

WONDERFUL CLOCK.

The Ingenious Timepiece Made by Connecticut Men.

It is Sixteen Feet High and Took 12 Years to Finish.

One day recently a reception was held in Waterbury, Conn., at which one of the most wonderful, if not the most wonderful contrivances of mechanical art in this country was exhibited for the first time. Those who were present saw a work representing twelve years' skilled labor expended in original design and application upon a clock which is said to rival that of the famous Strasburg Cathedral, and is said to have no equal in America.

In 1881 E. A. Locke, conceived the idea of constructing the clock, and work upon it was immediately begun. It was the original intention to have it finished and placed on exhibition at the Paris Exposition in 1889, but the scope of the undertaking assumed greater proportions as the work progressed, and it has been completed only a week.

The timepiece stands 16 feet in height, with a six-foot base. It is made of black walnut, highly polished, and handsomely carved with scenes representing American history from the landing of Columbus to the present time. At the lower part of the clock and on each side is an allegorical scene representing mechanical progress during the last century, every figure in each group being in motion.

The largest scene is in the centre of the clock. It represents the "train room" of the Waterbury Clock Company, with all the shafting and machinery in operation and twenty-five operatives at work. The figures go through every motion of work in that department.

Four scenes are represented on the sides of the clock. The subjects are, first, a cotton gin in full operation in a cotton field, with the negroes carrying the cotton in from the fields and placing it on the cotton gin, while Eli Whitney, who stands by, is explaining the workings of the machinery to a planter. A second scene shows the old method of manufacturing cloth. The operatives are at work beating the flax and preparing it for the looms and spinning wheels. A third scene represents a coal mine with the cage working and the miners digging the banks of coal.

In a fourth scene is a representation of the improvement in sewing machines. Elias Howe is watching the work of one of his machines, while close by modern machines are plying, and in another adjacent group are a number of women laboriously sewing by hand. The fifth group indicates the advance in the electrical world. Electrician Daft is represented operating a dynamo. The sixth shows the interior of a telephone and telegraph office with operators at work and messenger boys running in and out.

Scene 7 contrasts the old and the new methods of manufacturing watches, showing the improved factories of the present day and a kitchen in Switzerland where watches were made by hand a century ago. The last is an old-fashioned sawmill with the saw running, logs moving, and children playing near by.

The figures are all operated by an electric motor and are constantly in motion. The centre of the clock is occupied by a beautiful water color of the buildings of the clock company, while just above is the handsome dial of the clock. It is 3 feet in diameter and indicates the days of the week, month and year, the hours, minutes and seconds of the day, and the moon's phases and tides. Each figure represented is an exact likeness and the whole is complete in every respect. At the top of the clock is a handsome carving of the "Declaration of Independence," with a reproduction of the famous old Liberty bell.

The clock will be sent to the Columbian Exposition. It is valued at \$60,000. The work on it has been entirely done in secret by D. A. Buck and F. E. Hubbard.—[New York Times.

The Bull-Fight in Madrid.

As rivulets and mountain torrents rush to the main stream of some mighty watercourse, the whole population of Madrid flocks to the Alcala, leaping aside, as they settle themselves down in the tiers of seats in the circus, the gravity for which the Castellians are noted elsewhere, to give themselves up, as the spectacle begins, to noisy and boisterous delight. Above are the gayly decorated private boxes, in which sway to and fro the white cloaks and red fans of the richly

dressed occupants, whilst below are the masses of citizens, who, though generally sober enough, are now intoxicated, so to speak, with the smell of blood and the sight of the algarazas, or police, in their old-fashioned costumes; the chulos, or foot attendants, in their many-colored capas de duranillo, or silk cloaks; the picadores, or mounted spearmen; the banderilleros, or dart-throwers; the espadas, or slayers, and the mule-team, or el tiro. The spectators gloat on the skill with which the picadores fling their spears, and the banderilleros their darts; the agile suretes, or tricks of the chulos and toreros as they goad the bull to madness; and the excitement and tension are immense in the final act of the drama, when death is dealt by the espada to the bull, who has strewn the arena with the corpses of horses. Then, no doubt, the people of Madrid lose their heads; their self-control is gone, and then really seem cruel and inhuman.

