Agricultural.

PRESERVING POTATOES.—Potatoes will be crisp and mealy all the winter and spring if excluded from light by layers of moist sand, and kept just about freezing tempature, and such as fully appreciate a good article will scarcely be induced to use potatoes stored, exposed, and handled in the ordinary way. Every farmer knows how spptizing potatoes are when just dug in the fall; also, when first taken from his out-door pits in the spring; and how rapidly they deteriorate in quality after a short exposure in his cellar or out-buildings. Years ago, when 200 bushels to the acre was a fair yield and 25 cents the highest price, farmers were compelled to store and handle in bulk without care or special attention, but their entire market value would be emerged in the enhanced expense. Now everything is reversed, and so light is the average yield in some States, and so great is the expense of producing, that 70 cents scarcely pays its cost; therefore it behooves producer and consumer alike to adopt the most efficient means for preserving and handling, which may be cheaply and tolerably well done as follows: Such potatoes as are intended for winter use and spring market should immediately be put in barrels, with as much moist sand as will shake among them, and only opened as required for use. Those intended for the fall market should also be put in barrels, but without sand, for the buyer can more cheaply obtain it at home than pay its transportation to his more distant market. Farmers wanting to winter large quantities, and finding it inconvenient to obtain barrels, can keep them fresh by alternating layers of sand and potatoes in his cellar bins. The extra labor and barrels costs about 50 cents, and nearly doubles the real value of three bushels of potatoes for consumption.

WHEN TO CUT GRAIN.—The period of ripening of grain is that at which the grain contains the largest portion of nutriment. It is not that at which the grain is hardest or of the brightest color, or parts most readily from the capulse or envelope in which it is contained. Indeed, a considerable part of the ripening process should take place in the shock or the stack. If it is allowed to ripen, or, in other words, dry and harden completely while standing, the grain loses much of its nutritive properties. As in clover, hay, or grass, a large portion of the sugar, starch, and gum is changed into woody fibre by standing after a certain period, so grain is deteriorated by overripening. The husk becomes developed at the expense of the kernel, and the yield of flour from over-ripe wheat is less than from that cut in the proper season. My own practice has been to watch the fields closely especially around the outside or along the fences, because it is there that the grain ripens first. As soon as I find that the grain shells readily and has taken a fine white straw-color, and when crushed between the edges of the nails of the thumb and forefinger produces a powdery, starchy substance, which is in no way pasty or doughy, I turn in the reaper at once. if the grain is left until it is to hard to be easily crushed in this way, it is too ripe and its quality is inferior. From my experience in milling, as well as farming, I am satisfied that it is best for the miller as well as the farmer that wheat, rye, oats, or barley should be cut at the precise point here described. When the season is drier than usual I would hasten the period somewhat.

RECENTLY PLANTED TREES AND SHRUBS IN HOT WEATHER.—This is a trying time for young trees. Those that were set this spring, and have appeared to be doing well thus far, may succumb to the long continued drought and heat of midsummer. It is safest to mulch all young trees; but where this has not been done, all those that show signs of suffering should be attended to at once. A timely mulching may save the tree. It makes but little difference what material is used so that the soil around the tree is prevented from losing its moisture by evaporation. Stones, if most convenient, will answer as well as any thing. If the trunk is fully exposed to the sun, it should be protected from intense heat. A couple of boards, tacked together like a trough and set up against the trunk, will furnish the required shade; or the trunk may be bound with a hay rope, or be loosely strawed up as for winter protection.

BASEMENT WALLS.—Hydraulic lime, sometimes called water-lime, is the only safe kind to use for walls on the ground and against banks, and even then it is best to have a foot of space between the cemented wall and the earth, and fill this space with small dry stone—that is, stone not mortared, but laid dry and open, so that the water that comes from the back will go down through these loose stones to the bottom of the wall, and then be carried off by suitable drains. This is all necessary where basement walls are built against banks that give out water, which will freeze into solid ice and throw the wall down, even when made of the best of mateaiala. Banks which are dry and never give out water do not require such a safeguard as this space filled witn rubble.

PROFITS OF SHEEP HUSBANDRY.—It certainly is profitable to keep sheep on a farm if rightly managed — even though the price of wool is low. They are scavengers on a farm—death to all weeds and shrubs that are an annoyance to the tidy farmer. Besibes, the spring lambs, if a careful selection of breeds is made, will be found profitable to sell, especially the males, in the maaket. Americans are eating more and more mutton yearly. The object of the shepherd should be to adapt his sheep husbandry to the wants of the market neurest him—grow the kind of wool that pays the best; or if the carcass is more in demand, grow the sheep which make the most and best meat in the shortest time, always taking into account hardness and easiness of keep.

