The Dangers of Mining in England.

THE London *Standard* says: "Many interesting particulars as to the effect of recent legislation on the management of mines are to be found in the official volume just issued which gives the reports of the inspectors of mines for the year 1874. The summary of the statistics of all the reports shows that with regard to those undertakings which are subject to the Coal Mines Regulation act there are no accidents or deaths during the year in Ireland. In Great Britain there was an average of one fatal accident amongst every 602 persons employed in and about the mines and one death by accident amongst every 510 persons. It will be observed that a "fatal accident" simply counts as one in these returns, although it may kill several persons. Hence there is a difference in the ratio according as we take the accidents or the deaths. It is also shown that 157,222 tons of mineral were got for each fatal accident and 133,251 tons for each death. In the preceding year (1873) the fatal accidents and the number of deaths from such accidents were more numerous in proportion to the number of persons employed, there being one accident among 526 persons and one death from accident among 479. In proportion to the weight of mineral raised the figures for 1873 showed one accident for 146,867 tons and one death for 133,677 tons. Thus, on the basis of the work done there was an improvement last year as compared with 1873 in the ratio of fatal accidents, but in regard to the actual loss of life the ratio was not quite so good as before, though the difference was so slight as to be scarcely appreciable. It is curious that the fatal accidents from the explosion of fire-damp were precisely the same in number last year as in the year preceding, namely, forty-four. The number of fatal accidents from the breaking of ropes and chains was also the same in the two several years, being eleven in each. In some other instances the two years show almost an exact equality in the number of fatal accidents of a specified character. With regard to the deaths from explosion of fire-damp the figures show a great increase, being 166 for last year as against 160 in the year preceding. But, of course, two or three heavy accidents will greatly aggravate the returns under this head for a single year. The deaths from the falls of the roof or sides of mines show a considerable decrease, being 412 in 1874 as against 491 in 1873. The magnitude of these latter numbers as compared with those under the head of fire-damp shows that the terrible catastrophes which create so great sensation in the public mind are not the most fruitful source of destruction to the life of the collier. Deaths from accidents in the shaft were 154 last year, and 171 the year preceding. The deaths from miscellaneous accidents under ground were 214, as against 221 in 1873. The loss of life from accidents at the surface showed an increase, the deaths from this cause being 109, whereas in 1873 they were 86. Coming to the total there is a slight decrease, the deaths in 1874 being 1,056, as against 1,069 in the year before. The total number of mines was 4,332, employing 538,829. The tons of mineral 'wrought' amounted to 140,713,832, of which 126,590,168 were coal, the remainder being fire-clay, ironstone and shale."

A United States Marshal's Dilemma.

The lines of the revenue officer are not cast in pleasant places anywhere. He is looked upon usually merely as the minion of a despotic power, and his useful officiousness is constantly getting him into trouble. There are grades of misery for the revenue officer, and the very bottom round seems to have been reached lately by one of the class in Virginia. It was only his ingenuity and presence of mind that got him out of purgatory. Near Lynchburg, Va., several women have lately been indicted for illicit distilling, the men engaged in the business contriving to shift the responsibility upon the weaker vessels in the vain hope that the gallantry of the officers would prevent the arrest of the really culpable ones' wives and daughters. One Marshal, unaffected by the claims of sex, arrested a woman and started off with her. He hadn't gone far before he wished his prisoner were a man. Five dreadful miles the woman was carried in a buggy, and at every revolution of the wheels she emitted a shriek to raise the dead. There was no stilling her, patroness of the "still" though she was, and there was no remaining unmoved under that dreadful dispensation of screams. The Marshal, at first apathetic, became first vexed, then nervous, then desperate. Position, reputation, anything might go rather than further endure the company of that terrible woman. A country doctor was met and to him the demoralized official offered five dollars if he would give a certificate that the woman was not in a condition to travel. The doctor promptly and obligingly agreed to the proposition, and the Marshal in a moment set the shrieking woman free in the middle of the road. The shrewd rascal who had relied upon the officer's gallantry had miscalculated, but he had gained his end. Man born of woman cannot endure an unlimited dose of such female vocalism as the Marshal suffered under.—*St. Louis Republican.*

A Story Hard to Credit.

The Cohoes (N. Y.) *Bulletin* says there is residing on Harmony street, Cohoes, a man aged seventy-five years, who has not spoken to his wife in twelve years. He has been married fifty years, has an amiable wife and several children and grandchildren, and considerable property. The old man and his wife lived together happily until about twelve years ago, when one morning the wife came down stairs and saluted her husband in a gentle manner as was her wont to do, but to her astonishment he made no reply. She spoke to him again and again, but always with the same effect, and ever since that July morning in 1863 the husband has never opened his lips to his wife. He always speaks familiarly with the rest of his family and friends, but on no occasion or under any consideration would he speak one word to his wife. He always treats her with gentleness and kindness, always providing for her wants with the most scrupulous care, but not one word can be coaxed out of his lips to refer to his strange way of treating her. His wife and him eat at the same table, walk to church side by side, yet not one word has escaped that man's lips for the past twelve years to that woman. His little grand-daughter lives with him, and through her he knows his wife's wants, and no request of hers is left unheeded. Several friends of the family have tried repeatedly to fathom his strange action, but they found it impossible to do so.

