

the bench is to be filled by Mr. Mederie March.

It is reported that a Fenian force is gathering on the Vermont border of this province, and there is considerable excitement in Mesquieu, Huntington, &c. Cincinnati, 22.

The steamer Gen. Buell, of the Cincinnati and Louisville mail line, was boarded at Warsaw, Ky., night before last, by 200 or 300 men, who forcibly seized C. W. Ferris, U. S. mail agent, and took him ashore. Ferris was promoted marshal at Warsaw during the war, and was instrumental in the execution of 2 guerillas, by orders of Gen. Burbridge. The *Gazette* and *Commercial* say he was arrested without warrant, while the *Enquirer* affirms that a true bill had been found against him, by the grand jury of Carroll County, for murder.

Chicago, 22.

Washington specials say Seward is rapidly failing, and it is feared he cannot survive much longer.

The President has appointed James R. Hood, of Tenn., Secretary of Colorado Territory. Hood was a late member of the Tennessee Legislature, and was expelled for bolting.

The *National Intelligencer* is furious at the tardiness of the President in decapitating Radical office holders. It says it were better for the administration, a thousand times over, to make a public declaration utterly against removals, than to have a continuance of such mocking delusion; and swears it were better to fall back upon Radical disunion army of office holders and have their mercy, than to continue the practice of the homœopathic treatment, when there should be heroic wholesale cautery.

Miscellaneous.

HARVESTING AND CARE OF SORGHUM.

Sorghum is essentially a perennial plant. It would re-produce itself from the roots, like other grasses, if not killed by frost. The inference then is that the excess of sugar, after furnishing the material for stalk and seed, tends to return to the roots, there to constitute capital stock for another growth. If this be true, the period of greatest saccharine wealth must be at the time the seed is forming, and before the counter-march of forces sets in. The notion that fully ripe cane only produces crystallizable sugar, is not well supported. It is natural to infer this, but the facts do not support the theory. Sugar is made from both ripe and partially ripe cane, as often from the latter as the former, and oftener, we think, from that which is slightly under than that which is over ripe. We think cane should be cut when the majority of the seeds have acquired a maturity corresponding with that of wheat when it is considered ripe enough to cut.

STRIPPING CANE.—In this matter operators will be governed by circumstances. It is better to strip the cane and bind it up in nice, convenient bundles, but it is not best to take the time for this, if you must thereby delay or prolong the time of harvesting, unduly incurring the risk of a freeze, or if the work of plowing and planting fall wheat must be neglected; or if other interests more important must be sacrificed. Cane may be worked without stripping, but the blades should be dry and not mildewed. It is more cumbersome to handle, the operation of grinding is much slower, the leaves take up considerable juice, and, with horsepower mills, the drawbacks are sufficient to render this mode wholly unadvisable. The blades may be stripped off while the cane is standing, but in this case the cane should be cut as fast as stripped, or without more than one day's delay. It may be cut without stripping, and put immediately, while the leaves are green, into moderate sized shocks, a good plan. The blades are better preserved, and are worth something for fodder. When the cane is hauled to the mill, the blades go along at the same time, and may be stripped off in a convenient place for removal to the barn or shed. The labor of stripping when the leaves are cured—we do not say dried—on the stalks, is considerable. They are tough, and it requires an actual pull to disengage them. When quite green and tender, or when dry and brittle, the blades may be rubbed off in various ways, some of them very expeditious. If the stalks are piled on the cart or wagon, with the smaller ends sticking out all one way, they may be pulled out of the load two or three stalks at a time, leaving most of the blades behind. Some recommend setting up a board

with several augur holes, of different sizes, bored through at a convenient height, and employing one small boy to insert the small ends of the cane into the holes, and another on the opposite side to jerk them through.

SEED.—One convenient mode of cutting off the seed heads is to whack them off with the knife at the time the cane is cut, and before the handful of stalks, which has been cut, is laid down or put into the shock. Another is, when the cane is laid down in little bunches on the ground with some regularity, to crop them off on the ground. This is very conveniently done if a little care is employed in laying down the stalks, and it does tolerably well any way. It leaves the seed heads less scattered, which is an object if they are to be collected, and if they are allowed to go to waste, or if it is proposed to turn stock in to eat them; we hope neither of these plans will be charged upon us.

CURING CANE.—A curing process of about two weeks is an advantage, not only in concentrating the juice and reducing the quantity to be evaporated by fire, but in also improving the quality of the syrup. A brief period of drying fixes the chlorophyll, or green vegetable matter, which exists in the epidermis and shell of the cane, also in the sheath which surrounds the stalk, and prevents this offensive substance from being expressed out with the juice.

