

UTILITY.

Pruning Fruit Trees—Experiments in Feeding Swine.

Fruit Trees.

Pruning should now be completed as quickly as possible, says a writer in *The Gardener*, as the sap is rapidly rising, and bleeding will take place if the operation is longer deferred. Vines suffer more in this respect than most things, except walnuts, which it is best to leave till they have foliage on them; they may be thinned out or partly headed back with safety. If vines are cut now, it is advisable to touch the parts with styptic, which stops the pores and prevents loss of strength. Apples in orchards are generally left pretty much to themselves, which is a great mistake, as when allowed to get thick with wood it is impossible for them to produce fine fruit; they may and generally do bear profusely, but the apples are small and poor in color. In order to expose them to sunshine all branches should be removed that are misplaced or crossing others, as well as any that are cawked. If the latter is caused by blight, as is generally the case, coat the bark with lime, which may be effected by using it fresh and hot, as a wash, pumped on by the aid of a garden engine, which will throw it in a regular stream, smother the insects, and make the trees healthy and clean, as the lime will kill and divest them of all moss and lichen, however bad they may be in that respect. The same remarks apply to plums and damsons, and, independent of freeing them from moss, it is always advisable to give them a liming to prevent the buds being eaten by birds. Plums, like apples, are greatly benefited by judicious thinning, and the object to be aimed at is to have the branches regular and well balanced all over the head. Those on walls that are spurred should be kept as close in as possible, and the same with cherries, apricots, and pears, which every year should have some of the longest spurs reduced, as there is generally more than enough of blossom buds, and the great point is to have these as near the wall as it is possible to get them; if not, their flowers get injured by cold winds and frosts.

Morello cherries bear on the young shoots, but it is useless having these thick, and the same with peaches and nectarines, the proper distance apart for which is from four to six inches, laid in all over the trees. In pruning these, attention should be directed to keeping them well furnished near the base. In the management of peaches and nectarines much depends on the summer disbudding and keeping the foliage free from insects. Figs need but little pruning. The point with them is to get them to bear freely in order to restrict growth by limiting their root run. This is best done by concreting and bricking them in, or planting in the hardest and poorest of soils in which there is a good admixture of chalk, as then they make very short-jointed shoots that become well ripened and studded with fruit. If pruned at all it should be more in the way of thinning than anything else, so as to let in the full light and sun to consolidate the pithy growth which they make; they will then endure sharp frosts. Gooseberries, when wanted for picking green, may be left pretty thick, as then the bushes yield more fruit, but if required for dessert, the shoots should not be nearer than six inches, and left regular over the bush. Red and white currants ought to have their branches from six inches to nine inches apart, and be spurred in close, and the leading shoots shortened to about three inches, but black currants bear from the young wood, and only need thinning. Raspberries should have their canes reduced to from three to five, according to their strength, and shortened to about a yard, a height at which they are more manageable than higher. Half their heads may be bent over from each stool and tied at the points, when they will stand fairly stiff without any stakes. Another way of managing raspberries is to plant or twist the canes up by interlacing them from bottom to top, and if then tied they will support each other. Double-bearing or autumn-fruiting kinds should be cut quite down to the ground, as a summer crop from them when the others are in is of no value, and it only helps to exhaust them. Forking or digging the ground among raspberries is about the worst thing that can be done for them, as it disturbs and destroys many of their roots, which a good mulching of half-rotten manure fosters and encourages to the great benefit of the plants they are feeding. Instead of disturbing the soil, it is far better to at once spread the manure and leave it on, as not only does it act in the way referred to, but it keeps out drought, and thus assists in producing fine fruit.

Feeding Swine.

The six pigs selected were of one litter, three-quarters Berkshire, and weighed February 2, 1881, 437 1/2 pounds. They were given sweet skim milk and shelled corn three times each day. In this case no record of the quantity of food consumed was made. They were placed in a warm pen and given dry bedding every other day. Care was used not to overfeed. On February 26 they weighed 613 pounds, which is an average gain of 29.2 pounds for each pig for 24 days. It was very evident, judging from the appetite, that the above growth could have been kept up for several months.

