

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

FRIED FOOD.—One of the first scraps I light upon is one picked up somewhere, evidently from an American newspaper, from the dishes mentioned about the health of farmers. What singular combination of edibles they make use of in the United States! This jotting, after assuring us that farmers out in the west are not so long-lived as other classes, although under proper dietetic conditions they ought to be more so, proceeds to say:

"Fried dishes several times a day, with several fried articles at each of the three meals, is one of their common dietetic abominations; dried beef, old cheese and pickles, are among the common relishes, while lard and saleratus make their richer dainties infectious and caustic. We have seen on a farmer's table fried pork, fried eggs, fried potatoes and fried griddle cakes for breakfast; fried ham, fried hominy and fried apples for dinner, and fried sausage and fried doughnuts for supper. All the frying done in lard."

"No one is so troubled with cancer, tumors, cancers and humor as farmers, and the excessive use of pork, lard, fine flour, rich cakes and greasy pastry, is enough to account for it. In dietetic habits our farmers are sadly misled by the agricultural journals, nearly all of which pander to their prejudices and flatter their morbid appetites by recommending and commending swine breeding and pork eating, while they fill the Kitchen Column with receipts for making rich and palatable puddings, pies, cakes, and other complicated dishes, which no stomach ever carried inside of a human body could long tolerate without death or dyspepsia. The essential need of our farmers is plain, wholesome food, properly cooked. This would give them much more available power for work, relieve them of many of the distresses and expenses of sickness, add many years of their life, and render old age 'green' and normal instead of dry and decrepid, as it is in most cases under existing habits."—*Ex.*

GOOD BUTTER.—The market is abundantly supplied with poor butter, but of finer qualities the supply is very limited. It is a matter of wonder that dairy farmers do not regard their interests more wisely, in manufacturing this most important farm product. It requires but a very little more skill and care to send to market butter which finds a ready sale at high prices, than to send that which nobody wants, and which, if sold, goes at a low price. It is impossible for any butter producer to be in the slightest degree independent and above-board, who is contented to make an article of second or third quality.

If a dairyman in Vermont, New Hampshire, or any other State wishes to conduct his business successfully, let him come to the city and ascertain the character of the product which every dealer is anxious to procure, and for which he is willing to pay high prices in ready money. Many farmers at a distance from the city do not really know what perfect butter is, having never seen the article. Finding as we do a ready sale for our milk almost at our own door, we have not, to much extent, turned it into butter; therefore our supplies come from those who raise milk under different circumstances. So difficult is it to procure perfect butter in the market, that frequently we have waited a week before any could be found; when found, the price is about double that for which ordinary qualities are sold, and the price is cheerfully paid. How to make good butter can be easily understood. Some remarks upon this point have already appeared in the *Journal*. Good butter cows are necessary, and also care and perfect cleanliness in milking, straining and setting the milk. Without cool, airy, sweet rooms, specially designed for dairy purposes, it is impossible to make perfect butter. It cannot be produced in ordinary farm houses, with ordinary conveniences. Those who produce butter largely, or even moderately, should have plenty of ice in summer; and in winter, the warmth needed should not come from a stove in the room, as it is difficult to prevent contamination by dust and gases. The art of making good butter is like other industries—it must be learned; and there are certainly no investigations that a dairy farmer

can make which will give him better pecuniary returns for his trouble.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

