

Broom Corn.

The Department of Agriculture publishes the following:

It is but a very few years since the importance of the extensive cultivation of broom corn has attracted the attention of either the farmer or manufacturer, but now in the Northern, Western, and Middle States it has grown into an important industry; and there is no reason why the Southern planters should not turn his attention to the same subject, and thereby awaken another manufacturing occupation among the people. There is no climate in the United States in which broom corn will not grow with more or less success; and the mode of its cultivation does not materially differ from that of the ordinary corn or maize. And, like all other grain, its successful production is dependent upon the quality of the soil, and the care with which the land is cultivated.

For broom corn the land should be plowed in the fall. This attains two objects: The frosts of winter ameliorate and make friable the soil, and the work is then done, and will not be liable to the delay of planting early in the spring. This is particularly necessary in the northern and middle States, where spring sowing is often delayed by cold rains. If the ground be well and deeply plowed in the fall, it will supersede the necessity of plowing it again in the spring. The ground may be then well harrowed, rolled, and scored out three feet one way and two the other. This is assuming that the ground is in good fertile condition. If it be not, then it should be made so before plowing in the fall, by the application of barn yard manure. Land cannot be made too rich for corn. Scoring the land both ways enables the farmer to work it both ways with cultivators. If the seed be dropped with a drill, then it need not be scored. About three quarts of seed will plant an acre. As soon as the corn is seen above the ground, the working to keep down the weeds should be commenced, and it must be kept clean throughout the season.

Broom corn will grow from eight to twelve feet high, and its brush should be two feet long. This, however, is dependent in a great degree upon the quality of the soil and the care with which it is cultivated. After the corn is grown to full size the top is bent down at a point one foot below the brush. This is for the purpose of preventing too much spreading, and it should be so bent that it may be as little exposed to the sun as possible, in order to preserve its color. Whether this operation of bending down the top be before or after the ripening of the seed, must be made to depend upon whether it be most desirable to perfectly ripen the seed or secure the best quality of brush. The plant being ripe and properly dry, the brush is to be cut off and hauled to the barn, and the seed taken off either by a hackle or other machinery.

The character of broom corn has of late years much improved in length and stiffness, and persons desirous of raising it should give much attention to the character of the seed. The brush is worth from 6 to 12 cents a pound, and the seed about as much as corn for the feed of cattle.

There are large manufactories of clothes and sweeping brooms in New York and Massachusetts, and the product of the broom corn is always a marketable article. Some estimate may be made of the profit arising from the cultivation of broom corn from the reports made by the farmers of Massachusetts and New York to their respective agricultural societies, as the same are published in their annual transactions.

The value of the crop is reported by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society as follows—

1,150 lbs. of brush, at 7 cents	\$81 13
88 bushels of seed, at 45 cents	39 60
	\$120 73
EXPENSES.	
Manure	\$10 00
Plowing and planting	3 00
Cultivating, harvesting, and taking care of seeds	18 00
Interest on land	9 00
	40 00
Net profit on one acre	\$80 73

A pair of brass epaulettes picked up on the sidewalk in St. Louis three weeks ago still remain unclaimed. In a city where every other man's a General or a Colonel, to look for the owner of these epaulettes would be worse than hunting up a needle in a haystack.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 16.—Fifty-six out of fifty-eight republican delegates to the New Jersey republican convention are avowedly for Blaine. Rockingham county, New Hampshire, yesterday elected Blaine delegates.

Owen Marlow, the actor, is still very ill at the Massachusetts General hospital.

Fox, the noted clown, is said to be improved in health.

Vanderbilt is recovering and out of danger.

By the report of the naval invention committee, soon to be made public, it appears that at the sale in Philadelphia of the navy yard to the Pennsylvania Railway Company, last fall, instead of the land alone, there were hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of dismantled buildings, naval stores, etc., left on the grounds, which the purchase of the railway company did not include. This report will reflect severely on Secretary Robeson, and possibly deem his removal from his office necessary.

The *Tribune* is entirely satisfied with Scott's testimony.

The *Times'* editorial says after reviewing Scott's testimony—"So it seems that the company which was too poor to pay Col. Scott \$3,000 a year, was rich enough to throw away \$30,000 as testimony to the obligations under which their president had placed them. Blaine comes out of the investigation with a character neither better or worse than before the accusations were made public, and all things considered, the same may be said of Scott. It is unfortunate for Blaine that, baseless as all the direct charges made against him have so far been proved to be, a vague feeling of suspicion has got into the public mind, that he has had a good deal more to do with railroad speculations of a somewhat hazardous character, than accords with a perfectly unblemished reputation. Blaine began his career in Congress a poor man; he is now a rich one. Blaine exercised immense power over the fortunes of legislation at a time when railroads were amongst the most persistent suitors for congressional aid or relief. In some railroads benefited by the national bounty Blaine is believed to be a stockholder, and putting all things together, men who are not at all indisposed to recognize his eminent public services, his great ability and energy, his obvious strength with his party, are beginning to look upon him as a somewhat unsafe candidate. The best service which Blaine's friends can do him is to anticipate investigation and disarm suspicion, by being as frank about his business affairs as about the record of his public life. It will not do to turn round and say that a man's private business is not the concern of the public. Even if he has not made a fortune during his not very lengthy public career, when such a man becomes a presidential candidate he must submit to the necessity of answering questions which under other circumstances might be deemed impertinent."

