AGRICULTURAL.

MATTER PREPARED SPECIALLY FOR THE "RECORD-UNION."

Secretary of Agriculture—Alfalfa in Kansas—Preparing Harvesting Machinery—Glucose from Corn—Etc.

There is now pending before the House of Representatives in Congress a bill reported by the Committee on Agriculture, proposing to make the Department of Agriculture at the national capital an executive department, to be under the supervision of a Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture is to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice of the Senate, and is to be a member of the Cabinet and to receive the same compensation as the Secretaries of other Departments. The bill provides also for the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, and of Chiefs of Bureaus, as follows:

First—The Bureau of Agricultural Products, which shall include divisions of botany, entomology and chemistry. The chief of this bureau shall be a practical agriculturist, and shall investigate the modes of farming in the several States and Territories, and shall report such practical information as shall tend to increase the profits of the farmer, respecting the various methods, the crops most profitable in the various sections, the preferable varieties of seeds, vines, plants, fruits, fertilizers, implements, buildings, and similar matters.

Second—The Bureau of Animal Industry, to be in charge of a competent veterinary surgeon, who shall investigate and report upon the number, value and condition of domestic animals of the United States, their protection, growth and use; the causes, prevention or cure of contagious or communicable diseases, and the kinds, races or breeds best adapted to the several sections for profitable raising.

Third—The Bureau of Lands, the chief of which shall investigate and report upon the resources and capabilities of the public or other lands for farming, stock-raising, timber manufacturing, mining or other industrial uses. The bill provides for the transfer of all powers and duties vested in the Commission known as the geological survey, together with all clerks, employes and agents, and all instruments, records, books, papers, etc., of said Commission to the Department of Agriculture. The Secretary is authorized through this bureau to institute such investigations and collect such information, facts and statistics relative to the mines and mining of the United States, as may be deemed of value and importance.

Fourth—The Bureau of Statistics, the chief of which shall collect and report the agricultural statistics of the United States, and all important information or statistics relating to industrial education and agricultural colleges; to labor and wages in this and other countries; to markets and prices; to modes and costs of transporting agricultural product and live stock to their final market; to the demand, supply and prices in foreign markets; to the location, number and products of manufacturing establishments of whatever sort, their sources of raw material, methods, markets and prices; to such other commercial or other conditions as may affect the market value of farm products or the interests of the industrial classes of the United States.

Provision is also made for the monthly publication of the information gained through these several bureaus by the Secretary, for the benefit of the industrial classes in the United States. The bill as above outlined is just what we have at various times in these columns advocated, and we earnestly hope Congress will enact it into a law.

Why should not the agricultural interest—the largest and most important material interest of the country—have a voice in the highest national council of the country? In the consideration of great national and international questions, why should not the agricultural classes have a representation and a voice? No other industry or calling can thereby be injured, because all others are dependent on agriculture and are therefore interested in its greatest success. The information it is proposed to collect and disseminate through the several bureaus will not only be valuable to agriculture, but to the manufacturing and commercial interests as well. Our agriculture in many important particulars is already having a marked effect upon the agriculture of Great Britain and some of the more important countries of the eastern continent. Our farmers are in direct and successful competition with the farmers of England in the production of wheat, butter and cheese, of beef and pork, dried and preserved fruits, and many other articles of the farm. The vineyards of California are rapidly supplanting the vineyards of France, Italy and Germany in furnishing wines and brandies to the world. In live stock we are in advance of England in the breeding of fine blooded horses and the best breeds of cattle and swine, and our flock owners are leading the shepherds of Spain, France and Germany in the production of valuable sheep and wool. In fact, in all that relates to agriculture, to agricultural products, agricultural machinery, agricultural methods, etc., we are leading the world, and the various nations are looking to us as an example worthy of imitation. Let us, then, have a representative of these great industries, clothed with equal importance and dignity with any other national interest, and it will encourage and stimulate those engaged in them at home and enhance our importance in the eyes of other nations' people.

Sowing Corn for Fodder.

We have of late on several occasions urged the farmers of California to give some attention to the production of fodder from corn. We have also urged the importance of the silo, or air-tight vat, or bin, for its preservation for feeding through the winter season, especially to dairy cows. We now notice and quote a communication in the *Prairie Farmer*, which, so far as it goes, confirms our views on this subject:

There is nothing the farmer can get as much stock food from for the amount of labor expended as he can from a patch of sowed corn for fodder. Now is a good time to begin preparations. Select your ground, and unless rich give it a good coat of manure and plow it under. Let it lay until the last of May or the first of June; then replow and harrow until the surface is thoroughly pulverized; then sow the corn with a drill, about one and a half bushels of shelled corn to the acre if you want it for fodder alone, as by sowing thick the stalks will be smaller, and you will have a larger quantity of blades and tops that the stock will eat up cleaner. By sowing thinner you get larger and heavier stalks, and by sowing a little earlier and letting stand longer you can secure a good supply of nubbins. I prefer thick sowing as it shades the ground more completely and weeds have no chance at all to grow, hence there is no need of cultivating. Cut as soon as it is all tasseled out well; lay in bundles until thoroughly cured, and then shock up or haul to your barn. If you have never tried it you will be astonished at the quantity of fodder you can raise on a small patch of ground. Besides getting a good supply of fodder cheaply, farmers will find this crop a great help during August. When pastures begin to fail and dry up, and the supply of green food gets short, you can keep your stock growing and improving all the time by cutting and feeding from your patch of fodder. We all know that very often stock loses considerably during the very hot days of August when the grass in the pastures gets short, and that too just when it is most desirable to keep them growing. A good supply of green corn grown in this way will be of great benefit at this time. It takes but little ground and very little trouble to give it a trial, and we know from experience that tried once you will never be without your patch of fodder afterwards.

