

# LEWISBURG CHRONICLE.

BY O. N. WORDEN & J. R. CORNELIUS.  
H. C. HICKOK, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

Fridays—at Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania.

ELEVENTH YEAR...WHOLE NUMBER, 565.

\$1.50 PER YEAR, ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

## The Lewisburg Chronicle.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1855.

### Family Longevity.

A New Haven paper recently noticed the case of a family of ten brothers and sisters in that neighborhood, among whom no deaths had occurred, and the youngest of whom was 41, and the eldest 60 years of age, making an average of 55 years, or a total of 550 years, (the ten nearly equal in aggregate to the average of human life in the primitive age of man.)

We are informed of a more remarkable example of family longevity in this vicinity. The ten living brothers and sisters, of whom WILLIAM NESBIT, Esq., of Chillicothe is the senior, range from 55 to 72 years in age—an average of 63 years, and a total of 635 years.

No doubt the Connecticut as well as the West Branch family, would be found to have descended from parents of good constitutions, early risers, leading lives of diligence, temperance, and cheerfulness, "fearing God and regarding man," and by these means being proper inheritors of the promised "three-score years and ten."

### Agricultural College.

In addition to the liberal offer of Gen. NILES of Erie county, it will be seen by the following article that Gen. IRVIN of Centre county has made an equally generous offer towards an endowment of a High School for Farmers. Harrisburg also is intending to compete for the prize. The query has also been made, Can not Union and Northumberland counties enter into the list? Railroad facilities will render our region the most central in the State. A school devoted to Agriculture, in the immediate neighborhood of a well-endowed Literary and Scientific Institution, would be most economical, and confer and receive many advantages. There are many fine Farms near our University, on each side of the River, well adapted for an Experimental or Model Farm. The large Farm of Col. Moore, in Buffalo Valley, was in market, and we presume still is. Shall not this, or some other suitable place, be offered by our citizens to the State Society as the site for an Agricultural College? Let there be thought and discussion upon the subject, which may soon be taken up by the Society for decision.

### Agricultural Meeting.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Centre County Agricultural Society, was held at the Court House on Tuesday evening of last week. Mr. H. N. McAllister offered a resolution, approving of the contemplated Agricultural High School or College, for the education of young men intended for farmers. He accompanied his resolution by some very appropriate and well timed remarks. He was followed by Bond Valentine, and Judge Burnside, when the resolution was adopted, unanimously.

At this stage of the proceedings, Gen. James Irvin inquired whether it was considered desirable by this society to have the Farm School located within the boundaries of Centre county? Having received an affirmative reply, he stated that he had been giving the subject some consideration, and was prepared to offer the State Agricultural Society, at its next stated meeting, two hundred or two hundred and fifty acres of land near Centre Furnace, or on Buffalo Run, whichever may be thought the most desirable location, provided they establish the School upon it. The announcement elicited unmistakable evidence of approval. The lands from which Gen. Irvin offers the selection, are among the best farm lands of this county, and we believe they are not excelled, for wheat-growing, by any in the State. They are watered by running streams, and are in healthful locations, surrounded by intelligent and virtuous populations. No better location, in our opinion, could be found for the purpose. We believe that in addition to the land, the farmers of the county would subscribe liberally toward the erection of buildings.

Several large packages of Seeds, from the Patent Office at Washington, were distributed among the members of the Society.—*Bellefonte Whig.*