THE CHECK-REIN.—Why is it that so many of our farmers, and nearly all of our city carters insist in using a tight rein on working horses? When a horse, left to his natural inclination, has a heavy load to pull, he can best exert his strength if his backbone is in one continuous line, and this he will have if not prevented by a tight check-rein. Some claim that it prevents a horse from falling ahd when a man can raise himself over a fence by a lift on his suspenders we will believe it. When a horse falls, a tight rein will most effectually prevent him from getting on to his feet again. Try it without the rein and see if we are not correct in our practice and theory both.

WHEN TO CUT WHEAT.—The Parsons (Kansas) Sun says: "We have been told by several farmers who know of what they speak, about wheat in this country. The time to cut is just after the grain leaves the milk, and is beginning to make dough. At this time the head and stem will be almost green, having turned very little yellow, if any; shock it up immediately and put two good caps on it; and stack it as soon as dry enough and the strength in the stem will be ample to fill the head perfectly. It is just about this time that the bugs begin to work on the wheat and ruin it; and by cutting and shocking, it is out of the way of their ravages."

SCIONS and cuttings of fruit trees have been worked with success nine months after being severed from the parent stock.

Scientific.

HOW THERMOMETERS ARE MADE.—A writer in the *Polytechnic Bulletin* gives the following description of the method of making thermometers at a manufacturing establishment in Chester, Pa.:

The glass tubes, as received, are about a yard long. A boy picks them with a hard steel knife, and breaks them into the lengths required. The bores, which are flat, are compared by means of a lens with those of ten standard sizes, and the tubes assorted accordingly. They are then passed to the blowpipe table. Each glass blower has a foot bellows, and uses an oil lamp. Melting the glass at one end of the tube, he blows it into a bulb by pressing the sides of a hollow india-rubber ball attached at the other, proportioning the size of his bulb to the bore of his tube, and ascertaining the size by using a pair of callipers. While the bulb is hot the tube is inverted in mercury, which, as the bulb cools, partially fills it. The tube is then withdrawn and a short India rubber tube attached at its open end. Into this mercury is poured; that in the bulb is boiled to expel the air, which rises up through the mercury in the India rubber tube, and an atmosphere of the vapor of mercury now fills the glass tube and bulb. As this condenses, the mercury in the India rubber tube takes its place, when this tube, with any mercury remaining in it, is removed. The tube is now warmed, and the open end of the glass tube is hermetically sealed.

The bulb and a portion of the tube are immersed in melting ice, and the height of the mercury marked; they are then transferred to a bath at sixty-two degrees Fahrenheit, and the height marked; next to a bath at ninety-two degrees Fahrenheit, and the height marked again. The length of the three spaces of thirty degrees each are now carefully measured. If they are exactly equal, the bore of the tube is supposed to be uniform, and the degrees laid off on the brass scale of the thermometer are all made of the same length. If the space of thirty degrees each are not found to be exactly equal, then, by means of a highly ingenious dividing el.. .e, the degrees on the scale are made to increase in length as the calibre of the tube diminishes. When the plate has been divided, and the figures and letters punched in, it is passed, latterly, between two rollers, to remove the burr left by the tools. Were it rolled lengthwise, the accuracy of the dividing would be impaired. The plate is then silvered and lacquered, the glass tube attached, and the whole slidden into the well known japanned tin case.

HYGIENIC TREATMENT OF THE AGED.—Mr. Habershon, in a clinical lecture at Guy's Hospital, London, referring to the case of an old man, remarked: "The man died simply from the shock produced by coming ont into the cold and fog, which, though only an inconvenience to us, was sufficient to lead to a fatal result on one whose circulation had become enfeebled, and whose vital force had so nearly lost its power. I am reminded, by this case, of an instance of longevity communicated to me by a gentleman the other day. His mother, who had died at the age of one hundred and two, during the winter months 'had refused to get up, saying that she was only warm in bed.' I have no doubt that it was owing to this uniform, warm temperature that she lived so long; and I mention the instance as a recommendation for you, when you have to prescribe for old people, to advise that they be kept warm. You should also look carefully after their nourishment. Old people cannot eat large meals; therefore they must take them more frequently. Many old people will wake up about three or four o'clock in the morning. It is a good plan that they should have some nourishment then; otherwise the interval between the night and morning meals is too long for their declining strength. It is by care in such minutie that we may prolong the life of the aged."

USE OF SWEET OIL AS A DRESSING FOR WOUNDS.—Dr. Jos. W. Howe has recently introduced at his hospital ordinary sweet oil for the treatment of all kinds of wounds. It has several advantages over any of the other dressings in use, and apparently yields better results. The advantages are, that it keeps the air from the wound, and at the same time is a grateful dressing to the patient. It also promotes healthy granulations. The mode of application varies with the variety of wounds for which it was intended, In necrosis, after the sequestrum is removed, the cavity is filled with the oil, and a lint tent introduced. Every day the oil is renewed. In one case of necrosis of the lower jaw this procedure was had recourse to, and, shortly after, the patient was attacked with facial erysipelas, but, strange to say, the side of the face which had been operated on was not affected. In incised wounds, the edges are brought together, and lint soaked in oil used as an external dressing.