His name is Tice, and he lives in Missouri. He has discovered and announced that the planet Jupiter is the great weather-breeder, the meteorological boss, the celestial Old Probabilities. His theory is that the greatest atmospheric disturbances take place at the equinoxes of this overgrown planet once in twelve terrestial years, and lesser mischief at the equinoxes of other orbs. Look out for bad weather, he adds, with perilous precision, on July 19, Sept. 1 and 22, Oct. 14 and 15, and Nov. 27. All a man needs to do to forecast the weather for a year in advance is to get a piece of smoked glass and sally out and hunt up an equinox.—*Graphic.*

A BOY in Rome, Ga., has begun life in emulation of Hercules. The child is only two years old, and a negro boy acts as his nurse. Last week the nurse left the baby alone in the garden for a short time, and on returning he found the infant prodigy engaged in a vigorous attack upon a large rattlesnake. The baby had a stick, with which he had already given the snake a severe wound, and he was so active in his movements that the snake was cowed and had no chance to coil for a spring.

A PHILADELPHIAN went rowing in a skeleton boat the other day and strapped himself fast for some reason or other. By an accident the boat was overturned and the young man, being unable to extricate himself or right the boat, was drowned.

THE lemon disease will have a big contract on hand when it reaches California, where the fruit weighs fourteen ounces on an average.

Republican Prospects.

We believe that the result of the State elections this fall will disclose a compact, vigorous and successful Republican party. From every quarter there comes the most cheering intelligence. Out of the shadow that came over us in the general elections of last year we see unmistakable evidence of returning light and of noon-day effulgence. The dark cloud of political insanity which since then has seemed to hang ominously over the nation is surely breaking away, and the clear light of political reason is hastening its homeward flight. Not only those who have all along been Republicans, but truthful and honest men everywhere have become conscious of the approach of danger, and that it must be averted. They are fully alive to the tremendous importance of the present campaign in the pivotal States, and they have both the courage and the ability to command success. In Ohio and in Pennsylvania, in Ohio especially, where the fiercest battle must be fought, our friends are marshaling in solid phalanx, with an earnestness and enthusiasm that are auguries of victory in every good cause. The people, who, for various reasons, were sluggish and fretful a year ago, are now awake to the fact that they have some things yet which they hold dear and which they are unwilling to surrender. They well know that the time has come when they must renew in earnest the struggle with their desperate and unscrupulous foe; that the elections in October and November next are something more than ordinary skirmishes—that they are battles for position in the great conflict next year for the possession of the National Government; and they do not propose to permit the occasion to pass without administering to their enemy such a rebuke as their audacity and hypocrisy deserve. It has not yet become quite clear to their minds that it will be safe to trust well-known and avowed enemies with all that is most sacred in life; to drive from the grand old ship the crew that have remained steadfast in the performance of their trust, through storms and perils, through sorest trials and fiercest assaults, that pirates may plunder and destroy her. Those who in all seasons have stood firm as a rock amid the sea must not be supplanted by those who trim to every passing breeze, steadfast in nothing but an eager desire to seize the spoils.

That the present omens are auspicious, need not be surprising. Last year, for various reasons, which no man could foresee and no Government prevent, the people were sullen and supine, and showed their discontent by voting down their friends and voting up their enemies, who have either betrayed them or will do so at the first opportunity. There was then no great national peril; but that little experiment has fully satisfied their prurient curiosity. The friends of good government, of the maxims and tenets of the Republican party, are now, as they have been since 1860, in the majority; and it is absurd and illogical to suppose that in a crisis they would surrender all the ground they have fairly, yet so dearly, won. Experimenting with and trusting the Democratic party as now led, and as it is now comporting itself everywhere, would be a folly of which we trust the nation will never be guilty. To believe that, in the light of experience, and under the sober teachings of history, this people could so far forget their duty to themselves and their country as to deliberately reverse all their glorious history and set the seal of idiocy upon all their grandest achievements by ushering into power a combination of men whose inspiration and hope are in the degradation and betrayal of the nation would be unworthy an American citizen, and too absurd to find a lodgment in any honest heart. It takes long years of tyranny and oppression to reduce a great people to a state of indifference and to cause them to look without concern and without dismay upon their ignominy and their shame. It was only after long centuries of shameless lawlessness and tyranny that the once great Roman Empire could be sold at auction to the highest bidder; and the day is yet distant when this people will so forget their duty and their honor as to set their seal of condemnation upon all their achievements.

