

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

A PLANT STIMULANT.—The sulphate of ammonia is an excellent manurial liquid to apply (once a week) to flowering plants, giving to the foliage a dark green, luxuriant and healthy appearance. It is economical, clean and easily applied. Prepare it in the evening before using, by dissolving one ounce of sulphate of ammonia in two gallons of water.

WHEAT YIELD.—The average yield of wheat in different countries varies remarkably. In Austria it is 14 bushels per acre; in France and Prussia, 17; in Spain, 23; while in Britain the average yield is from 28 to 30. The yield of barley in France is 21 bushels per acre; in Prussia, 25; and in England from 35 to 40 bushels per acre; in Manitoba from 40 to 60 bushels per acre by merely plowing without any artificial manuring.

ANTS' NESTS IN GARDENS.—F. M. G., in *Nature*, says: I have found a very effectual remedy for the annoyance of ants' resting in the garden paths and borders. A strong solution of carbolic acid and water poured into the holes, kills all the ants it touches, and the survivors immediately take themselves off. Care must be taken in its use, as it destroys animal and vegetable as well as insect life.

THE JERSEYS.—The island of Jersey has 12,000 head of horned stock (all "Jerseys") which is about one to every two acres of agricultural land. The farms of the island rarely exceed forty acres, and the feed of the cattle is mainly roots and grass, with some straw in winter. The prosperity of the Jersey farmers is said to be unequalled, in the same class, either in Europe or America.

THE National Live Stock Journal (Chicago) recommends to "large farmers" to grind all their grain for stock, and for this purpose to purchase a small burr stone, not the iron grinders, as being greatly superior, and no dearer in end. It says: "In a large experiment of feeding 6000 horses, by the London Omnibus Company, it was found to take six pounds of grain less per day for each horse, when ground than when unground."

SENATOR Chandler, of Michigan, is taking into the newspaper offices in Detroit, specimen bundles of the grass he raises on his farm near Lansing. The grass measures six feet two inches in length. He says that it is a species of meadow grass grown extensively in Holland, and on the reclaimed bogs of Ireland, and that it is the sweetest and tallest cultivated fodder grass in the world.

The attention of many western farmers is being directed to the preservation of their manure, where heretofore it has been burned to get rid of it. They are beginning to find that the richest prairie land, with a soil several feet in depth, will in time become exhausted of its fertilizing constituents for wheat and corn, and need a revivifying assistant. Others, where the land fails to produce a remunerating crop, are looking around for the best means of increasing the supply of manure—and they are not doing so a day too soon. The folly of neglecting this matter year after year with constantly decreasing crops, is beginning to be sadly realized.

THE LARGEST FARM IN ENGLAND.—The largest farm in England consists of 3,000 acres, and belongs to a man with the name of Samuel Jones. In its cultivation he follows the "four-course" system, the whole extent of his farm being divided into four great crops—750 acres to wheat, 750 to barley and oats, 750 to seeds, beans, peas, etc., and 750 to roots. His live stock is valued as follows: Sheep, \$35,000; horses, \$15,000; bullocks, \$12,000; pigs, \$2,500. The oil cake and corn consumed annually amount to \$20,000, and artificial fertilizers about \$8,000. The entire cost of manure, in its various forms, used annually, is about \$15,000. Sheep are claimed as the most profitable stock he keeps, and from them are realized about \$20,000.

PERMANENCE OF ORCHARD GRASS.—A writer in the *Philadelphia Press* says: We have a field of it, on a strong, sandy loam, which has stood for more than thirty

years. It has been cut for soiling; it has been cut for hay; it has been pastured; it was first sown with red clover and timothy, which it long ago run out, and although the white clover and blue grass venture their presence to a limited extent among it, the orchard grass maintains its supremacy, and, breast-high at maturity, lords it over its diminutive trespassers in bounteous crop, while its humble attendants, good in their place, modestly fill up a great nutritious undergrowth at the bottom. No grass which we have ever grown has yielded so heavy swath as this, nor one from which so much cattle food to the acre can be grown, aside from lucerne.

