without any regard to tops.

Dogs and Bulky Horses.

A correspondent sends the following: "Having read sundry canine sketches which were very entertaining, I thought I would send you which, strange as it may seem, is no fiction: A farmer in Indiana had a large dog, well broken in years, which would not permit his master to chastise a bulky horse or ox without his active aid. The farmer owned three of the former and two of the latter, which this dog had cured of their vice by biting their heels. The simplicity of the remedy was apparent to me at a glance, for whoever knew horses or cattle that ever failed to run from a dog that bit them in the rear? Since learning the above, I have had two opportunities of testing the dog logic of whipping bulky animals, near or on the rear fetlock joint which, to my surprise, was quite successful."

To Make Hard Soap.

Four gallons of boiling water on six pounds of washing soda (sal-soda) and three pounds of mucked lime. Stir the mixture well, and let it settle until it is perfectly clear. It is better to let it stand over night, as it takes some time for the sediment to settle. When clear, strain the water, put six pounds of fat with it, and boil for two hours, stirring it most of the time. If it does not seem thin enough, put another gallon of water on the grounds, stir and draw off, and add as much as is wanted to the boiling mixture. Its thickness can be tried by occasionally putting a little on a plate to cool. Stir in a handful of salt just before taking it off the fire. Have a tub ready soaked, to prevent the soap from sticking, pour it in and let it settle until solid, when you will have from the above ingredients about 30 pounds of white soap.

NUMEROUS.

The Boa Constrictor.

Here is the speech that Mr. Barnum is supposed to have made when he first went into the showman's business, and was exhibiting the Boa Constrictor. It is worthy of the distinguished showman:—"John, undo his tail. There, ladies and gentlemen, is the wonderful boy constrictor, so called because he constricts many pleasing images with his serpentine form. The constrictor is a long animal, as you will perceive, and is very long lived. He lives a hundred years or more, if he don't die before. He is of the wormy species, and worms himself along the ground without legs. He is capable of climbing the highest trees, in which he is fond of concealing himself in the branches thereof, that he may impose upon the benighted traveler or other beast, whereby to assassinate his hunger. He mashes his vittles before he eats 'em, and then swallows 'em head first. The sea-serpent is much larger, yet I think the boy constrictor could lick him; for he is full of pluck. Prick him, John, and make him hiss. When he hisses he is very angry, and cares very little what becomes of him. This is because he is weak-minded, and has a small head. He has, however, a very large belly, and when it is full, he is good natured. He has a lovely skin, but is very ugly tempered. He is very sulky and lazy, and he is so spiteful, it is a mercy he can't talk. I have took care of this mighty snake for three years, but he shows no gratitude. He is a glutton and likes to stuff himself, and then he goes to sleep. If John don't stir him, (stir him again, John!) he would never wake up, except to his victuals. I don't know I ought to blame him though; because nature is nature, whether in Boston or the rude valleys of Bengal. I have an uncle who has lived in Bengal, and a brother who has never been there. My uncle tells me he has seen ten thousand boy constrictors at one time, a frolicking in the forest, and eating each other up. My brother does not believe it, but then he has not seen it. My uncle may be depended upon. He was a ship-captain once, and sold rum and sugar to the Indians. He is the only man in the world who ever sold liquor to the boy constrictor. This is the one he gave it. He first got him tight, and then boxed him up. The boy will never forgive him."

An Old Lady Astonished.

Mr. B. a well known Metropolitan printer, mentions that on one occasion an old woman from the country came into the printing office with an old Bible in her hand.

"I want," said she, "that you should print it over again. It's getting a little blurred, sort of, and my eyes is not what they was. How much do you ask?"

"Fifty cents," said he.

"Can you have it done in half an hour? Wish you would—want to be getting home. I live a good way out of town."

When the old lady went out, he sent around to the office of the American Bible Society and purchased a copy for fifty cents.