Glucose from Corn.

The manufacture of glucose from corn must be a profitable as it certainly is a growing industry. It is said that there are now manufacturies in the United States with a capacity to manufacture 11,000,000 bushels of corn per annum into glucose. So the corn farmers of the great western corn country are furnished with a market for their produce to that extent. But what becomes of the glucose? It is mostly or greatly used in the adulteration of cane sugar and syrups, which in turn are to a considerable extent consumed by the farmers. The glucose, when manufactured from corn, is worth from three to four cents a pound, but when used as an adulterant of sugar its relative value or price is increased from 50 to 100 per cent., and is sold to the farmers at this advanced price. The 11,000,000 bushels of corn bring the farmers less than $5,000,000, and it is probable that they pay for glucose in their sugar more than $30,000,000 per annum. But this style of speculation out of pocket on their own corn is not the worst feature of the transaction. Glucose is made by boiling corn starch with sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol) and mixing the product with lime. A portion of the sulphuric acid and sulphate of lime, copperas, and other noxious and poisonous ingredients, frequently remain in the glucose, and consequently go into the sugar. In the analysis of seventeen samples of table syrup in common use, Professor Kedsie found fifteen to be made of glucose, one of them containing 141 grains of oil of vitriol and 724 grains of lime to the gallon, and one from a lot which sickened a whole family contained 72 grains of vitriol, 28 of copperas, 363 of lime to the gallon. General Raum, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, reports to Congress that the use of this impure glucose is the cause of the alarming increase of Bright's disease of the kidneys, and Congress has a bill before it to tax and regulate the manufacture of this article, so as to require that all these poisonous ingredients shall be extracted from it before it is put upon the market. The 11,000,000 bushels of corn sold by the farmers of the West to make glucose, not only comes back to cheat them, but to poison and spread disease among them. The bill referred to also provides a heavy license fee to be paid by every manufacturer and dealer in glucose, and that whenever the article, in any form, shall be offered for sale it shall be labelled plainly with its proper name. It also contains other stringent provisions calculated to forewarn and protect the public.

Alfalfa or Lucern in Kansas.

Alfalfa is becoming a very popular forage plant in some of the Mississippi valley States. Professor Shelton, who has had lucern on trial at the Kansas Agricultural College, is enthusiastic in its praise. Among other things he says: "It surpasses anything I know of for hog pasture, and for that use I had rather have one acre of it than five acres of artichokes. Its worst enemies here are the gophers and moles, which completely honeycomb the soil and in time destroy the crop. To get rid of these I would trap them. Any good corn land answers well for lucern. Good, rich, tolerably clean, dry land will do in almost any situation, and if it inclines to clay, so much the better. I would prepare the ground well by thoroughly plowing and harrowing, and sow broadcast about the 1st of April not less than twenty pounds to the acre, and follow with a light harrow and roller." Professor Shelton's experiments have led him to the same opinions as are entertained by California culturists of this valuable plant. No other variety of clover compares with alfalfa as a pasture for hogs or any other kind of stock, and no other kind of clover equals it as hay for cattle—especially for dairy cows. Well-cured alfalfa hay will produce as much milk almost as the green pasture and more than other hay and bran. At the same time, cows will keep in good condition on this hay. It is by far the superior of all other clovers or grasses as to the quantity that may be produced per acre. It is also superior to all the other cultivated clovers or grasses in that it affords more feed in the late fall and early spring. In fact in the absence of frost or freezing weather it will grow all winter. Most excellent pastures are now furnished by the alfalfa fields in this portion of the State, and when not pastured the clover stands from five to six inches high, and will be ready to cut in two weeks from this date.

Haying and Harvesting Machinery Repairs.

Now that good crops are almost certainly assured there will be great activity among the farmers in preparing their haying and harvesting machinery for work. If these machines were properly prepared for winter and placed away under cover at the end of the last season, the work of preparing them for use will be comparatively light, unless some of the machinery or parts of the framework were worn out or nearly so, in which case these parts will be required to be renewed. Let such farmer take time by the forelock and bring out his mowing machine and horse-rake, and take them apart and examine each part carefully, and see whether all is right and ready for use. If so, let the parts all be cleaned and put together again, so that when the day for work comes he will know that his machines are ready for it. If the wheels of his rake are likely to want the tire set, or a spoke or other part is broken, let them be put in order now, the implement returned to its place marked "ready," examine the guards and knives and running gear of the mower, and if it be found that any of these parts are badly worn or broken, let extras for the same be procured, and the broken or worn parts replaced with perfect extras, so that no time will be lost when mowing has commenced. Let the same course be taken with the reaper and header and thrashing machines. Better spend your over-time now in getting these machines in perfect order than to stop after the harvest has commenced and you have a host of hands under pay to wait for you to go to the shop for repairs at the beginning of harvest. It is an old saying that a stitch in time saves nine, but in some cases in reference to repairing harvest machinery a stitch in time may save ninety-nine.

The Threatening Snow Banks.

There are piled up in the Sierras banks of snow to an extent almost unprecedented in the memory of man. Should the weather remain comparatively cool and without rain for two or three weeks, the water from the extreme north of the State would run down the Sacramento and be out of the way. Then warm weather, unaccompanied by rain, would melt the snow only about fast enough to keep the water in the river at this city at about its present stage, and no damage to crops would occur. Should, however, the weather come off warm at once, and be accompanied with warm rains, we may look for higher water in the rivers than has ever been known. The snows are deeper and lower down on the west side of the mountains than they have been before since the completion of the railroad over them. It is to be hoped that we may be spared the worst consequences of these threatening snow banks.