About the same time I conducted an experiment, keeping an accurate record of the quantity of corn consumed by hogs, averaging at the beginning 21 1/2 pounds. At the expiration of 12 days they had consumed 23 bushels and 47 pounds of shelled corn. The gain during this time was 303 pounds, or an average of 15.1 pounds for each hog for 12 days. This is an average of 12.67 pounds of pork per bushel of dry corn. In this case it was evident that the above gain could not have been kept up for any great length of time.

No scientific comparison between these experiments can be made, and yet, judging of effects on the constitution of these hogs, I am convinced that it is impossible to continue feeding

dry corn and water for any great length of time and make as much money as was made during the time the above experiment was conducted. When pork is worth say four cents, I am of the opinion we should add at least ten cents per 100 pounds to the real value of skim milk for feeding swine. At present I have about 320 pounds of skim milk per day for thirty-five shoats weighing 110 to 120 pounds. When weather is warm I dilute this with about two to four pails of water and add twenty to forty pounds heavy shorts.—*J. N. Muncey, in National Stockman.*

Farm and Garden.

England will spend \$10,000,000 for American apples this year.

First class cows can be raised cheaper than they can be purchased. In fact it is the only way to secure a prime herd.

A New York horticultural society recommends putting a teaspoonful of sulphur about the roots of the cabbage plants when set, as a remedy for club foot.

At the New York Experiment Station a Jersey cow refused for thirty-six hours to eat stale brewers' grains. This is good enough evidence that her "head was level."

It is found by experiment that while the different forms of commercial potash increase the crop of potatoes they impair the quality, making the tubers watery and spongy.

A couple of ounces of carbolic acid to three quarts of water sprinkled in the poultry house from a small watering pot, once or twice a month, will destroy lice and other parasites.

President Lyon, speaking of the peach yellows, says: "Wherever the disease attacks the extremity of the longest limbs, the tree is doomed, and the only safe way is to destroy it."

Light, friable soil should be rolled before putting in the seed and afterward. Nothing is better for the garden than well rotted stable manure. Hog manure proves detrimental to cabbage.

Sheep should have their feet trimmed twice a year, says an exchange. If they are not trimmed, the hoof curls under at the edges and retains a mass of filth and dirt, which is apt to cause footrot.

Galvanized wire netting can now be obtained for one cent per square foot, and as it is more easily converted into fence than is lumber, and is at the same time more durable, more of it is being used this year for poultry yards than ever before.

Good cows are always in demand, but fresh cows always command higher prices from the first of January to the first of May, than at any other season, and it is well to so manage your herd that the heifers and cows which you may have for sale will calve within this time.

The *American Cultivator* says: "It is scarcely possible for grain to stool much on very poor soil. We can get but few heads from a seed, and these need, therefore, to be sown more thickly to make a crop than on land where a large number of heads may be expected from a single plant."

A veteran sheep-breeder in western Massachusetts thinks the remedy for the disease in sheep known as grub in the head, is plenty of grub in the stomach. He thinks healthy sheep have maggots in the head, and when not properly cared for, the grub gets the better of them, and the result is death.

It is estimated that fully fifteen million gallons of amber cane syrup were made in 1884. Of this a very small proportion went on the market. Probably three-fourths was made for farmers who grow small patches of cane and had it manufactured into syrup for themselves and neighbors.

Beets and turnips raised by phosphate are not disfigured by a growth of coarse, straggling roots, which so much affect their market value, but are smooth and attractive in appearance. Superphosphate of lime increases the yield of potatoes, with proper cultivation, and the tubers are rarely, if ever, affected by the scab.

A correspondent of *The New York Tribune* says sour land is not indicated by a growth of sorrel, but by coarse herbage or unhealthy looking moss on the surface. Draining is the best cure for sour land, and when this is done, a dressing of lime will help to decompose the coarse vegetable matter and bring the soil to a fertile state.