EPSOM SALTS AND SULPHUROUS ACID IN DYEING.—It has been long remarked that woolen goods dyed with aniline colors, and treated with Epsom salts, will stand the action of soap and soda, and the dressing process generally, better than when not so treated, or than when treated with any other substance. Dr. Reimann advises the use of Epsom salt on yarns to be dyed violet. By the action of soda, the magnesian salt is decomposed, with separation of insoluble magnesian compounds, which exert no action upon the coloring matter; any alteration in color by the alkali is thus prevented.

All woolen dyers are agreed that, in dyeing with methyl and dahlia-violet, the use of sulphurous acid is very advantageous. The colors are thus obtained of a brighter, clearer tint.

It may be that, a partial reduction of the methyl-rosaniline to leucaniline having taken place, oxidation then effects the transformation of the latter into the former.

THE MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF WELL WATER.—The author has sought an expeditious method of determining the quality of drinking water, and recommends the use of the microscope in detecting salts in solution by their crystalline form. For this purpose, a few drops of the water under examination are evaporated on a slip of glass either at a high or low temperature, and the forms of cyrstals obtained are compared with these of known salts, dissolved in water and recrystalized in the same manner. In this way one can detect with dispatch and certainty, common salt, calc spar, gypsum, etc., and to a certain extent the relative quantities present.

NEW STEEL MAKING PROCESS.—About a year ago Mr. John Leighton arrived in this country from England and obtained the use of a furnace in New Jersey for elaborating and perfecting a new process of steel making. His idea has become a fixed one. The Leighton process gives a grade of steel hitherto never made in this country, and can turn it out in any quantity 40 per cent cheaper than the similar English article. The inventor is also able by different heatings, under the same process, to manufacture the finest and most costly, as well as the puddle steel and all intermediate grades.

MR. FROUDE, a British authority on the shape and behavior of ships, considers paraffin the best material for models, because it costs less than wood, can be easily shaped, and may be remelted as often as desired.

Domestic.

IMPURE WATER. — Public attention can not be too often called to the danger of using impure water in households. The origin of typhoid fever, which so frequently runs through families in city and country, is oftener in wells and springs than is supposed. In cities it is easy to understand, where aqueduct water is not supplied, how wells may become contaminated; but for many it is not so easy to see how wells in the country, among the hills or in the green valleys, can become so impure as to be sources of disease.

Since the general introduction of aqueduct water into large cities, typhoid fever has become more common in the country than in the city; and this disease is certainly zymotic, or one which results from a poison introduced into the blood. Wells in the country are very apt to become contaminated with house sewage, as they are generally placed, for convenience, very near the dwelling, and the waste liquids thrown out upon the ground, find easy access, by percolation through the soil, to the water. The instances of such contamination which have come to our notice, and which gave rise to fevers, are numerous.

The gelatinous matter which is often found covering the stones in wells affected by sewage, is a true fungoid growth, and highly poisonous when introduced into the system. It is undoubtedly concerned in the production of typhoid fever. How it acts it is difficult to determine, but it is at least conceivable that the spores of the fungus may get into the blood and bring about changes after the manner of yeast in beer. These spores, it is well known, develop rapidly by a kind of budding process, and but little time passes before the whole circulation becomes filled with them, giving rise to abnormal heat and general derangement, called fever. These fungoid or confervoid growths are always present in waters rendered impure by house drainage, and great caution should be used in maintaining well waters free from all shorts of pollution.

LEAF AND FLOWER IMPRESSIONS.—Oil a piece of white paper on one side—hold the side that is oiled over a lamp or pine knot smoke till quite black; place the green leaf on the black surface, with the under part of the leaf next to the black surface, as the veins and fibers of the leaves show plainer on the under part; now press it on all parts of the leaf with the fingers; then take up the leaf and put the black oiled sides on the white page of a book (made for leaf impressions) with an extra piece of nice paper on top to prevent smutting the opposite page; press it a few moments; then remove the green leaf, and the impression will be left on the page as beautiful as an engraving. Flowers of single corolla can be pressed in like manner. Many of the geranium leaves make beautiful impressions. The impression book can be made still more interesting by giving botanical classifications of each leaf and flower.

A TIDY HOUSE.—As a general rule for living neatly and saving time, it is better to keep clean than make clean. If you are careful not to drop crumbs of bread and cake on the carpet, you will escape an untidy room, and the trouble of cleaning it. In working, if you will make a practice of putting all the ends of your thread into a division of the work-box made for the purpose, and never let one fall on the floor, the room will look very different at the end of a morning from what it does when not attended to. A house is kept far cleaner when all the members of the family are taught to wipe their feet thoroughly on coming from out-of-doors, than it can be where this is neglected. There are a thousand ways of keeping clean and saving labor and time, which it is well worth while to learn and practice.