"For sakes a massa!" exclaimed the old lady, when she came to look at it, "how good you have fixed it! I never see nothing so curious as you printers is."

You Want to be Married.

A good story is told of an old Dutch farmer, who had just arrived at the dignity of Justice of the Peace, undertook to marry a couple who came to him for this purpose.

"Vell you loves dis woman as good as any you ever see?"

"Yes," answered the man.

"Then to the woman—"

"Vell do you love this man as better as no man you never see?"

Lady hesitated, and he repeated—

"Vell, vell, do you likes him as well as to be his wife?"

"O, certainly," she answered, with a kind of titter.

"Vell, that is all any reasonable man can expect. So you are maried. I pronounce you man and wife."

The man then asked the Justice what was to be done.

"O nothing at all—nothing at all—your welcome to it if it will do you any good."

An Evansville man has proved himself a saint, though probably at the time he uttered the words which have since made him famous he was unconscious of the stirring sarcasm contained in the few syllables referring to a prominent feature of American life.

He had fallen into a ditch in the outskirts of the town in such a manner that he was unable to extricate himself. A kind-hearted pedestrian helped him to his feet, and after the thing had been accomplished, our hero said: "All right—hic—I'll vote for you." The stranger looked at him doubtfully, and wished to know what for. "What's office ye running for?" "None at all," was the answer. "Not a candidate?" "No; why?"

"Why—hic—why? 'Cause I don't know as any man'd—hic—help another as you did 'bout being a candidate?"

A warren letter to the Erie Dispatch contains the following: "A youthful couple changed from the P. and E. to the D. A. V. and P. cars at Irveston, Thursday, whose ages were 206 years. These juveniles were married 75 years ago. The wife could not walk without the aid of two persons, but the husband, although two years the oldest, could manage to walk with the aid of one."

Fifteen thousand tickets for negro emigrants have recently been taken on the railroads running south and west from Montgomery, Ala. The African in that locality is a color somewhat inclined to run, as the washerwomen say.

A certain farmer, having company at dinner, was ambitious to make it appear that he was somebody. Addressing his boy, he said: "Have you driven those sheep in?" "Yes, sir. Are you sure you drove them all in?" "Yes, sir; I saw him over the bars." He had but one.

Conundrum—Said a boy: "That chap yonder is my brother, and this girl is his sister, yet she is no relation of mine." Answer—the boy lied.

Harrisburg has been the Capital of the State for sixty-two years.

Miscellaneous.

THE MONTROSE DEMOCRAT

For 1874

CONTAINS

MORE LOCAL NEWS,

MORE GENERAL NEWS,

BETTER STORIES,

BETTER FAMILY READING,

MORE CHOICE POETRY,

MORE FARM MATTERS,

AND IS A

Better Paper

THAN EVER BEFORE.

Subscribe for It Yourself!

Ask Your Neighbors to Subscribe!

\$2 per Year in Advance.

BILLINGS STROUD,

General

INSURANCE AGENT,

Montrose, Pa.

Capital Represented, \$100,000,000!

FIRE, LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE:

Home Ins. Co., N. Y., Capital and Surplus, \$4,000,000
Hartford Fire Ins. Co., Capital and Surplus, \$5,000,000
Liverpool, London & Globe, \$2,000,000
Ins. Co. of North America, \$1,500,000
Pena. Fire Ins. Co., Phila., \$1,500,000
Ins. Co. of Penna., \$1,500,000
Colon Mutual, \$1,500,000
Lycoming Fire, \$1,500,000
Saratoga, Providence, R. I., \$1,500,000
Clay, of New York, \$1,500,000
New York, \$1,500,000
Albany, \$1,500,000
Lancaster Fire Ins. Co., \$1,500,000
Fire Association of Phila., \$1,500,000
Home Ins. Co., Columbus, O., \$1,500,000
Leitch Valley Fire, Allegheny, \$1,500,000
Citizens Fire Ins. Newark, N. J., \$1,500,000
South Side Ins. Co., Pittsburg, Pa., \$1,500,000
Albany, \$1,500,000

LIFE.