### A Winter's Walk in the Woods.

Go when the rains  
Have glazed the snow and clad the trees in ice,  
While the sun's sun of January pours  
Into the bowers a flood of light. Approach!  
And the broad surface shall appear thy steps,  
And the broad arching portals of the grove  
Welcome thy entering. Look! the mossy trunk  
Is cased in the pure crystal's each light spray,  
Nodding and tinkling in the breath of heaven,  
Is stridged with its trembling water-drops,  
That stream in rainbow radiance as they move,  
And round the parent stem the long live boughs  
Bleed in a glittering ring, and above the spots  
The glassy floor—oh! you might deem the spot  
The spacious cavern of the virgin-mine.  
Deep in the womb of earth, where the gems grow  
And diamonds peep forth radiant rods and beads,  
With amethyst and topaz—and like place  
Lift up most royally with the purple  
That dwells within them. Or, haply the east hall  
Of fairy palace that outlasts the night,  
And fades not in the glory of the sun;  
Whose crystal columns stand out slender shafts  
And crossing arches, and fantastic aisles  
Wind from the sight in brightness, and are lost  
Among the crowded pillars. Have thine eyes  
Thou seest no cavern-roof and white ceiling cloud  
There the blue sky and the pale rifting cloud  
Look in. Again the wilder fancy dreams  
Of sparkling fountains, frozen as they rise,  
And faced with all the branching jets in air,  
And all their spheres sealed. All is light—  
Light without shade.

### Fashion becoming Respectable!

That blind, stupid servility which ever struggles to imitate the rich or titled—Fashion—has probably caused more evil in the world than intemperance or war. Mental and physical suffering, crime, and sin, are its fruitful progeny. And every Reformer, and all who have sensibly blessed the world by their abode in it, have been in many respects unfashionable people.—"Better be out of the world than out of the fashion," is the cry of the little Butterflies that shine and are forgotten when they return to their mother dust; while the names which are joyfully remembered are those of men and women who had minds as well as bodies of their own, and were not mere automatons of the Big Butterflies that glittered a moment—and perished for ever.

Gov. POLLOCK, we rejoice to see, is not a fashionable Governor. It has been the fashion—"the way"—"the custom"—to close up Inauguration Days with an "Inauguration Ball." The part the Governor was to take in this grand executive performance, was to visit it at a given hour, walk through the room, smiling and bowing, and be solemnly gaped at by all the big and little luminaries of fashion present—and go back again. Accordingly, after the fatigue of the day was past, and the Governor had reached his private room, with a few chosen friends, and the Bible just presented before him, he was waited upon by a committee of escort, to conduct him to the ball room. "A ball, gentlemen!" said the Governor, "I never attend balls."

"Well, but," said the committee, very plausibly, "this is Inauguration ball—got up in honor of your election—all the Governors attend—it is the way—the custom—the mode—the ton—they all do so—no harm to the most scrupulous—they are all expecting you—the ladies are all anxious to see you—you surely would not disappoint your friends, and especially the ladies—all that is desired is that you should just walk through the room, and allow them to see our excellent and popular Governor," &c. &c. The Governor heard them patiently—expressed his regret at disappointing any, and especially the ladies; that he was conscientiously averse to such customs, and as the arrangements were made without his knowledge or approbation, they could not but expect that he should make his own decision in the case.—Very sensible in the man—dignified in the Governor—consistent in the professor of his Bible on his table, but shockingly unfashionable to the Butterflies aforesaid!

For one, we rejoice in this evidence, on the part of the Chief Magistrate of this noble Commonwealth, that he will be governed in his career by the dictates of an enlightened, common-sense conscience, and not be the servitor of the trifling lazaroni and ephemera who usually endeavor to shape the affairs and order the policy of Officers in a multitude of small matters which in their influence are of great moment.

Attending a ball, may be a light thing in itself. But to attend because "others do," is transferring to "others" an individual obligation which every man should assume for himself. And to attend a place of at best questionable propriety, where respectable professors of religion are not expected to attend, simply because Fashion demanded it, would have been a base surrender of the Man and the Christian to the machinations of the Evil One.

We rejoice that Gov. Pollock has set a good example in this respect. He will find many cases in his "course of time" in which by falling back to the first principles of Right and Propriety, he will come in conflict with Fashion. But we need such men, in our day, as much as any day has needed them. We need such men in Church and State—in business and in the social circle—every where.

—There is another proof that Fashion is becoming rational, in the benevolent indications of many of the rich—the gay—the very ton—in our cities, the present cold season, when tens of thousands of able-bodied men and women have no means of earning their daily bread. Besides the large amounts given privately, and by official alms of taxes laid by law, there are now many thousands supplied with food, daily, by philanthropic individuals, in our cities, and hundreds in our larger towns. Were the amount really known, it would probably be found that near a Million of Dollars have been this season devoted to sacred charity, in Philadelphia and New York alone.