A USEFUL SOAP.—The following is commended by those who have tried it for scrubbing and cleansing painted floors, washing dishes and other household purpose. Take two pounds of white olive soap and shave it in thin slices; add two ounces of borax and two quarts of cold water; stir all together in a stone or earthern jar, and let it stand upon the back of the stove until the mass is dissolved. A very little heat is required, as the liquid need not simmer. When thoroughly mixed and cooled, it becomes of the consistence of a thick jelly, and a cubic inch will make a lather for a gallon of water.

PAINTING FLOWER-STANDS.—It is quite customary to paint stands on which flower-pots are to stand, a bright green color; but we would never advise that color for the purpose, as the brilliancy of the paint has an injurious effect upon the colors of the flowers and leaves. When a flower-stand is to be painted, choose a dull color, if you wish the flowers to be the prominent feature. A rich brown, chocolate, oak, black walnut, or amber color would harmonize well, and the green of the plants and leaves will appear richer and more pleasing to the eye.

HERE follows a receipt for making a good servant. It is taken from the *Woman's Journal*: "Let the mistress of the house take two pounds of the very best self-control, a pound and a half of patience, a pound and a half of justice, a pound of consideration, and a pound of discipline. Let this be sweetened with charity, let it simmer well, and let it be taken in daily or (in extreme cases) in hourly doses—and be kept always on hand. Then the domestic wheels will run quite smoothly."

WHORTLEBERRY BREAD PUDDING.—Take stale batter-biscuit and steam or soak in a little water until quite soft. Then crumble finely and place a layer half an inch thick in a nappy, and over that place a layer of juicy whorteberries. Sprinkle over the latter sugar enough to sweeten them, and then a layer of bread crumbs, so alternating until the dish is full. Bake half an hour or more, according to the size of the dish and the heat of the oven.

BLACKBERRY JAM.—Gather the fruit on a dry day; mash the berries and pass them through a fine sieve to extract the seeds; add to each pound of juice one pound of good sugar; boil and stir until the surface is covered with clear bubbles; try a little upon a plate; if it sets, fill your jars or tumblers, let them cool, cover the top of each with papers dipped in brandy, and keep in a cool dry place until wanted.

GREASE FROM SILK AND VELVET.—Rub the spot on the silk or velvet lightly and rapidly with a clean, soft cotton rag dipped in ether. Repeat the operation if necessary. Finish with a clean, dry cloth. Rub lightly and rapidly, or else a slight stain will be the result. We have known grease spots to be taken out of the most delicate colored silks in the way described.

THE worms on rose bushes are using them badly. White Hellibore root powdered and sprinkled upon the leaves is a capital remedy.

A GENUINE corn-pone is made thus: Corn meal and water mixed to a rather stiff batter, salted to taste, and baked well in a hot oven.

Humorous.

THE NAME "SMITH."—"Gentlemen," said a Candidate for Congress, "my name is Smith, and I am proud to say that I am not ashamed of it. It may be that no person in this crowd owns that very uncommon name. If, however, there be one such, let him hold up his head, pull up his dicky, turn out his toes, take courage, and thank his stars that there are a few more left of the same sort. Gentlemen, I am proud of being an original Smith, and not a Smythe nor Smythe, but a regular S-m-i-t-h. Putting a y in the middle or an e at the end won't do gentlemen. Who ever heard of a great man by the name of Smythe or Smithe. Echo answers who and everybody says nobody. But for Smith, plain S-m-i-t-h, why the pillars of fame are covered with that honored and revered name. Who were the most racy, witty, and popular authors of this century? Horace and Albert Smith. Who the most original, pithy and humorous preacher? Rev. Sydney Smith. To go further back, who was the bravest and boldest soldier in Sumter's army in the revolution? A Smith. Who palavered with Powhattan, galivanted with Pocahontas, and became the ancestor of the first families in Virginia? A Smith again. And who, I ask, and I ask the question most seriously and soberly, who, I say, is that man, and what is his name, who has fought the most battles, made the most speeches, preached the most sermons, held the most offices, sung the most songs, written the most poems, courted the most women, kissed the most girls, and married the most widows? History says, I say and you say, and everybody says, John Smith."

A FOOLISH QUESTION.—"Here's your nice roast chicken," cried an aged colored man, as the cars stopped at a North Carolina railway station.

"Here's your nice roasted chick'n 'n taters, all nice and hot," holding up his plate and walking the platform.

"Where did you get that chicken, uncle?" asked a passenger.

Uncle looked at the intruder sharply, and then turned away, crying:

"Here's your nice roast chick'n, gentlemen, all hot; needn't go into the house for dat."

"Where did you get that chicken?" repeated the inquisitive passenger.

"Look-a-yer," says uncle, speaking privately, "is you from de Norf?"

"Yes."

"Is you a friend of the cullud man?"

"I hope I am."

"Den don't you ever ask me where I got that chick'n. Here's yer nice roast chick'n, all hot."

The train started.

