THE FARMER.

For the Lewisburg Chronicle.

The Use and Make of an Ice House.

Mr. Editor: As you say you wish Farmers to give their experiences in their own way—I saw a piece in your last paper, taken from the Scientific American, about an Ice House, which is a good plan, but I still think there is a better one. I will give you the plan of mine.

Two years ago I built an ice house, by digging about two feet in the ground, and putting the earth around so as to keep the air out when finished; then put a frame over it, 16 feet by 12, the posts 8 inches thick, boarded with inch boards and filled with tan; a floor on top, about 10 inches tan on that, and then a middling steep shed roof with boards. I had a partition of boards made through the short way, cutting off *five* feet for a milk-house, and leaving the ice-house 11 by 12, and 10 feet deep.

There is a door 2½ feet square on the north side near the upper floor, to fill the ice in. The ice is cut into blocks as big as can be handled easily, and some broke fine to fill in and around the sides. I put no straw around the sides, but fill it as tight as I can, and then shut it up till in April or May, when it has melted away from the sides about 3 or 4 inches; then I put saw-dust on top, about 4 inches thick, and let it run down the sides, to cover the ice all over with saw-dust.

We had plenty of ice till winter, after using it the whole summer through. In hay and harvest, we take a can full of water, throw in a chunk of ice, and take it to the field; this will keep cool half a day, and if there are a good many hands, we take some chunks of ice along in the morning to the field, wrapt up in flannel, and that will keep all day; then whenever we get a can full of water we throw in a piece of ice—and in this way we have cool water all day.

The whole cost of my ice house and milk house did not exceed Forty Dollars, and I would not do without one for five times the cost.

I must close for this time, else I will weary your patience. I have not given you any description of my milk-house, which is worth more than all the rest for cheapness and handiness. [illegible] time, if I thought it would be interesting to you and your readers, I would give you a full account of my milk-house, &c.

A Dutch Farmer.

Fountain Hill, East Buff., Jan. 18.

For the Lewisburg Chronicle.

Mr. Editor: Your anxiety to have a supply of agricultural communications within the range of your own circulation, has excited my vanity a little, and I have concluded to give you my experience on a subject of as much importance as the "Cutting of timber" or "Sap running"—perhaps closely connected with both—viz. the preparing of posts for fence. It is very common, in passing by the residences of many of our farmers, to see a lot of posts, very carefully dressed and turned butts up for the purpose of having them well dried out, that they may make a lasting fence. In the the spring of 1827 or '8, I had occasion to make a garden fence. I cut a tree of ordinary size, (White Oak,) prepared the posts, and set them immediately, and where I have not had occasion to alter the location of the fence, they are still there. I have since set posts of the best of timber, well dressed, and they have rotted off many of them, in less than half the time, in speaking with some of my neighbors on the subject, I find their experience corroborrates my own, and from what light I have would make 25 per cent. in favor of the green posts.

R. H. L.

Jan. 19.

For the Lewisburg Chronicle.

Mr. Editor: I find an article in the last number of your paper, signed "A Young One," which would go to show that sap would run down through the tree; and he is somewhat complaining of me for not giving my reasons more fully. I would therefore give a few reasons for my opinions. In the first place, it would seem to be a useless thing in nature for sap to run down in the tree, since all its operations can be performed in its upward course. I believe the sap runs up the tree more or less the whole year around, only stopt by hard freezing: this seems to be necessary in order to keep the tree alive, and to form and keep alive the buds during the winter. For proof of this, I would advise any one to examine the buds of trees in the fall of the year, and then in the latter part of the winter again, and he would find that they had increased during winter, at least if there was any soft weather during that time. I agree with the writer in your last number, that the sap runs up through the wood to enter the leaves, but not only to enter the leaves, but also to form the twigs and fruit; but I disagree with him in the sap returning. He says the sap passes through the innermost layer of bark and the outermost layer of wood when it descends. Here he is in a mistake, in my opinion, for it is a well known fact that this is the very place where the most sap passes up the tree, as is readily seen in the maple tree by cutting a notch through the bark, and there is yearly a new growth of wood formed around the tree next to the bark, which every wood chopper must have noticed, and can tell the age of the tree by counting the growth. And this seems evident by cutting off a limb of an apple tree, say from the main branch, and it will soon be full of young sprouts or twigs on this cut limb. This shows that the most of the sap runs up in close connection with the bark. I should not have written this, according to my rule, that is, not to give an answer to a fictitious name; but since it is signed "A Young One," I have thought proper to write this much for his instruction.