This then is the time for all good citizens to stand shoulder to shoulder; and we believe that thousands who have not yet affiliated with the Republican party, and thousands more who, in 1872, followed an old and trusted leader into a crooked path whose termination would be nowhere else than in the present so-called Democratic party, will now be found in our ranks. And they are welcome! Their hearts are with us, and let them come. The party has yet a bright future before it and it cannot afford to quarrel with its friends over the past. It has freely used the scalpel and the broad-ax in severing from itself the putrid excrescences and deformities which are incident to human government, and it is now ready and equipped for the campaign.—*Republic Magazine.*

Democratic Rule—A Fair Comparison.

New York city has been through a long series of years the stronghold of Democracy. From time to time her overburdened tax-payers have struggled to free themselves from the clutches of a party that is gradually drawing them toward bankruptcy. But the hordes of ignorance and vice have defeated them, and to-day intelligence and respectability are powerless to arrest the downward tendency of the city under Democratic control. The following table shows how rapidly the city debt is increasing:

Debt Jan. 1, 1869	$32,000,000
Debt Jan. 1, 1870	65,000,000
Debt Jan. 1, 1871	91,000,000
Debt Jan. 1, 1872	98,000,000
Debt Jan. 1, 1873	1 8,000,000
Debt Jan. 1, 1874	130,000,000
Debt Jan. 1, 1875	139,000,000

The New York *Herald* gives the debt of the city June 30, 1875, as $142,000,000 and says that to this amount may be fairly added about $20,000,000 of claims pending, thus making the actual debt of the city about $162,000,000.

The following table shows the increase in the tax levy since 1865:

Tax-levy in 1865	$17,000,000
Tax-levy in 1866	16,000,000
Tax-levy in 1867	21,000,000
Tax-levy in 1868	23,000,000
Tax-levy in 1869	21,000,000
Tax-levy in 1870	23,000,000
Tax-levy in 1871	24,000,000
Tax-levy in 1872	37,000,000
Tax-levy in 1873	28,000,000
Tax-levy in 1874	32,000,000
Tax-levy in 1875	34,000,000

The *Herald*, in speaking of city expenses, puts the appropriation for the ensuing year at $38,000,000. If any of our readers believe that this system of Democratic financiering would be a blessing if applied to the nation, we beg them to figure out the value of this blessing for four years of Democratic control.

By its financial management Democracy has increased the debt of New York city about $108,000,000 in seven years. During the same period, under Republican management, the debt of the nation has been reduced about $500,000,000.

The tax-levy in New York city shows an increase of $17,000,000 over 1865, while the tax-levy of the nation shows a decrease of at least $200,000,000.

Under Democratic rule the expenses of New York city have steadily increased. Under Republican rule the expenses of the nation have gradually decreased. The one has been adding to the burdens of the people, the other has been making them lighter yearly. The one is tending toward bankruptcy, the other toward national wealth and prosperity.

Who can hesitate in their choice of parties? Who can willingly accept Democracy as a safe administrator of national affairs? Who can give up the party that has been tried and found true for the party that has proven false to every trust, and whose record in a single city where it has had undisputed sway proves it to be a party of financial imbecility?

☞ The Cincinnati *Commercial* closes a long article reviewing the political history of Ohio during the past two years with this paragraph: "We come, therefore, to the conclusion a republican victory in Ohio this time is a certainty, and that the majority for Hayes will be handsome and emphatic, larger than he received on former occasions, and sufficient to pronounce the doom in the nation forever of the sort of Democracy that is now asserting itself in this State."

FACTS AND FIGURES.

THE Kansas University has a natural history department with a museum containing 20,000 specimens of animal life, among them 1,600 species of Kansas insects and 300 of Kansas birds.

AT Middletown, Del., an immense peach refrigerator is to be built, capable of holding 200,000 baskets of fruit, which the projector guarantees to keep by a peculiar freezing process for six months.

THE school lands of Texas amount to over 100,000,000 acres, the largest endowment for free-school purposes in the world, and yet it appears that most of the public schools have been suspended "for want of means to carry them on."

OWING to light rains in May, the hay crop of Connecticut, annually valued at about $15,000,000, will be only about two-thirds as large as that of last year; the yield in the valleys is about as large as usual, but falls off in the hill counties.

SINCE Yale and Harvard have shown themselves unable to cope with Cornell and Columbia, they perhaps intend to try another New York college next year. It is rumored that they have challenged the undergraduates of Vassar to a friendly contest.—*Cincinnati Commercial*

DURING the past few months the Agricultural Department at Washington has distributed 15,000 bushels of imported oats and the same quantity of wheat. Between a million and a half and two million bags of seeds—containing corn, beets, carrots, onions, melons, pumpkins, etc.—have been distributed through every State and Territory of our vast country.