For all this, however, he who condemns them does them injustice, for there are no better-hearted folk in the world than these same people of Madrid. Set against their conduct at the bull-fights their behavior in times of revolution or when some epidemic is raging, and no one can help admiring as I admire and loving as I love them. Never can I forget their noble charity during the visitation of cholera in 1865, when I saw poor work-people carrying the stricken in their arms, pressing to their hearts those all but dead, reviving them with their own breath, never thinking that in so doing they were risking their own lives. Truly a people who could act in a manner so heroic, so sublime, must have a grand reserve of vital force, a generous nature which radiates forth goodness as the sun radiates forth heat.—[Harper's Weekly.

Chickens on the Farm.

A generation ago the chickens to be seen around the average farm-house were of a mixed and haphazard breed. There are farmers still who keep such poultry; there are also farmers who do not believe that the world is round and revolves on its axis every 24 hours. But farmers so careless as to their poultry are almost as scarce as the latter ignorant class. You may meet a farmer whose ideas are a little mixed about the rotation of crops and the value of silage, but you have to go far indeed to find one who has not his preference as between Plymouth Rocks, Leghorns, Langshans, Cochins and Brahmans. Chickens on a farm are a kind of savings bank, and those which lay the most eggs and fetch the highest prices as broilers are very naturally more highly esteemed. Now the fancy farmers were the first to attempt to breed better chickens in this country, and they continue to lead in the experiments looking towards the further betterment of domestic fowls.

There is one thing that has been insisted on in vain, so far as ordinary farmers are concerned. That is the value of cleanliness—cleanliness in the chicken houses and cleanliness in the food and water given to the fowls. Unclean houses are productive of all kinds of disease, and unclean food and water also. There is an old-fashioned notion that chickens are good scavengers, and that if allowed the freedom of the barnyard they will forage for themselves. This is true, but it is very unlikely that any cock or hen from such a range would ever take a prize in a poultry show. The way to get prize chickens is to mate the best with the best, and rear the broods with care. As the reward, both in profit and satisfaction, is well worth the trouble, it seems strange that any country people should be content with any but the best.—[Harper's Weekly.

Curing Dogs With Colic.

It is nothing unusual for dogs to have colic, especially when fed high and given little exercise. When attacked they are restless, moan, or suddenly start up with a yelp, and after walking about lie down again until the next spasm comes on. The safest treatment is to give castor oil, half ounce to one ounce, varying the dose according to the size of the animal. Dogs, when bitten by rattlesnakes, should be given spirits of some kind, and in pretty large doses at first, until the poison is overcome. The dog will usually be very stupid, with little life, for some days or weeks after the effects of the first big doses of liquor have passed off; and to prevent a collapse give a teaspoonful of whiskey every three or four hours, mixed with water or syrup, to make the dose more palatable. Bathe the wound with carbolic acid and water, one part of acid to sixty or seventy of water.—[New York Sun.

FOR FARM AND GARDEN

BUT GOOD SHEEP FOR PROFIT.

In buying sheep care should be taken to get those not over four years old, and having vigorous constitutions. For any use a poor sheep is nearly the poorest property that a man can own. It is of no value as a breeder, and more than likely will not stand the feeding that is needed to fatten it. Unless very carefully fed with roots or other laxative feed a sheep's pelt is more than likely to be the only dividend it ever gives.—[Boston Cultivator.

FOOD FOR YOUR PLANTS.

Give your plants all the sunshine possible, most of them revel in it, writes Eben E. Rexford. It is food for them and quite as necessary as a rich soil. Ferns, some of the begonias, and a few other plants prefer to remain in the shade, but they like a good light, such as comes from diffused sunshine. Put your fuchsias where they will get the sunshine of the forenoon, and give your heliotropes and geraniums a southern exposure. Plants like the Bermuda lily, azaleas and oleanders should be kept out of strong sunlight if you care to have the flowers last well. Be sure to give them fresh air daily.—[Chicago News Record.

BEST FOOD FOR HORSES.