Jacob Gundy.

East Buffalo, Jan. 18, 1850

12 lbs Butter per Week from one Cow!

The Gettysburg Compiler says that a cow belonging to Hon. Moses M'Clean, raised by himself, yielded between the 22d of November last, and the 24th of December, *upwards of fifty pounds of butter*, besides furnishing the cream for a family of nine persons—being about twelve pounds per week! This is an extraordinary fact, but "no less strange than true." We have never before heard of a cow yielding so large a quantity of butter in so short a time, if others have, they will please speak out.

The Canal Commissioners' Report

States that the receipts and expenditures on the public works during the year ending the 30th of November, 1849, were as follows:

Total receipt on Main Line,	1,246,262,05
For tolls and fines on Delaware division,	106,714,24
For tolls, rents and fines on on the Susquehanna and North and West branches,	100,301,43
Gross receipts of all the lines,	1,633,277,72
Total expenses,	758,500,87
Net receipts over expenses.	$874,776,65

The following statement shows the amount of tolls collected at several offices during the year, on the articles named.

	Iron.	*Coal.*	*Flour, &c*
Dunsburg,	4,760	924	6,834
Williamsport,	116	21	2,719
North'ern'd,	12,977	1,014	11,461
Berwick,	1,593	90,766	76

A new rail road is the process of construction from Portsmouth to Columbia. Upon its completion it is expected that all the freight which now goes over the Harrisburg and Lancaster railroad will be thrown upon the Columbia railroad at Columbia.

The number of miles traveled by passengers over the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad during the year was 7,410,558, which divided by 82, the length of the road, is equal to 90,250 through passengers. The tolls from these and the cars in which they were conveyed, amounted to $159,517 51. A change in the mode of the transportation of passengers is recommended. The rates of fare are too high. The board desire to purchase a number of first class passenger cars, and have that portion of the carrying trade done wholly by the State.

The railroad to avoid the inclined plane is rapidly progressing and will be completed by the 18th of July next.

The total fall overcome is 326 feet, equal to an average grade of about 40 and 8-10th feet per mile.

The estimated cost of the road is $374,739.

The Susquehanna division has been kept in order at a very small expense. No extraordinary repairs were required, except for gravelling and keeping the Shamokin dam in order.

Navigation was resumed on the West Branch division on the 20th of March. On the 2d of July, ninety feet of the first span of the Pine creek aqueduct broke down; but was repaired in fourteen days.

The North Branch Division was opened for navigation on the 20th March. Transportation has been kept up during the year without any extraordinary repairs being required. The early completion of this improvement is strongly urged as a financial measure; at the time of the suspension of the work, the amount estimated for its completion was $1,277,452,81. The recent contracts have been alloted at from twenty-five to thirty per cent under that estimate.

The Delaware division was opened for navigation on the 10th of March. The following sum, it is estimated, will be required to meet all the expenses of keeping up the canals and railroads for the year ending November 30, 1850, viz.

For repairs, motive power and all other expenditures for the public works for the service of the fiscal year 1850, amount to the sum of $669 222.90.

If no unforseen circumstances occur to interrupt the business on the public works, the receipts of 1850 will amount to $1,700,000; and the net revenue therefrom to at least $1000,000.

The German population of the United States is estimated at four millions; and this number is constantly increasing by an immense immigration.

England vs. United States.—The Illustrated London News speaks in the strongest terms of the growth of the U. States in population and prosperity, and says that hereafter the Anglo-Saxon race will rule the world, not from the banks of the Thames, but from those of the Potomac. The writer is of opinion that England will rapidly decline in power and wealth, in the course of the next half century, and that the transatlantic Republic will as rapidly increase.

Another Regal Government in America.—Recent letters from Rio Janeiro represent that Louis Philippi has been in negotiation for sometime with the Emperor of Brazil, and that the three provinces adjoining Pernambuco are to be converted into a kingdom; of which the Prince de Joinville and his spouse, it is thought, will take possession as soon as they arrive, their arrival being hourly expected.

