Grant or Lee.

At the meeting of the Lyceum Society last evening—President N. Y. Schofield in the chair—the subject of debate was: "Resolved, That Robert E. Lee was a greater military genius than was Ulysses S. Grant." Affirmative, J. M. Barlow and J. Barrows; negative, D. R. Lyon and Peter Elliott. The chair appointed the following gentlemen to act as judges: John James, D. J. Watts and James T. Dunbar. Mr. Barlow opened the debate, evincing a thorough understanding of the questions at issue. He declared that General Lee never was defeated, and described in a graphic manner the battle of Gettysburg and the achievements of Lee.

Mr. Lyon, for the negative, said: If being walled in and sending three missives to Grant, Meade and Sheridan asking for assistance was not a defeat, then he would concede the point in the affirmative. Mr. Barrows, continuing for the affirmative, said no doubt Grant was a great American soldier. To compare the two, in the language of General Early, was like comparing the pyramids of Egypt to a pigmy on Mount Atlas. He quoted from various sources in support of his argument. Mr. Elliott for the negative, gave a definition of what constituted great generalship. The judges were unanimous for the affirmative.

The Lyceum will meet jointly next Tuesday evening, the 17th, with the Y. M. C. A. debating society and debate the question, "Are theatres more beneficial than injurious?"

A Lesson in Hygiene.

(San Francisco Chronicle.)

If people knew how to eat and drink properly or were willing to confine themselves to articles of food suited to their digestion, and would take just the amount of exercise necessary to facilitate the digestion, the lives of the greater part of the human race would be indefinitely prolonged. They would have to be excepted from the sweeping sentence certain diseases (like those of the throat and lungs) that cannot always be avoided, but which, nevertheless, in many cases can be limited in their ravages by prudence. The statement as made is a truism, and has been known to sensible persons since the dawn of civilization and the origin of gourmands and epicures. Some old Persian writer, no matter which, placed the whole secret of health in the ability to leave off eating before the appetite was entirely satisfied, and the wise men of Greece and Rome never ceased to preach similar truths, both by precept and example. These things they had learned, not from works on hygiene, which did not abound in ancient times, nor from family physicians, who were far from being as plentiful as they are now, but from a simple observation. The apostles of a vegetable diet have usually been fanatics, but there has always been a grain of truth in their doctrines, for it is true that the greater part of diseases are caused, especially among the rich, by the excessive use of meats.

It is only a few years since the nourishing qualities of milk and its hygienic value began to be properly appreciated. Every one was aware that the young of the human race and of the lower animals using it as their only diet thrived and grew strong alike in bone and muscle. It appeared to be easily digested and seemed to contain all the elements that the body seemed to need, at least in the early stages of its growth. Adults—at least those in civilized countries—despised it, and would have considered themselves doomed to an early death had they found themselves confined to a milk regimen. The same opinion has, fortunately, not prevailed among certain savage or semi-civilized tribes of pastoral habits, who have maintained a healthy existence from time immemorial on milk and its products.

Medical science, aided by chemistry, has for some years past been working a gradual change in those ancient prejudices. The chemists have discovered that milk contains all the elements necessary to make blood, bone and muscle. It adapts itself to the most difficult digestion. A man can live and enjoy perfect health on milk and its products alone, for his system finds in it everything needful—fatty matter, caseine, albumen, and especially phosphate of lime for building up his bony framework. Doctors prescribe it for patients suffering from low fevers. If a person finds himself suffering from torpidity of the liver, incipient trouble of the kidneys, or a tendency to indigestion, let him drink milk freely, say two or three quarts a day, and abstain from meat, and he will almost invariably find himself cured speedily. It may be said of diseases of the liver and kidneys and of the dyspepsia that they have invariably been brought on by ignorance or disregard of the laws of hygiene, and no one need ever have them unless he is obliged to live in the tropics, or has by chance been so situated that the choice of his diet was beyond his control. It has in all ages of the world been found difficult to make any considerable number of human beings observe the laws of temperance in eating and drinking if the means of indulgence were at their disposal. It is much more difficult to infuse a little hygiene good sense into the average American of today than into the luxurious Roman in the time of Lucullus, and nowhere in the world is self-restraint more necessary than in California, where the climate constantly stimulates the appetite, while at the same time certain latent qualities of the atmosphere seem to render digestion difficult.

While milk in its perfect state is capable of such infinite service to the health, it has at the same time an extraordinary facility for transmitting disease. A great part of that consumed in large cities is from cows kept in stables and fed cities on inferior food. When tuberculous diseases become too common among these animals the newspapers ventilate the matter and the health officers make a temporary activity, but the evil continues. It is more trying from the fact that diseased milk is largely used as nourishment for young children. If the purity of milk is suspected, however, it only needs to be remembered that the noxious germs it contains may be destroyed by boiling. In England, where the milk is rarely boiled, there have been occasional local epidemics caused by the use of milk from diseased cows. In 1870 an epidemic of typhoid fever at Islington was propagated in this manner. Epidemics of croup and scarlatina have also in England been attributed to the same cause. The nutritive and hygienic qualities of milk and its tendency to transmit disease have for the last ten years been frequent subjects of discussion at the sessions of the Paris Academy of Medicine. The matter is sufficiently practical and important to attract the attention a little oftener of medical associations in America.

