THE FARM.

INFORMATION UPON AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE.

The Value and Preparation of Manures—Bird Pests in Vineyards—General Notes of Interest.

There is no subject which has been more neglected in this State, and which cannot be much longer ignored without serious loss to land-owners and agriculturists, than that of the use of fertilizers to keep up the strength and productiveness of our soils. The thrifty vegetable gardeners around our cities, and a few others, understand the value of manures, and by their use obtain astonishing returns in products, and at the same time continually improve the fertility and value of their lands. Especially should all small holders of real estate make their smaller possessions capable of producing as much as possible. In fact, a small piece of ground brought to the high state of production usually acquired and met with in France, and some other countries of Europe, will yield a greater net profit than many of the large, half-tilled California ranches, of ordinary land, which are continuously plowed, and upon which no fertilizing preparations are ever returned to replace for the constant drain made upon it, of plant food. An Eastern agricultural writer of experience recently gave the following concerning liquid manures, and how they may be prepared for forcing vegetation:

There are several methods by which the farmers and gardeners can prepare their liquid manures, with which to force those plants that are backward, as well as hastening such as are intended for an early supply. Of course this applies to vegetables, though lawn grass, strawberries and bushes may be similarly treated. In every family there is usually a quantity of soapsuds that is never put to practical use. By arranging a water-tight barrel or hogshead, the soapsuds may be made to do valuable service as a chemical re-agent. They contain a variety of fat acids, which have the power of combining with other substances, forming compounds entirely unlike the original elements of their composition. By forming such compounds they fix the volatile matter, and prevent loss of valuable fertilizing material. Thus, for instance, take poultry droppings. If they are kept constantly damp with soapsuds they will be carefully preserved in their full strength, as not only will the fat acids change them in composition, but the moisture itself, being an absorbent of ammonia, will assist in preventing loss.

Many farmers pay annually large sums for fertilizers that may be easily prepared at home. Take a bushel of *fresh* manure of any kind and mix it with a barrel of water (soapsuds preferred), and to the solution add two pounds of sulphuric acid, the cost for the two pounds, if bought by the carboy, not exceeding five cents, and you at once have a solution that is equal to pure liquid manure, as the acid will completely decompose the solid matter. If, however, you will add, in addition to the manure, for each barrel of water, five pounds sulphate of ammonia, ten pounds sulphate of potash, two pounds sulphate of magnesia, and ten pounds superphosphate, no sulphuric acid need be used at all, and, for every gallon taken out for use, three gallons of water may be added as a dilutant, as the solution will be too strong for use on tender plants. Sprinkle this three times a week around the roots of the growing plants, and your neighbors will be surprised to notice how far advanced in growth your vegetables will be. Considering the advantages derived, the cost will be but a trifle.

Should you object to the use of any chemicals at all, then add to the barrel of soapsuds two bushels of fresh manure, and also a bushel of poultry droppings. Let it stand a week, stirring well once a day, and you will have an excellent fertilizer, especially if the urine from all sources be also added. In app ying these liquids do not saturate the tops of the plants, but pour it around the roots only. The ground should be kept frequently stirred, in order to prevent baking or the formation of crust. After the plants have begun to make rapid growth, once a week will answer for the applications, which should always be done in the evening, in order to avoid the injurious effects of the sun. The liquids that are usually allowed to flow away from the barnyard are more available than the solids, and whenever a black stream is seen collect it and empty into your barrel.

To make good solid manure, put into a barrel the same quantity of manure and other chemicals recommended, or, what is better, double the quantity of manure, and stir it up in the water till it is all fine. Then thicken the whole with fine earth and empty the barrel before keeping it under cover. If a little acid is added to the water at the beginning it will be better. You can use this mixture by scattering a good handful around each plant, and you will soon see the effects of it after the first rain that comes.

THE QUAIL AND BIRD PEST.

