THE TIMES NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA., FEBRUARY 17, 1880.



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A nuisance that troubled Europe fifty years ago now attracts attention here, that is, putting alum in the bread we ent. The bread must be "light" that it may be digested, that is, it must be filled by the well known cells we are accustomed to see in it. Where beer or ale is brewed those who understand healthy breadmaking procure yeast, which "lightens" the bread better than any substistute, and is wholesome. Where yeast is not readily to be obtained baking powders are resorted to, and out of them comes mischief. Bi-carbonate of soda and cream of tartar, or tartaric acid, are the usual constituents of a good baking powder. Cream of tartar sells at from sixty to eighty-five cents a pound. This high price has led cheap baking powders to be made of alum, as a substitute for some or all of the cream of tartar. Alum will make bread look whiter, so that bakers make an inferior flour salable as as bread by its use; and they use it, in some places calling it "rock," so that no inadvertent expressions may let outsiders know that alum is used. Alum is an injurious article to the human constitution in large quantities, or in small quantities often repeated. It is the small quantities taken every meal in bread that do the mischlef. Alum is cheap-ten cents a pound-to the pocket, but it takes what is saved out of the stomach, and then takes it with fearful interest. Alum is an astringent, and is used by dyers and other as such. Taken frequently on the stomach it produces heartburn, indigestion, griping, constipation, dyspepsia and kindred troubles resulting from irritation of the mucus membrane, produced by the stringent properties of alum. All these nice things to be inflicted by the bread eaten morning, noon, evening. To young children, growing girls, persons of light frame and sedentary occupations, this alum bread is poison most especially. If the reader wants to know something of alum let him suck a lump of it, notice its effects upon the mouth, which is something like that of an unripe persimmon; then let him reflect how it acts upon the tender, delicate coat of the stomach. Dr. Henry A. Mott, the cele-brated analytical chemist, analyzed twenty-three of the baking powders most in use, and found alum in all but one. It is time we took measures to stop the bread poisoning that kills our little ones and perpetuates dyspepsia and cholera. cholera.

A New Way to Fix Fodder.

The Bellefonte Republican gives this item of interest to the farmer: "Mr. John I. Thompson, of Martha, has a way of preparing his corn fodder that to us is quite new. He uses one of the oldfashioned little Shaker threshers by taking out the teeth from the front concave and in their place inserting knives (made from old scythe blades,) then ds in the stalks. The result is that



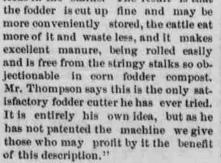
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J.M. BIXLER.

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Powerful Explosives.

Gun cotton is prepared by dipping cellular tissue, viz: cotton, sawdust or printing paper, in strong nitric acid (aquafortis.) It is then to be carefully washed and dried. It is not materially changed in appearance. It explodes at the heat of boiling water (212) degrees. It explodes with much greater violence and suddenness than gun powder, and for that reason is more liable to burst a gun. See what a power sleeps in our ignorance. Take a saw and cut up a bit of deal board, a bit of dried pine board. Steep this in a saucerful of acquafortis and this single cupful of compound, filled into a tin vessel and inserted into the basement wall of a building, will, when exploded, blow it to pieces.

ST Spirits of turpentine is good to take grease spots off woolen clothes, to take spots of paint from mahogany furniture, and to cleanse white kid gloves. Cockroaches and vermin have an aversion to spirits of turpentine.

A Cross Baby.

Nothing is so conducive to a man's remaining a bachelor as stopping for one night at the house of a married friend and being kept awake for five or six hours by the crying of a cross baby, All coss and crying babies need only Hop Bitters to make them well and smilling. Young man, remember this, -Ed. 8.21