Oats is the best grain to feed horses in good health. Barley is next best. For a steady diet corn is not wholesome and if fed alone for any length of time is certain to produce ill effects from indigestion. Oats have about the right proportions of nutritious and coarse matter to be healthful, while corn has a very large per cent of strong food. Old or enfeebled horses should be fed ground food, a good mixture being four bushels of oats to one of corn. Twelve quarts per day of this ground mixture will prove a good feed for any horse while plowing or doing other heavy farm work. Whole corn should be soaked in warm water for six hours before feeding. Once a week give horses a feed of wheat bran. An occasional feeding of potatoes, apples or roots will prove beneficial, and the animals will relish the change of diet.—[Chicago Times.

TOMATOES FOR AMATEURS.

Almost any soil will grow tomatoes, but how many have tried the effect of enriching the soil? In fact, no soil is too rich for them, writes Louise M. Fuller. If one-fourth part of the soil be well-rotted manure, so much the better. They will stand forcing better than any other vegetable or fruit, and always find a good early market. Seed should be sown in hotbed or in the house by March 1, or sooner. That sown in hotbed will be ready for transplanting the 1st of April, and to be set out May 1, if one is willing to watch out for the frosty nights. I like to set out a few plants as early as the ground will allow, and cover them at night as long as necessary. If you wish to secure large, smooth tomatoes, see that the stigma of every flower is covered with pollen. This secures the development of every ovule in the ovary, and, in consequence, a symmetrical form. This will hardly pay on a large scale, but is interesting in early experiments or for the amateur gardener. Tomatoes may be made ornamental as well as useful by training and pruning to show the fruit, and allow the sun a good chance to ripen them.—[New York Tribune.

CONCRETE FOOTPATHS.

Where the frost does not heave the ground, footpaths of concrete will be found much more durable and desirable in every way than wooden ones. They are made as follows: Take one barrel of good lime and one of cement, slack the lime in the usual manner and mix in with three parts of good, sharp sand into a thin mortar. Have ready at hand a quantity of not too coarse gravel, and keep it wet. Then mix the cement with the mortar in small batches, so that it may be laid in the walk within a few minutes after it is mixed; as soon as it is mixed, add to it much of the wet gravel as will quite cover with this mixed or neat mortar. This will be about as much in bulk as the mortar, equal parts of each. Grade the paths and dig them out two inches deep, or make a frame of narrow strips to lay the cement in, and without any loss of time, as soon as the mortar is ready, lay it in the frame or in the path and beat it down solidly, and smooth the surface with a smooth piece of board with a handle. The cement will soon harden and continue to do so until it is like stone. The wooden frame may be made in squares

or diamond shapes and each is taken up as one is laid or they may be left in the walk.—[New York Times.

ROOTS, POTATOES AND FODDER CORN.

It has been decided at the Ontario (Canada) Agricultural College Experiment Station that white-fleshed turnips give better yields than the yellow-fleshed varieties, the long-shaped mangels better than the globe varieties; the white carrots better than the yellow varieties and the dent corns better than the flint varieties.

Of the roots grown on the station plots for two years the white Swede turnip, the Jersey fall turnip, the Carter's champion and yellow intermediate mangels give the highest yields in their respective classes. Of these grown for one year only the imperial short white carrot and the white Silesian sugar beet give the highest yields in their respective classes.

In the plot experiments at the station for three years with thirty-two varieties of potatoes and also in the co-operative tests over Ontario during 1892 with six varieties the Empire State and the Summit varieties came first and second in point of yield.

Of the varieties of corn fodder tested the Mammoth White Surprise, Giant Beauty, Thoroughbred White Flint, Mammoth Cuban, Wisconsin earliest white Dent and Salzer's South Dakota are at this station leading varieties among the late, medium and early maturing classes.—[New York World.

TO SELECT GOOD LAYERS.

How many poultrymen can pick out a good laying hen from a strange flock? Not many can do it; yet it can easily be done after a short study of makeup and character, says the Northwest Farmer and Miller. There goes a hen with a thick neck, large head, ill shaped, walks listlessly about seemingly with no intention or purpose in view. She doesn't care to scratch, but hangs around the henhouse, evidently waiting for her next feed. She gets up late in the morning and goes to bed early in the evening. That hen may be put down as a very poor layer. The eggs of some of the other hens go to help pay her keep.