The Escaped Slave.—The slave woman Betsey, who escaped from Wilmington (N. C.) to Boston, in the barque Thales, is 19 years old, and left a babe behind. Her feet were frozen on the passage. The mate of the Thales who was charged with smuggling her on board, asserts that he did not know of her being their until nearly the close of the passage.

The Itch in Hagerstown.—The Catoctin Whig learns that Hagerstown has lately been visited by a scorge, in common parlance termed the itch. Whole families are down with it, and several schools have been temporarily dismissed per consequences. The Hagerstown News has a paragraph which seems to confirm this.

What is False Pretence?—Mrs. Blood good, a dashing female operator, was acquitted at New York on Wednesday of obtaining goods under false pretences, on the mere technical ground of not having *asked* credit, though she had the goods sent to a mansion which she falsely alleged she occupied.

Sunday Travel has been suspended on the Central railroad. This, we believe, is the first move of the kind that has been made on any railroad in the State, but as it accords with the feelings of the community at large, we have no doubt it will become general throughout Pennsylvania in a short time.

Cholera at New Orleans.—Although the New Orleans papers deny that the cholera prevails in that city, we perceive that the Board of Health reports for the month of December 537 deaths, of which number 111 were from cholera, 79 from cholera morbus, 31 from diarrhea and 28 from dysentary.

Quite a "Pile."—Two millions one hundred and seventy thousand three hundred and fifty dollars, were paid out in Boston on the 1st of January, as interest money, by the different Bank, Railroad, and Manufacturing Corportions.

Dark Day.—The 8th was unusally dark day in Pittsburg. Families at nine o'clock were eating breakfast by candle light, and at twelve gas had to be lighted in all the counting rooms.

The Wilmot Proviso in Congress.

A Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, says:

"The Wilmot Proviso will pass the House by a large majority. In the Senate it will be but two. This is under the supposition that Mr. Benton who has, all along, pronounced the proviso a humbug, will vote against it. Mr. Wales and Mr. Spruance, of Delaware, will both vote for it; Mr. Dickinson, of New York, against it; and Mr. Cass will speak against the proviso, but not vote on it. If he resign his seat he will, in all probability, be returned the Senate untrammeled by instructions. Should Mr. Benton be able to carry the two Messrs. Dodge, (father and son) of Iowa and Wisconsin, respectively with him, then the Wilmot Proviso will not pass the Senate. The Messrs. Dodge, in the meanwhile, are devoted to Mr. Benton, and Mr. Bright, of Indiana, may not feel disposed to follow his lead. Nobody, of course, can, at this stage of the business, tell what way Mr. Benton is going to act and vote, but when he is denounced as a deserter from the South, and a disorganizer, old Bullion may profit by the opportunity thus offered him to show that by his exertions the South was saved."

Found Dead!

On Tuesday morning last, as a son of Mr. Shipman went to his father's lime kiln, situate on the river bank in the upper end of our borough, to fill it, he found a man by the name of Hellem, laying dead at the top of the kiln. It is evident that the unfortunate man went there to shelter himself from the inclemency of the weather. He had disposed himself to rest by placing his handerchief upon a stone upon which he laid his head, having first placed his cap and a bottle of liquor a few feet from him. His face laid about a foot from the mouth of the kiln, and his body forming a circle with the kiln. One side of his face was completely roasted, as were also portions of his hands, which he got into the fire, probably when about expiring. There is no doubt that his death was caused by the gas issuing from the kiln.—[Sunbury Gazette, 19th inst.

THE CHRONICLE.

H. C. HICKOK, Editor.
O. N. WORDEN, Publisher.

At $1,50 cash in advance, $1,75 in three months, $2 paid within the year, and $2,50 at the end of the year.
Agents in Philadelphia—V B Palmer and E W Carr.

Lewisburg, Pa.

Wednesday Morning, Jan'y 23.

☞ We this week give, on our first page, two deeply interesting letters, from one of the Lewisburg Californians. It will be seen that the party suffered most after they had reached California.

—On the same page will be found a choice specimen of the debates on slavery which are constantly springing up, now-a-days, in the halls of Congress. The South, so far, seems to get the worst of it, except as to the public offices, which they somehow manage to monopolize, as usual. The Northern blood is not easily roused. It generally moves 'slow, and calm, and cool,' but when it is once up, it marches forward to the accomplishment of its purposes with the inexorable inflexibility of fate—as the South will ultimately discover.

To Correspondents.