Artificial Hatching.

The following communication to the RECORD UNION explains itself:

At the February meeting of the North American Poultry Association, after discharge of the regular business, the subject of incubation was thoroughly discussed, and the following facts substantially established: That the only way to raise chickens with certainty, for early market, is by the use of incubators; that a good incubator will hatch from 70 to 80 per cent. of the eggs put in it; that people living in cities, who have not room to keep hens, can use incubators successfully, getting eggs from grocers or farmers near by; that with special care 200 chickens may be raised to market sizes in a room fifteen feet square; that the business of raising poultry is particularly adapted to ladies and infirm people, both in city and country; that live chickens from eight to twelve weeks old will sell (at the East) in April, May, June and July at from 40 to 75 cents a pound, or from $1 to $1 50 each, according to variety and condition. As the mass of people are ignorant of the profits of poultry-raising, and cannot afford to buy expensive incubators, and do not know that they can make a good, cheap incubator themselves, with which to hatch both early and late chickens, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the North American Poultry Association be authorized to inform the people, through a leading newspaper in each State, that plain directions and diagrams for making a good incubator that they can make at home at a cost of less than $5, and that will hold 250 eggs, can be obtained by addressing our Secretary, inclosing two 3-cent stamps for return postage.

At the next meeting the subjects, "How, when and where to market poultry to obtain the highest prices," will be discussed, and the results made known to the public.

J. M. BAIN, Secretary N. A. P. A.
New Concord, Ohio.

This office owes an apology to Miss Levenia Maplewood, in whose poem a ridiculous mistake occurred yesterday. The young lady wrote: "A wood thick in its velvet green;" but the compositor made the line read: "A woodtick in its velveteen."—[Little Rock Gazette.

MANHATTANISMS.

PRO-CONNUBIAL PIETY DURING THE LENTEN SEASON.

Decline of a Moving Custom—Dinner to Edwin Booth—The Great Musical Festival—Etc

NEW YORK, March 17, 1882.

The Lenten season does not make any perceptible difference in the social gayeties of March, except in a few handsome houses where theology and fashion are combined. Almost the only sects that lay any stress on Lent are the Episcopalians and the Roman Catholics, and the latter occupy very little space in the world of mode. A certain number of rich cultured Catholic citizens of Irish birth or Irish extraction have position and influence, though the great bulk of them are, as may be supposed, too undisciplined to have much weight, save at party caucuses and at the polls. There they are as strong as ever, stronger indeed, for it is estimated that our Hibernian population is more numerous by nearly 10,000 than it was at this time last year. It has long been large enough to control the municipal election, and by its overwhelming majority determine the State election also. The most zealous keepers of Lent are Episcopal young women who have danced, flirted and been supremely festal up to Ash Wednesday, and have at that exact date grown suddenly and superlatively austere. They have compounded for their transgressions against conventionality by taking on an indigo hue of piety. They do not go out except to church; they dress in plain colors—generally in black; they discard all ornaments; they read only the ritual and the Bible; they pray morning, noon and night; they meditate much and long; they go to bed early; they visit the poor; they, figuratively, don sackcloth and ashes. This is all sentimentalism. They fancy they excite interest among their acquaintances by such appearance of rigor. They want to make themselves talked about—to get a reputation for profound spirituality, and they usually succeed. They go so far as to talk of retiring permanently from society, in order to devote themselves to good works. They are sure that they shall never marry; they look back on their late fashionable dissipations with a deep sense of contrition. How could they have been so worldly, so earth-stained!

THE PIOUS FERVOR

Will not last, of course; it is cooling already; before Easter they will resume gay colors, jewels, their regular habits, their modish frivolities. They find they can't be very "pious" more than three or four weeks consecutively; the strain is too great upon their pleasure-loving natures. Doubtless temporary abstinence yields a new zest to the resumption of enjoyment. It is always noticed that, later in the season, they are the gayest of the gay, and carry their miscellaneous flirtations to a point of desperation. They are pretty apt to get engaged in the summer, and to be wedded in the autumn or winter. Piety and matrimony may be as cause and effect. If they fail to enlist under Hymen's banners, they will go back to their pretended austerities when Lent again comes round, and discontinue them once more when the season has partially past. I suspect that the theologic character they play has a definite connubial purpose. It certainly seems to be attractive to young men, who are seldom safe in the society of a half-Lent devotee.

The 1st of the coming May will not be much of a moving day here, compared at least with what it formerly was. A few years ago it was little less than a nuisance. Strangers could not understand why New Yorkers annually took possession of one another's houses without betterment and without reason. One cause was that landlords generally thought that rents would advance, and tenants thought they would decline, before another year; and thus a long lease could not be secured. Another cause was that May 1st was almost universally the moving date. Now autumn is often the moving time—the last of September, October or even November, particularly, when apartments are wanted. Moreover, all New Yorkers who can afford it are inclined in these days to own their houses. They believe, rightly, that it is the best investment they can make, and they make it accordingly. Ten times as many private residences, real estate agents inform me, are owned by their occupants as were owned at the beginning of the civil war. This is surely one long step toward true domesticity, in which this city has for many years been lacking.

I am sorry to learn that a sharp discrimination is now making against German Jews as tenants. Many landlords will not let to them at all; not, they say, because they are either Germans or Jews, but because, they allege, they are extremely careless and untidy in their ways and habits, and because, they say, they seriously damage the property they hire. Another reason given is that their presence as neighbors, especially in apartments, prevents neater people of other creeds and nationalities from dwelling under the same roof. I am told of several rich Jews, owners of apartment-houses of the best kind, who have a standing rule not to let any part of those to persons of their own sect. I am acquainted with other real-estate holders who for some time refused to be governed by this apparent prejudice. But, after repeated unfortunate experiences, they succumbed to it from a sense of self-interest. The feeling is not one of race or faith, but simply of financial advantage.