In breaking the fresh heifers to milk, the farmer does well to attend to it himself, and use the utmost gentleness and kindness towards the timid and oftentimes nervous brute. Viciousness, which is sometimes exhibited at this time, is almost always the product of fear either for herself or offspring, and can be overcome by gentleness.

A correspondent of *The Country Gentleman* says that in Ohio at present it would have paid farmers \$1 per bushel for all the corn fed had they fed their sheep early and made them fat for the winter market. He says he has found by experience and observation that it is never a good plan to sell stock of any kind when it is unusually low.

The *American Cultivator* says that in planting apple seeds it is important to get a vigorous growth the first year, as on that the number of roots to be grafted depends. The seeds should be planted early on well-manured ground and as free from weeds as possible. The young plants require nearly as close care and hand-weeping as onions.

Sheep should not be housed in large numbers under the same roof, says the *American Sheep Breeder*. The breath of so many together poisons the air, and renders it noxious to breathe. A practical shepherd estimates that not more than fifty should be stabled under the same roof. It is much better to build several small sheds at convenient points than one large building.

Dr. Voelcker found that the average weight of clover roots on an acre was about three tons, and that this furnished about 100 pounds of available nitrogen, the most stimulating of all manures. This is one reason why a clover sod plowed under is such

good preparation for a wheat crop. When a clover sod does not bring good wheat it is a sign that the soil lacks phosphates.

In new settlements the pioneers invariably select first the high dry land as most valuable. It is less liable to malaria than the swamps, though the worst fever and ague is generally found on sandy soil adjoining wet low lands. After clearing and draining the black swamp soil is almost always found to be most valuable. Its fertility endures the longest under cultivation.

The Ham Sandwich.

The ham sandwich is an institution of comparatively modern times. The Bible speaks of Ham, 'tis true, but not the kind we encounter between the slabs of bread and biscuit of this nineteenth century.

Poets have sung the praises of woman and wine, but until now no writer has extolled the merits of the ham sandwich, or tried to elevate it to that higher sphere where it properly belongs in the esteem of the community.

Where it first lived, moved and had its being, I am unable at this moment to tell, there being no reliable authority upon the subject, but it probably first saw the light of day somewhere in New England, and the man who first conceived the brilliant idea of a ham sandwich, should have his name preserved in the pickle of undying glory, and have a race horse or prairie city named after him to perpetuate his memory.

It has taken a stronghold upon the appetite and affections of its countrymen, and in return the appetite of a grateful nation takes a strong hold upon it—when they cannot get anything better. It is the friend of rich and poor alike—the savior of the poorly-paid clerk, laborer and mechanic, and it is the shrine at which the free-lunch fiend and impecunious sportsman kiss their lips in worship. It is the life and soul of the picnic and surprise party and fishing excursions. It plays an important part in the romance of every man who carries a lunch, and at the gay and festive wake it is always a welcome visitor.

Over the ham sandwich and a glass of beer the aristocrat unbends the knee of dignity and lovingly wipes his nose across the face of his plebeian brother, as in peace and love they discuss the current topics of the day, and I think that with proper training and education it could be made to act as a kind of mediator or Peace Congress in welding warlike nations together in a bond of peace and mutual love.

It long ago took the place of the newspaper in supplying the "long-felt want," and while the patent outside turns up its toes and its nose grows cold in death, the people of this free and glorious country will sing its praises and shout, "long may it wave."

Its immense popularity has caused the demand to exceed the supply. At least I have found it so in all boarding houses at which I have ever lived.

Unscrupulous parties have tried to cast a slur upon its fair name by placing upon the market a base imitation. At the railway restaurant they gave us, as the Simon pure article of the old, original Jacobs stamp, only a plaster Paris biscuit, between the slices of which nestles a thin sliver of common red brick. The attention of our legislators should at once be called to this evil, for if it continues, many of us who may yet be shining lights in society and states prison will die of what the doctors call phthisis psoriasis, (hog Latin for I know not what.)