THE Pottsville (Pa.) *Miners' Journal* of the 16th of July says: "The quantity of coal sent from this region the last week was by rail 98,174 tons—canal, 20,633 tons; for the week 119,807 tons, against 4,720 for the corresponding week last year. Increase, 114,087 tons. The supply sent from all the regions for the week was, anthracite, 430,431 tons; bituminous, 72,452 tons; for the week, 502,893 tons, against 514,530 tons for the corresponding week last year. Decrease, 11,637 tons. The supply sent from all the regions so far this season foots up 8,965,157 tons, against 12,472,621 tons to the same period last year. Decrease, 3,497,464 tons. The decrease in anthracite is 3,610,621 tons."

THE New York *Tribune* gives the cost of a first-class funeral in that city, as follows: One rosewood coffin, lined with velvet, $300; one coffin-plate (name and all the virtues engraved gratis), $12; eight full extension silver-plated handles, $30; one coffin-box to protect coffin, $8; one ice-box (second-hand), $15; one shroud, $25; one hearse, $10; ten coaches to Greenwood, $70; eight pairs gloves to pall-bearers, $20; eight scarfs for pall-bearers and one for the door, $10; one undertaker's fees for personal attendance, $25; four porters to carry out coffin, $6; one sexton at church, $15; one organist and choir, $40; flowers, $100; one lot in Greenwood, $600; one grave-digger, $5; one monument, home manufacture, of Quincy granite, $900. Total, $2,191.

REPORTS recently made by Third-Assistant Postmaster-General Barber show that 107,616,000 postal cards were issued during the fiscal year which ended June 30 last, against 91,079,000 issued for the year which ended June 30, 1874. The increase is equivalent to about 18 1-16 per cent., which shows that the postal cards are growing in popular favor as a means of intercommunication. The value of the issue of ordinary postage-stamps during the year which ended June 30, 1875, was $18,271,479, an increase of $996,237 over the previous year; of newspaper and periodical postage stamps, $815,902.47; of ordinary stamped envelopes and wrappers, $4,124,477.34, an increase of $242,284.58; of postal cards, $1,076,160; of total issues for sale to the public, $24,288,018.81, an increase of $2,219,794.05 over the fiscal year ended June 30, 1874. The sale of official postage stamps for the fiscal year amounted to $834,970.25, a decrease of $580,874.95 since June 30, 1874; official stamped envelopes, $354,522.18, an increase of $1,065.52 over the year 1874.

The Intelligence of Ants.

M. AUGUSTE FOREL, a gentleman who spends his life in studying ants and their habits, and who tells some astounding tales about them, has just received the Thore prize from the Paris Academy of Sciences. In his report upon these insects M. Forel first examines the different species and their peculiarities and treats of their distinctive features as regards their capabilities for labor or war. He then treats them anatomically, and then speaks of their wonderful instincts. If all that he says be true the word instinct would be too feeble by half, and all should believe in the intelligence of ants. Among other things M. Forel says: "They render each other mutual services; when an ant has got besmeared with mud its companions set about cleaning it most methodically. M. Forel had, by way of experiment, dirtied and deformed some of the silken cocoons that contain the ant's nymphs; on the following day he found them all perfectly clean, dressed and brought in shape again. What has been said by Huber as to the precision with which an expeditionary column of Amazones (*polyergus rufescens*) proceeds on its march is only partially true, for when the insects are laden with heavy cocoons they cannot mind any order, but go on as they can. Under such circumstances many lose their way, but when they get into the right track again they evince the greatest self-confidence by their steady step; they consequently are endowed with memory. The battles of ants have been often described, but even here M. Forel has something new to say. Some species are timid and cowardly, and always seek safety in flight; others are exceedingly brave and seem to enjoy a fight above all things. But then there are others whose courage requires exciting; they hesitate at first, but gradually become bolder, and ultimately display foolhardiness—in a paroxysm of rage they will let themselves be uselessly killed. When an ant thus loses its self-command its companions will try and keep it back by its feet until it has returned to its senses. The architecture of the nests has received much attention from the author, and he shows that the same species will build in different ways. The locality, the season, the extent of the population—all these circumstances require special arrangements. The ants will quarrel among each other about constructions that are not equally convenient to all. When ants find a habitation unoccupied, or have driven the inmates from it, they will retain the old arrangements, making only slight improvements in them."

Beauty.

"IS A decidedly plain face the greatest misfortune that can befall a woman?"

No, no—a thousand times no!

Inasmuch as beauty springs from a sense of fitness, and the plainest face, if it perfectly express the person, becomes beautiful to all who love that person.

We would not for a moment be supposed to undervalue a handsome face; it is a great pleasure to those who have it and to those who see it; but we say to the majority of people who have perhaps but one good feature in their faces, that one good feature is quite enough to carry you comfortably through life.