EDWIN BOOTH

Intends, as you have heard, to go to Europe on a professional tour next May, and, after he has filled various engagements in Britain, to act in the principal cities of Germany to which he had been cordially invited last year, when the serious illness of his wife compelled his return home. He will speak his native tongue on the stage, though supported in German by German players. The Germans are such deep students, such enthusiastic admirers of Shakespeare that I can not help thinking that his "Hamlet," "Iago," "Othello," "Richard I.," "Shylock" and "Brutus" will make an extraordinary impression on them. Some of his friends purpose, I understand, to give him a dinner before his departure. The number will be limited to 200, and will be composed of prominent actors, authors, journalists, painters and others of the artistic guild, a similar company to that which invited him to breakfast at Delmonico's last June. The occasion can scarcely fail to be one of marked interest.

By the by, Asia Booth Clarke's new volume, the "Elder and the Younger Booth," is a valuable and attractive addition to histrionic literature. It seems from this that Edwin Booth first appeared on the stage as Tressel in "Richard III.," at the Boston Museum, September 10, 1849, before he was 16. Edwin visited California three years later, when there was no decent theater in San Francisco. At Sacramento he personated Jaffier to his father's Pierre in "Venice Preserved," and being dressed in black for the part, the elder Booth glanced at him, and said: "You look like Hamlet; why didn't you act it for your benefit?" Edwin replied that he would, if he ever had another benefit, and he did. Previous to that time he engaged with Thomas Barton to play in Baltimore in any character that might be assigned him for $6 a week. This sounds curiously now that he readily commands $500 and upwards a night.

THE MUCH-TALKED OF MAY FESTIVAL,

Under the direction of Theodore Thomas, will be held at the Seventh Regiment Armory, and promises to be the finest ever given in the country. Beginning May 2d, it will include seven performances during the week—three in the afternoon and four in the evening. Among the great works to be rendered will be Beethoven's "Missa Solenius," Bach's "A Stronghold Lure," Handel's "Jubilate" and "Israel in Egypt," Berlioz's "Fall of Troy" and Wagner's "Gotterdam-merung." The singers engaged are Mme. Amalia Materna, the famous Austrian interpreter of Wagner; Annie Louise Cary, Campanini, Wilhelm Candidus, George Henschel and other noted artists, native and foreign. The orchestra will be 300 strong and the chorus 3,200. The best possible arrangements will be made for seating and hearing—there will be 8,000 seats in the hall—and the musical quality of the festival is likely to be something that cannot be easily forgotten. Fred. A. Schwab, the well-known journalist and critic, has had business charge of the whole thing for nearly twelve months, and has faithfully discharged his difficult task. It is Theodore Thomas' earnest desire to wholly surpass the Daurrosch Festival of last May, and he undoubtedly will.

VARIETIES.

The church property of the city is now estimated at $225,000,000, on which not a cent of tax is levied. If this prodigious sum were turned into a charitable fund it would certainly do far more good than it can do in its present form. Humanity is always to be preferred to theology.

The Knickerbocker Club-house, at Fifth avenue and Twenty-eighth street, is soon to be torn down, and the club will have new quarters in the same avenue, near Fiftieth street—higher up town than any other club.

A dozen or more new and sumptuous co-operative apartment houses are to be put up the coming spring in various quarters of the city. Some of the apartments in a magnificent house half completed in Eighth avenue and Seventy-second street will rent for $7,000.

The report is circulating that the business of A. T. Stewart & Co, which has been declining ever since A. T. Stewart's demise, will be discontinued by Judge Henry Hilton after the death of Mrs. Stewart, now nearly 80 years old.

Eleanor Carey, the pretty and clever actress of the Union Square Theater, is, I am told, the wife of Clarence Livingston, a member of the historic Livingston family. He formerly lived here, but now lives in San Francisco, where he had the misfortune, some time ago, to lose his entire fortune in a commercial enterprise. He became so poor, I am told, that his wife insisted on returning to the stage from which he had married her. He is a man of kind heart and fine character, and many friends here deeply sympathize with him in his adversity.

The gossips have for the twentieth time secured a prospective wife for James Gordon Bennett. This time she is the daughter of a prominent member of the British Parliament. Bennett is more married by report than any Mormon. CHAUBERT.

"STRIKE WHILE THE IRON'S HOT."

Strike while the iron's hot!
Strike—and with a will;
He is no skillful smith
Who lets the iron chill.
Ere the iron hardens, strike;
Shape it to what shape you like—
To the scythe or knife or sword,
To slay or heal or mow the sward.

Strike while the iron's hot,
Strike with hand and heart;
Quickly turn the bar,
And smite on every part.
Bring the sledge down with a swing
Till it makes the anvil ring.
So great master-workmen wrought,
So struck the iron while 'twas hot.

So, when the time is ripe
To act, or think, or say,
The precious moment seize
Before it pass away.
Shape the action to your ends,
As the smith the iron bends;
Let the word and let the thought
Promptly into deed be wrought.

Strike while the iron's hot,
Or do not strike at all;
Strokes the cold bar will break,
Not fashion, when they fall.
If you're slow in arm and brain,
All your labor will be vain.
The quick of head and quick of hand
May rise from serving to command.

SPARKS OF SCIENCE.