MUTTON SHEEP.—The taste for mutton is growing among American consumers of meat. Farmers, too, are learning that a fat sheep is a very convenient source of meat during the summer season instead of the hitherto inevitable salt pork or bacon. Besides, spring lamb with green peas and asparagus makes a dish for the farmer's table equal in delicacy to the roast pig of Charles Lamb's Chinaman. But yet, with all this, our fat sheep and spring lambs are not successes. Occasionally we raise a few that are passable; but the market reports show that the Canadians beat us in the quality of the sheep they send to market. The best mutton and the heaviest lambs come to us thence. Why this is thus, is worth investigation by those who make a business of keeping flocks. On the face of it there are two good reasons for this state of things. First, the Canadians raise wholly mutton sheep, grade Lincolns, Leicester and Cotswolds. These are their specialties. Second, they raise roots. This is the key to their position. Without roots they could not raise that class of sheep. Every Canadian farm has its field of roots as we have ours of corn. We keep a class of sheep productive wholly of wool. Wholly is used advisedly, because the flesh of the merino and grade merinos is not worth calling mutton. From them we raise small but very fat lambs which are marketable early; but their earliness and fatness are their only conspicuous qualities. We feed these sheep on hay and corn; a sort of food which fattens them, but causes a disordered condition of the body which shows itself very often by cutaneous affections and premature shedding of the wool. "So bad begins, but worse remains behind," for the proverbial carelessness and poor business tact of farmers lead them to permit their ewes intended for market to run with the rest of the flock and become with lamb. This is an unpardonable error and tends to disgust a mutton eater with the name of "native sheep." If our farmers would raise mutton that deserves the name, all this should be changed. They must raise roots as well as corn. The corn stubble should be prepared for a root crop by a fall plowing, or at least a double plowing early in the spring, an abundant manuring, and the crop when sown must be well cultivated. Directly and indirectly it leads to profit; and with roots to feed with, and the blood of the heavier sheep mingled with our native flocks, in a short time we could produce equally good mutton with our neighbors across the lakes. Then the sheep intended for market should be kept in a flock by themselves and not be permitted access to the rams.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Gallantry of a British Seaman.

On the 7th of November the remainder of the passengers were to be executed—fifty in all; but on the morning of that day an English man-of-war, the *Niobe*, arrived in port. The captain, in coming into the harbor, did not salute the Spanish forts. He was in his boat before his anchor touched the bottom, and on landing proceeded straight to the Governor's house, and peremptorily demanded that the executions should cease. The Governor at first declared that he had no right to interfere, but the captain said that in the absence of an American man-of-war he would take the responsibility of protecting American citizens, and guarding the honor of the American flag. It is said he gave the Governor-General his choice between yielding to his demands or having the city bombarded, and the Governor accordingly gave way. Only for the arrival of the *Niobe*, there can be no doubt but that the fifty would have been shot that afternoon. All the Americans in port were loud in praise of the manner in which the captain of the *Niobe* acted. I ascertained, a few days after his arrival, that he came in answer to a telegraphic message from the American consul, sent after the massacre of Capt. Fry and the crew, asking to have an American man-of-war dispatched to Santiago de Cuba. There happened to be no American man-of-war at Kingston at the time, but the commander of the *Niobe* immediately got up steam, and, even though he had not his full complement of men, many of

them being on shore, without delay started for Santiago de Cuba. One of his first acts was to compel the Spaniards to remove the American flag from the place on the deck of the *Tornado*, where it had been thrown about and trampled upon for days, more like a rag than a flag. He also compelled the Governor of Santiago to furnish him with five copies of the official proceedings in regard to the trials—one for himself, one for his Commodore, one for the American Government, one for the British, and the remaining one for the American Commodore.—*N. Y. Times.*

SHALL THE WOMEN OF UTAH BE DISFRANCHISED?—The infamous "Utah Bill," passed in the United States Senate, last winter, but defeated by our friends in the House of Representatives, has been again introduced into the Senate by Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, with an urgent appeal for its speedy passage. This bill not only would deprive the women of Utah of the ballot, which they now possess, but would subject the women of all her Territories, in express terms, to the provisions of the English Common Law "as it existed before the Declaration of Independence." It would deprive every married woman in the Territories of all the rights of person, property, children and earnings, and would make her a slave in the custody of her husband. We cannot believe that Congress will perpetrate such an outrage upon the women of America, as to permit the passage of this infamous bill. H. B. D.

—*Woman's Journal*, Dec. 13.

MONTANA NOTES.

Neillie Holden, of Missouri Valley, was kicked in the head by a horse, Dec. 11, producing a depressed fracture over the right ear, and insensibility. He can hardly recover.

The Montanians are signing a petition to the Secretary of the Interior to appoint a salaried commissioner and assistants, for the National Yellowstone Park, and requesting an appropriation by Congress to make roads through said park, and for protecting it from vandalism, as parties are carrying away curiosities and game; also for the immediate appointment of a congressional commission to visit the park early next summer and inquire and report upon the subject.