This is an age of deceit, and fraud stalks abroad throughout the land attired in the seersucker coat and plumed with innocence. Our whisky is diluted with kerosene and fusel oil, our codfish balls are not up to the standard of what a cod-fish ball ought to be, or was in the good old days of General Jackson and cheap rum. In fact nearly every article of bric-a-brac that is swallowed up in the grave of the human stomach is stuffed full of total depravity. But, great heavens! readers, when they descend so low as to fiddle with the purity of that great emblem of American ingenuity, progress and appetite, the ham sandwich, it is time for you and I and every other genuine hog to get up and howl with anguish. It is a direct blow at the most sacred of our institutions, and a slap in the face of advancing civilization, and I am glad that the President has taken into his Cabinet a man who will be keenly alive to the welfare and interests of our "Interior" Department.

The man, who for the sake of gaining a few paltry millions, will deliberately place upon the market such a fraud as the railroad ham sandwich ought to be compelled to eat one—aye, even two of them.

The Bible asserts that it was a stone with which David put Goliath out in the first inning. This proves that the ham sandwich has not been handed down to us as a relic of the dark ages, for had the railroad sandwich then been established, David would never have selected a stone with which to lay the giant out.

Having, I trust, placed it upon the footing where it properly belongs, I modestly make my bow and retire upon my laurels won as its champion whooper-ur.—*George Swartwout in Peck's Sun.*

Dogs at the White House.

Many who came in early noticed three forlorn looking dogs on the front porch, who stood there a while watching the crowd squeezing through the door and then scampered off in different directions. One is the famous "yellow dog" that made his reappearance after four years, just before the inauguration, in company with another hungry specimen, and the third a tall black animal, that looks as if he had seen better days, joined the delegation on the fifth. Since then this trio have lived at the White House—that is to say, they sleep in a hedge of bushes that protect the marble fountain just in front of the house, and apply regularly each night at the kitchen doors down stairs for rations.—*Letter to Philadelphia Times.*

FACT AND FANCY.

A Millfin county, Pennsylvania, man threw up a live toad.

There are several cases of small-pox at Nanaimo, British Columbia.

Washoe county, Nevada, has produced a chicken with three legs.

The Hudson river ice crop will reach 4,000,000 tons this year, the largest ever known.

At the Sitka Indian school there has been a row and most of the pupils left in a body.

Twenty-one marriages are booked for Easter week at one church in Palatka, Fla.

Almonds and strawberries in Napa valley, Cal., show signs of early and extensive yields.

An observing traveler states that in proportion to its size there are more idle men in Eureka, Cal., than in any other place on the Pacific coast.

Those now in London who were here during the war say that the excitement and constant extras, cried sometimes up to midnight, recall to them vividly 1862-5.

Mr. Roebing, the engineer, says that heavy engines and cars must not be run over the Brooklyn bridge, as the cables have on them all the load they ought to carry.

Mad dogs recently became so numerous in some parts of Alabama that schools in one county were obliged to suspend, as it was considered dangerous to have pupils abroad.

The *Boston Transcript* says that the line of perpetual pig must now be drawn to include Greeley, Col., where they served forty-five varieties of the edible at a dinner lately.

The Brooklyn bridge earns an average of \$47,000 a month, or \$15,000 more than expenses, but electricity as motive power and rapid transit in Brooklyn may increase its receipts to \$100,000 a month, at least half of it net profit.

During the recent trial for polygamy of one of Brigham Young's sons in the United States court at Salt Lake, his second wife testified that with the exception of coming to her room once or twice a week to wind up the clock he had never visited her.

We had in 1880 nearly 2,000,000 "common laborers." The number of clergymen in 1880 was 64,000, against 43,000 in 1870; the number of lawyers 64,000 in 1880, 40,000 in 1870; the number of physician increased during the decade from 62,000 to 85,000. In 1880 there were 4,800 actors and 12,000 journalists in the country.

A little girl in Pennsylvania who had listened to a temperance address for the first time in her life was so impressed and interested that she went home and wrote out the following rather novel pledge: "I promise not to drink rum, or wine, or brandy, or smoke, or swear, or cider either." She signed it, and got several of her playmates to sign it also.