This proves there is in the heart triply-encased and raveled by the hardening processes of fashionable inanity and insipidity, a germ of kindness and common humanity left, which may be made to beat by a great necessity like that now existing. Accordingly, we find individuals who "style" and wealth have heretofore held captive at their will, devoting themselves personally to relieving the sufferings of the poor—practicing the example of the Good Samaritan—and ever compelling the attendants of balls and parties to contribute liberally for the wants of the needy. It is their personal interest in the matter—so different

from throwing victuals or a dollar to beggars indiscriminately, or signing large sums to some Hospital to have their names printed in the news-journals as benefactors—which proves that Fashion has really taken a benevolent turn, and is for once sensible and humane!

To rob fashion of its evils, and to transform it into an angel of light, is the duty of those gifted by station, by wealth, by talent, or by influence of any kind whatever. But such persons must themselves not be the bond-men of Fashion. Realizing their power, they should exercise it for "the greatest good of the greatest number," and

"Count that day lost whose low descending sun  
Knows no good thought, or deed of kinder done."

Now, Fashion is naturally tyrannical, hypocritical, false. Fashion is wasteful, exacting, extravagant. Fashion is heartless, is traitorous. Fashion rebels against God, and despises Him in his creature Man. Yet it affects and meddles with and proscribes everything good. If it can not attend "church," it sends its "card." If it can not corrupt or suborn or enslave, it ridicules, annoys, and destroys. It would make the world a Pandemonium, half filled with fallen angels in feathers and laces and jewels and broadcloth, radiant with perfume and dancing to delightful music, and the other half crushed victims, gazing with blind wonder, and shouting applause to their sardonic, smooth-tongued masters.

Fashion should be sensible. Fashion should be frugal and temperate. Fashion should be kind and considerate. Fashion should adore the great God our Maker, and honor Man our fellow. Fashion should be truthful and sincere. Fashion should be honest and unaffected. Fashion should set good examples, and avoid all evil. When Fashion becomes so changed, the Millennium will be enjoyed.

### How to be Economical.

In times like the present, when the exercise of household economy is indispensable, a knowledge of the best method of attaining it, in the purchase of articles of food, is very requisite. In proportion to other articles, the various preparations and compounds made from corn are but little used, and yet they exceedingly varied, cheap and nutritious. Corn bread in fact, which is a staple article of food at the West, and which is so generally despised to a great extent, take the place on our tables of the miniature wheat loaves which the bakers now dispense, while milk cakes and puddings are so seldom prepared in most families, that they would be esteemed as luxuries. Rice also possesses many of the same recommendations as corn. Almost every family, with the present prices of marketing, could diminish the price of living 25 per cent. by a judicious selection of their provisions.

### Too True!

The Louisville Journal estimates the property, money, and labor transferred from the older States of the Union to California from 1849 to 1851, at \$150,000,000, and the products of gold during the same at \$249,000,000, leaving a balance of \$189,000,000 against the Golden State. Besides this loss in valuables, transferred from the East to the Rocky Mountains, it is believed that the product has been fruitful of evil to this country, by stimulating speculations and inducing over-importations of foreign merchandise. When, in addition to the estimates of immense loss of life, time, &c., transferred from the Old States, and which remained unproductive, we add the immense cost to Government of getting and protecting Cal., it is found a disastrous, wasteful bargain.

### Lottery Gambling in Disguise.

We have on our table three advertisements, accompanied with letters or circulars, inviting us to become parties to three "magnificent schemes" for swindling the public on "a new and original plan." We respectfully but decidedly decline all such propositions. And our duty as Editors of a newspaper requires us not only to decline publishing anything calculated to mislead our readers, but to caution them also against being deceived and swindled by others.

### A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.

So should we live, that every hour  
May die as dies the natural flower,  
A self-revolving turn of power.  
That every thought and every deed  
May hold within itself the seed  
Of future good and future need;  
Esteeming sorrow, whose employ  
Is to develop, not destroy,  
Far better than a barren joy.