Some naturalists in Alaska have found it difficult to secure a skeleton of the sea otter, because the natives believe that when they kill an otter they must cut off the head and throw it into the sea or their canoe will be lost.

De Fosse, of Paris, has introduced a paper covering for furniture. It is made in imitation of Cordova leather, and is said to be so effective in its purpose as to promise competition with textile fabrics for upholstery work.

Special poisons are secreted by the toad, salamander, newt, frog, etc. M. Paul Bert has collected a liquid from the glands on the neck of the frog which caused the death, with convulsions, of a sparrow to which the substance had been administered.

Some observations were lately made in a balloon by M. de Fouvicle on an opaque cloud which covered the region of Paris for several days. The cloud was hardly 300 meters thick. The upper part of the guide rope was covered with hoar-frost. The mean temperature of the cloud was 5°.

It is stated that in Mexico wooden railway ties cost about $1 50 apiece, and that some of them laid on the Mexican National Railway last May are now decayed and unsafe. It is said that it has been found cheaper to order iron ties, worth $3 each, from England, than to use wooden ones.

In coppering cast-iron M. Weil uses a bath of copper sulphate rendered strongly alkaline with an organic acid added to prevent the precipitation of copper oxide. To effect the same object MM. Mignon and Rouatt employ a distinctly acid solution of a double salt of copper and any alkali with an organic acid.

To harden steel take two teaspoonfuls of water, one-half teaspoonful of flour and one of salt. Heat the steel enough to coat it with the paste by immersing it in the composition, after which heat it to a cherry red and plunge it into soft water. If properly done the steel will come out with a beautiful white surface.

The *Munster Zeitung* recommends in preference to the treatment of glue with nitric acid the following: So-called gelatine is dissolved in the water bath in its own weight of strong vinegar, a quarter part of alcohol and a very little alum. This glue remains liquid when cold, and is much used for cementing mother-of-pearl, horn, etc., upon wood or metal.

A new and interesting proof that the earth is round has been presented by M. Dufour in a paper recently read before the Helvetic Society of Natural Sciences. In calm weather the images of distant objects reflected in the Lake of Geneva showed just exactly the same degree of distortion which calculation would predict through taking into consideration the figure of the earth.

Mineral-tanned leather is impervious to water, and is said to be much more durable than leather prepared in the ordinary manner. Tests have been made which show that belts of mineral-tanned leather are not only 30 per cent. cheaper, but are stronger than common belts. The mineral process of tanning is reported to have been introduced into eight tanneries in Germany.

If a piece of iron appears to have an unsound weld, or if it has a crack apparent upon its surface, and it is desired to know how deep it penetrates, heat the part to be tested to a red heat and pour a fine stream of water on the faulty spot, but mainly on one side of it, and the iron on that side will lose its redness more rapidly than the other side and plainly indicate how deeply the defect extends.

Boys will be boys. The sons of the Prince of Wales have had their arms tatooed in Japan with storks and a dragon.

UTAH.

BRINGING THINGS TO A HEAD—MURRAY'S BOMBSHELL.

The Polygamists and the Edmunds Bill—Mormon Tactics—The Endowment Vat—Etc.

[Correspondence of the RECORD-UNION.]

SALT LAKE, March 20, 1882.

The passage of the Edmunds bill, taken in connection with several good, stout exhibitions of backbone by Governor Murray, will tend to bring things to a head in Utah at an early date. The Mormons have always been in the habit of deciding by joint session of the Legislature who should occupy several fat offices in the Territory, which, under the Organic Act, the Governor had the right to fill by appointment, subject to the confirmation of the Legislature. This prerogative, however, has never, until this year, been exercised by the Governors of Utah, they either being ignorant of their own rights, or careful to conciliate the polygamous Legislature.

MURRAY'S BOMBSHELL.

The day before the close of the session the Legislature in joint session elected a number of officers, among which were a Chancellor and twelve Regents of the Deseret University. The next day the Governor sent in a new batch of nominations. He allowed the Chancellor of the University to remain as appointed by the Mormons, but named eight leading Gentiles on the Board of Regents. When his message was received it almost paralyzed the Legislature. When read in the Council Chamber it was received by a painful spell of silence, which lasted several minutes. Old Erastus Snow then moved for an executive session, and Daniel Wells rushed to the telephone to call President John Taylor from the Amelia Palace. In a few moments the room was cleared to make way for the High Priests of the Tabernacle. The executive session lasted four hours, during which time a set of resolutions was passed which treated the Governor's act as an unwarranted and unprecedented assumption of power. The new point made was that previous Governors not having exercised the privileges conferred by the Organic Act, it was highly out of place for the present Governor to do it, and that the nominations would therefore receive no attention.

THE DESERET UNIVERSITY.

In the appropriation bill was an item of $15,000 for the extension of the Deseret University, and $40,000 for "public buildings," a vague sort of cloak for any steal which might be considered as expedient at some future time, either in the shape of building Mormon school-houses or furnishing the interior of Taylor's harem. The Governor, in his message on the appropriation bill, stated that on receiving a guarantee that the University would not teach any sectarian doctrines, he would sign the bill, and this the Legislature refused to do, and are now howling about the attempt on the part of the Governor to crush a "well-deserving educational institution." The facts of the case are that the Deseret University is in the hands of Mormon polygamists, who look upon a thorough knowledge of the doctrines and covenants as the first step in the direction of knowledge. All the teachers and professors are Mormons, except the Professor of Chemistry, there being no one in the church capable of filling the bill. The joke of the thing is that while the Mormons aim to make good Latter Day Saints of the pupils, not a single graduate of the institution is now in the church, and Mayor Jennings recently remarked that the university was of no use to the church, as "education seems to have made apostates of all the graduates."