The *Herald's* Washington special says, "Blaine's friends are jubilant because he is completely exonerated. This does not end Blaine's troubles, however. There is another vague charge after it, that he was given land grant bonds of the Little Rock road to influence the making up of the House of Commons in 1872, while he was speaker.

The *World*, speaking of the Fifth Avenue Hotel meeting, calls it an "advisory council," and thinks it reminds one of Disraeli's stinging description of critics, as "men who had failed in literature and life."

The *Herald* says the list of participants in the Fifth Avenue Hotel conference shows they consist in unequal proportions of sore-heads and sentimentalists, largely disappointed ex-officers and ex-candidates for office.

The *Tribune* says—

"We do not sympathize with the disposition manifested in some quarters to carp at gentlemen engaged in the new Fifth Avenue conference. Among them are some of the ablest publicists, ripest scholars and most efficient public servants in the country. To-day will probably give us the real work of the conference, and we have great confidence that it will be good work, sure to bear good re-

sults, both at Cincinnati and St. Louis.

Mrs. Myra Gaines left to-night for New Orleans, where, fortified with the recent decision of the Supreme Court, she will renew her suits for her estates. Since the delivery of this opinion, it is said she has been offered \$250,000 cash, and one-fifth of the proceeds of her property, when recovered, if she would assign her interest to a pool made up in New York, to speculate in the enterprise. It is thought probable that the City of New Orleans will compromise with her and give her bonds in return for a quit-claim deed of the land in dispute.

The political conference at Fifth Avenue Hotel issued an address to-day to the American people, in which they call attention to the approaching national election and its peculiar significance, the dangers arising from prevailing corruptions in politics, which have left scarcely a single sphere of our political life untouched. This is particularly deplorable in view of the fact that foreign nationalities, by invitation, are about to visit this country to attend the Centennial and to aid to inspect the republic and its institutions. While there is very much to be proud of in the nation's conquests, achievements and glorious history, yet never have the American people been less satisfied with themselves. Every American citizen feels a burning shame at the spectacle presented of the demoralization and corruption of the present as compared with the wisdom, purity and honesty of our fathers, and this is made evident to all man ind, summoned to the Exposition as a witness. Every patriotic heart asks 'How can we avert such dangers and wipe off such shame?' The answer is by proving that though the machinery has become corrupt, yet the great body of the people are honestly determined to reform abuses of our political life at any cost, and restore the faith of the people in their institutions. In the coming election we must conscientiously maintain the settlement of the civil war as constitutionally fixed, and the same time strengthen the Government by strict observance of constitutional principles, and the old brotherhood revived by a policy of mutual justice and conciliation. We must fulfil our solemn and oft repeated pledge to discharge all national obligations, not only by the payment of the principal and interest of the bonded debt when due, but by the removal, not later than the legally appointed time, of the curse of our redundant irredeemable paper currency, which is largely the cause of our troubles. Our most pressing duty is to establish the moral character of our Government, elevate the tone of our political life. Without this, national prosperity, power and freedom are impossible. A corrupt monarchy may last by the rule of force, but a corrupt republic cannot endure. Our late civil war is not the only cause of our corruption. The system which has made offices of the Government the spoils of party victory is not transitory, but threatens to become permanent. It distributes the places of trust and responsibility as the reward for party service. It appeals to the mean impulses of gold and selfishness as the controlling motive of politics. It degrades the civil service to the level of mere party agency, treats the officers as the hired servants of the party, taxes them for party support. The place holders and place hunters tend to organize a standing army of political mercenaries, to be paid from the government treasury. Every student of our political history knows that, since the spoils system was inaugurated, corruption has steadily increased, and it will increase as long as the system continues, for such a system will crowd out of political life men of patriotism and true merit. The war only stimulated the corruption, which would have grown without war.

"What can we do toward securing reform in the coming election? Never were good government and the honor of the American name more dependent on the character, ability and reputation of the men to be selected for the highest offices. The country cannot afford the election of a man for president whose very name is not conclusive evidence of the most unpromising determination to make this a pure government once more. No more worn out, claptrap of fair promises will satisfy our duty.

