STEEL-TRACKED ROADS.

A Promising Idea Advocated by Eastern

Political Leaders. In the wreck of matter and the crush of worlds, coronations, conventions, boat races and things, it is just as well in the Harz mountains of Germany. not to forget that the farmer feeds us This old town owns' a forest of 7,500 all, when the mud doesn't prevent his bauling stuff to market.

distinctly understood that he, and not

Farmer Budd, of New Jersey, or any other person, is the suggestor of the steel tracked roadway, perhaps the most promising of the new good roads ideas. Farmers O'Donnell, Budd and others propose, in brief, to lay wide, shallow steel rails in the public highways,



A TERRIBLE EX-

with turnouts at intervals. Wagon wheels would run easily on flat rails eight or ten inches wide, with flanges on either side to prevent the wheels slipping off. Except upon main traveled roads the cost might be pretty heavy, but there would be almost no limit to the loads that could be drawn upon such a track. Bicyclists could easily use it. The appearance might not quite equal that of a good, well-crowned macadam road, but the idea is worth considering, especially in

One beauty of the steel track is that wagons with narrow tires could safely use it. Macadam necessitates a broad tire law, which causes some opposition.

regions where macadam stone is scarce.

How true it is that there's nothing new under the sun! Here we are again back at the old plank road idea. A steel plank running lengthwise instead of a wooden one crosswise; that's all the dif-

And in the west, the last few years have seen the reappearance of the prairie schooner and the freight wagon. OWEN LANGDON.

THE CONVICT PROBLEM.

It Can Be Solved by Employing Prisoners in Road Construction.

The convict labor question is a very knotty problem that is still waiting for

It knocks at the door of nearly every state capital, during each session of the legislature, but is usually turned away with a promise of more consideration at some future time.

The good roads problem is also a ques tion of importance in the land. In some localities one of these problems is permitted to solve the other. Two birds are killed with one stone.

That the present mode of employing convicts is very unsatisfactory is proved by the unsettled condition of the question in nearly every state where it is done. The following is from a recent issue of the Dayton (O.) Herald:

The Ohio penitentiary seems to suffer from the general business depression. The annual report of the board of managers shows that in 1893 the surplus of earnings over expenses was \$31,079; in 1894, the de-ficit of earnings was \$9,137, and in 1895 the deficit of earnings was \$55,461.22. The board ascribes several reasons for this change of about \$86,000, among them the passage of a law requiring the branding of all prison-made goods, and the passage of the Llewellyn law, restricting the number of laborers engaged in making any one kind of goods in the penal and reformatory institutions of the state to ten per cent. of the free labor employed in making like goods in the state. These have led, as the board claims, to a demoralization of the contract system. It recommends the repeal of the last-named law, the first having been declared unconstitutional; or if this cannot be done, then that the limit fixed by the Lleweliyn law be raised to at least 25 per cent. The situation is one of great interest, and will protably lead to further agitation of the difficult questions of employment of convict labor.

In this connection it may be said that

whether or not the penitentiaries are self-supporting has nothing to do with the case.

The more money the convicts make for the state under the Ohio system, the more free labor is deprived of. Thriving penitentiaries are not the most hopeful of signs.

It would be even better to tax free labor to support idle convicts than to have the convicts rob free labor of its means of support.

At the present time the work of making magnificent systems of highways appears to offer the best means of employing many of the convicts. They should not be permitted to compete with free labor in the manufactures. Roads should be made better.

When, oh, when, will the immemorial moss-gatherers known as legislators awake to the needs of the hour?-L. A. | the season.-Farmers' Voice. W. Bulletin.

The Cost of Bogus Butter.

We have often been asked what profits the dealers realized on the sale of oleomargarine, but no definite or positive reply could be given for the very reason that it has been difficult to get at the facts from the manufacturers. Dairy Commissioner Van Valkenburg, formula, together with cost: Twentyfour pounds of leaf lard, 27 pounds of oleo oil, 12 pounds of cottonseed oil, 9 pounds of salt, 18 pounds of milk. This will make 100 pounds of oleo, er's Voice.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.