The mother of a family consisting of two grown-up daughters, living in Goffstown, N. H., recently died, and when the undertaker came to perform his duties the father was asked the name of his wife. His reply was: "Mother." No other name could he remember, and the daughters were equally ignorant, having never known their parent by any other name than "Mother."

It is a curious institution, the body known as the common council or board of aldermen of New York. There are twenty-five members, including the president, who is elected by voters of the city at large. Of these fourteen are county democrats, seven are republicans, and but four Tammany hall followers. All of the members wear stove-pipe hats, kid gloves, and jewelry.

In boring a salt well at East Aurora, N. Y., a bed of solid salt sixty-five feet thick has been struck. This find is said to upset the theories of scientists regarding the salt-beds of western New York. Down to the depth of 1,350 feet the geological formations are reported to be almost identical with those of the oil regions in Pennsylvania. At this depth the bed of salt was struck. The brine stands in the well several hundred feet deep, and is rich in salt, a quantity evaporated yielding 50 per cent.

The "law of the road," as understood in Pennsylvania, was laid down by Judge Biddle of the common pleas court of Philadelphia a few days ago. It is to the effect that persons meeting on the highway must each keep to the right. This rule is modified in the case of a footman or a horseman, who can not compel a teamster who has a heavy load to turn out of the beaten track, or even a light wagon with a heavy draught. If a horseman or light vehicle can pass with safety on the left of a heavily-laden team it is their duty to give way and leave the choice to the more unwieldy vehicle.

Some years ago a law was enacted fixing a license tax upon all foreign corporations doing business in Pennsylvania. The object aimed at was to collect revenue from parties in competition with local manufacturers which were heavily taxed. "The intention," says *The Philadelphia Press*, "was good, but as a matter of fact, a number of foreign corporations maintained offices in this state chiefly for the purpose of purchasing supplies of articles manufactured here, and the effect of the law has been to drive them away and take the trade, amounting to over \$1,000,000 annually, to other localities."

Among recent inventions is an improved cab, for which various advantages over other vehicles of the kind are claimed. The front is a projecting one, and presents a three-sided figure, the center being straight and the doors on the sides, opening toward the wheels, the side springs being so arranged that the doors may be readily opened wide without interference. The springs extend beyond the hinges of the doors to near the front of the wheels, and are supported at their forward ends by goosenecks attached to the rocker frame of the carriage. The vehicle is low hung, and so far forward on the axle that, with the driver's seat arranged behind, it is finely balanced.

BENT LIMBS MADE STRAIGHT.

Cutting Bones with an Electric Saw—Curvatures of the Legs and Arms of an Italian Child Successfully Reduced.

A novel bone-cutting instrument has been used in the wards of the city hospitals on Randall's island and at the orthopedic clinic of the New York post-graduate medical school and hospital in East Twentieth street, for several months. It has been employed in performing operations for the cure of various bony deformities and diseases of joints, and has proved to be of such great utility that it will doubtless supersede all other instruments now used for these purposes. The object that the inventor of this instrument had in view was to do away with the bungling and unworkmanlike methods which surgeons have been forced to employ, and more particularly to make it unnecessary to resort to the revolting method of using the mallet and chisel upon human beings. The new instrument is called the electro-osteotome and is actuated by a current of electricity derived from a powerful primary battery or from an accumulator. It is provided with various sizes of trephines, drills and circular saws, which are made to revolve at the great speed of twelve thousand revolutions a minute. The largest long bone of an adult subject can be sawed through in five seconds, and the bones of children can be divided in from two to three seconds. The cut surfaces of the bones are perfectly smooth, and are in marked contrast to the bruised and splintered ends of those divided by the chisel and mallet. Few persons have seen or heard of this novel surgical invention, as the only instrument made has remained in possession of the inventor and has never been used except by him. He has refrained from urging its claims upon the profession until he had thoroughly demonstrated its utility. So far he has performed fifty-one distinct operations upon living subjects, and a great advantage has been gained by its use in each case.