STORING CANE.—If cane is to be kept for convenience longer than the time appropriated for curing, it will keep without injury in shocks in the field, if put up so that the rains cannot penetrate, or if the leaves are cured it may, when quite dry, be put into large stacks and covered with straw to protect it from rains and suns. Sheds are most secure, but they should be open at the sides. There is more danger of heating with cane that has been stripped, than with that which is put up with its dry leaves on; hence more care should be employed with the former to secure ventilation. If put up in large bulk, leave air passages through the centre, or, what is better, support it up from the ground or floor upon a low cribbing of rails, allowing the air to circulate beneath. Avoid leaving cane an unnecessary length of time in small bulks, exposed to the sun and wind. The juice evaporates rapidly, and it will soon become so dry as to be worthless.

FROZEN CANE.—A frost that merely kills the leaves without freezing the cane does no injury, except that it leaves the stalks exposed to the sun in much the condition of stripped cane. It should therefore be cut and stored or shocked without much delay, to prevent the undue evaporation of juice. If the thermometer descends one or two degrees below the freezing point, the probabilities are that the juice is frozen in the stalks. If this is the case, it will be indicated in a few hours, or as soon as thawed, by a various coloring, which appears when the stalk is cut. The juice cells become ruptured, and mingle with the crude sap, the sugar water staining the portion affected. The depth to which the frost has penetrated can be distinctly seen. Frozen cane should be cut down with all possible dispatch, and protected as much as possible from the sun. To save time, cut it without stripping, and if necessary for greater dispatch, throw it into close heaps on the ground, and as soon as practicable put it in shocks, or, if the leaves are dry, it may be put immediately into sheds or shocks. Avoid putting it up in a large bulk when warm from the sun, and in all the operations have regard to the importance of keeping it cool. If cut immediately after being frozen, and put up and kept cool, there need be no fears about loss or damage. It will keep for an indefinite period. But hours, and even minutes are important. If neglected and exposed to the warm sun, fermentation commences immediately, and in a few days of warm weather, such as usually follow early frosts, the sugar is gone to the winds.

An untimely frost, that is one which occurs early, while the cane is growing vigorously, before it has been stunted and somewhat hardened by moderately cool weather, is more disastrous than a late frost, even to cane in apparently the same or corresponding stages of maturity. The cane is more tender and susceptible; it contains more of the fermenting element, and the weather which follows an early frost is usually unseasonably warm. Let no cane producer beguile himself with the idea that ripe cane is not liable to an injury from a freeze. Both ripe and green cane are susceptible, and in almost the same degree. A freeze will cause the utter loss of either, if not immediately protected from the sun, and it is not worth while

to calculate upon any advantage which one may possess over the other. If two lots were exposed to the same freeze, we would secure the ripest first, as it would be presumed to be the better worth securing.—[*Sorgo Journal*.]

NEW YORK PAPERS.

BITS OF GOSSIP CONCERNING THEM.

An English paper thinks it a "sad speculation" that "out of five hundred daily papers started in New York in the last quarter of a century, only five survive." With the usual inaccuracy of English journalism, when American subjects are under discussion, the writer makes two blunders in this statement. In the first place, five hundred daily papers have not been started in New York, and in the second place, more than five that have appeared within the past twenty-five years still survive.

There are now published in this city seventeen daily journals—namely: the *Sun*, *Herald*, *Tribune*, *Times*, *World*, *Journal of Commerce*, *Evening Post*, *Commercial Advertiser*, *Express*, *News*, *Transcript*, *Staats Zeitung*, *New Yorker Demokrat*, *Abend-Zeitung*, *New York Journal*, (the last four being German,) *Courier des Etats-Unis* and *Le Messager*, *Franko-Americaan*. Of these, nine are less than twenty-five years old; (the *Tribune*) has just passed its twenty-fifth year; and the ages of the others vary from twenty to seventy-two years. The oldest papers in the city are the *Evening Post* and the *Commercial Advertiser*—their respective ages being sixty-five and seventy-two years. The youngest is the *World*, now in sixth volume. Another daily morning journal is talked of, which, if it should appear, will take the place of the *World* as the infant of the tribe.

The strength of the foreign population of New York is seemingly indicated by the support given to no less than six daily journals published in the German and French languages; besides one weekly in Italian, the *Eco de Italia*, and other issues in various tongues, which appear weekly, semi-weekly or monthly. All these papers make a living, and get some degree of profit.

Among the dead papers are the so-called "funny" journals—the *Lantern*, *John Donkey*, *Momus*, *Vanity Fair* and *Mr. Grundy*—all having made great but exceedingly unsuccessful efforts to live, by being "as funny as they could." We do not hear of any ambitious person who is anxious to try the experiment again. The class of humorous journals in New York today is represented by *The Funniest of Phun*, the *Comic Monthly*, &c.—papers which are often happy in the wit of sharp and timely caricatures, political or otherwise, but whose literary character and typographical appearance are execrable.