THE EDMUNDS BILL,

Which disfranchises the polygamists of Utah, will place the political control of the Territory in the hands of the Gentiles and the young and liberal Mormon element, who have always been ready to form a coalition, if they could see the slightest chance of success. With the old fossils of the priesthood out of office, there will follow, as a natural result, a political regeneration which will result in the next Legislature being a combination of Gentiles and monogamistic Mormons. The matter rests a great deal with the Commission, and the majority of Gentiles are strongly in favor of a fair-minded, unprejudiced, tolerant body of men, who will make the changes in local self-government gradually, so that anything like turmoil, confusion or hard feeling can, as far as possible and practicable, be avoided. There is no desire to take an undue advantage of the powers conferred by the Edmunds bill. With proper political management the Church can be split clean in two. Simply extending the hand of good-fellowship and conciliation to the young people of the Church, and the lukewarm and discontented class who repudiate polygamy, a combination can easily be formed which would entirely counteract the influence the priests have so long had over the people. The bill not only gives substantial backing to the Gentiles, but to restless backsliding Mormons as well, who now have a good excuse for not embracing the obnoxious tenets of polygamy, which have been constantly crammed down their throats since Young's revelation on the subject.

MORMON TACTICS.

All over the Territory the various office-holders are resigning, under orders from the Church. Most of them are polygamists, and their places are being filled, by appointment, by monogamists, who stand well with the Church. Thus, when the bill goes into effect, the Mormons will cunningly assert that its provisions do not apply to any one in office, and advance as an argument that polygamy is so little practiced in Utah that not a single polygamist was in office when the bill took effect. Until these resignations took place three-fourths of all the elected office-holders of the Territory were dyed-in-the-wool polygamists.

THE RUSH FOR THE ENDOWMENT VAT.

On Thursday last the biggest business ever known in the Endowment House was transacted, and many leading Mormons took fresh wives, as they think they should make hay while the sun shines and get all they can out of polygamy before the bill goes into effect. The Speaker of the House is mentioned as one who embraced these opportunities on Thursday last. A new assortment of fair-haired English women which arrived last week have all been snapped up, and those not supplied with new wives are anxiously waiting for the next steamer to land at Castle Garden.

AT THE TABERNACLE.

Yesterday there was a vast concourse of people at the Tabernacle, many being drawn to the spot expecting to hear the Apostles hurl anathemas at the United States Government. On the previous Sunday, just before the passage of the Edmunds bill, they were bitter and defiant; but yesterday they changed the tune to the whine which is always adopted when they are in a corner. The preachers talked of their oppressions and privations, and assured their hearers that if they just let things go on the holy arm of God would be laid bare, and some dreadful calamity would fall upon Congress and the American people, which would be a special mark of God's vengeance, after which Christ would appear in all his glory and take up his permanent residence in Utah.

BRIGHAM COMING.

A few weeks ago an inventive genius in Omaha telegraphed a sensational yarn to the Chicago *Times* to the effect that Brigham's funeral was all a hoax and the job put up with a view to Brigham's reappearing in the place at some lively crisis of Mormon affairs. While the leading Mormons know, as well as they know anything, that the bones of the Prophet lie under five tons of solid granite, the idea to them of his resurrection is a particularly happy one, and when the ignorant masses in the southern portion of the territory make inquiries about the matter, they are answered with a series of mysterious looks which have all the effect desired, and there are thousands of confiding people in Utah who expect that "Old Brig." will come to the front at any time, bringing 230 pounds of his flabby anatomy along with him. If he ever should come back he would make it pretty lively for the present crowd of vampires who are handling the church purse and dividing the tithing spoils. In his time there was but one hand to grip the sack, and that was the hand of Brigham. He would also kick from office most of the present City Council, and tell Mayor Jennings to step down and out.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS—WIRE PULLING.

The prospect of a speedy settlement of the Utah question is having a good effect on business of all kinds. Real estate is advancing, and an influx of Eastern capital is expected in the spring. Already quite a number of petty-brained office-seekers are laying the wires for political preferment in Utah. There is not in all the Territory over five per cent. of the Gentile population who do not think themselves as just the persons who should be honored with place on the Commission. Some of these dish-headed place-hunters are already elbowing their way to the front and circulating petitions for the eye of the President, recommending them for office. The result of the matter will be that Arthur, seeing that there is a general squabble over places on the Commission in Utah, will sever the Gordian knot by sending out more Eastern men, who really know nothing about one of the most difficult problems which has come before the people for years. The numberless cliques which abound in this country have over and over again defeated the accomplishment of the very ends which have been so often reached, and the scramble for spoils will result about the same in this instance. D.

RECENT MAGAZINES.

The "Magazine of Art" (Cassell, Petter & Galpin, New York), for April is a very handsome number. Its engravings and its text matter is fully up to the high standard set by the journal.

The "Wide Awake" (D. Lathrop & Co., Boston) is at hand for April. It is as bright and as attractive as ever, and the boys and girls of the land will find it redolent of spring's fresh odors and full of choice articles and handsome pictures especially prepared for them.

The "Atlantic Monthly" for April (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston) has these leading papers: "Europe Before the Arrival of Man," by John Fiske; "Shakespearean Operas," by A. E. Barr; "A Modern Hindu Reformer," by Charles Wood; "Development," by A. E. Lancaster; "Jacob's Insurance," by P. Deming; "A Realistic Poet," by Philip Bourke Marston; "Progress in Agriculture by Education and Government Aid," by Eugene W. Hilgard; "The Folk Lore of Lower Canada," by Edward Farrer.

