

Black Knot on the Plum.—We find on our files the following remarks from a correspondent in Onondaga Co., N. Y.: Horticulturists are evidently becoming discouraged in their efforts to cultivate the plum. The curculio and the black-knot are two formidable enemies. Of the curculio I do not now propose to speak but the black-knot I believe can be kept in check, if not exterminated. Careful observation has ascertained pretty clearly what the cause of the knot is. It is undoubtedly the sting of an insect. This insect is about an inch long, pale yellow in color, has four wings, and hind legs resembling those of a grasshopper. The puncturing of the branch is done by the female, who stings in order to deposit her eggs. The eggs, often numbering as many as ten or a dozen, are laid in August and September. They are soon hatched, and the larvae lie dormant until the early part of the following summer, when they are changed into winged insects. The tumor on the tree seems to be caused partly by the puncturing itself, and partly by a poisonous substance infused at the time the wound is made. By frequently examining plum trees in the month of August and September, the insects will be found busy at work cutting the branches and making their deposits, which being done the hole is varnished over with a waterproof substance, and domestic matters are kept quiet until the larvae are hatched. But open a limb that has been stung early in June, and the larvae will be found alive and kicking. Of course the only way to subdue this pest is to wage an unceasing war upon it. Entering him in sweetened water hung in the trees; burn him in bon-fires kindled in the garden by night; examine the trees often, and cut out the tumors as soon as they appear, and burn them. This cutting off the limbs does no serious harm; they soon heal over. By pursuing this vigorous treatment, the black-knot will do little practical injury.—*American Agriculturist.*

Gossip, the bane of social life, always indicating a small mind, having affinity with petty concerns; often a malicious mind, delighting in traducing others; irreverence of truth, risking the violation of it for the pleasure of telling stories which may be false, often are known to be so; great lack of honor—a sneaking disposition, saying behind the back of another what would not be said before his face, presumptively want of power to converse on nobler subjects; at least a lack of interest in them. Generally supposed to belong exclusively to women, but supposed very incorrectly. Male gossips are very numerous, and are worse than female. Their spheres are different. Women gossip chiefly about domestic life, love, marriage, flirtation, servants, entertainments—and a world of mischief they do there; of heart-burnings, heart-sinkings, and heart-breakings; of broken ties, and alienated affections. But men gossip too. Authors, professors, commercial men—oh! what keen, biting, withering gossip they have! half untrue, wholly needless. Literary gossip—political gossip!—Why the world is half ruled by gossip—half its miseries are made by gossip.

DEATH OF A KING.—By the late news from Europe, we are informed that Oscar, King of Sweden, died at Stockholm on the 8th of this month, aged 60 years. This monarch was the son of Bernadotte, who was formerly one of the Great Napoleon's generals, who had risen from the ranks by his courage and ability. He was solicited to become King of Sweden by the people of that country; their old line of kings, descended from the Gustavus Adolphus, having become extinct. Napoleon made many kings out of his generals and relations, but only Bernadotte, one of his old sergeants, kept his throne after the fall of the great captain. King Oscar was a good sovereign; his views were liberal and just, and many excellent reforms in law and policy were carried out during his life, at his own earnest solicitations.

Washing Horses' Legs.—It is quite a common custom for carmen and hostlers to "founder" noble horses, by the erroneous practice of dashing of cold water on their legs when they are dirty. In regard to this practice Sir George Stephens the eminent veterinary surgeon says: "Wherever it is necessary to wash horses' legs, do it in the morning. Most grooms, acting on a different principle, wash them as soon as the animal comes in. I am convinced this is a bad practice. When the roads are dirty, and the weather wet, and the legs already soaked, washing can do no harm; but to deluge the legs with water the moment a horse enters the yard, heated with exercise, is to my mind, as unnatural and absurd as to jump into a shower-bath after playing an hour at cricket. My plan is, rubbing down with straw and dry brush, and the next morning wash as clean as soap and water can make them. Pick and wash the soles as soon as the horse comes in."

New Word.—The war is introducing a new word in our telegraphic dispatches and into our newspaper articles, which Webster does not contain. The word is "mobilized," and means to get armies in readiness to march. Four Russian corps are said to be "mobilized," that is, ready for marching. The word is derived from the French, and through that language from the Latin root *moove* to move. Our word "mob" is derived from the same root.

COURT PROCLAMATION.
WHEREAS the Hon. Robert G. White, President Judge, and the Hon. J. Darling and S. Holmes, Associate Judges of the County of Oyer & Terminer and General Jail Delivery; Quarter Sessions of the Peace, Orphans' Court and Court of Common Pleas for the County of M'Kean have issued their precept, bearing date Saturday, the second day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, and to me directed, for holding a Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, Quarter Sessions of the Peace, Orphans' Court, and Court of Common Pleas, in the Borough of Smethport, on Monday, the twenty-sixth day of September, next, and to continue one week.

Notice is therefore hereby given to the Coroners, Justices of the Peace and Constables within the county, that they be then and there in their proper persons, at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, with their rolls, records, inquisitions, examinations, and other remembrances, to do those things which their offices appertain to be done. And those who are bound by their recognizances to prosecute the prisoners that are or shall be taken in the County of M'Kean, are hereby notified that there to prosecute against them as shall be just.

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Vernon A. Woodward, M. D., of Penn. University, Phila.

It gives me pleasure to add my testimony to the professional ability of the Author of the "Medical Manual." Numerous cases of diseases of the Genital Organs, some of them of long standing, have come under my notice, in which his skill has been manifest in restoring to perfect health, in some instances where the patient has been considered beyond medical aid. In the treatment of Seminal weakness, or disarrangement of the functions produced by Self-abuse, or Excess of venery, I do not know his superior in the profession. I have been acquainted with the Author some thirty years, and deem it no more than justice to him as well as a kindness to the unfortunate victims of early indiscretion, to recommend him as one in whose professional skill and integrity they may safely confide themselves.

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Manufactured and for sale by the subscriber, only, at his shop in Mechanicsburg.

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At short notice, in a workman-like manner, and at reasonable prices. Having had a large experience in the business, he feels satisfied that his work will fully meet the requirements of all who will favor him with their patronage. Repairing promptly attended to.

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Grain, of all kinds, taken in exchange for work.

For reference, call and examine.
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Once more on the lightning track of the far-reaching wires, comes the glad tidings of peace and contentment, instead of the shrill scream of the death dealing marauder, or the chilling tale of the midnight assassin.

who has been imbruing his hands in the blood of the young, the beautiful, and the innocent. Now, instead of the wild cries of despair which but lately echoed from every hill and valley of our wide-spread land, our ears are filled with the glad shouts of old men and maidens, young men and matrons that are continually

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DR. Coggswell's New Medical Salt exerts, like the vaccine matter, an extraordinary influence over the veins and arteries, resulting in a gradual decline of inflammation as indicated by the pulse, which soon resumes its natural state, as the heat, pain and fever disappear.

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