HATCHING BOILED CHICKENS. — An Austin, Texas, paper says: "Uncle John Gibbons has a favorite hen up at the stage barn, which about five weeks ago showed a disposition to set. Uncle John set her on fifty-three eggs, and yesterday he concluded that she had set long enough; she was worn down to a shadow, and ne'er a cheep of a chicken had been heard in that barn: so to save her life he removed her from the nest. An examination of the eggs revealed the fact that every mother's son of them was boiled as hard as the hinges of perdition. It is now a mooted question as to whether the boys rung in the boiled eggs on Uncle John, or whether he set the hen on them himself in the hope of raising boiled chickens. The boys say the latter, but Uncle John says the assertion is a base aspersion on an honest man's character.

A CHURCH INCIDENT.—One Sunday, not long since, says the Boston *Courier*, one of our most stylish young ladies waltzed into church with that inimitable grace that is at once the peculiarity and the charm of the female denomination. As she took her seat, by a little behind-hand movement she arranged her overskirt, and then settled herself to meditate how she looked, and what the other girls had on. The services concluded, and she arose to go out. Alas, for human hopes! That last touch on the overskirt was too much; she threw it too high, and there it rested on an old muff, which was serving as a bustle. So the wretched girl wiggled away, unconscious of the joy that filled the hearts of the other girls that saw it.

A MATTER OF TASTE.—It is said that on one occasion, as Miss Wordsworth, sister of the poet, was passing through a wood, which the stock-dove was filling with its soft music, she fell in with a country woman, who exclaimed, "I am so fond of stock-doves!" "Oh!" thought Miss Wordsworth, "at last I have come on one of nature's poets, with a soul to appreciate the beautiful music of the birds." Very ruthlessly was the dream disenchanted by an explanatory remark of the woman's: "Some likes them in pies, and some likes them roasted; but for my part I think there's nothing like them stewed with onions."

SUNDAY WOKE. — An old western farmer, who was anything but religious, had hired a devout negro, and to get some Sunday work out of him had to resort to various specious devices. One Sambo proved refractory—"he would work no more on Sundays." The master then argued with him that In a "case of necessity" even the Scriptures allowed a man to get out of a pit on a Sabbath day, a beast that had fallen in. "Yes, massa," rejoined the black, "but not if he spent Saturday diggin' de pit for de berry purpose!"

AN Irish glazier was putting a pane of glass into a window, when a groom who was standing by began joking him, telling him to mind and put in plenty of putty. The Irishman bore the banter for some time, but at last silenced his tormentor with "Arrah, now, be off wid ye, or I'll put a pain in your head without any putty."

A LITTLE fellow, the other day, was endeavoring to excite a playmate's admiration for his older sister's beauty. "Isn't she handsome?" he asked. "Yes, pretty handsome." "But, isn't she very handsome?" "Well, some very."

A NEGRO who lived near Madison, Fla., went with his son to watch for a bear that had been eating his corn. He told his son to fire on whatever passed a certain point, and the consequence was the boy killed his father.

A BUNCH of shingles fell from a wagon on the Troy ferry-boat recently, and struck fairly upon the head of a colored woman, who said, "Y'oughter b'shame to muss a woman's har dat way. I wish de shingles fell ovah board."

"I'VE JUST dropped in, casnally," as the fellow said who missed his footing, and came tumbling down through the church ceiling on the heads of the congregation.

"I'M GLAD this coffee don't owe me anything," said Brown a boarder, at the breakfast table. "Why," said Smith. "Because I don't believe it would ever settle."

"I AM, indeed, very much afraid of lightning," said a pretty lady. "And well you may be," said a despairing lover, "when your heart is made of steel."

IT is shrewdly observed that sawdust pills would cure a great many diseases if the patient would only make his own sawdust.

A PARTY hearing of a dog after Landseer, wanted to know what he was after him for.

Miscellany.

Piano-Fortes.

The invention of the piano-forte is claimed by the French, Germans, Italians and English, and there are numerous authentic facts on record in the history of each nation which are supposed to establish their claim to the real invention. A little research into the merits of these respective claims is of interest to all and perhaps will enable us to settle into a final decision.

According to all historians the Italians are shamefully neglectful of their inventions, and allow the glory of native merit to be assumed by foreigners. This arises from the disposition of the people, which lacks the energy of the northerner, and displays rather the slothfulness peculiar to the southern nations. Upon the other hand the obstinacy of the German mind refuses to grant that what has once been attained by them may be but the reproduction of a previous invention. The French accept any fact, if once stated on moderately reliable authority, and perpetuate even a fallacy with a clear conscience. Englishmen refuse to be moved from the national rut which runs into the decision that nothing was ever invented outside of their land, and like the traveler who wrote while in England that he "dared not leave his hotel open at night for fear of falling overbound," that nation refuses to look beyond its own domain for fear of being swamped in unanswerable facts.