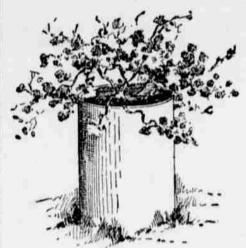
Experience of a German Town Shows That Improved Roads Pay.

B. E. Fernow, in an article in the Independent, to show that permanently good roads are an important element in any rational system of forestry, cites the example of the little city of Goslar, acres, which the citizens treasure as one of their best investments, because Farmer O'Donnell, of New York state, it not only furnishes them outing grounds and good sport in the way of hunting, but with a sure and continuously increasing revenue. Under conservative management the annual cut is 350,000 cubic feet of wood, and the net income from the sale is, in round numbers, \$25,000 a year, or \$3.50 an acre a year, which is a good return from soil unfit for agriculture. Formerly the district was without good roads, but in 1875 the forest manager persuaded the city fathers to appropriate enough money to construct a first-class road system, which was gradually completed. In 1891 \$25,000 had been spent on roads, and 141 miles of these roads were in good order. The manager kept an account of the influence of this improvement on the profits and cost of his forestry operations, and he was able to show that the annual cost of logging had been reduced by \$2,450, the cost of hauling by \$2,520, and the result of the sales due to the fact that much formerly unsalable material could now be disposed of and all could be transported more conveniently was increased by \$3,255, being a net increase of \$8,255, or nearly 33 per cent. of the amount invested in road improvements. On one road which was macadamized and maintained for a year at a cost of \$7,440 an instructive comparison was made between the cost of hauling 470,000 cubic feet of wood over the old and over the new roads. On the old road 4,273 loads were required of 110 cubic feet each, and costing \$3.60, or amounting in total to \$15,282.80. On the new road the same quantity was moved in 2,652 loads of 177 cubic feet each, and the cost, at the same price a load, was \$9,547.20, which means that the saving in haulage alone was \$5,735, or 75 per cent. of the cost of the road in one year.

PLANT PROTECTOR.

It Holds Drooping Branches of Plants Up from the Ground.

A tile plant protector is just the thing for holding the drooping branches of some of the small fruits up from the ground, especially the gooseberry. whose habit of growth is low and straggling. The special advantage claimed for this method is that it keeps



the fruit and branches from the ground and also gives a better chance to hoe up the weeds and stir the soil under the branches. It will also hold the moisture about the roots of the bush to some extent, and will make easier picking of the fruit than when the branches lie near the ground.-American Agriculturist.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

Some growers advocate mulching with strong manure pear and peach trees, the mulch to extend out as far as the limbs extend.

To keep off the mice and rabbits rub on axle grease lightly for two feet from the ground. Keep all loose bark rubbed off the trees, for under these scales is where insects like to hide.

As we approach the northern limits of the apple belt, the number of varieties that can endure the climate rapidly diminishes. Obviously then, the number of varieties of first quality that may be grown on the northern confines of the apple region must be comparatively very small.

The apple leaf crumpler is an orchard insect of peculiar economic importance, because it winters on the tree not more than half grown and attacks the young leaves as fast as they put forth in spring. It thus does vastly greater mischief than it could a little later in

Incentive for Good Roads.

The pleasure drivers of a township in Huntington county have made it a rule for the past two years to present a gold watch and chain to the road supervisors of the townships for keeping the roads in good repair. A Mr. Allison and his successor, Thaddeus S. Jackson, have each been the recipient of gold of New York, has been looking into this watches and chains. This is a new matter, and he gives the following thing for public road supervisors, but a very common thing for railroad section supervisors to receive a prize every year for the best sections of road beds in each division of the Pennsylvania railroad. This action on the part of which costs \$5.91, and wholesales at the officials make it an incentive for from 16 to 20 cents per pound. - Farm- good work and good roads beds. - Media (Pa.) Ledger.

CAPTURED A SHARK.

And Found in Its Maw a Paper Addressed to Himself.

