

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this department.

Curious Facts.

The grayhound runs by the eyesight only, and this we observe as a fact. The carrier pigeon flies his 250 miles homeward by eyesight—namely, from point to point of objects which he has marked; but this is only our conjecture. The fierce dragon fly, with 12,000 lenses in his eye, darts from angle to angle with the rapidity of a flashing sword, and as rapidly darts back, not turning in the air, but with a dash reversing the action of its wings, and instantaneously calculating the distance of the objects, or he would dash himself to pieces. But in what conformation of the eye does this consist? No one can answer.

A cloud of ten thousand gnats dance up and down in the sun, the minutest interval between them, yet no one knocks another headlong upon the grass or breaks a leg or wing, long and delicate as they are. Suddenly, amid your admiration of this matchless dance, a peculiar high shouldered, vicious gnat, with long, pendant nose, darts out of the rising and falling cloud, and setting on our cheek, inserts a poisonous sting. What possessed the little wretch to do this? Did he smell your blood in the mazy dance? No one knows.

A carriage comes suddenly upon a flock of geese on a narrow road, and drives straight through the middle of them. A goose was never yet fairly run over, nor a duck. They are under the very wheels and hoofs, and yet somehow they contrive to flap and waddle safely off. Habitually stupid, heavy and indolent, they are nevertheless equal to the emergency.

Why does the lonely woodpecker, when he descends his tree and goes to drink, stop several times on his way, listen and look round before he takes his draught? No one knows. How is it that the species of ant, which is taken in battle by other ants to be made slaves, should be black, or negro ants? No one knows.

The power of judging of actual danger, and the free and easy boldness which results from it, are by no means uncommon. Many birds seem to have a correct notion of a gun's range, and while scrupulously careful to keep beyond it, confine their care to this caution, though the most obvious resource would be to fly right away out of sight and hearing, which they do not choose to do. And they sometimes appear to make even an unostentatious use of their powers, fairly putting their wit and cleverness in antagonism to that of man for the benefit of the fellows. We lately read an account, by a naturalist in Brazil, of an expedition he made to one of the islands of the Amazon to shoot spoonbills, ibises and other of the magnificent, grallatorial birds which were most abundant there. His design was completely baffled, however, by a wretched little sandpiper that preceded him, continually uttering his tell-tale cry, which at once aroused all the birds within hearing. Throughout the day did this individual continue his self-imposed duty of sentinel to others, effectually preventing the approach of the fowler to the game, and yet managing to keep out of range of his gun.

Potatoes and Apples.

Fruit culture like all other business has its ups and downs, its years when it is profitable, and its years when it barely pays expenses. This is one of its poor years, all fruits have brought comparatively low prices, and the apple especially has had a season of bad luck. Last week the wholesale price varied between one and two dollars a barrel in New York, which one may well imagine will scarcely pay for the barrel, and gathering, to say nothing of transportation charges and agents' commissions. Potatoes pay better than this. At the same time apples were selling so low, these were selling at from \$2 to \$3 per barrel, or one-third more than the fruits. As the potato is all done with in a single season, while the apple tree has to stand ten or twelve years before we get a full crop, and we can get as many bushels per acre from an ordinary crop of potatoes as from a full crop of apples, it would seem that the potato has the best of it. But it is not always so, generally the apple brings three or four times as much as the potato. In the long run the average profit of one is about equal to the other. It is however an apt illustration of the uncertainty connected with all branches of agriculture. The man who has a business and sticks to it, putting into it ordinary business care, makes money in the long run, whether what he grows be apples or potatoes.

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RENJ. P. SHOEMAKER, DAVID ROTH, Executors. C. H. SMILEY, Attorney. September 10, 1878.

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An assortment of my goods will also be found at Lysville for sale by MISS ANNIE WHITE—Prices the same as at Newport.

1856. PROSPECTUS. 1879.

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The Best and Most Reliable Newspaper at the State Capital.

The Leading Republican Journal in the State.

THE HARRISBURG DAILY TELEGRAPH is now in its twenty-third year, and possesses a larger patronage and influence than ever before. Its facilities for gathering news and placing it before its readers in the most compact and convenient form are unequalled. The Telegraph is the only paper in the State Capital which receives special telegraphic dispatches from its own correspondents, and is the only evening paper that receives associated press dispatches. Its Congressional and Legislative reports are full and accurate, and its market reports are guaranteed as reliable.

The Telegraph is an unwavering supporter of the Republican party, and advocates its principles at all times and under all circumstances; but, while it is thoroughly partisan, it will never defend, or attempt to shield, corrupt deeds committed in the name of the party. On the course of the present National Administration the Telegraph will act as the good of the country seems to dictate, rendering praise where it is merited and not withholding censure where it is deserved. To Republicans throughout the State who desire a reliable exponent of their views, the Telegraph is recommended; while as a newspaper and a home journal no better can be taken.

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