RED PEPPER FOR INSECTS.—John W. Still of East Oakland writes to us as follows: I have discovered by a practical test that Cayenne or Red pepper (Capsicum) will destroy cabbage lice or cabbage mildew. I have some two hundred fine cabbages growing, and to my sorrow some two weeks since I found them covered with lice. I sprinkled them wherever the lice could be found, with the capsicum, and am delighted to see my cabbages entirely cleared, save a few that I did not sprinkle that I might contrast them, and that I can assure you is very evident or speaking, for those I so left are covered with the little destroyers.

Now I am of the opinion, that capsicum will in the same manner destroy the fungi of all plants, vines, fruits, etc., spoken of in the agricultural report of '71, from page 110 to 123. I also sprinkled a bumble bee with it and the result was death in a few minutes to the bee. Now this might be applied to vines in the form of a solution, but for the cabbage sprinkling dry is preferable, as it sticks or adheres closely to the leaf.—*Pacific Rural Press*.

Drawing-Room Drunkards.

In a recent paper read before the Irish College of Physicians on this subject, Dr. Alfred H. McClintock says:

It is a matter of notoriety that the immoderate use of diffusible stimulants has greatly increased of late years among classes whose education and social condition should have been sufficient preservatives against this destructive vice. It is well known to physicians that alcoholism is to be met with among the occupants of the drawing rooms as well as the frequenters of taprooms. What has so widely spread this pernicious habit among this generation, it would be difficult to say. Probably more causes than one have contributed to bring it about. I cannot help thinking that the intense strain put on the intellectual faculties in every profession, trade, and pursuit the mental competition of these days, must create or foster an appetite for diffusible stimulants. Nervous exhaustion craves for the alcoholic stimulus, whereas physical or muscular exhaustion will more eagerly demand solid aliment. Furthermore to be candid I must own to a feeling that our own profession is not wholly free from blame in this matter. I know well I am here trenching on delicate ground, but "*Amicus Plato, amicus Socrates, sed magis amicus Veritas*," and I strongly suspect that the modern treatment of disease by the free use of stimulants, though fulfilling an important therapeutic indication, has occasionally developed a morbid habit of taste, eventuating in moral and physical disease of an incurable kind. I would qualify this, however, by adding that the declaration of inebriates themselves on this point is of no value whatever, as they are notoriously untruthful, and are always too glad to throw the blame of their evil habits on the physician or surgeon.

Nearly all the cases of alcoholism which have fallen under my immediate observation were females of the better classes of society. All, with scarcely an exception, concealed the habit they had acquired of drinking to excess, so that it often needed a lengthened investigation and a careful analysis of all the symptoms before any positive conclusions as to the real cause of the patient's condition could be arrived at.

All sought medical advice on account of some derangement belonging to alcoholism, though apparently themselves not recognizing the source from whence their

ailment sprang. I should qualify this by saying that a few were brought by friends who had no suspicion of the patients' habits. The intoxicating liquors taken varied a good deal, viz., brandy, gin, champagne, port, sherry, whiskey, ale, porter, and, in one case tincture of ginger—of which her daily allowance, for a length of time, was one pint. This unfortunate lady, who moved in a high circle, and was what is ordinarily called a strong-minded person, eventually died of jaundice, enlarged liver, and ascites. It is very well known that, where the ordinary spirit cannot be obtained, the victims of this passion will not hesitate to drink eau-de-cologne, lavender water, sal volatile, compound spirits of lavender, and, in fact, any spirit they can lay their hands on. Most of us here have known, or heard of the museum porter at one of our schools of medicine, who used to drink the spirits of wine off the anatomical preparations, when he had not the means of buying a more potable description of alcohol. In justice to his palate I must add that this was before the methylated spirits came into use.

The ingenuity displayed by many of these individuals to hide the vice, and elude the precautions for keeping away the much-coveted drink, is sometimes most curious. For example, a lady with this propensity very strong, was strictly confined to one room by her family, who allowed nothing to enter without its being carefully searched for the contraband article. Nevertheless, in spite of all the precautions, she managed to have spirits conveyed to her, not, indeed, in a bottle, jar, or jug, but in the undisguised and unsuspected *pot de chambre*.—*London Medical Record*.

Conkling's Ineligibility.

