

The History of the Potato.

The potato has a curious history. It is a native of the elevated valley of the Andes in Peru and Chili, and is found as far north as Mexico. It was taken to Spain soon after the discovery of the American continent, and was cultivated in gardens as a botanical curiosity. The tubers being small and not edible in its wild state, it attracted no attention. In 1856 Sir Walter Raleigh introduced it into England, and is credited with bringing it from Virginia; but of this there is no evidence. Its cultivation in the cool moist, summers of Ireland soon developed large tubers, which were found to consist largely of starch.

A successful experiment was made in the use of the tuber as food, but this was met and combatted by a number of learned men and several works were written and published to prove its poisonous character. It belongs to the great Nightshade family (*solanace*), all of which are poisonous. This indictment was true, but they had not yet learned that a poisonous plant may bear a fruit or a tuber not only harmless, but very nutritious. This prejudice prevented the use of tomato till within the last forty years. The truth is, both these vegetables being of Nightshade family are poisonous in stem, leaf and flower, but this property does not extend to the tuber of the one nor the fruit of the other.

While on this subject it is proper to say that solanine—the poisonous principle of this family is sometimes developed in the potato, even to a dangerous extent. If the tubers while growing, are uncovered, so as to expose them to direct sunshine, they will assume a green appearance and become poisonous from the presence of solanine. The same effect in a minor degree, is produced in the sprouting of potatoes. If these are used in cooking they should be sliced and placed in cold water an hour or two before being cooked. Otherwise sprouted potatoes are unwholesome food.

The potato is a tropical plant, but its tuber producing quality is a northern modification of the plant, and in this quality it is improved by the cool summer of the north, and is successfully cultivated to the arctic circle, and with a decided improvement in the quality of the crop and generally in its yield. The crop is sometimes injured by the intense heat of July and August, even at the fortieth degree of latitude. The tendency of the tuber to degenerate in warm climates will suggest the precaution of occasionally renewing the crop by planting northern potatoes.

We are near waking when we dream that we dream.

Choose such pleasures as recreate much and cost little.

Love, faith, patience—the three essentials to a happy life.

Poetry has been the guardian angel of humanity in all ages.

There is nothing so sad as happiness to the sight of the unhappy.

Christianity abominates caste in society or church.—Prof. Coddington.

That man hath the most friends who needeth not a friend's assistance.

The world is satisfied with words; few care to dive beneath the surface.

Great things are not accomplished by idle dreams, but by years of patient study.

There is a past which is gone forever; but there is a future which is still our own.

Only what we have wrought into our characters during life can we take away with us.

A weak man is worse than an insane one, for the latter may be cured or kept harmless.

If we should leave out of conversation scandal, gossip, commonplaces, fatuity—what silence!

TRAVELLER'S GUIDE.

PA. AND N. Y. R. R.
Trains on the Pa. & N. Y. R. R. pass this place as follows:
Moving South.
No. 3, at 5:02 a. m., for New York and way sta.
No. 7, at 10:10 a. m., mail train for New York, Philadelphia and intermediate points.
No. 9, at 2:41 p. m.—Express for Philadelphia.
No. 15, at 10:55 p. m.—Fast express for Philadelphia and New York.
No. 31.—Local Passenger Train, between Elmira and Wyalusing, 7:05 p. m.
Moving North.
No. 8, at 3:58 a. m.—Fast express from New York and Philadelphia.
No. 39, at 10:55 a. m., WilkesBarre accommodation.
No. 2, at 4:41 p. m.—Mail train from Philadelphia and New York.
No. 6, at 11:02 p. m., from New York.
No. 32, at 6:53 a. m.—Wyalusing and Elmira local.
STATE LINE AND SULLIVAN R. R.
Leave.
3:00 o'clock p. m. for Bernice and intermediate sta.
Arrive.
9:30 a. m., from Bernice.
BARCLAY R. R.
Leave.
7:30 a. m., for Barclay and all stations, and 3:00 p. m.
Arrive.
10:15 a. m., from Barclay and intermediate stations, and 6:20 p. m.
CANTON STAGE.
Leaves at 9 o'clock, a. m. Arrives at 5 o'clock p. m.
TROY STAGE.
Leaves at 10:30 a. m. Arrives at 1 p. m.
SHESHEQUIN STAGE.
Arrives at 11 o'clock a. m. Departs at 12 m.
LERAYSVILLE STAGE.
Arrives at 12 m. Leaves at 2 p. m.
TERRYTOWN STAGE.
Arrives Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 12 m. Departs same days at 1 p. m.
NEW ERA STAGE.
Arrives Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 12 m. Departs same days at 1 p. m.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