SAWFLY BORER IN WHEAT.

An Insect That Causes Wheat to Lodge in Many Localities.

Considerable attention has been bestowed upon what lodged wheat. There are several causes for this lodging. Sometimes it is a weak succulent or luxuriant growth by an oversupply of available plant food. Sometimes the trouble lies in the variety and sometimes it is ascribed by insects that damage the stalks.

In late est, a reproduction from a pamphlet by Professor Comstock, is illustrated the sawfly borer, which has occasioned trouble in many localities by attacking the wheat with its saw, rips while it reduces the yield but slightly, it weakens the stalk materially.

The adult insect is a four winged fly belonging to the order Hymenoptera, the order that includes the bees, wasps and ants; and it is a member of the family Tenthredinidae of this order, a family comprising the insects commonly known as sawflies. This popular name refers

SAWFLY BORERS AT WORK IN WHEAT.

to the fact that in this family the female insects are furnished with a saw or long sawlike organ. This lies near the caudal end of the body, and is the ovipositor. By means of it the insects are able to make incisions in the tissues of plants for the reception of their eggs.

On examining the stalks of wheat at harvest time by splitting them throughout their length, it was found that some of them had been furrowed by an insect larva. This larva had eaten a passage through each of the joints so that it could pass freely from one end of the cavity of the straw to the other.

If infested straws be examined a week or ten days before the ripening of the wheat, the cause of this injury can be found at work within them. It is at that time a yellowish, milky white larva, varying in size from one-fifth of an inch to one-half an inch in length. The smaller ones may not have bored through a single joint, while the larger ones will have tunneled all of them except, perhaps, the one next to the ground.

As the grain becomes ripe the larva works its way toward the ground, and at the time of the harvest the greater number of them have penetrated to the root. Here in the lowest part of the cavity of the straw they make preparations for the winter.

According to a correspondent of Rural New Yorker the most obvious method of combating the insect is to attack it while it is in the stubble, that is to say, some time between the wheat harvest and the first of the following May. If the stubble can be burned in the autumn the larva in it can be destroyed. The same thing could be accomplished by plowing the stubble under, which would prevent the escape of adult flies.

In the cut a represents the female fly beginning to ovipositi; b, female with ovipositor inserted in the straw; c, insect with wings expanded; d, straw cut by the larva; e, larva in cell at base of straw.

How to Mate Different Breeds of Poultry.

A. G. Gilbert, poultry manager of the Ottawa experiment farms, in a bulletin recently issued, gives the following directions in regard to mating the different breeds: When mating Brahmas allow one male with seven females; crossbred with 2-year-old hens if possible. Plymouth Rocks—One male, nine females; a young bird with 2-year-old hens preferred. White Leghorns—One cockerel with eleven 2 or 3-year-old hens. Houdans—One male, nine or eleven females. Black Minorcas—Same as Leghorns. Mixed breds—One male with nine or eleven females. Wyandottes—One male with nine females.

The above embraces the best known breeds. Where only one sort is kept and the fowls have unlimited run, a greater number of females may be allowed. Eggs are fertile after fowls have been mated seven to ten days. For layers choose white Leghorns; for general purposes, Plymouth Rocks; for both, Wyandottes. Do not continue to inbreed, or the stock will decrease in size, stamina and value. Get rid of the 2 and 4-year-old hens; keep the pullets; eat or sell the cockerels. Give the poultry as fair a trial as would be given a new kind of seed, vegetable, breed of horses or cattle. Utilize the grain, vegetable and meat waste of the farm by converting it into poultry and eggs.

Winter Storage of Sugar Beets.

When beets are in a condition to be kept during the winter they should be placed in about moderate size, in preference to large piles, which latter plan is of too frequent practice. Six feet in width and some in height are said to be satisfactory dimensions. The sides of the pile should be covered with over a foot of earth, and if the cold becomes very intense a small quantity of straw or hay more is thrown over the outer surface.—Sugar Beet.

An Improved Shirt.

An idea as old as the hills is gaining recognition now, after having failed persistently. I speak of the idea of the "coat shirt." This is a garment which in most respects does not differ from the ordinary dress shirt. It has no claim to novelty in appearance when it is worn. The advantage is to the putting on. The garment does not go over the head, but is adjusted in the same way as an ordinary coat. It is closed behind and entirely open in front. It is being put upon the market this year, and its future looks brighter than ever before. In excellence it is not unknown already, but it has never gained wide popularity.—New York World.

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