Frank Leslie's Sunday Magazine for April presents a great number of woods engravings and a very large number of selected and original articles, chief among them are: "Longevity," by Dr. Talmage; "Weighed and Wanting," by George MacDonald; "Asta," by Catherine Ray; "The Oldest City in the World," by Professor Robertson, of Glasgow; "Genius Under the Microscope," by Julia H. Thayer; "What I Saw of Mormonism," by the editor, DeWit Talmage.

The "Californian" (San Francisco) for April, is still another step in the advancement of this Pacific magazine. Its leading articles are: "Yachting in San Francisco Bay," by Charles G. Yale; "The Higher Utilities of Science," by Joseph LeConte; "'49," by Joaquin Miller; "Our Cheap Greenhouse," by Lucy Underwood McCann; "An Eastern Wish," by Charles S Greene; "A Notable Escape," by James O'Meara; "The London Newspaper," by William H. Rideing; "California Aprils," by Charles H. Shinn; "An International Treaty," by H. B. Norton; "Mount Hood," by Henrietta R. Eliot; "A Visit to a King," by W. F. Bray; "Poor Ah Toy," by Mary T. Mott.

The "Popular Science Monthly" for April (D. Appleton & Co., New York), presents beside its usual full departmants these leading papers: "Chinese Immigration," by Gerrit L. Lansing; "The Scholastic Prelude to Modern Science," by Henry Duncan Macleod, M. A.; "How Animals Breathe," II., by H. L. Fairchild; "Has Science Yet Found a New Basis for Morality?" by Prof. Goldwin Smith; "Fossil Seeds," by Stanislaus Meunier; "The Unaweep Canyon," by Henry Gannett; "Recent Wonders of Electricity," II, by W. H. Preece, F. R. S.; "Modern Explosives," by Benjamin Vaughan Abbott; "The Germ Theory," by Professor Louis Pasteur; "Dean Swift's Disease," by Dr. Bucknell, F. R. S.; "Hyacinth-Bulbs," by Professor Grant Allen; "The Javanese Calendar," by J. A. C. Oudemans.

"Harper's Magazine" (Harper & Bros., New York) for April is an attractive number. The illustrations are especially handsome this month. The most prominent papers in the monthly are: "Spanish Vistas," by George P. Lathrop; "In Days Gone By," by Elizabeth Read; "Athena Parthenos," by B. L. Gildersleeve; "Easter Morning," a poem, by Julia C. R. Dorr; "What We Owe to the Trees," by N. H. Egleston; "My Princess," a poem, by Nora Perry; "Silver San Juan," by Ernest Ingersoll; "The History of Wood Engraving," by G. E. Woodberry; "Poor Ogla Moga," by David Lloyd; "To an Old Woman. A Poem;" by Robert Herrick; "A Trial-Balance of Decoration," by A. F. Oakey; "Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden," by H. W. Lucy; "A Hereditary Witness," by N. A. Prentiss; "Prudence. A Story of Esthetic London," by Mrs. John Lillie.

BREVITY OF LIFE.

We are born: we laugh; we weep;
We love; we droop; we die!
Ah! wherefore do we laugh or weep?
Why do we live or die?
Who knows that secret deep?
Alas, not I!

Why doth the violet spring
Unseen by human eye?
Why do the radiant seasons bring
Sweet thoughts that quickly fly?
Why do our fond hearts cling
To things that die?

We toil! through pain and wrong;
We fight—and fly;
We love; we lose; and then, ere long,
Stone-dead we lie.
O life, is all thy song
"Endure—and die!"

THE RAGS OF A NATION.—A Chicago rag-dealer estimates that each of the 50,000,000 people of the United States discards an average of five pounds of clothing yearly, which makes 250,000,000 pounds for the whole. Then, he says, there are the tailoring establishments, big and little, whose cuttings are not much less in quantity, in the aggregate, than the cast-off clothing of the nation at large, while their quality as rags are greatly superior. Then there are carpets and bedding and curtains and other domestic articles of cloth of some kind, which make up a goodly bulk in the course of a year. These different articles combined make up another 250,000,000 pounds of cloth material, which has been discarded from use, and which eventually finds its way into the ragman's bale. He estimates that 100 car-loads of rags enter and leave Chicago daily.

SCIPIO, N. Y., December 1, 1879.

I am the pastor of the Baptist Church here, and an educated physician. I am not in practice, but am my sole family physician, and advise in many chronic cases. Over a year ago I recommended your Hop Bitters to my invalid wife, who has been under medical treatment of six of Albany's best physicians several years. She has become thoroughly cured of her various complicated diseases by their use. We both recommend them to our friends, many of whom have also been cured of their various ailments by them.

REV. E. R. WARREN.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

HOME ECONOMY—THE CARPET QUESTION AGAIN.

Some Practical Receipts — Some Dress Notes—The Parlor and the Kitchen.

THE CARPET QUESTION AGAIN.