MARY RUSSEL MITFORD, the gifted authoress, died at Swallowfield, England, on the 10th of January last, in her 66th year. Her pictures of rural life in England are some of the most attractive and charming which have ever been written. She stood at the head of the female writers of her country.

RELIEF FOR DR. KANE.—The National House of Representatives, on Monday last, passed the resolution authorizing the Navy Department to send a steamer and a tender to the relief or rescue of Dr. Kane and his arctic expedition. The Secretary of the Navy will dispatch the vessels ordered immediately.

### THE FARM: The Garden—The Orchard.

[The premium for the best Flour Bread, awarded at the last Agricultural Fair of this County, was to Mrs. David Heber, Lewisburg. The following is the "written statement of manner of making it," required by the Society, which is published by request of several:]

For the Lewisburg Chronicle.

#### How to bake Bread with Water.

First, to make the yeast, take one dozen good sized potatoes, peel them, put them in a pot, add half a tea cupful of hops put the potatoes, and boil them quite soft. Put a large tea cupful of flour in a crock, take sufficient of the water on the potatoes to scald the flour thoroughly; then press the potatoes through a cullender into the crock of scalded flour, adding a little cold water to soften them in pressing them through; then stir it up in the crock, effectually. When about milk warm, add one pint of good rising, stir it, and leave it to work eighteen hours. Then break two eggs into a tin cupful of milk warm water, and beat it up very light, add that to the yeast crock, and stir in flour sufficient to make a good batter, and let it rise; then empty it into the bowl or dough trough; add flour to make a stiff dough; work it well, and let it rise again. Then mould it out into pans, and let it rise the third time; then bake three quarters of an hour. The proportions given will make four small loaves.

#### A View of American Agriculture.

CHAPTER II.  
What the Country has lost by Impoverishing its Soil.

Taking the census of 1840 as the basis of the calculation, and adding no more than the usual increase, including immigrants, the number now employed in agriculture in the United States does not vary much from five millions. The number of acres which they cultivate are not known. In the State of New York, there are some twelve million acres of improved land, which includes all meadows and enclosed pastures. This area employs about five hundred thousand laborers; being an average of twenty-four acres to the hand. At this ratio, the number of acres of improved land in the United States is one hundred and twenty million acres. But New York is an old and more densely populated State than an average in the Union; and probably twenty-five acres per head is a juster estimate for the whole country. At this rate, the aggregate is one hundred and twenty-five millions. Of these improved lands, it is confidently believed that at least four-fifths are now suffering deterioration in a greater or less degree.

The fertility of some, particularly in the planting States, is passing rapidly away, in others the progress of exhaustion is so slow as hardly to be observed by the cultivators themselves. To keep within the truth, the annual income from the soil may be said to be diminished ten cents an acre, on one hundred million acres, or four-fifths of the whole.

This loss of income is ten millions of dollars, and equal to sinking a capital of one hundred and sixty-six million six hundred and sixty-six thousand dollars a year, paying six per cent. annual interest. That improved farming lands may justly be regarded as capital and a fair investment when paying six per cent. interest, and perfectly safe, no one will deny. This deterioration is not unavoidable, for thousands of skillful farmers have taken fields, poor in point of natural productiveness, and instead of diminishing their fertility have added ten cents an acre to their annual income, over and above all expenses.

If this wise and improving system of rotation tillage and husbandry were universally adopted, or applied to the one hundred million acres now being exhausted, it would be equivalent to creating each year an additional capital of one hundred and sixty-six million six hundred and sixty-six thousand dollars, and placing it in permanent real estate, where it would pay six per cent. annual interest. For all practical purposes, the difference between the two systems is three hundred and thirty-three million three hundred and thirty-three thousand dollars a year to the country.

There is another view of this important subject which is worthy of profound consideration. Of the twelve million acres of improved land in the State of New York, one million are so cultivated as to become richer from year to year. These improving soils are in the hands of forty thousand cultivators, who take and read agricultural journals, and nobly sustain the State and county societies of that Commonwealth.