In the year 1718 Bartolemmeo Cristofali, of Padua, made the first improvement in the harpsichord and produced what is now known as the piano-forte in a crude form. He arranged the strings so as to be vibrated by hammers through a complex mechanism, the parts of which were a key, lever, movable tongue acting on the hammer, the hammer, its rest of silk strings and a damper. So writes an Italian. The Germans claim that in 1717 Christopher Gottlieb Schroter made a similar arrangements of keys, springs and hammers, which acted upon longitudinal springs of copper and steel wire so arranged as to produce the scale. These strings were extended over bridges resting on a sounding-board, and were made to vibrate by means of small hammers which were put in motion by keys. This, however, is not substantiated, though the honor of naming the instrument belongs to Germany. In a published account which appeared several years later, Schroter speaks of his instrument as enabling the performer at pleasure to play *piano* or *forte*.

In 1716 Marius, a French maker of harpsichords, who had great celebrity, submitted to the academy four forms of improved instruments which he termed harpsichords. These were but slightly changed from his original instruments, and simply introduced the hammer which was made to act under the control of keys. Very little comment was excited by these instruments, and they are the unsubstantial fact upon which the French base their claim. The origin of the English claim arises from the fact that the maker, Silbormann, of Freyburg, who was quite popular as a manufacturer, made fifteen instruments on the improved order, which were all bought by Frederick the Great, in 1747, but which proved so imperfect that they were discarded and an instrument made by Ischudi, in London, adopted. This is in reality the extent of the part played by England in the invention of the piano-forte.

The form of the first pianos was square, and they were but four octaves long. The strings were mere threads of wire compared with those now used, and had but one string to each note. Gluck had an instrument which was five octaves long and most of his music is written to come within that scope. These pianos were used in France and Italy, the northern workmen having taken the Italian idea and clothed it in practical form.

The first piano known in England was in 1757, which was made by an English monk in Rome; it was four feet long, two feet broad, and two feet deep. This piano is still to be seen in London and is in quite a perfect state of preservation. Rev. William Mason, the poet, made the important improvement of detaching the hammers entirely from the keys, and giving to them only a momentary connection when the key is struck by the finger. In 1760 many German workmen arrived in England and were employed by Ischudi. Among this number Viators and Backers became famous for their improvements in pianos. Seven years later the piano was introduced on the stage in Covent Garden theatre as a "new instrument" according to a play-bill bearing the date of May 16, 1767—a little more than a hundred years ago. From this time harpsichord manufacturers gave up their occupation to become piano makers. The parent instrument is now only to be seen in the families of Germans who have brought their household gods to America.

We as a nation cannot claim the invention, but we do claim the perfecting of the instrument. Foreign workmen have been employed by us, and though they have been perhaps the best artisans, it has been native cleverness which has brought the imperfect invention to perfection. The finest piano-forte makers are in this country, and the great artists abroad prefer to use the instruments made in this country.

Thus we see, in this brief history, that the piano-forte was of Italian conception, German birth, in England rudimentally improved, and perfected in our own country.

Orderly People.

There are persons who are never easy unless they are putting your books and papers in order—that is, according to their notions of the matter, and hide things, lest they should be lost, where neither the owner nor anybody else can find them. This is a sort of magic faculty. If anything is left where you can find it, it is called litter. There is a pedantry in housewifery as well as in the gravest concerns. Sir Walter Scott complained that whenever his maid-servant had been in his library, he could not sit comfortably to work again for several days.

Diseases of the Blood.

By R. V. PIERCE, M. D., of the WORLD'S DISPENSARY, Buffalo, N. Y.

Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, St. Anthony's Fire, Rose Rash or Erysipelas, Ringworms, Pimples, Blotches, Spots, Eruptions, Pustules, Boils, Carbuncles, Sore Eyes, Rough Skin, Scurf, Scrofulous Sores and Swellings, Fever Sores, White Swellings, Tumors, Old Sores and Swellings.

"The blood is the life." This is as true as a mathematical or any other scientific proposition, and one that should influence every physician. From the blood we derive our strength and mental capabilities. When this source is corrupted the painful and sorrow-producing effects are visible in many shapes. From our blood our systems are built up and kept in repair. The strength of our constitutions and our powers of endurance and the withstanding of disease-producing agencies with impunity, depend largely upon the condition in which our blood is kept. If it holds in suspension or solution vile festering poisons, all organic functions are weakened thereby. Settling upon vital and important organs, as the brain, lungs, liver and kidneys, the effect of these poisons in the blood is, many times, most disastrous. Hence, it behooves every one to keep the blood in a perfectly healthy condition, and the more especially does this apply at this particular season of the year. When you purify your blood to cure Salt Rheum or any Erysipelas humor you not only cure those diseases, but you put your system in such an improved condition that you are not so liable to any other disease. No matter what the external or exciting cause may be, the real or direct cause of a large proportion of all chronic or lingering diseases is bad blood. The multifarious forms in which it manifests itself would form subjects upon which I might write volumes. But as all the varied forms of disease which depend upon bad blood, a few of which I have enumerated at the head of this article, are cured, or best treated, by such medicines as take up from this fluid and excrete from the system the noxious elements, it is not of practical importance that I should describe each minutely. For instance, medical authorities describe about fifty varieties of skin disease, but as they all require for their cure very similar treatment, it is of no practical utility to know just what name to apply to a certain form of skin disease, so you know how best to cure it. Then again, I might go on and describe various kinds of Scrofulous Sores, Fever Sores, White Swellings, Enlarged Glands, and Ulcers of varying appearance; but as all these various-appearing manifestations of bad blood are cured by uniform means, I deem such a course unnecessary. Thoroughly cleanse the blood, which is the great fountain of life, and good digestion, a fair skin, buoyant spirits, vital strength, and soundness of constitution will all return to us.