Several daily papers, like *Slamm's Plobian* and the *True Sun* (the latter started in "opposition to the shop over the way," had a brief and unprofitable existence, and were followed to their graves by sundry serious mourners of like stripe; but the Englishman's assertion that four hundred and ninety-five of these unhappy papers have been born and died since 1840 is ridiculous. Perhaps there have been a dozen of them, all told. There is no question, however, concerning the mortality which has prevailed among the weeklies and monthlies. For instance, the *Saturday Press* has been twice born and has twice died; Dychineck's *Literary World* failed years ago, when it should have been given a cordial and ample support, for it was the most creditable enterprise of its kind we have had; the *Century*; and a score of papers, better or worse than these, have died out—usually after a very brief existence—and are forgotten. Nor have the magazines fared much better—witness the *United States*, the *Continental*, *Putnam's*, the *International*, and nearly all the others but *Harper's*, which flourishes more and more every year, and the *Galaxy*, which is just getting upon its legs, and has the merit of being "alive," if not of dealing very heavy blows.

Our present type of the literary journal is found in the *Nation* and the *Round Table*—both young; the former staid and respectful, the latter vehement and sometimes flippant. Neither is equal to the average weekly literary journals of London—such as the *Spectator*, *Review*, *Athenaeum*, and there is no paper in New York which fills the place occupied in England by *Public Opinion*. The New York papers devoted to specialities are good of their kind—the *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*, the *Stockholder*, and the *Underwriter* in Wall Street; the *Scientific American* and the journals in the mining interest for mechanical and inventive readers; the English and German police papers for

the people who like stories of horrible crimes, not romantic but real, and illustrated by the most startling kind of coarse woodcuts; and Bonner's *Ledges* and half a dozen "story-papers" for the circulation of the cheap "sensational" novels. In the higher class of literary journals we are unfortunately deficient, and are likely to remain so.

The religious press of the city is not only numerous but flourishing. The *Independent* represents the advanced opinion of the Congregational church, as the *Christian Inquirer* mirrors that of the Unitarians; the *Observer* clings to conservative Old School Presbyterianism, and the *Evangelist* to the New School; the *Examiner* and *Chronicle* is the excellent mouthpiece of the Baptists, the *Christian Advocate and Journal* and the *Methodist* of the Methodists, and the *Churchman* and *Church Journal* of the Episcopalians. The Jews have their organ; the Roman Catholics theirs. The Mormons had one a few years ago, but it died.

There are periods in the history of New York when a new paper finds supporters ready to receive it—as, for instance, when the *Times* appeared in 1851 it was greedily seized by many thousands of persons who accepted it as a sort of compromise between the extremes of the *Tribune* and the *Herald*. Whether or not the verdict upon these journals was correct then, is a question not under discussion now, but the fact remains that the *Times* sprang at once into a prominent place in New York journalism, and soon obtained a large and profitable circulation with much smaller outlays of capital than would be required of any similar enterprise started in these days. The *Tribune* began with a borrowed capital of \$1,000; the *Times* had \$100,000, of which it sunk barely two-thirds before receiving a return; the *World* swallowed two or three fortunes, and has changed hands two or three times. The capital required today to start a daily morning journal in New York, with any prospect of success, is at least \$250,000, and if the sum were \$500,000 the better the chance. Probably of the one hundred and seventy papers—daily, semi-weekly, weekly and monthly—now published in the city, one-eighth are making fortunes for their owners, a quarter are getting on comfortably, another quarter are able to "make both ends meet," and the remainder gasp.—[*N. Y. Evening Post*.]

A PERSECUTED PEOPLE.—The Jews are suffering severe trials in the Danubian Principalities, and all the power of the authorities barely suffices to save their lives from the infuriated populace. A letter from Bucharest, referring to this subject, says that the whole Jewish community have been kept in a state of alarm by the threats of a general massacre. On the 30th of June their barely finished beautiful temple, which cost about 23,000 ducats, was destroyed; the walls and roof alone standing. All the interior furniture of a small synagogue was also destroyed, and the scrolls of the law trampled under foot and torn. But for the interference of the National Guards matters would have proceeded to greater extremities. One result of this was to cause a large number of Jews to leave the city, and seek a more hospitable place. At Jassy, too, the Jews suffer severely. A correspondent writing from that town says:—"During the past few weeks cholera has again been raging here, and has attained an intensity truly awful; one hundred and fifty cases, most of which terminated fatally."

CHANGES IN THE CATARACT.—The well known and universally accepted theory that Niagara Falls has worked its way up from the low lands about Lake Ontario, thus forming the magnificent gorge of Niagara River, receives support from the obvious changes that have taken place during the last few years. The Canada fall no longer deserves the name of the "Horse Shoe." The beautiful curve that it presented a score or even a dozen years ago is now lost and the center is rather a deep, retiring gorge coming to a jagged point, than the graceful semi-circle which it formerly was. In the American fall the change is fully as perceptible. From the Canada side it still presents the appearance of a regular wall of dazzling alabaster; but when examined from the American side it is found to be broken and irregular—the rocky precipice having at certain points worn backward as much as much as forty feet. This process appears to be working much faster than hitherto. Table Rock is very different from what it used to be; and a perceptible crevice marks the line where the next fall of the rock will be. This fall may be brought about by next winter's frosts; and when it happens, Table Rock will only be a tradition of Niagara.—[Correspondent *N. Y. Post*.]