A formidable operation was to be performed upon a patient at Randall's island, last week, with the electro-osteotome, and a reporter called upon the inventor and obtained his permission to witness the operation.

When the preparations were completed a nurse came in with a horribly deformed Italian girl in her arms, who had been divested of her clothing and was crying vociferously, as if expecting the ordeal through which she was to pass. She is five years old, and possesses the bright black eyes, ruddy cheeks, and perfect teeth peculiar to many of her race. Her name is Madeline Picchiella. Nearly every bone in her body was out of line, especially the long bones of her legs and arms, the collar-bones and ribs. The bones of the arm, between the shoulder and elbow joint were curved like a bow, and those of the forearm, between the elbow and wrist joint, were subject to a double curvature resembling the letter S. The curvature just above the wrist was so great that the hands instead of being in a line with the forearm was almost at right angles to it. These deformities were produced by the peculiar modes of progression adopted by the child during a period when her bones were greatly weakened by disease. The bones of the leg were still more deformed than those of the arms. In crawling upon her hands and knees the soles of her feet were turned up so that they were in a line with the legs instead of being at right angles to them as they would be in a normal condition. The bones of each leg were curved so abruptly backward just above the ankle joint that when the child was in a sitting posture, the soles of her feet rested squarely upon the table. She was not able to stand for an instant, even with assistance. With these pronounced deformities uncorrected the patient would have been doomed to a helpless existence, and the problem which presented itself was to reduce the curvatures, and bring the bones of the limbs into straight lines. As a precautionary measure, all the physicians who were to take part in the operation bathed their hands in a solution of corrosive sublimate, and the legs and arms of the patient were washed with the same solution. A member of the house staff took an ether cone made of cloth, sprinkled some ether into it, and pressed it down over the child's face. Her struggles and cries grew less and less, until she became unconscious. To force the blood out of the leg selected for the first operation, so that no hemorrhage would take place, a strong rubber bandage was around the limb, beginning at the toes, and going to the upper part of the thigh. At this point a rubber tube was firmly tied around the thigh, and the bandage unwound, leaving the leg free. Taking a small scalpel, Dr. Roberts made a longitudinal division, as cut in the skin and flesh, overlying the tibia, or long bone of the leg, at the point of its greatest deformity. After the flesh was dissected away a little, two flat strips of curved steel were introduced at right angles to the bone and between it and the muscles, nerves, and blood vessels adjacent to it. By means of these protectors, the soft parts were pressed out of the way and the bone brought plainly into view. In performing similar operations with the chisel no device for protecting the soft parts have ever been used, and not frequently death has resulted from injuries received by the patient. In order to straighten the bone it was necessary to remove a wedge-shaped piece from its proper dimensions. The Italian attendant formed a connection between the battery and the electro-osteotome, which was suspended by a coiled spring over the operating table. Dr. Roberts then grasped his instrument, completed the electrical current by means of a switch, and brought the whirling saw into contact with the exposed bone. The saw was given a diagonal direction and passed through the bone in about two seconds. The second division of this bone was inclined toward the first so as to remove a wedge-shaped piece, the base of which was on the convex side of the bone, and when the cut ends of the bone were brought together the deformity of the tibia was entirely cor-

rected. An incision was then made on the opposite side of the leg for the purpose of operating upon the fibula, or small bone of the leg. To reach this bone it was necessary to cut down upon its concave aspect. The protecting protectors were introduced as before and a wedge-shaped piece sawed out with the osteotome, but instead of being cut at the base of the wedge, as in the first instance, the two cuts were made at the apex of it so that they inclined away from each other. The removal of two such wedge-shaped pieces with any form of a chisel is an absolute impossibility. By placing the cut ends of both bones in opposition the deformity of the leg was entirely reduced and the foot instead of being in a line with the leg was now at right angles to it, the position required in walking. The piece of rubber tubing which had been tied around the thigh was now removed and the blood allowed to flow back into the limb, and the wound examined to see if any hemorrhage would take place. Only a slight amount of blood oozed out, and after irrigating the part operated upon by allowing a stream of corrosive sublimate to flow upon it from a small rubber hose the incisions were sewed up by Dr. Hallowell, with a cat-gut thread. A splint of gutta serena was softened with hot water and applied upon the posterior and lateral aspects of the limb and secured in this position by bandages. The splint was hardened by the application of aseptic ice water, so that it would retain the cut ends of the bones against each other until they became grown together. A pad of gauze, prepared with corrosive sublimate was placed over each incision in the soft parts and a quantity of jute was bound upon this with a muslin bandage. This completed the operation on the left limb.