ARIZONA NOTES.

From the *Prescott Miner*, December 12—

Those who profess to be learned in treeology aver that Arizona has, in the past, been subject to dry periods, lasting seven years, and, of course, to similar wet periods, but this reading of wood we take merely for what it is worth, and with some grains of allowance, and for the following reasons. The Territory was really settled by Americans in 1863, a dry year, 1864 5-6-7 and 8—five pretty wet years—followed. Then came 1869-70-71-72 and 73—dry years, which period, judging from present indications, will be followed by another wet period. Should this forecast prove correct, we may look forward to stirring times, when miners and people who own "dry" ranches will be as flush of money as they were in "early days." At the end of this period, people will be able to bore for artesian water, and it may be that railroads, telegraph lines and a denser population will, at the end of the next five years, make such a change—for the better—in our climate, as is already noticeable in Utah, Wyoming and other places. We hope so, as all that is wanted in Arizona is more rainfall. God has provided the Territory with everything else.

"Apples from San Bernardino, California," are among the "luxuries" imported by Arizonians, who, to their shame, are, at this late day, dependent upon California for fruit of almost every description. Now, this reliance upon California, for fruit ought not to be as general, when Arizona can raise almost everything in the fruit line. Let us, as soon as possible, strike for independence; not that we grudge Californians our patronage, but because we need the money.

Snow descended nearly all day long, Dec. 10, at times in big flakes, but often in multitudinous tiny ones, all of which melted almost as

fast as they struck the ground. It was cheering to see the "beautiful snow" descend, as it used to in years past, when Arizona was almost as soft as Oregon.

PIOCHE NOTES.

From the *Record* of Dec. 17—

John Bolson, whose dangerous illness was mentioned in our previous issue, died yesterday morning between 12 and 1 o'clock. We were reliably informed yesterday that he had not, as previously stated, been alone and unattended during two or three days, but received attention from his friends before he was taken into Mr. Daugherty's house, where he was attended by Dr. Deal and was cared for with every kindness. Deceased had resided in Montana, Missouri, and Kansas, and is believed to have been born at Pittsburg, Pa.

Three of the principal milk vendors of this neighborhood have entered into an agreement whereby the prices of milk from this time until the 1st of May will be at the rate of \$1 per gallon for any quantity not exceeding one quart; seventy-five cents a gallon when sold in any quantity equal or exceeding a half gallon. After the 1st of May prices will be reduced from \$1 to seventy-five cents in the first instance and from seventy-five to fifty cents in the second. The reason assigned, and which seems not unreasonable, is the scarcity of feed for cows and the extra care required to be taken of them during the rigor of winter.

From the *Record* of Dec. 18—

The Havana mine has a solid body of ore twelve feet wide, which experts assert will assay from \$200 to \$300 to the ton. The owners regard \$100 a ton as a very good strike.

Pigeon shooting has been broken up in London and New York, but invention came to the rescue, and the genius of some lover of such amusement was found sufficient for the emergency. There is one of these inventions in town, which may be seen at Clancy's saloon. By means of a screw the trap can be set, and upon this a "dummy" pigeon is placed. A spring is so arranged that by touching it the pigeon is sent into the air to the distance of about thirty feet. The trap is placed at the required distance from the shooters, and a string attached to it. When all is ready the string is pulled and up goes the pigeon, and the shooter has a fair chance to test his skill. The pigeon is colored black, and if it is struck the fact can be easily ascertained. A record of the shot is made and the "bird" repainted. Several gentlemen were testing it yesterday, and expressed themselves satisfied with its working.

WESTERN NOTES.

Clipped trade dollars are complained of at Virginia, Nevada.

Clark's Station, twenty miles east of Reno, Nev., is in an almost "snowless and rainless" region. An inch of snow has fallen so far the present season, and rain has hardly ever been known here. Good locality for stock though.

At Santa Cruz, Cal., December 18th, a Frenchman named Gracia was accidentally killed while assisting to roll a cask of liquor into a cellar. The cask slipped and struck him with great force in the face and breast as he stood beneath it, killing him instantly.