The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* has the following:—

* * * "We have no doubt that all the papers above named, when they examine the question carefully, and take into consideration the fact that Conkling and Howe are not now members of the Senate that passed the salary bill, will come to a different conclusion from that expressed."—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

"The *Plain Dealer* is mistaken in saying that Conkling and Howe are not members of the Senate that passed the salary bill. The Senate, unlike the House of Representatives, is a continuous body. A Congress has a term of two years, and the members of the House are elected for the term of a Congress and go out of office with it. But a Senate has no term of two or any other number of years. It was purposely constituted as a permanent body by the division of its members into classes 'so that one-third may be chosen every second year.' Thus two-thirds of the Senate that voted upon the salary bill are still to be two-thirds of that body; but as there were numerous extensions of the 'time' of Senators by re-election, the proportion of continuous membership is even greater. As a matter of fact, there are only fifteen changes in the seats of the seventy-four Senators from the passage of the salary bill to this day. In other words, four-fifths of the Senate as it stood when the vote on the salary bill was taken, and four-fifths of the Senate as it stands to-day, are made up of the same identical Senators."—*Rochester Union*.

We think that it is the *Union* that is mistaken and not the *Plain Dealer*. The constitution says: "All the legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." While Senators are elected for six years each, Congress is limited to two years. The forty-second Congress expired on the 4th of March, 1873, when the 43rd Congress, an entirely new body, was brought into existence. That the Senate is not a continuous body in the sense applicable to the present contingency, is evident from the fact that all business undischarged by the Senate on the 4th of March, when the Congress ends, does not, as a matter of course go over to the New Senate, as it would do if the Senate was a continuous body, but has to be commenced *de novo*. But this question has nothing to do with the eligibility of Mr. Conkling, who is now serving a term different from that in which the emoluments of the Chief Justice were increased. We were correct in

stating that in our opinion certain papers, denying the eligibility of Mr. Conkling, when they examine the question carefully, will come to a different conclusion, as is evident by the following from the *New York World*:

"When a public journal has fallen into a mistake, it is more candid to make a frank acknowledgment than to defend the error by hair-splitting ingenuity. The *Post* and several other journals hastily inferred that Senators Conkling and Howe are excluded from the vacant Chief Justiceship by the fact that they were members of Congress when the salary of that office was raised, overlooking the fact that their terms expired on the 4th of March. That oversight completely invalidates the argument. Those Senators are as constitutionally capable of receiving the appointment as if they had not been re-elected for another term.

"The word *time* is used in the prohibition instead of the word *term* because Senators and Representatives may be chosen for mere fractions of terms, to fill casual vacancies. A Senator elected to fill the unexpired remainder of a vacant term is excluded only from offices whose emoluments have been increased during that *time*, although the increase may have been voted within the Senatorial *term* whose unexpired portion he was elected to fill."

British Republicanism.

British republicanism has not yet assumed a very aggressive character. It contents itself with condemning monarchy, in a general sort of way, as an expensive and antiquated system of government, and protesting against the burdens which it imposes on the people. Mr. Bradlaugh, the leader of the democratic movement in England, is organizing a series of mass meetings to protest against the increase of the Duke of Edinburgh's annual allowance. He thinks that that worthy scion of royalty has been handsomely provided for already by the stipend of \$75,000 a year, and that the fact of his being about to marry a rich wife is no reason why he should get an advance of wages. The addition of \$50,000 annually, Mr. Bradlaugh regards as a downright swindle upon the British public.

The republican chief is right, to a certain extent; but all the agitation he can get up about the matter will not amount to much. The great majority of the Englishmen are happy at having their Princes and are quite willing to pay for them. It is true that Queen Victoria is a rich woman, probably the richest woman in the world, and she ought to be able to settle her children comfortably in life without making any inroads upon the national purse; but if she wishes to hoard her money for that "rainy day" which sovereigns, even more than humble people, have to dread, her living subjects will not compel her to spend it.

Mr. Bradlaugh may as well bottle up his anger. The Duke of Edinburgh will not only get his \$125,000 per annum, but will get more when he requires it. The English people may become republicans in the course of time, but at present are monarchists and are satisfied to endure the burden of their institutions.—*San Francisco Chronicle*.