"A Dutch Farmer" will find his serviceable article in print this week. We hope he will give us a description of his milk house, also. Will he be good enough to favor us with his name? If his heart is not as cold as his ice, we should like to make his acquaintance.

"R. H. L." has made an excellent beginning. We shall be much gratified if he will persevere in this new path of usefulness.

"W. S. M." is cordially welcome, and shall appear next week.

"Sartain's Union Magazine" for February is on our table. Its contents and embellishments are of a very superior order. The most prominent of the latter is the portrait of Mrs. Polk, widow of the late Ex-President; and her character as happily portrayed in the accompanying sketch, proves 'how divine a thing a woman may be made.'

Published by John Sartain & Co., Philad., at $3 per annum, and a rich engraving to boot.

☞ The February No. of "Peterson's Ladies' National Magazine," edited by Charles J Peterson, Esq., and Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, fully sustains, in both engravings and contents, the high reputation this monthly has acquired. The names of the editors are alone sufficient to establish its success. Mr. Peterson is one of the most vigorous and healthful writers of the day, and Mrs. Stephens has no equal in her own peculiar power and vividness of style.

Published by C. J. Peterson, at No. 98, Chesnut street, Philad., at $2 per annum in advance.

☞ The February No. of "*Godey's Lady's Book*" furnishes ample evidence that the tact and enterprise which originated this department of American Literature, are still in full life and vigor, and can readily distance all competition. Godey has conferred a favor on his patrons this month, by furnishing them with an admirable counterfeit presentiment of the King of Magazines! This No. contains a thrilling sketch of backwoods life from the pen of our gifted towns-woman, Mrs. Hayes, which we have marked for an early insertion in our paper. We are glad to observe that the 'Book' contains more substance and less of mere sentimentality than usual. The latter is a commodity of little worth in this age of the world, unless when used to 'point a moral,' as well as 'adorn a tale.'

Terms, $3 a year in advance.

From the Far West.

We have received, (we suppose from Mr. J. Frick, printer, recently of Milton) several copies of the "Minnesota Chronicle & Register," a very neat appearing paper, published at St. Pauls, the Capital of Minnesota Territory. It appears that at the first election, the "Union" ticket prevailed over the Democratic nominations. We guess it to be a cold region from the following item in the No. for 22d ult.:

The Coldest Yet.—On Monday morning, Dec. 17, at 7 o'clock, the thermometer stood at twenty-one degrees below zero. At Fort Snelling, same hour, it stood two degrees higher.

We have an interesting editorial to copy from the same paper on "Life in the North-West"—Society, &c.

☞ The Danville Democrat takes us to task for prematurely announcing that the U. S. Senate had rejected the nomination of Col. Webb as Charge d'Affaires to Austria. Not our fault, friend Cook. We only told the tale as it was told to us, in one of our exchanges.

☞ Dr. John Locke, Surgeon Dentist, has placed upon our table a box of his "Aromatic Tooth-Paste." We find it, upon trial, a pleasant and fragrant dentrifice; just the thing to keep the teeth clean, and breath sweet—two essential requisites of health and comfort, that in many instances are sadly neglected.

☞ The Northern Temperance Convention will be held in the German Reformed Church in Lewisburg on Tuesday, 5th Feb. next, at 11 o'clock, A.M.

'What Time is It?'

The 'Good Samaritan' quotes our corrected statement with regard to the completion of the first half of the present century, (though we observe that owing to a mistake of their printer, our article as quoted will be unintelligible to the readers of the Samaritan,) but disputes its accuracy, and presents the following adverse argument:

'We suppose that from the birth of Christ, 365 days had to expire before he was *one* year old, and that those 365 days were the first year of the first century. When the clock struck 12 at midnight at the end of those 365 days, the first year was ended, when men began to count ONE, and immediately the second year commenced, and was completed at the end of 365 days, when men began to count TWO. And if you go on thus to the end of the first century, you will find that when men began to count *one hundred* 100 years had already expired; so that what you call "the year 100 was" not "the last year of the first century," but the first year of the second century. By the same mode of computation, you will find that the moment we began to count 1849, we were in the 50th year of the present century, and that now we are in the 51st year, altho' we say 1850 until the year '51 is completed—just as in regard to centuries, we are now in the *nineteenth* century, altho' we say 1800, (&c.,) until the nineteenth century is completed.—From all which we conclude, (with much submission, however, against such high authority as the Chronicle, New York Tribune, Public Ledger, German Reformed Messenger, &c.) that the first half of the nineteenth century is already past, and that we are now hastening over the second half as fast as the wheels of time can carry us.'