Conn. Mutual Life Ins. Co., Assets \$25,000,000
American Life, Phila., \$4,000,000

ACCIDENT.

Travelers Ins. Co., Hartford, Capital and Surplus \$500,000
Railway Passengers, \$500,000

The undersigned is SPECIAL AGENT for the following companies for Northern Pennsylvania:

Fire Association of Philadelphia, \$1,500,000
National Fire Insurance Company of Philadelphia, \$1,500,000
The Insurance Co. of the State of Pennsylvania, \$1,500,000
Albany, \$1,500,000

ILLINGS STROUD, Agent.

Montrose, Dec. 18, 1873.

Miner & Coats

DEALERS IN

FLOUR, GROCERIES,

and

PROVISIONS

MAIN STREET,

Montrose, Pa.

Clothing, etc.

THE BOTTOM

Has Fallen Out of

DRY

GOODS

—AT—

C. B. PERRY,

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

An Immense Stock Just Bought from

THE GREAT FAILURES

of New England, at prices

CHEAPER THAN EVER BEFORE KNOWN

Binghamton, Nov. 13, 1873.

H. BURRITT,

World call attention to the New Stock of

FALL AND WINTER GOODS,

DRY GOODS, LADIES' DRESS GOODS, BLACK

AND COLORED ALPACAS, NEW STYLE OF PRINTS,

SHAWLS, WATER-PROOFS, FLANNELS, BALSAMAL, AND HOOP

SKIRTS, VELVETS, HOSIERY, HEAVY WOOL GOODS, CARPETS, OIL

CLOTHS, PAPER HANGINGS, BUFFALO AND LAP ROBES, FURS, HATS

AND CAPS, BOOTS AND SHOES, HARDWARE, IRON, NAILS,

STEEL, STOVES, AND GROCERIES, ETC.

In great variety, and will be sold on the most favorable terms, and lowest prices.

New Milford, Jan. 28th, 1874.

H. BURRITT.

Miscellaneous.

PAINTS AND OILS.

A FINE STOCK AT

B. R. LYONS & Co.'s.

Montrose, May 14, 1873.

CARPETS.

CARPETS AT 25 CENTS AND UPWARDS.

—Less than N. Y. Prices—

May 14, 73. For Sale by B. R. LYONS & Co.

SUGAR, TEA, COFFEE,

and other

Groceries

At Low Figures at

B. R. LYONS & Co.'s.

Montrose, May 14, 1873.

WALL AND WINDOW PAPERS.

A Large Stock, and New Patterns Received Every

Week Direct From the

Manufacturers.

B. R. LYONS & Co.

Spool Thread.

Costs. Clark's O. N. T.,

and John Clark's Spool Thread.

White, Black, and Colored—from No. 8 to No. 120, at 25 cents per dozen. For sale by

B. R. LYONS & Co.

Montrose, May 14, 1873.

PROCLAMATION!

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

All ye good people having anything to do before the Honorable Judges of what is good to eat and drink come forth and give your attention, and your wants shall be supplied; and all men and women who are summoned as Jurors to try the good qualities of our goods please appear. And know ye all that

A. BULLARD

is constantly receiving large additions to his stock of Choice Groceries and Provision, such as Wheat and Buckwheat, Flour, Corn and Meal, crushed Wheat, and Graham Flour, Ham, lard, and fish, dried fruit, and berries, fresh fruits and vegetables of all kinds, (in their season), "sugar," (maple) also molasses and syrup, tea and coffee, of the very best qualities, spices, soap, salt, crackers, and cheese, raisins, figs, gelatine candies, and nut, books and stationery, Yankee notions, tobacco and cigars, canned goods, a very large stock of the very best qualities, and all at extremely low prices for cash or ready pay.

A. N. BULLARD.

Montrose, Jan. 7th 1874.