One knows that a single sense can be trained to such perfection that if the other four are wanting the mind will express itself, and find communion with its fellow-creatures through that one sense. Remember Dickens' touching account of the American girl who, though blind, deaf and dumb, learnt so much through her exquisite sense of touch. And it is the same with human features. There never lived on this earth a beautiful human soul that did not make its power to be felt through some bodily feature, plain even to grotesqueness though the face may appear, and keeping its owner therefore from the first flush of conquest; yet, as you learn to know her, it is marvelous how the face becomes changed to you. There is perhaps only one feature that is good, but you look at that one good feature till you see nothing but it. You can imagine what the face might be if it were all in keeping with that one feature; and, moreover, you feel what it will be when the distorting hazards of time are passed, and all the face has grown into harmony with its best feature; nay, we may go farther still, and say that in many plain faces there is a prophecy that has far more power of winning hearts than is to be found in the prettiest set of chiseled features, unless there shines through them an earnest spirit or a deeply loving heart.

A merely pretty face is in the long run quite as much a trouble as a gain. The pretty woman must have power to keep and deepen the pleasure her face gives or she will be the victim of disappointment; whereas the plain woman expects nothing from her poor face, and is much gratified when she finds that somehow it has a kind of power she hardly understands; and do not we all know plenty of dear old ugly faces that we would not lose from our daily surroundings—nay, that we would not alter if we could; each wrinkle has its history, and the faces just as they are are what we love. The human face is the guest-chamber of the soul, and according to its attractiveness our guests will be many or few. The most attractive faces are generally those with some imperfection. On a perfectly beautiful face we gaze with untroubled enjoyment; but the face that has one or two good features and several faults we are always interested in imagining perfect, in wondering why such splendid eyes should be found with so poor a mouth, or how that funny little nose should stand between the finely-cut upper lip and beautiful brow of a face we dearly love in spite of its nose. We grow strangely interested in a face we are always doctoring; we know the original type must have been perfect, we know that it shall be perfected hereafter, and we seek for that which is hidden, feeling more drawn to the face that perplexes us than to that whose beauty we see at once, without any trouble at all; therefore, I maintain that instead of being the greatest misfortune of a woman to have a plain face it is positively none at all if she is not afraid of her face. If she will be a coward and walk about in fear that her face has nothing pleasant to show, the face grows offended at the distrust and becomes the unpleasant thing one dreads; but if she will only have faith in her face, whatever it may be, it will yield her royal service; let her remember that it is "the human face divine," and therefore endowed with power to give and to receive all that her heart desires. Let her think not only of herself, but of the whole human race to which she belongs, whose beauty is made up of infinite variety, and for the perfection of which her special characteristics are as necessary as are those of her fairer sisters.—*Monthly Packet.*

How to Make Ice-Cream.

I wonder if all your readers know how little trouble it is to make ice-cream for dessert through the summer. It used to be a great bugbear to me. I never shall forget our first experience in that way.

We found some of our neighbors were luxuriating in ice-cream to an extent that roused all our ambition; so we bought a freezer, and here let me add that it was one that would hold six quarts, and our neighbor's only held three; and they borrow ours periodically, because theirs does not hold enough when they have company. Important deduction—a large one will hold just as little as you wish to make, and a small one will not hold as much as you would sometimes like. Then we, viz.: the Pater, the Mater (myself), the "help," and all the children, went at the important task of freezing the custard, for which I give a favorite recipe below.

Our neighbors told us they pounded the ice in a bag with an ax. So behold us—the Pater with a long kitchen apron on, and a bran-new bag (or a new bran bag, just as you like), with a big piece of ice in it, out on the stone door-step of the kitchen, applying the broad-side of an ax vigorously, with the perspiration pouring from every pore; myself standing with the directions which came with the freezer in one hand, and a spoon and dish of salt in the other; the "help," armed with the handle for turning the freezer, waiting for the ice and salt, and looking very *cranky;* the small fry running to the door, back to the freezer, and dancing round generally, smacking their lips in anticipation of the coming treat. At last the ice was pounded and put in the freezer, and Bridget's part of the operation commenced. I spooned in the salt, but there was a hitch somewhere—the cylinder would not turn, and Bridget applied a little muscle, and off came the cover. Then we readjusted it, and I took hold and gave a few turns; stick number two took place, and a little more strength brought the cover off again. Then the head of the family tried it; I bringing my muscle to bear on the cover meanwhile. But the result of it was that the ice had all to be taken out and pounded finer, which was a moist operation, and by the time we had finished our clothes and the newly-painted kitchen floor were all bespattered with brine.

The cost of that ice-cream may be summed up as follows: 1st—The freezer; 2d—Bag ruined entirely; 3d—Door stone cracked; 4th—Soiled trousers and dress; 5th—Torn calico apron; 6th—Profuse expenditure of strength and vitality; 7th—Some inward maledictions.