Three million acres of the twelve millions are so managed as barely to hold their own in point and fertility. These lands belong to a class of farmers who do as well as they know from personal observation, and seeing how roading men improve their estates and domestic animals.

Eight million acres are in the hands of three hundred thousand persons, who still adhere to the colonial practice of extracting from the virgin soil all it will yield, so long as it will pay expenses to crop it, and

then leave it in a thin poor pasture for a term of years. Some of these impoverished farms, which, seventy-five years ago, produced from twenty to thirty bushels of wheat on an average per acre, now yield only from five to eight bushels. In an exceedingly interesting work entitled "American Husbandry," published in London in 1775, and written by an American, the following remarks may be found on page 98, vol. 1. "Wheat in many parts of the province (New York) yields a larger produce than is common in England. Upon good lands about Albany, where the climate is the oldest in the country, they sow two bushels and better upon an acre, and reap from twenty to forty; the latter quantity, however, is not often had, but from twenty to thirty are common; and with such bad husbandry as would not yield the like in England, and much less in Scotland. This is owing to the richness and freshness of the land."

According to the State census of 1845, Albany county now produces only seven and a half bushels of wheat per acre, although its farmers are on tide water and near the capital of the State, with a good home market, and possess every facility for procuring the most valuable fertilizers. Dutchess county, also on the Hudson River, produces an average of only five bushels per acre; Columbia six bushels; Rensselaer eight; Westchester seven; which is higher than the average of soils that once gave a return larger than the wheat lands of England even with "bad husbandry."

Fully to renovate the eight million acres of partially exhausted lands in the State of New York, will cost at least an average of twelve dollars and a half per acre, or an aggregate of one hundred million dollars. It is not an easy task to replace all the bone earth, potash, sulphur, magnesia, and organized nitrogen in mould consumed in a field which has been unwisely cultivated fifty or seventy-five years. Phosphorus is not an abundant mineral anywhere, and his soil is about the only resource of the husbandman, after his surface soil has lost most of his phosphates. The three hundred thousand persons that cultivate these eight million acres of impoverished soils annually produce less by twenty-five dollars each than they would if the land were not so exhausted.

The aggregate of this loss to the State and the world is seven million five hundred thousand dollars per annum, or more than seven per cent. interest on what it will cost to renovate the deteriorated soils. There is no possible escape from this oppressive tax on labor of seven million five hundred thousand dollars, but to improve the land, or run off and leave it.

That the latter has been done to a large extent is shown by comparing the population in rural districts, at the census of 1830, with that of 1840. In nearly half the townships in the State, population decreased notwithstanding the rapid growth of cities and villages, demanding an increase of farm laborers to supply the mere local markets. The canals of New York have operated to hasten the exhaustion of its arable lands; just as a railroad to California would aid in extracting gold dust from its now unwashed sands. While the canals and railroads of New York convey a thousand tons of the few precious atoms in the surface of the earth which can alone form bread and meat, to tide water, they do not carry back from tide water one ton of raw material for making crops of any kind. A million tons of human food pass down the Mississippi, where one ton of the elements of such food ascends the "father of waters."

It will be seen, on referring to the census of 1840, that the five States of Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia, employed at that time one million thirteen thousand four hundred and sixty-three persons in agriculture. Of this number Maryland had sixty-nine thousand eight hundred and fifty-one; Virginia three hundred and eighty thousand seven hundred and seventy-one; North Carolina two hundred and seventeen thousand and ninety-five; South Carolina one hundred and ninety-eight thousand three hundred and sixty-three; and Georgia two hundred and nine thousand three hundred and eighty-three.