Remarkable Revolutionary Prophecy.

Mr. Editor—I am a connoisseur of old things. I like old medals, old papers, old keepsakes, and in fact, all things that bear the impress of old times upon them, save and except, perhaps, old cheese with — in it. But to the "pint," as our friend P. would say. I have some of the relics of the old American Revolution—MSS. of the date of '76 and onward, silver shoe buckles, etc. Among the former I find a very curious and, to me, entertaining MSS., of which the following is a copy. I give it to you, of course, as I find it, and as some of your readers are learned in the history of the world and of our own country, and are students of the Bible, they may find food for thought in what this ancient may say:

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN LESS THAN A HUNDRED YEARS HENCE—A. D. 1780.

1. About the year A. D., 1848, or

'49, there will be in Europe a revolution, either in France, Italy, or Austria, and then commences the "beginning of the end" spoken of by the Prophets. New governments will arise on the earth, and we shall have wars and rumors of wars.

2. Scarcely has this turmoil in Europe expired before our own America will have taken up the tumult, and about A. D. 1860 or 1861 there will be a division in the United States. The South will go to herself, and then war, famine and pestilence will stalk abroad over the land—murders, arson, incest, theft; and other crimes will be rife in the land. Hope will depart from every human breast. Governments that had been deemed impregnable will topple and fall; but the end is not yet.

3. Thirty years from the "beginning of this end" will pass away, and upon the broad earth there will exist no Government such as now exists, or which may exist up to that time—all will be overturned—all will be destroyed. Those then on earth will return to the Government of the Patriarchs, and the sire of many descendants will rule and govern as in the days of Abram, Isaac and Jacob, and servants and slaves likewise will exist as in those days.

4. Forty-five years of this Patriarchal rule, and then comes the glorious day—the millennium—and the return of Jesus Christ to the earth, here to reign as temporal Prince three hundred and sixty-five thousand years. Happy is he who may be on earth, or who may have arisen from the earth, fitted as a subject to live under the mild government of such a Prince and King. AMINADAB.

Delaware River, 3rd mo., A. D. 1780.

There you have it, verbatim et literatim. Yours, etc.,

JOHN SMITH.

—*Pioche Record*.

Gentle Words to Horses.

The ridiculously loud tone of voice in which orders are generally given to horses when the driver desires them to start or stop, has often been a subject of surprise to me. If horses were next thing to deaf, there would be an excuse for the shoutings and yellings so generally indulged in, but they are not, and therefore need not be spoken to so loudly and harshly. The ear of a horse is very sensitive, and save in exceptional cases it is possible to control his motions by a command, given in a moderate tone of voice, just as readily, and indeed, I think more readily, than where this rough, rude manner is used.

A horse is a teachable animal, and is always affected by kind treatment. The fact of the matter is, that if kind words and gentle treatment throughout were given these noble animals, instead of oaths, curses and blows, we should find their docility greatly increased. Just imagine if you will, a geel or whoa! uttered in a tone sufficiently loud to be heard at half a mile's distance, and this command given to an animal within five or ten feet of the party giving it. Wherein consists the necessity for it? Why not resort to more rational, and certainly more pleasing means? Why not speak in a moderate tone? This is all that is required. The horse, if not deaf, can hear it, and will as readily obey as if given in thundering tones.

One of the best managed teams I have ever seen was controlled by the driver without the indulgence of any of this unmusical yelling. The driver rarely ever spoke above his ordinary tone of voice, and yet his horses laid into their work with as much willingness, and apparently greater earnestness than if they had been driven to it by fearful shouting and blows. Let me appeal to the common sense of your readers in this particular direction. The horse is an intelligent animal. None of the brute creation can more readily appreciate kind words and kind treatment. Such facts should be considered always by those who have the care of these animals.—*Exchange*.

DIED.

In the 20th Ward of this city, August 4th, FREDERICK JOSEPH, infant son of John and Hannah Hagell.

In the First Ward, July 31st, EMILY, daughter of Mos s and Anna Deming, aged 2 years and 10 months.

In Sykeside, Haslogden, Manchester, June 25, ALICE, wife of Daniel Lord, and formerly of Bury, Lancashire.—*Mill Star*