The Liver is the great depurating, or blood-cleansing organ of the system. Set this great "house-keeper," of our health at work, and the foul corruptions which gender in the blood and rot out, as it were, the machinery of life, are gradually expelled from the system. For this purpose my Golden Medical Discovery and Purgative Pellets are pre-eminently the articles needed. They cure every kind of humor, (except Cancer,) from the worst scrofula to the common pimple, blotch, or eruption. Great eating ulcers kindly heal under their mighty curative influence.

Enlarged Glands, Tumors and Swellings dwindle away and disappear under the influence of these great resolvents. The system being put under their influence for a few weeks, the skin becomes clear, smooth, soft, and velvety, and, being illuminated with the glow of perfect health from within, true beauty stands forth in all its glory.

The effects of all medicines which operate upon the system through the medium of the blood are necessarily somewhat slow, no matter how good the remedy employed. The cure of all these diseases, however, is with the use of these most potent agents *only a matter of time*.

I do not wish to place my Golden Medical Discovery in the catalogue of quack patent nostrums by recommending it to cure every disease, nor do I so recommend it; on the contrary, there are hundreds of diseases that I acknowledge it will not cure; but what I do claim is this, that there is but one form of *blood* disease that it will not cure, and that disease is cancer. I do not recommend my Discovery for that disease, yet I know it to be the most searching blood cleanser yet discovered, and that it will free the blood and system of all other known blood poisons, be they animal, vegetable or mineral. Blood medicines that are advertised to cure Cancer should be looked upon with suspicion. They never can do it.

Most medicines which are advertised as blood purifiers and liver medicines contain either mercury, in some form or potassium and iodine variously combined. All of these agents have a strong tendency to break down the blood corpuscles, and debilitate and otherwise permanently injure the human system, and should, therefore, be discarded.

My Golden Medical Discovery, on the other hand, being composed of fluid extracts of native plants, barks, and roots, will in no case produce injury, its effects being strengthening and curative only. Sarsaparilla, which used to enjoy quite a reputation as a blood purifier, *is a remedy of thirty years ago*, and may well give place, as it is doing, to the more positive and valuable vegetable alteratives which later medical investigation and discovery have brought to light.

Both Discovery and Pellets are sold by all first-class druggists in all parts of the world.

DOCTORS COULDN'T HELP HIM.

JOHN A. WILSON, Esq., Meigsville, Morgan Co., O., writes: When I was 12 or 15 years of age, I took what is called King's Evil or Scrofula, and by constant doctoring, it would heal in one place and break out in another. It also broke out in my left ear. I sent ten miles for the first bottle of your Discovery, which did me more good than all other medicines I ever used. I am 28 years old, and doctored with five doctors; not one of them helped me so much as one bottle of your Discovery. I am well and able to do a good day's work.

SALT RHEUM AND ERUPTIONS CURED.

MRS. A. W. WILLIAMS, Claverack, Columbia County, N. Y., writes: I had been afflicted with Salt Rheum in its worst form for a great many years, until I bought your Golden Medical Discovery and took two bottles and a half, and was entirely cured. From my shoulder to my hands, I was entirely covered with eruptions, also on face and body. I was also afflicted with Rheumatism, so that I walked only with great difficulty, and that is entirely cured.

HIP-JOINT DISEASE CURED.

J. M. ROBINSON, West Grove Station, Iowa, July 14, 1872, writes: My wife first became lame nine years ago. Swellings would appear and disappear on her hip, and she was gradually becoming reduced, and her whole system rotten with disease. In 1871 a swelling broke on her hip, discharging large quantities, and since that time there are several openings. Have had five doctors at an expense of $125, who say nothing will do any good but a surgical operation.