"One afternoon, when we were in the Indian ocean," said the captain, "I noticed a shark swimming round the ship, and I didn't like it a bit. You know the superstition to the effect that a following shark presages the death of one of the ship's company. He sailed round us all the next day, and the next after that, and I determined to catch him, and quell my uneasiness. We baited a hook, and after a short time, captured and killed him. Then we cut him up. Do you know what we found in that shark's inside? No? Well, a newspaper, unopened; and it will surprise you, as it did me, when I tell you that it was addressed

A shout of great laughter went up from the captain's audience, who winked at each other unblushingly. He, however, took all the bantering in good part, and when the jeers were

ended he said: "Now, gentleman, I'll tell you how it happened. I found that my children had been skylarking the day before in the cabin. They found among the mass of reading they had brought aboard some unopened newspapers addressed to me. They had been throwing these newspapers at each other, and one of them went out of the porthole. The shark saw it, of course, and gobbled it down; and that was how it happened. Now, gentleman, judge for yourselves the truth of my story."-London Answers.

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe
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transactions and financially able to carry
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West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, To-

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bettle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Were it not better for a man in a fair room to set up one great light, or branching candlestick of lights, than to go about with a rushlight into every dark corner.—

I could not get along without Piso's Cure for Consumption. It always cures.—Mrs. E. C. Moulton, Needham, Mass., Oct. 22, '94.

THOUGH plunged in ills and exercised in care, yet never let the noble mind despair.-

A Dosn in Time Saves Nine of Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar for Coughs. Pike's Toothache Drops Curein one minute.

Gind your hearts with silent fortitude, suffering yet hoping all things.—Mrs. He-

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Native cows	2	10	60	3 60
HOGS-Choice to heavy	3	10	m !	3 71
WHEAT-No. 2 red		74	0	71
, No. 2 hard		62	24	62
CORN-No. 2 mixed		23		
OATS-No. 2 mixed			60	
RYE-No. 2		33	60	
FLOUR-Patent, per sack	-1	90	64	2 10
Fancy	1	75	0	1.85
HAY-Choice timothy	11	0.0	61.1	1.50
Fancy prairie	6		Gh '	
BRAN-(Sacked)			60	42
BUTTER-Choice creamery		20	116	90
CHEESE-Full cream		103	1234	
EGGS-Choice	854.05			9
POTATOES		22	96	25
ST. LOUIS.				
CATTLE-Native and snipping	3	25	66	4 25
Texans		7.	60 :	3 85
HOGS-Heavy	3	50	26 1	1.75
SHEEP-Fair to choice	3	40	06 1	3 80
FLOUR-Choice	2	70	64.	3.85
WHEAT-No. 2 red		69	66	69 34
CORN_No 9 mised	10000			20.00

CORN-No. 2 mixed		261	500		26%
OATS-No. 2 mixed					1836
RYE-No. 2			60		36
BUTTER-Creamery					22
LARD-Western steam	4	1000	100		8716
PORK					0256
CHICAGO.	**		C BOOK		
	100	100	7500		
CATTLE-Common to prime	- 3	-60	Gr.	4	40
HOGS-Packing and shipping.	28	75	66	4	0.
SHEEP-Fair to choice	2	7.	65	3	81
FLOUR-Winter wheat	3	50	fcb.	3	80
WHEAT-No. 2 red	651470				
CORN-No. 2			A		28%
OATS-No. 2					1894
RYE			5 %		
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BUTTER-Creamery		10	630		20
LARD		00	1.5	ā	0734
PORK	8	35	00	B	50
ANTENNA ANDREAS			1		

LARD	5 00	15
PORK	8 35	0
NEW YORK.		
CATTLE-Native Steers	4 00	65 1
HOGS-Good to Choice	4:00	176
FLOUR-Good to choice	8.55	66
WHEAT-No. 2 red	7416	GB
CORN-No. 2	37	14
DATS-No 2	225	litz.
BUTTER-Creamery	17	(ch
PORK-Mess.	0.50	65.10

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A SITTER and perplexed "What shall Ido?" s worse to man than worst necessity.—

FLATTERY is often a traffic of mutual meanness, where, although parties intend deception, neither is deceived.—Colton.

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LOCAL DISEASE
and is the result of colds and
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It can be cured by a pleasant
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in the springtime. And a used to be annoyed with * great many who are not poets, pay tribute to the

season in the same way. The difference is that the poet breaks out in about the same spot annually, while more prosaic people break out in various parts of the body. It's natural. Spring is the breaking-out season. It is the time when impurities of the blood work to the surface. It is the time, therefore, to take the purest and most powerful blood purifier.

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