Here comes another hen. She walks briskly and there is an elasticity in her movements that denotes she has something in view. She is neat and natty in appearance, small head, with a slim neck, nicely arched or curved. She forages and scratches all day long, and may be too busy to come to her evening meal. She is at the door in the morning waiting to be let out. She snatches a few mouthfuls of feed and is off to the meadow, looking for insects. Before she gets out in the morning she generally deposits her daily egg in the nest, or returns after a short forage. She is neat, clean and tidy, with a brightness and freshness pleasant to the eye. That is the hen that pays for her feed and gives a good profit all the year round. The writer has noted these traits since boyhood, and knows that they are infallible. By studying these traits any man may in a few years, by selection, have a fine flock of hens.—[The American Poultry Yard.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

The game is the best table fowl we have.

Give your chickens fresh water daily.

Give your fowls all the exercise possible.

Do not handle the eggs in the incubator too much, it will often spoil the hatch.

Stale bread, milk and a few finely chopped onions make a fine food for chicks.

Give a good variety of feed to the poultry regularly and not too much of one thing.

Remember that fat fowls are not the best layers. Keep them in good flesh, but not fat.

For the incubator "chicks," mix cornmeal and bran well together and give it to them in the morning.

A food may be rich in all of the elements that nature requires, but unless the nourishment is extracted from it it will be of no value to the owner.

By feeding the green stock on the farm much of the manure is saved while the manure is also secured to be applied back to the farm.

The weight at which a pig must be sold to give the greatest profit is determined to some extent by the cost of the pig to the owner when fattened.

During the winter as manure accumulates haul out and scatter on the fields where it is wanted; the per cent. of waste from washing will be very small.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

WOMEN'S CLUB IN REAL ESTATE.

A club of young women workers in a shoe factory at one of the New England manufacturing centres are trying a new experiment in co-operation. The members pool their earnings over and above what is needed to support them with strict economy and invest in real estate. Their holdings are said to be quite large and profitable.—[New York Journal.

RADICAL CHANGES IN DRESS.

From every point in the fashionable world come rumors of a radical change in dress next season. They are as yet vague and conflicting, but it seems to be generally acknowledged that skirts are to be abbreviated. Skirts of traveling dresses have rather short backs, not gored, but well-mounted, and with the effect of a very short trained bell-skirt without its inconveniences. Attempts are also being made among fashionable modistes to shorten the skirts of demitoylets of silk and soft delicate wool. And if the sequence of fashions of other days is repeated, double skirts, paniers, puffs, plaifings and loopings are all likely to follow in the wake of short skirts.—[Once A Week.

FEMALE UNDERTAKERS.

There are, it seems, about 300 women undertakers in the United States. It is remarkable that there should be one. Women are peculiarly susceptible to their environment, and that any one of the sex should surround herself with all the grim paraphernalia of death for a life occupation seems almost incredible. A Milwaukee woman and her daughter are both proficient in the business, are embalmers as well as undertakers, and both are said to enjoy their profession. Three brothers and sisters, however, are quoted as thoroughly disliking the calling of their parent and sister. One woman in the profession, Mrs. F. K. Wilson of Baltimore, is an expert embalmer, and has made some important discoveries in embalming in lung troubles.—[New York Times.

SIMPLE FROCKS FOR DEBUTANTES.

It has gone forth that debutantes must wear the simplest sort of evening frocks, minus artificial flowers, rich laces and such frivolousness, which are too complex for young girls. The proper cut is a baby waist, modestly low, balloon sleeves and the merest ghost of a skirt border. There was a pretty gown of pink silk that had sleeves, shoulder straps and belt of blue velvet. The bodice was shirred across the neck with a ribbon run through and tied in a bow in front. A white tulle has for its only trimming three ruffles of the same set some inches apart on the skirt. A more elaborate pink silk broched in self color is trimmed with a fringe made of white ribbon, each strand ending in a crystal drop. This bordered the skirt and festooned the bodice from the front round under the arms to the back. Above this the bodice was draped with pink crepe caught with white ribbon rosettes, and the sleeves of the crepe, caught with rosettes, fell down the arm like the bell of a flower.—[Harrier-Journal.

THE REDINGOTE TO DOMINATE.