It is a statistical question of considerable importance, to determine how much less these laborers, and the mules, horses, and oxen which they work, annually produce, than they would, had no acre of arable lands in these States, so highly favored by climate and fertility, been damaged in the least by improper tillage. The difference in the cost of making crops on poor land and on good land is much greater than is generally supposed. The shrewd farmers of Massachusetts prefer giving sixty cents a bushel for western corn rather than grow this grain on their less fertile soils: while the corn growers of Indiana and Illinois are glad to sell their crops made on rich land at twenty cents a bushel. From these facts, it is not the inference plain and satisfactory, that it costs three times more to produce a bushel of corn on poor than on rich land? To do full justice to this interesting problem, by what means and to what extent the soil

of the five States above named have been injured, would fill a volume.

A residence of more than two years in the most southern part of these States, connected with its agricultural press, and devoting much time to the study of soils and their products, warrants the writer in expressing an opinion on the weight of evidence collected from all sources within his reach. The annual loss on the labor of each hand and mule is believed to be thirty dollars. This estimate is too high for some plantations and too low for others. The only reason why so many slaves have been sent south during the last twenty-five years (and thousands out of Georgia) is, that the labor of a person is worth twice as much to cultivate rich, fresh land, as poor, old land. If the estimate of a yearly loss of thirty dollars on each hand and the domestic animals which he works be not too high, then the aggregate exceeds thirty millions of dollars.

This is equivalent to having such a productive capital invested in farming lands at a cheap rate, of five hundred millions of dollars, yielding six per cent. annual interest. While England and France have derived hundreds of millions in profit and revenue, from the tobacco and cotton exported from Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia, and Maryland, a large share of all the proceeds received from these staples, which have so desolated the earth over immense districts, has left these old impoverished States, with their emigrating citizens, never to return.

This unwise system of tillage is extending rapidly in the United States. Manufacturers, merchants and mechanics often shift their settled policy, when they see a profit in making a change. But whoever expects millions of isolated farmers to change suddenly their practices, ideas, systems of culture and husbandry, shows that he has not labored twenty years to substitute an improving for an exhausting system of field culture. At a fair estimate, there are at this time two million seven hundred and forty-one thousand five hundred and sixty-six persons employed in agriculture in the slave holding States. Before the study of rural economy as a science will become as popular as the study of politics, law, and medicine, the South will have lost one million of her population.

Who does not see that the wise and skillful employment of this vast power of production is a matter of inestimable consequence to all the planting States and to unborn millions who must dig their daily bread from impoverished soils, if the mighty work of land exhaustion is to increase and extend as population spreads over the cotton, tobacco, and sugar growing portions of the Union? Propagated by buds instead of seeds, the sugar-cane will be found, like the potatoe plant, less able to withstand the customary abuses of nature's laws than tobacco, corn, wheat, and cotton plants. But all these are suffering in vital force and constitutional vigor by reason of their defective food in partially exhausted soils. Any living being may habitually take a very little poison into its system without destroying life. Pursue the practice of poisoning only to a very small degree, and it will tell in the course of a few generations in strange, new, and incomprehensible maladies. An instructive and useful book might be written on the diseases of cultivated plants; to say nothing of those of domestic animals. Mildew, mould in cheese, rust on wheat and cotton, and the fungi beloved by naturalists and botanists to be so injurious to potatoes, are all in a good degree, like other vegetable creations, subject to the control of human industry and science.

If we visit the farmers of the North West, we shall find the popular feeling developing itself after this fashion: "Let us construct railroads and canals, improve our navigable rivers and lake harbors, purchase the best farm implements, and then employ all our capital and energies in transforming every atom in the soil which will make grain, provisions, and wool, into those marketable commodities, and send them to distant cities and nations for consumption."

This agricultural and commercial enterprise is complacently regarded as a proper development of the agricultural resources of a new country! Although the inevitable results of this practice may be seen in each of the old thirteen States, as in the valleys of the Mohawk and Hudson, yet it is confidently believed by sanguine farmers that the truly rich soils of the west are inexhaustible. Whoever will carefully examine this great national question, of taking everything out of the land and putting nothing back, must be satisfied that no other than the most disastrous consequences can follow. The number of laborers employed in this simple operation increases at the rate of two hundred thousand a year, in the United States.