July 16, 1873, he writes thus: My wife has certainly received a great benefit from the use of your great Discovery, for she was not able to get off the bed, and was not expected to live a week when she commenced using it, a year ago. She has been doing most of her work for over six months. Has used twenty bottles and is still using it. Her recovery is considered as almost a miracle, and we attribute it all to the use of your valuable medicine. I can cheerfully recommend it as a blood-purifier and strength restorer.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS

can be shown at the World's Dispensary, Buffalo, N. Y., expressing the gratitude of those who have been cured by the Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets, of all forms of Blood Diseases affecting the Skin, Throat and Bones. 3

VINEGAR BITTERS.—We happened to get out on the street early Tuesday morning, and found that every tree, hitching-post, board fence, and public monument in the city, had taken a dose of "Vinegar Bitters." We tested the resisting power of two or three maple trees, and half a dozen hitching-posts, and as they rendered futile our most strenuous efforts to root them out, we came to the conclusion that there is considerable strength in the "Vinegar Bitters." Besides this, there is no danger of thinking that all the hitching-posts and street lamps are dizzy after drinking the bitters, for there is not a particle of alcoholic stimulant in them. They are purely vegetable, and as agreeable to taste as any genuine bitters can be. Those who have imbibed say they are an excellent tonic and stimulate a healthy action of the liver. — *Lockport Daily Journal*, Sept. 22, 1870. 53

AN INFALLIBLE PILE REMEDY.—Sufferers with this painful disease who have tried electuaries, lotions, ointments and a long list of nostrums for its relief, in vain, will thank us for calling attention to ANAKESIS, the happy discovery of DR. SILSBEE, an experienced and scientific M. D. Thousands of cases attest its virtue; it is a simple suppository, acts as an instrument, soothing poultice and medicine, gives instant relief and cures permanently. Price $1. Sent free by mail on receipt of price. Anakesis Depot, 46 Walker St., New York. 4

A GREAT many people have asked of us of late, "How do you keep your horse looking so sleek and glossy?" We tell them it's the easiest thing in the world; give *Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders* two or three times a week.

A gentleman in the eastern part of the State, who was about having his leg amputated on account of its being bent at right angles and stiff at the knee, heard of *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*. After using it a short time his leg became straight, and is now as serviceable as the other. 4

Tape Worm! Tape Worm!

Tape Worm removed in from 2 to 3 hours with harmless vegetable medicine. The worm passing from the system alive. No fee asked until the entire worm, with head passes. Medicine harmless. Can refer those afflicted to the residents of this city whom I have cured. At my office can be seen hundreds of specimens, measuring from 40 to 150 feet in length. Fifty per cent. of cases of Dyspepsia and disorganizations of Liver are caused by stomach and other worms existing in the alimentary canal. Worms, a disease of the most dangerous character, are so little understood by the medical men of the present day. Call and see the original and only worm destroyer, or send for a circular which will give a full description and treatment of all kinds of worms; enclose 3 cent stamp for return of the same. Dr. E. E. Kunkel can tell by seeing the patient whether or not, they are troubled with worms, and by writing and telling the symptoms, &c., the Doctor will answer by mail. DR. E. E. KUNKEL, No. 350 N. NINTH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA. (Advice at office or by mail, free.) Seat, Pin and Stomach worms also removed.

Advertisements.

DYSPEPTIC CONSUMPTION.

Can Dyspeptic Consumption be Cured? We answer, YES!

First. Remove all the unhealthy mucous that gathers about the walls of the stomach from indigestion.

Second. Produce an active condition of Liver and Kidneys without depleting the system.

Third. Supply or aid nature in furnishing the drain of some of the component parts that compose healthy fluids.

We, from thousands who have been cured, assert that a cure can be performed on this theory.

REMEDIES USED,

Apart from our Office Practice.

FIRST.

THE GREAT AMERICAN

DYSPEPSIA PILLS,

Remove the fungus matter from the stomach, and restore it to a healthy condition.

SECOND.

THE PINE TREE

TAR CORDIAL!

Acts on the Liver, heals the Stomach, and acts on the Kidneys and Nervous System.

For further advice, call or write

DR. L. Q. C. WISHART,

232 North Second Street.

ADMONITION.

It is known to all readers that since DR. L. Q. C. WISHART has followed the cause and cure of diseases, and the great value of TAR as a curative remedy, as directed by Bishop Berkley and Rev. John Wesley, that many have attempted to make a TAR preparation for THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES. Be it known that DR. L. Q. WISHART'S

PINE TREE TAR CORDIAL

Is the only remedy, from long experience, used by our most skillful physicians for Diptheria, Ulcerated Throat, Lung, Kidney, Stomach, Asthma, and General Debility, as well as for Coughs, Colds and Lung Affections.

DR. L. Q. C. WISHART,

CONSULTING ROOMS AND STORE,

No. 232 N. SECOND ST.,

PHILADELPHIA.

VINEGAR BITTERS

VEGETABLE — FREE FROM ALCOHOL — PURELY — CALIFORNIA — DR. WALKER'S — EUREKA

VINEGAR BITTERS

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 VINEGAR BITTERS?" 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 VINEGAR BITTERS in healing the sick of every disease man is heir to. They are a gentle Purgative as well as a Tonic, relieving Congestion