The deepest place yet found in Lake Tahoe measures but 1,645 feet. In quite a number of places its depth is from 1,000 to 1,500 feet. The lake has been supposed to occupy the site of the crater of an extinct volcano, and the deepest soundings obtained are at a point where there are still several hot springs.

The first prize in the Havana lottery, \$500,000, has been won by parties in San Francisco, who hold coupons of the lucky ticket, No. 8,640. An attaché of the *Chronicle* gets \$25,000, and a Clay Street market poulturer a like amount. One coupon of No. 8,640 was sold in Virginia, Nev., also ticket No. 1,933, which drew a prize of \$10,000.

Mr. Thorne was terribly frozen, Dec. 8, between Monitor and Silver Hill, Nevada. He had lost his way and when discovered had lain down in the snow and was almost lifeless. He had been out in the snow storm nearly thirty hours.

His hands and feet were frozen till they were as hard as lumps of ice. Care had to be used in order not to break his hands off while packing him in. It was found necessary to amputate both feet, but the physician intended to do his best to save his hands.

Occasionally diamonds and other precious stones are found in the mines of Cherokee and at Morris ravine and Thompson's Flat, Butte county, Cal.

A gentleman and his family, resident in this city, have just discovered, by personal experience, that water allowed to rest in a leaden pipe will become poisonous. Most people knew that a long time ago, but we live and learn.—*S. F. Chronicle.*

We learn from private sources that our citizens have organized a Vigilance Committee. We have been, and always will be, opposed to violent measures for preserving order, but the recent murders and frequent robberies of which we hear almost daily have aroused our people to an action of this kind. It is true that crime is common in our midst—the person who shows the glittering eagle, or tells one he has four bits to keep him over night, is not safe when he goes to sleep; but with all this we must say, let the law do the work.—*Visalia Delta*, Dec. 18.

The *Virginia Chronicle* says parties in that city are agitating the getting up a handsome and valuable silver brick, to be forwarded to Lambton Lorraine, commander of the British war vessel *Niobe*, for his manly action in saving from the Spanish butchers of Cuba the lives of the survivors of the crew and passengers of the ill-fated steamer *Virginius*. It will be remembered that Commander Lorraine stopped the massacre by threatening to bombard Santiago de Cuba, which threat deterred the bloodthirsty Burriel from ordering the execution of the few spared from the first slaughter. It is proposed to stamp upon the silver: "Lambton Lorraine—You are a brick; this is another. Presented by Americans who love Humanity and its manly defenders. Virginia City, Nevada, U. S. A., 1873."

The San Francisco public has been recently interested concerning an Indian "bear boy," on exhibition there. Judge Myrick granted Captain William P. Scott's application before the Probate Court to be appointed the boy's guardian. The boy was to be taken to the almshouse temporarily, and shortly to be sent back to his tribe. He is thus described:—"Judge Moore, the County Judge of Plumas, testified that he had known the boy ever since the latter was born, and was acquainted with the circumstances of his birth. The boy's father and mother were traveling through the mountains when 'Old Bill,' the boy's father, climbed over a log and came upon a bear lying on the other side. The bear seized him and mangled him fearfully, although he escaped alive. The mother, who was then pregnant, witnessed the horrible occurrence, and when her child was born it was deformed as it is at present, with a human body and the instincts of a bear. He was brought up in the valley in which he was born. He had never been able to talk, and was always idiotic and helpless as at present. Witness didn't think he was possessed of as much intelligence as a bear. His chief delight was to crawl into a mud puddle and wallow and play therein."

FARMINGTON, Dec. 23, 1873.

Editor *Deseret News*:

I spent an hour and a half, last evening, very pleasantly, in listening to the recitations and readings of Mr. Hood Alston, who designs publishing a book of poems of his own writing. He gave us his "Modern Saints," which describes, in thrilling language, the trials and drivings of the Latter-day Saints up to the time of their entrance into the Valley. This of course is a theme ever interesting to the people here and was listened to with the greatest attention. He also recited "The Drunkard to his Dog," an original poem, which is well worthy of note, as a work of merit, and some other poems, original and selected.

Mr. Alston expressed himself very highly pleased with the people here, their appearance, intelligence and management of affairs, and left a good impression. Yours truly, VIATOR.