EDS. RECORD UNION: As the carpet question has again taken the floor, may I add my mite to the dust that is being raised, which Mrs. T. thinks she has settled by turning carpets into rugs? Notwithstanding her arguments and experience to the contrary, I advocate carpets; and also, as carpets should be kept clean, as well as rugs, the back-breaking work of taking them up, shaking, putting down again, etc. Housekeeping is a business, and a woman who keeps house follows her business as much as does her father, husband or brother follow his at the store, shop or farm, and it should be a woman's pleasure and duty to make the outcome of her business produce the greatest possible amount of comfort and good to all those committed to her special care. In a room much used, when a carpet gets dusty, it is time it was taken up, the floor wiped up with a damp cloth, the paper wiped off with a dry one, replaced and the carpet put down again. It can all be done in two hours, by exercising a little forethought, removing the tacks the day before, and having things in readiness. In rooms much used, four times a year will answer for this "quarto-annual house-cleaning, and it need not to be a bugbear, by any means—merely a disagreeable part of the "business," to be done in the quickest, quietest and best manner possible. As for sweeping a sick room, if the carpet is clean it is not necessary to sweep very often; and "seeds of disease" as well as dust can be removed far better by wiping or rubbing over the carpet with a cloth. Wring it out as dry as possible in water as hot as the hand can bear, immediately rubbing with a dry cloth; and after the room has been gone over, go over again with a dust pan and a clean brush, which will gather up any lint left. If properly done, there need be no dampness, and not a particle of dust. Two persons, one with the wet, and the other with the dry cloth, can go over a good-sized room in half an hour. I have yet to see a loose rug that is not a snare to the unwary. I know something of rugs—have buried my feet in a "Persian" an inch thick with a polished floor for a border. A bare floor, be it border or the entire room painted, polished, oiled, or the raw material, gathers and gives off far more dust than a carpet properly cared for, from a Milton to a homely rag. K.

Forest Home, March 16, 1882.

SOME DRESS NOTES.

New lace collars for dressy wear are made up in the Dauphin, Robespierre, Roi de Rome, Stuart, Girondin, or Charles II. style, according to fancy, and are all equally fashionable, the essential point being that they shall be very large. These shades are particularly becoming to slender ladies. Women, with high broad shoulders, especially short women, should avoid too wide a collar, as well as too high a ruche or fraise. The style most becoming to these are delicately-made Vandyke collars, or the pointed collarettes and fichus, which can be arranged so as to leave a bit of the throat under the chin exposed.

Some very magnificent brocades have just been imported, designed for dinner and reception toilets, which rival in richness of effect the rare and antique Venetian brocaded fabrics. One of these superb patterns shows large vine leaves of gold on a ground of dark green satin; another has scattered leaves of gray velvet on a ground of ruby satin, and a rich black Turkish satin is brocaded with golden palms and scarlet dahlias. Less showy, but even more elegant, is a brocade with silver ivy leaves and thistle blossoms strewn over a groundwork of pale eglantine pink satin; and lastly is a heavy Persian mauve satin, with a marvelous pink sheen to soften it, brocaded with tiny bouquets of purple and gold heartsease blossoms.

Fine gold and silver, and also beautifully enameled buttons in Arabic and Turkish designs to match rich cashmere effects in dress, are imported; and from Boucheron, the great manufacturer of Parisian jewelry, come costly buttons in fine imitation of rubies, emeralds, opals, diamonds, sapphires, and other precious stones to match with dress trimmings of similar brilliant-colored beads. These buttons are to be in great vogue, and the jewelers are consequently delighted. Another form in which semi-precious stones are to be used is that of sprays of tiny flowers arranged like bracelets, and, beginning at the waist, twined around the arm bangle fashion. Many buttons in copper, bronze, silver and antique metals resembling old foreign coins are really elegant. Other buttons come in dazzling colors, filigree, and also in odd and attractive designs. With these come buckles for sashes to correspond, both forming handsome ornaments.

PRACTICAL RECEIPTS.

BRIDE'S CAKE.—The whites of twelve eggs, three cups sugar, small cup butter, one cup sweet milk, four small cups flour, half a cup corn starch, two teaspoons baking-powder sifted thoroughly with the flour, lemon to taste.

STEAMED OYSTERS.—Wash and drain one quart select oysters, put in pan and place in steamer over boiling water, cover and steam till oysters are plump, with edges ruffled; place in a heated dish, with butter, pepper, salt and lemon, and serve.

COCOANUT PUDDING.—Remove the shell and the brown skin from the meat; grate fine, mix with the grated pulp of one cocoanut three ounces white sugar and half the grated peel of a lemon, add milk for two pies, put it into tins lined with paste, and bake it not too brown.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.—One cup of sugar, one cup of butter, one cup of sour cream, one cup of molasses, four cups of sifted flour, one tablespoonful of ginger, two tablespoonfuls of soda, the grated rind of one lemon, three eggs well beaten; stir the butter and sugar together, then add eggs, milk and flour.

ROAST BEEF A LA FRANCAISE.—Take a rib of beef entirely boned; season the inside and tie it up with some slices of fat pork. To be sure that it is properly cooked, place a raw potato, peeled, at each end; as soon as they yield to the finger the beef is cooked a la Francaise. If you wish it a l'Anglaise, thirty-five minutes will roast it sufficiently. Reduce a little broth without salt and throw it over. Garnish with water cresses.

OYSTER PICKLES.—Choose the largest oysters, put over a gentle fire in their own liquor, add a small bit of butter, simmer for two or three minutes, and, when plump and white, take out with a skimmer into a flat dish; take of their own liquor half enough to cover, add as much more of best cider vinegar, and heat; put a layer of oysters in a stone jar, strew over a saltspoonful of ground mace, a few cloves, some allspice and pepper, then oysters and spice till all are used. Then pour over them the hot liquor and set away in a cool place. They may be used in a day or two, but will remain good for months if kept cool.

FROSTING.—Beat the whites of two eggs to a stiff froth, and gradually half a pound best pulverized sugar; beat well for at least half an hour; flavor with lemon or vanilla for fruit cake or with rose, pineapple or almond for white cake. If the cake is rough or brown when baked, dust with a little flour, cut off all loose particles with a cloth, rub on the frosting, pouring it around the center of the cake, and smooth off as quickly as possible with a knife. If the frosting is rather stiff, dip the knife in cold water. It is better to frost while the cake is still warm. Set in a warm oven for the frosting to harden.