PRESBYTERIAN—Rev. J. S. Stewart, D.D., Pastor. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. every Sunday. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 7:30. Sunday School—D.A. Overton, Superintendent—at 12 o'clock.
CHRIST CHURCH—(Episcopal)—Rev. John S. Beers, Rector. Service and preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. Service and lecture Thursday evening at 7:30. Sunday School—Jas. T. Hale, Assistant Supt., at 12 m. Teachers' meeting Tuesday evening at 7:45.
M. E. CHURCH—Rev. C. H. Wright, Pastor. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer Meetings on Sunday evening at 6:30, Thursday evening at 7:30. Young men's prayer meeting Friday evening at 8. Sunday School—B. M. Peck, Superintendent—at 12 m.
SS. PETER AND PAUL—(R. C.) Rev. Chas. F. Kelley, Priest. Mass at 8 and 10:30 a. m. Vespers at 7:30 p. m. Sunday School at 12:30 and 2:30.
CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH.—(Universalist) Rev. William Taylor, Pastor. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer and Conference Meeting Thursday evening at 7:30. Sunday School—L. F. Gardner, Superintendent—at 12 m.
BAPTIST CHURCH—Rev. C. T. Hallowell, Pastor. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer Meeting, Thursday Evening, 7 p. m. Sunday School at 12 m.
THE BRETHREN.—Service at 10:30 a. m. every Lord's day. Reading Meeting every Wednesday evening. Sunday School at 3 p. m.

SOCIETY DIRECTORY.

MASONIC.
Union Lodge, No. 108, meets First and Third Wednesday of each month.
Union Chapter, No. 161, meets Second Wednesday evenings of each month.
Northern Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 16. Meets fourth Wednesday each month.
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.
Towanda Lodge, No. 290. Meets every Tuesday evening.
Endowment Rank, Section 101. Meets Third Friday in each month.
ODD FELLOWS.
Bradford Lodge, No. 167. Meets every Monday night.
Bradford Encampment, No. 41. Meets Second and Fourth Wednesday night of each month.
Leah Lodge, Degree of Rebekah. Meets First and Third Friday evenings of each month.
KNIGHTS OF HONOR.
Crystal Lodge. Meets every Monday evening.
Mystic Lodge, K. and L. of H. Meets Second and Fourth Friday evenings of each month.
G. A. R.
Watkins Post No. 68. Meets every Saturday evening.
KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN RULE.
Towanda Castle No. 58. Meets at K. of P. Hall every Wednesday evening.
ROYAL ARCANUM.
Towanda Council, No. 532, meets first and third Friday of each month in K. P. Hall.

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6th. It will cure Hoarseness.
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TRIAL LIST for March Term of Court 1881, to be held at Troy, Pa.:
H M Lake vs John Kelly.....issue
W S Newman vs S J Hickok et al.....issue
Michael Flynn vs Wm Daughan.....asspt
Pomeroy Bros vs David Lindley.....issue
N Smith vs Chas B Wright.....issue
Hannah Ward vs John Roy.....debt
M C Westbrook vs W G Westbrook.....slander
Betsey G Bullock vs Carpenter Hoagland.....asspt
Rubright and Dorman vs Minn Spag Imp Co.....scf fa
Mary Ann Smith vs J G Rockwell.....covenant
Eason Pepper vs S J Hickok.....issue
G E Bullock use vs Margaret Dann.....eject
Daniel D Watkins vs Mary A Ingalls.....issue
Amos W Wilcox vs Peter Herdic et al.....scf fa
J A Linderman et al vs N C R R Co.....scf fa
Henry Patterson vs James Longwell.....appeal
E H Thomas vs J N Holcomb Gar.....trespass
Levi Hartman & Son vs Geo E Bullock et al.....scf fa
J R Hazlett vs Geo E Bullock et al.....scf fa
Pomeroy Bros vs R M Manley.....scf fa
Allen S Parsons vs A J Layton.....trespass
Wells Township vs Henry Robert et al.....eject
Subpoenas returnable on Monday, March 28th, 1881, at 2 o'clock, p. m. GEO. W. BLACKMAN, Towanda, Feb. 25th, 1881. Prothonotary

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