The Illinois Central Railroad was just ready for use, and about to be opened, when the recent freshet occurred which swept away the expensive bridge by means of which the road crossed Rock Island—the surrounding country was also deluged

### Laborers for the Country.

The New York Tribune, in an article on labor in the country, after dwelling on the abundance of laborers to be obtained just now at low rates, in that city, and the impossibility of sending them abroad to find employment, proceeds as quoted below. There is no doubt that much more labor might be employed by farmers in the winter with more advantage to themselves even than to the many who would thus gain their living. We know the old objection, that farmers "are not able" to bear the expense; but we know that it is an unfounded objection, and hope some time to show how they are able to make every real improvement in their accustomed practice.—*Lewisburg Chronicle.*

"But do not expect the advantage to be all on one side. Do not ask us to send out to you men who may not suit you when they arrive, because they happen to be unqualified to do just what you require, and who will thus be left penniless among utter strangers, where their chances of soon finding work might be even worse than here. Come here and hire such labor as you want—it is superabundant, and you can obtain it as cheap as any other man of conscience can consent to buy it. Come and select just what you want, out of the thousands living on charity and seeking any chance to work. Apply at the office of the Commissioners of Emigration, or at the Society to provide Employment for the Poor, or at the Five Points Mission, or any one of the National Benevolent Societies, but first at that of the Commissioners aforesaid, because there the supply is unmet and the need most urgent. Pick out such men and women as you want, make fair written bargains with them, take them home with you, and set them to work. You can hire for cheaper now than two or three months hence, and when your spring work comes on you will be measurably prepared for it.

Not that every man who wants help should come down here—that would cost too much. But let those in a township who will soon want help, club together, make out a list of such persons as they will severally want, make up a purse for expenses, and send one of their number down to hire and take home such persons as will subscribe their respective needs. They need not be afraid of exhausting the supply—if Ten Thousand were required, Twenty! A month later, the case may be different. But here you can find one accustomed to the care of horses, another who has had the care of sheep, a third who has been employed in draining, and so on, and may select just which you require; while if we should undertake to send them out at random, we should probably send the ditcher where the shepherd is wanted, and the oxler where there is need of a gardener. No—here is the proper focus whence labor is to be distributed, and most of it will remain here at this inclement season, until distinctly required elsewhere.

—And now a word to our farming friends as to the alleged demand for labor in their several localities: We do not wish to contradict their express avowals, but we know it is not the fact that there is generally a good demand for labor among farmers at this season. There are lumbering regions, and sections where cordwood is chopped for Railroads, in which corded ox-men are wanted; but we know that nine-tenths of our Farmers employ far less labor in January than they require in May, June and July; consequently, there must be a surplus of labor among them at this season; and it is in part from a plethora of laborers dismissed in November by the farmers of Long Island, New Jersey, &c. that our City is now suffering. If our Farmers really fertilized the soil they cultivate, instead of skinning it, they would employ a great deal more labor in winter than they do; for this is the season for getting muck out of swamps, forming compost heaps, cutting off water bushes, &c. and a good deal may be done in winter at draining, deep-plowing, &c. by those who really try. But the majority of our Farmers, when they have directed their soil of one crop, act as if they had nothing more to do until the season comes round for putting in another; and while this notion prevails, there will always be a large and distressing surplus of labor in winter. Let truer and more generous ideas prevail, and the gigantic evil of non-employment in winter, from which we are now suffering, will gradually diminish.

WORTH KNOWING.—It is said that a small piece of resin dipped in the water which is placed in a vessel on the stove will add a peculiar property to the atmosphere of the room, which will give relief to persons troubled with a cough. The heat of the water is sufficient to throw off the aroma of the resin. It is preferable to the combustion, because the evaporation is more durable. The same resin may be used for weeks.

The bells of Christ Church, Philadelphia, sounded their one hundredth New-Year chime on last New-Year Eve. What wonderful changes have been wrought within the sound of these venerable bells since they first chimed in 1754.

The Illinois Central Railroad was just ready for use, and about to be opened, when the recent freshet occurred which swept away the expensive bridge by means of which the road crossed Rock Island—the surrounding country was also deluged