The redingote in varied forms, and with many French and English titles, bids fair to be one of the dominant styles of the present season. Cut and fashioned in a variety of artistic ways, it is adapted alike to visiting toilets, tailor-made, traveling, and walking gowns, receptions, and elaborate evening dresses. There is seldom an article of dress that has been found so capable of infinite variety and universal adaptation and utilization. In every case, however, it represents a garment straight and stately in effect, that opens on an underskirt that is different, but not so sharply contrasted as to be out of harmony with it. For street uses the fabrics are of tweed, cheviot, checked ladies' cloth, or other figured wool fabric with underskirt of plain cloth, with a braided, gimp-trimmed, or machine-stitched border. For evening toilets the redingote is elegantly decorated, the sleeves extra full, the neck slightly open, the bodice portion finished with lace or velvet revers. Heavy armure silks, failles, bengalines, and other rich unpatterned textiles form the very flaring bell skirt, while the redingote is of flowered silk, Pompadour satin, Venetian brocade, or shot and dotted bengaline.—[New York Post.

INSURING WOMEN IN EUROPE.

In England the provisions for insuring the lives of women is far in

advance of this country or that of any European nation. A German company will not "take the life" of a woman at all. In this country women have heretofore been at every disadvantage. What they have secured has been mainly through their own efforts. In England the consideration given to women is comparatively recent, but in England the necessity of making provision for the support of daughters not likely to marry, and where laws of primogeniture influence those not bound by them, have aroused men to the propriety of extending the bounties of life insurance to women themselves. Women are now admitted to some companies on exactly the same terms as men. An English woman explains the workings of a society in which she is insured.

By paying \$50 a year, at any age, without any medical examination or questions as to health and family history, a woman can receive \$1500 twenty-one years hence; or by paying \$100 a year, \$3000 at the end of the same time. If she dies before the expiration of that time, her representative receives the entire amount, excepting the first premium, with two per cent. compound interest. Or if she does not care to continue her payments during the entire term, she can withdraw her payment in the same way. Or, if a woman of twenty-five wishes, for example, to secure to herself \$1500 when she is fifty, she can do so by paying \$42 a year during that time. This money she can invest or do with as it pleases her. The English have applied the pleasant phrase "growing rich in growing old," to this manner of life assurance.—[New York Sun.

FASHION NOTES.

In thin silks, the newest are satin finished.

In Paris changeable wools are in special favor.

The Alsacian bow is one of the features of spring millinery.

Tartan plaids and color-mixtures appear among new fancy grenadines.

Pure white is the prettiest color for evening wear that a young girl can choose.

Velvet remains one of the fashionable materials, and is likely to continue so during the season.

Princess dresses and redingotes will be favored models for the heavy silks and handsome reps.

Wool bengaline is a material of richness and refinement that has become very popular this season.

New hats have fairly wide brims, and are pinched up, rolled up, twisted up and turned up in every imaginable shape.

Polka-dotted Bedford cords are in colors of Venetian brown, tan, olive green, Napoleon blue, heliotrope, and the dahlia shades.

It is quite a mistake to suppose that silk employed for the purpose of lining must necessarily be new, as partly worn silk dresses may be cut up and used with decided advantage.

The latest thing in fans is an outer edge of bats' wings in neutral colors. The stem is of white and gold. The fan and the lognette are now often carried with the walking costumes.

Very gorgeous table lamps have a base of pale green glass with enameled flowers upon it. The lamp shade carries out the color of the glass, and the whole is a symphony in pale green.

A new bonnet has an enormously high poke front. The sides come down well toward the ears, and there is a pronounced cape, which is evidently the forerunner of the old-fashioned gypsy bonnet.

A decoration which suggests itself for the tray and saucers might be a delicate yellow ground flecked with the reds and browns of the autumn leaf. Another pleasing treatment would be the tender greens of spring foliage.

Very few examples of the new wool dresses have been shown. An attempt to introduce bands of velvet, separated by spaces and extending halfway up the skirt, as they are now worn on ladies' dresses, is not likely to prove a success.

A new dress for a girl is in princess shape, with full sleeves, shirred cuffs and bands of trimming from shoulder-seams to the hem of the skirt in front. This is a one-piece suit, and appropriate for a girl of six to nine years.

A pretty and stylish evening dress has a trimming of a twelve-inch flounce of lace headed with three puffs of soft silk; another has three ruffles set a little distance apart, each one headed with a narrow ribbon tied in knots at intervals of a couple of inches.