Highly respectable authorities are arrayed against us on this subject, in private circles as well as in the 'corps editorial.' Though we find that nearly all our exchanges, including the N. Y. 'Courier & Enquirer,' and 'N. Y. Evangelist,' have retraced their steps, and now admit, after a 'sober second thought,' that the first half of the nineteenth century is not yet complete. But with, or without, this support, and resting solely upon the merits of the case, we think, Brother Swineford, that we are clearly right on the main question in dispute, and that you are laboring under a misapprehension as to the true result of your own arguments.

The question to be solved is, 'Have eighteen centuries and a half of the Christian era been completed?' We say not. We allege that up to 12 o'clock, noon, of this day, (January 23d,) 1849 years and 22 days and a half, only, have elapsed, and no more. We maintain that the figures "1850" do not mean the *past* year, but signify the current year, now passing, and indicate its particular *number* in the catalogue of years. In the current dates in use throughout Christendom, the number of the year is given to show what year we are *in*, (not how many, in round numbers, have gone by,) and the month, and day of the month, to show how far in that particular year we have traveled. This will be made evident by an inspection of every document you can lay your hands on, in which the date is formally set forth. If you, Brother S., who are a lawyer, should be called on to day to write a deed of conveyance, you would undoubtedly proceed as follows: "This Indenture, made this 23d day of January, *in* the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty, witnesseth, &c.," yet you say above, just the opposite, that "now we are *in* the 51st year." Perhaps you will attempt to escape on the plea that a sort of 'legal fiction' is connected with the matter. But if so, on which horn of the dilemma will you hang the 'fiction,' on the deed or the editorial? But, taking you on your own premises, what is the result? If you count *one* immediately after the completion of the 1st year, and *two* at the end of the 2d year, and so on till the present time, you will find that at the commencement of the present year when all the world began to write 1850, *you* could only count 1849, and could not by any possibility get a single figure beyond it; and of course could not, according to your own reckoning, count 1850 until after 12 o'clock P. M. of the 31st day of December next. Which conclusively proves two facts; 1st, that the first half of the nineteenth century is not yet finished, and 2d, that the system of dates in current use does not correspond with the theory you lay down, and could not have originated as you suppose it did. As we are thus doubly right, you must necessarily be just the reverse. *Quid erat demonstrandum.*

Byron.

A correspondent of Col. Tate's 'Columbia Democrat,' is out in a defence of Lord Byron. Well, the noble bard, if he was now in this breathing world, would doubtless be very grateful for this considerate favor. Though, in sober truth, he does need a friendly hand, sometimes, to rescue his memory from unmerited reproach. For he had sins enough to answer for at any rate—as heavy a load as most mortals could well stagger under—without having imaginary faults laid at his door. He was one of the strangest compounds of contradictory impulses and propensities, ever embodied in flesh and blood. Now, god-like—now, beast-like. Emphatically the poet of liberty, yet the slave of his own terrible passions. Restive and defiant under the despotism of public opinion, and the arbitary restraints of fashionable life—yet succumbing helplessly to the thraldom of the animal instincts of his nature. He was one of the most inexplicable meteors of mind that ever startled the world—a mental locomotive wrecked by the immensity of its own power. It is impossible to resist the fascinating influences of the pre-eminently sublime and beautiful creations of his fancy—yet too often a baleful light gleams upon the page, painfully repulsive and degrading. He has sometimes seemed to us like a kingly bird, mounting into the empyrean as with the bold sweep of an arch-angel's wing.

"Till from the eyrie of his eagle-thought
He could look down on monarchs,"

breathing the pure atmosphere of the upper heavens, and looking with unblenching gaze into the very eye of the sun; till the beholder is filled with amazement at the strength and elasticity of pinion that bears him up so proudly and so well—then, suddenly stooping from his 'pride of place,' falls prone to earth to gorge himself with *carrion*.

There, Col., we guess that will do for this time. We must get our pen mended before we take a fresh start.

Triennial Assessment, Union Co., 1850

The Commissioners of Union Co. have published the following table of aggregates of Taxable Property in this County, under the law of 27th July, 1842.

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