A NEW ARRANGEMENT!

PIANOS & ORGANS.

At L. E. Bell's Jewelry Stand,

Where a larger and better stock of the following goods will be found than elsewhere in Northern Pennsylvania:

FINE AMERICAN WATCHES, GOLD AND SILVER PLATED WARE, (OF ALL KINDS), FINE TABLE CUTLERY, DIAMOND JEWELRY, and a general assortment of Musical Merchandise, Sheet Music, Violin Strings, etc., etc.

All Fine Watch Repairing, Sewing Machines and Organs, (as usual), by

Isbell & Melnhish.

Sept. 10, 1873.

V. RECKHOW & BROTHERS,

General Undertakers

DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF COFFINS, CASKETS, ETC.,

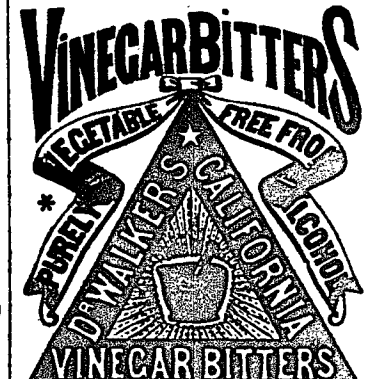
GREAT BEND, Penn'a.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

April 20, 1873.

V. RECKHOW & Bro.

Drugs and Medicines.



Dr. J. Walker's California Vinegar Bitters are a purely Vegetable Preparation, made chiefly from the native herbs found on the lower ranges of the Sierra Nevada mountains of California, the medicinal properties of which are extracted therefrom without the use of Alcohol. The question is almost daily asked, "What is the cause of the unparalleled success of VINECARBITTERS?" Our answer is, that they remove the cause of disease, and the patient recovers his health. They are the great blood purifier and a life-giving principle, a perfect Renovator and Invigorator of the system. Never before in the history of the world has a medicine been compounded possessing the remarkable qualities of VINECARBITTERS in healing the sick of every disease man is heir to. They are a gentle Purgative as well as a Tonic, relieving Congestion or Inflammation of the Liver and Visceral Organs, in Bilious Diseases.

If men will enjoy good health, let them use VINECARBITTERS as a medicine, and avoid the use of alcoholic stimulants in every form.

Montrose, Penn'a.

is constantly receiving NEW GOODS, and keeping generally on hand a full and desirable assortment of

GENUINE DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, Paints, Oils, Dyes, etc., etc.

TEAS, Spices, and other groceries, stone-ware, wall paper, glass-ware, fruit jars, mirrors, lamps, chamber sets, machinery, etc., etc.

foot oil, red wax, oil, oil for lanterns, oil for sewing machines, Olive Oil, sperm Oil, Spirit Turpentine, kerosene, Camellia Oil, etc., etc.

Cartridges, Powder, Shot, Lead, Gun Caps, Blasting Powder, etc., etc.

Fire, etc., etc.

Pocket Knives, Spectacles, Silver and Silver Plated Spoons, Forks, Knives, etc., Dental Articles, a general Assortment.

FANCY GOODS, JEWELRY, and PERFUMERY.

All the leading and best kinds of PATENT MEDICINES.

The people are invited to call at the Drug and Variety Store of

Feb. 1, 1873.

Miscellaneous.

AT

ROBINSON'S

Southern Tier

FURNITURE EMPORIUM!

LARGEST AND BEST ASSORTMENT OF

FURNITURE

OF ALL KINDS,

At the Lowest Prices of any Store in Southern New York.

All Goods Sold are WARRANTED as Represented.

E. D. ROBINSON

Nov. 18, 1873.—17

Furniture

AT

WILLIAM SMITH'S

Extensive Furniture Warehouse you will find the largest stock of

FIRST CLASS AND COMMON

FURNITURE

To be found in this section of the country, of his own manufacture, and at prices that cannot fail to give satisfaction. He makes the very best