But experience has taught us how to do the thing sensibly and easily. We got a strong box, about two or three feet square, nailed it on a piece of board, so as to make the bottom double for strength. Then a piece of scantling smoothed off at the top with a drawing-knife, so as to be easily held as a pounder. These things being provided, we take our ice and freezer into the cellar, where it is cool and out of the way, put our ice into the box, pound it until it is nearly the size of marbles; then take a shovel and fill in about the cylinder with alternate layers of ice and salt—either coarse or fine salt will answer; I generally use that in which my winter eggs were packed. Two persons can do it quicker and more easily, one turning while the other puts in the ice and salt. Then when it is nicely started and a little extra ice pounded to fill up with as the other melts, one of the workers can be dismissed. It takes from twenty minutes to half an hour to accomplish the desired end with one freezer. When it is so stiff we cannot turn it any longer we take off the cover of the cylinder and take out the "agitator," stir it down smoothly and cover it tightly again. Then we draw off the water, fill it up with ice and salt, and set it away in a tub with pieces of old carpet thrown over it until we wish to use it.

Very little time is required, and we have reduced it to such a system that we do not dread it, and indulge at least once or twice a week through the summer in this luxury.

I forgot to add that for the convenience of drawing off the water before putting it away in the tub we bored a small auger hole in the side of the freezer very near the bottom and put a cork in it; so we do not have to tip the freezer, and we find it a nice arrangement.

Recipe for the Custard.—Two quarts of milk, four tablespoons of corn-starch; boil until well cooked. One quart of cream—put it on ice until well chilled; beat it with an egg-beater to a froth. Beat the whites of four eggs to a froth and stir them into the cream and then the whole into the boiled milk. Stir one and a quarter pounds of white sugar into the milk while it is heating; then strain it before the eggs and cream are added. When cool, flavor and freeze.—*American Grocer.*

The Proper Planting of Trees.

Driving along the other day we came across a party setting out shade trees in front of a gentleman's residence. It was a sorry sight. The holes dug were about the diameter of a hat; the trees, meantime, with most of their roots hacked off, were lying in the sun ready to be stuck in these holes as soon as they could be bored through the hard, stony ground. Close by these were rows of trees which must have been set in the same way, as they were all stunted, partly dead, and had not grown six inches since planting, two or three years ago. They were unprotected, too, and many were scarred by ill-treatment, and one or two broken off.

No tree should be planted anywhere within the reach of cattle, horses, etc., without being fully protected against injury. And this is especially the case along highways. There need be no expensive box; it may be made out of rough boards, taking eight narrow strips to a tree, and if strongly done will last for many years. And this protection should be kept there, for, no matter how large trees are, horses can gnaw them and vehicles may run against them.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

USEFUL AND SUGGESTIVE.

WATER COOKIES.—Three cupfuls of sugar, one cupful of butter, one cupful of water, one egg, one teaspoonful of soda and one nutmeg.

A HOME without flowers is a comparative desert, and now, when the rarest and most beautiful specimens may be obtained with great facility and a trifling cost, all who fail to have a supply are inexcusable. —*Leigh Hunt.*

THE following is a good recipe which will give saddles and bridles a good polish, and be entirely free from all stickiness: The white of three eggs evaporated till the substance left resembles the common gum, dissolved in a pint of gin, and put into a common wine bottle, and filled up with water.—*Exchange.*

CALF'S LIVER.—One pound of calf's liver, sweet marjoram, clove, pepper, salt, one teacup of cream. Put the liver with just enough water to cover it in the saucepan. When it is tender bruise it with a wooden spoon. Add the seasoning and cream. Mix thoroughly. Wet a mold and put the mixture in it. To be eaten cold.

ACCORDING to the *English Mechanic* cast-iron may be best preserved from rust "by heating it till if touched with fat it causes it to frizzle," and then plunging it into a vat of mixed oil and grease. It is said that "the oleaginous matter actually penetrates the pores, and prevents oxidation for a very long time, while it does not prevent painting, if desirable, afterward."

COLD TOMATO SAUCE.—Half a peck of ripe tomatoes, peeled and drained through a colander twenty-four hours, then made fine. Put to them one small teacupful of salt, one full cupful of sugar, one cupful of white mustard-seed, one gill of nasturtium seed, four tablespoonfuls of horse-radish, two dozen stalks of celery chopped up fine, or half an ounce of celery-seed, two tablespoonfuls of ground black pepper, one quart of good vinegar. It must not be boiled. Stir well and bottle for use. This sauce can be used as soon as made.