The address is signed by Carl Schurz, chairman, Martin Brimmer, of Mass., L. F. S. Foster, of Conn., Park Godwin, of N. Y., Jno. A. Boyd, of Wis. Published by order of the conference, and signed by Theodore Woolsey, president, vice presidents, and secretaries.

The address was unanimously adopted. A resolution by Schurz was also adopted for the appointment of an executive committee consisting of the business committee of his conference, and one from each State in the Union, and empowered to employ means to carry out the purposes indicated in the address and to call a conference if necessary.

Charles Francis Adams, Jr., being loudly called upon, made a brief speech, and concluded by saying—"Among the presidential candidates there is one whose name stands unblemished before the country to-day, and by nominating him the republican party will gain the vote of every honest man. That man is Sec'y Bristow (applause). The good old memories of the war are dying out and people cannot be frightened into supporting any democratic party. Also there is one man skilled in political life, a gentleman of well-known character and high standing—Gov. Til-

den, whom, if they nominate him, I will support as the next best thing to Bristow (cheers). If good men are not nominated by either party, then we will put forward a candidate of our own. Thank heaven, this is no hard cider campaign, nor singing nor wood-chopping campaign in this Centennial year. I only ask that I shall stand up and vote and be content."

A number of other noted speakers, in full sympathy with the address, delivered brief speeches.

Sidney Thomas, of Chicago, moved that the conference recommend to the consideration of both parties and of the people of the country the name of Chas. Francis Adams.

Eaton offered a substitute that the conference make no presidential nomination. The substitute was adopted. The conference then adjourned *sine die*.

RICHMOND, Va., 16.—In the railroad accident to the military excursion on the Petersburg road no one was killed. Eight or ten were wounded, but none mortally or dangerously.

WASHINGTON, 16.—Fernando Wood is to report favorably on the bill to relieve savings banks from stamps on receipts from depositors.

A revenue raid in Wilkes Co., S. C., resulted in the capture of twenty distilleries and 30,000 gallons of mash and beer. At one place over 15,000 gallons of crooked whiskey was seized.

A similar raid in Scott Co., Va., resulted in the capture of five distilleries with contents, including over 10,000 gallons of mash and beer.

CHICAGO, 16.—The *Tribune's* Sioux City special says, letters reached here this morning from reliable parties, dated Black Hills, April 26th, bring most discouraging accounts of affairs in that country. The Indians are becoming very troublesome, frequently killing men at their own doors, stealing horses, and committing other depredations. These letters say the stories of gold there, in paying quantities, are lies. Provisions are scarce and high, a great majority are on the verge of starvation. The miners were leaving as fast as they arrived a month ago.

CINCINNATI, 16.—Eight children between the ages of eight and fifteen years attempted to cross the Ohio river, near Vevan, in a skiff last Sunday. In the middle of the river the skiff began to fill with water, and before aid could reach them, five of them, all children of Chas. Irwin, were drowned.

The democratic State convention will be held here to-morrow.

ST. PAUL, 16.—A party of Black Hills pilgrims, who returned into Bismarck after a ten days' stay in the Hills, report a fight on April 2nd, between their party, outward bound, and Indians from Standing Rock, led by Slave, in which Slave and three other Indians were killed.

General Terry's Big Horn expedition is delayed by heavy rain. It moves out from Ft. Lincoln to-morrow.

PHILADELPHIA, 16.—Wool is in improved demand. Prices easier and in buyer's favor. Supply light, and new wool is appearing on the market in small lots. Colorado washed 18 @ 22, unwashed 15 @ 17, extra and marino pulled 32 @ 35, No. 1 and superior pulled 32 @ 35, No. 1 and superior pulled 32 @ 34, Texas fine and medium, 11 @ 20; Texas coarse 15 @ 17, Cala. prime and medium 20 @ 23, coarse 17 @ 20.

The Bay District Association announce for next fall meeting at their track a mile and repeat running race for \$3,000, two mile and repeat for \$6,000, and four mile and repeat for \$20,000. The character of gentlemen composing the association precludes the recurrence of the shuffling practice of the Pacific Jockey Club in the last four mile race.

The sailing of the Pacific Mail Steamer *Montana* for Panama is indefinitely postponed.

The British Steamer *Quang* arrived from Hong Kong via Yokohama with nearly a thousand coolies.

Japan press prosecutions continue against newspapers of the opposition. In spite of representations of foreign ministers the Government has declined to abolish the tax on passengers by foreign owned steamers. Several earthquake shocks, some of them quite severe, have occurred at Tokio.

Yokohama, April 26.—Several graduates from Imperial College at Yeddo proceed shortly to complete their education in America. Con-

den, whom, if they nominate him, I will support as the next best thing to Bristow (cheers). If good men are not nominated by either party, then we will put forward a candidate of our own. Thank heaven, this is no hard cider campaign, nor singing nor wood-chopping campaign in this Centennial year. I only ask that I shall stand up and vote and be content."

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