A similar operation was performed upon the right leg and the deformity in the bones of both forearms were also reduced by removing wedge-shaped pieces just above the wrist joint. After having removed a wedge from one of the bones of the forearm it was found necessary for more accurate adjustment to cut out an additional segment. This was easily accomplished by the use of the circular saw. Altogether fifteen distinct divisions of the bones of the legs and arms of the patient were made during the operation. She bore the operation remarkably well, and when she was allowed to come out from under the influence of the ether, she answered questions readily. The reporter made inquiries yesterday regarding the condition of Madeline Picchiella, and was informed that she was doing finely, that the reaction after the operation was astonishingly slight, and that her evening temperature forty-eight hours after the operation was only 101 2/10. Her recovery is thought to be certain.—*New York Tribune.*

Divorced Ten Years After Death.

In 1874 John Summers, formerly a private in the 109th Regiment New York Volunteers, died in the Ovid Insane Asylum. He was a pensioner at the time of his death. His mother, Mrs. L. A. Summers a very respectable and industrious lady residing in Groton, applied for a pension because of his services and death. After his proofs were in she was met by the obstacle that her son left a wife who was entitled to the pension. She consulted Judge A. P. Smith, of this village, who brought an action in the Supreme Court in her name to annul the marriage, on the ground that her son was insane at the time of its solemnization. In this action she succeeded in obtaining a divorce. The Pension Department refused to recognize a divorce obtained ten years after the death of the party. Judge Smith went to Washington last July and argued the case before the department, and showed the Commissioner of Pensions that the law was as he claimed. It was then objected that there was no connection between a bullet wound and the insanity or consumption of which he died. Judge Smith went to Groton and thence obtained medical testimony satisfactory to the department, and last week Mrs. Summers received notice that her pension was allowed, giving her over \$1,000 back pension and \$8 a month during life. While the case settles an important question of great interest, the friends of Mrs. Summers will feel a peculiar gratification that so worthy a lady has at last secured justice in the face of such serious and apparently insurmountable obstacles.—*Cortland News.*

Christening Eugenie's Baby

The secret papers of the Second Empire give an account of the expenditure on the occasion of the birth and baptism of the Prince Imperial. Medals in diamonds head the list, at a cost of 25,000 francs. Doctors and midwives received 68,000 francs. The wardrobe cost 100,000 francs. The several societies of dramatic authors and composers, men of letters, dramatic artists, musicians, painters and sculptors, industrial inventors and medical men of the Department of the Seine received 10,000 francs each. Ninety-three thousand francs were given to the benevolent "bureaux" of the Department of the Seine and of the communes in which lay the estates of the Crown. The "agents of the interior service" of the Empire received gratifications equal to four months' wages, amounting to 11,000 francs. Forty-four thousand francs were allotted to giving gratis performances at the theaters on March 18, 1856. The parents of children born on the 16th of that month shared among them 50,000 francs. For medals to be given to authors and composers of verses and cantate addressed to their majesties, and to the pupils at the Lycees, 85,000 francs were allowed. The relatives of the godchildren of their majesties received 20,000 francs. The service of the stables for the baptismal cortege is set down at 172,000 francs, and 160,000 francs were distributed in gratifications to the hired servants of their majesties' household. The total comes to the sum of 898,000 francs.—*Frank Leslie's Weekly.*