A MOST brilliant light has been produced by a London chemist by a very simple method. He finds that, when common saltpeter or nitrate of potassium is heated to a temperature somewhat beyond the point of fusion in a hard glass tube or porcelain capsule mounted over a spirit lamp, and small pieces of sulphur are then successively introduced, a deflagration ensues, accompanied by the emission of an intensely powerful white light, which is maintained as long as any of the sulphur remains floating as a molten globule in the fluid nitrate. The cost of this light is, of course, very trifling, both ingredients being exceedingly cheap. Thus, one ounce of niter melted and fed with sulphur at the rate of eight or ten grains at a time will keep up a brilliant light for about ten minutes at the expense for materials of one cent.

PINE-APPLE SHORT-CAKE.—A couple of hours before bringing the cake on the table take a very ripe, finely-flavored pine-apple, peel it, cut as thin as wafers, and sprinkle sugar over it liberally; then cover it close. For the short-cake take sufficient flour for one pie-dish, of butter the size of a small egg, a tablespoonful or two of sugar, the yolk of an egg, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, a very little salt, and milk enough to make a very soft dough. Do not knead the dough, but just barely mix it, and press it into the pie-plate. The baking powder and butter, sugar and salt should be rubbed well through the flour, and the other ingredients then quickly added. When time to serve, split the cake, spread the prepared pine-apple between the layers, and serve with nothing but sugar and sweet cream. N. B.—Do not butter the cake; it would destroy the delicate flavor.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Corn-Raising.

Corn is, by common consent, the most valuable grain raised on this continent—and, probably, in the world; and corn-growing in the West is a part of every farmer's business. A Western farmer's specialty may be wheat, or tobacco, or cattle, or wool, or pork, or broom-corn, or castor beans, or fruit; but whatever it is, raising a crop of corn is an indispensable appendage to it. He must have corn for his own use, if not to sell. It is the cheapest of all stock-feed, and its convertibility into so many useful forms increases its homely value. It can be turned into cattle, horses, mules, hogs, poultry and spirits; and it is considered the most easily raised of all crops—one breaking up, one planting and four plowings being the regulation allowance of work for an average corn crop.

And yet it may be questioned whether Western farmers really understand corn-growing. This is an audacious statement, we know, and the Missouri Granger who has been raising the grain off and on for forty years will, when he reads it, wonder where these city newspapers have learned more about his business than he knows. If there is one thing every old farmer flatters himself he knows all about it is how to raise corn; and to have his knowledge questioned at this time of life is enough to cause his honest face to flush with anger. But let us go to the record and see what the facts are. The amount of corn raised in this country is enormous; in 1870 it was 761,000,000 bushels, and five years before, in 1865, it was estimated at 932,000,000 bushels—an average of over 26 bushels to every soul in the land. Of this Illinois produced the largest portion, 130,000,000 bushels; Iowa came next with 69,000,000 bushels, and Missouri next to Iowa with 66,000,000 bushels. These figures show how important the crop is—how easily it is raised and what immense quantities of it are consumed. But statistics carefully collected by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, from the year 1865 to the year 1873, force the conviction that the average yield per acre, compared with the maximum yields secured by careful cultivators, is very low—not more than one-fourth what it might be. In Maryland the average is 23 bushels per acre; in Virginia it is 22 bushels; in Pennsylvania it is 32 bushels; in Ohio it is 37 bushels, and for the United States the average is 24 bushels. The very highest average for any one State is 39 bushels, for Kansas. How insufficient these averages are may be judged when it is stated that there are numerous well-attested cases in which yields of 70 to 170 bushels, and even more, of shelled corn have been obtained from one acre of ground. In 1873 the Carroll County (Md.) Agricultural Society offered a premium of $100 for the largest amount of corn raised on an acre, and it was taken by Mr. J. Brown, of Baltimore County, who produced 120½ bushels of shelled grain and 9,880 pounds of good fodder on the limited area. The ground was a timothy meadow, broken deep, subsoiled and lightly spread with stable manure; it was then treated to an application of 500 pounds of bone-dust sown broad-cast, and afterward harrowed and rolled. It was marked off in furrows three and a half feet apart and a compost of hog manure, salt and gypsum sprinkled in the furrows; the grain was planted six inches apart on the 10th of May. After coming up it was carefully harrowed several times and afterward plowed with a shovel plow. The result was as we have stated.

In 1873 a Mr. Hudson raised on one acre of ground on the "Oakridge Farm" in Amherst County, Va., 170 bushels of white corn, the fact being attested by Mr. Fortune, a notary of the county. A copy of the *Virginia Farmers' Register*, printed by Edmund Ruffin, at Petersburg, thirty-five years ago, has this statement: "Mr. Meggison, of Albemarle County, was reported by the county society to have raised 110 bushels of sound shelled corn on one measured acre of ground, being river bottom and thoroughly cultivated; a large white sort of corn." In the Department of Agriculture report for 1868 there is an authenticated statement that Joseph Goodrich and Luther Page of Worcester, Mass., each raised 111 bushels of shelled corn on one acre of ground; and the same report gives instances in Ohio where 99 and 101 bushels per acre were raised. The Rockbridge County (Va.) society, at its meeting in 1871, gave a detailed statement of the results of competition for the premium for the largest yield of corn: J. D. H. Ross raised on one acre 76 bushels, and on five acres 253 bushels; A. L. Nelson raised 91 bushels on one acre, and 317 bushels on five acres; and G. W. Pettigrew raised 97 bushels on one acre, and 400 bushels on five acres. The treatment in each case consisted of deep plowing from ten to fourteen inches, and the application of home-made compost, a handful to every three hills of corn. At the meeting of the South Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical Society in 1869 the results of two interesting experiments made by John W. Parker were reported. He took a piece of swamp ground, two acres in extent, and raised corn on it two years in succession; it was thoroughly drained, subsoiled, heavily manured from the cow-yard, and the hills additionally fertilized with guano, salt and plaster at the rate of 200 pounds to the acre; the grain was planted in drills, ten inches apart, and thoroughly cultivated, one feature being the irrigation of the field by turning on it a stream of water so as to flow between the furrows. The first year the yield was 147 bushels per acre, and the next it was 200 bushels per acre.

It will be said, perhaps, that this is scientific farming; but, in reply, it may be asked whether it is wise to sneer at any farming as scientific that yields two to three average crops of corn from an acre of ground, in one season. Western farmers cannot apply guano and plaster to their ground but they can break it up deep, roll and harrow it carefully before, and again after, planting, and then cultivate it thoroughly while growing; and this is the secret of at least half the success in the experiments noted. Experience demonstrates that the difference in a crop of corn between careless and thorough cultivation is one-half, the same piece of ground yielding twice as much under good treatment as under careless treatment; and there is little doubt that the 66,000,000 bushels of corn annually grown in Missouri could be raised on half the area and with less cost if a more effective method of cultivation were practiced.—*St. Louis Republican.*

Cause of Trichinæ in Pork.

SOME new cases of deaths due to the eating of pork infested with *trichinæ* quoted in Western journals should be the means of directing public attention anew to the horrible disease of swine called *trichinosis*, and to the fact that when once the parasite attacks a human being the result is prolonged suffering and, in a multiplicity of instances, death. The worm existing in the pork literally bores its way out of the stomach and into the muscles. It has lately been found that swine may become infested with trichinæ through eating carrion, or even decayed vegetable substances. This is a point worth consideration by farmers who incline to the belief that dead chickens, putrid swill, or any other filth about the place is legitimate food for pigs. The animals are not dainty in their tastes, and will lunch off their dead relatives with infinite gusto; but it is the poorest economy to permit hogs to assume the role of scavenger. No milk-dealer will allow his cows to eat garlic if he can help it, though the brutes are crazily fond of the odoriferous weed; and there is certainly more reason for the farmer to see that his porkers have no access to unclean food. In the one case, if precaution be neglected the taste of the milk is affected; in the other the entire flesh is rendered poisonous and dangerous food.—*Scientific American.*

"I TELL you, brethren and sisters, there's bliss in babies," shouted Rev. Dr. B. I. Ives, in his great sermon on the North Hector (N. Y.) camp-meeting ground, on a recent Sunday; whereat there came up a thundering response of "Amen" from the faithful all through the immense audience. But could the babies have spoken, would they not have said: "Not, dear doctor, so much 'bliss *in* babies' as bliss-ters *on* them?"

—To the question of how to keep teachers bright an educated contemporary answers: "The isolated teacher becomes a fossil. He needs to come in contact with men of progress. Association, mental conflict, observation, comparison—these are the conditions of professional growth. Each teacher needs the experience of all teachers."

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Asthma and Catarrh.—See D. Langell's adv't.

At this season of the year farm horses are obliged to work very hard, and it is not only right and just, but for the pecuniary interest of their owners, to see that they are well fed. And it seems to me that they ought not only to have good food and plenty of it, but also that it should be given to them wet. I believe a great many horses are permanently injured by being kept in the summer when they work upon dry hay and meal. Just *what* injury will result from this course of feeding cannot certainly be foretold. Whether it will take the form of derangements of the digestive organs or affections of the throat and lungs will depend somewhat upon the natural tendencies of the animals, and the quality and condition of the food which they receive. But injury of some kind will be very likely to result. It is but little trouble to wet the food, and I am confident that it is better and safer than it is to feed it dry. For a horse that is at work most of the time I think "cut feed" is the best which can be given. But if the hay is not cut it pays to throw on a little water. Feeding dry meal has been highly recommended, and I have tried it faithfully, but am not satisfied with the result; had rather put the meal in a pail and mix it with water.—*Live Stock Journal.*

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