Mention was recently made in the colums of the RECORD-UNION as to the damage done by birds to the grape crop in many of the foothill and mountain vineyards. A comparison of notes and observations made by vineyardists discloses the fact that the ravages upon grapes has largely been committed by quails. The blue jays and other classes of birds also assisted in the destruction. Some vineyards have been entirely stripped, and not a grape left to be gathered. This is probably largely owing to the almost entire absence this year of bird food from woods and fields, caused by the unusually dry season, but should the festive quail, after having learned from necessity to raid the vineyards, continue to do so hereafter, it would no doubt soon result in the blotting out of this kind of game. No vine-grower would wish to see them protected, and very little regard would be paid to the game law concerning them. The San Francisco *Merchant* recently speaking upon the damage done by quails, said: "This year's vintage will be materially reduced in some sections by the ravages of the quail, which have done considerable damage to the grapes. We learn of many instances where it has been discovered in picking the fruit that a quarter and even half the bunch had been eaten by the birds. Besides the actual loss of property this necessitates extra care and time in picking the grapes, which proportionately increases the expense of the vintage. If this new pest increases every year, which it assuredly will, there will be a necessity for an alteration in the game laws, so that the destruction to grapes that occurs in the month before the open season commences may be obviated."

GENERAL NOTES.

J. E. Cutter, writing to the *Press and Horticulturist*, says: Dr. Blatchly, of Fresno, who superintended the construction of the large dryer for the R. F. Co., informed me that the Muscat grape grows larger at Fresno than here, and stated that they could produce them that measured three and one-half inches in circumference, and he had found one specimen of three and three-fourths inches. I have duplicated the latter—though indeed "the woods are (not) full of them"—and can find hundreds of the three and one-half inches size. Several sample boxes of Fresno raisins that I have seen fail to bear out the claims of superiority of size, being certainly not above the average of what I am accustomed to pack, though they are sent out as samples of choice, and, presumably, large fruit.

Pasteur's system of vaccination for anthrax, of which French farmers have so eagerly availed themselves, has been most successfully tried by the Government of India—ponies, donkeys, cows, bullocks, elephants, sheep and guinea pigs having been effectually protected against fatal attacks of that destructive disease. A laboratory for the manufacture of the vaccine has been located at Bengal, and, if successful, will be followed by similar establishments in other centers. A veterinary surgeon was some time ago sent to study with Pasteur, and it is recommended that others receive similar instruction.

David Dunn, Sr., of Central Colony, has discovered what is believed to be the most perfect remedy for scale bug that has yet been tried. He takes common rock salt and boils it down to strong brine, and then applies the brine with a mop or whitewash brush, and wherever the branches are saturated with the brine the bugs are absolutely destroyed. The remedy is so cheap and simple that no one need have his orchard ruined by this most destructive insect for want of the means to destroy it. It should have a thorough test, and if as effective as Mr. Dunn claims it to be, he should be voted a pension.—[Fresno Republican.

It is said that a large crop of apples may be grown when a hive of bees is stationed in the orchard. The pollen is rubbed from their bodies against the pistils of thousands of flowers, which thus become fertilized. Many of the strange freaks of hybridizing varieties are due to the agency of bees. This method is not generally necessary, however, in California to increase the bearing of apple trees, as thining, rather than multiplying fruit, is what should be done here.

We received to-day five apples of the Gloria Mundi variety, from the orchard of Richard Fulkerson, which are among the finest specimens of apples we have ever seen. They are all of nearly the same size, and the largest measures fifteen and one-half inches in circumference. The others fall but little short of this measurement. It would not take many apples of this size to fill a barrel.—[Santa Rosa Republican.

A Pennsylvania farmer last year sold over $6,000 worth of potatoes from twelve acres. He fertilized with a compost of hard wood ashes and oyster-shell lime, plowed deep, planted medium-sized, well-formed, uncut potatoes, three feet apart, gave level cultivation and cultivated often. From one hill he took thirty-one fine large tubers.

The time spent in scouring plows or running to the shop for repairs when the soil is in condition for working, is criminal waste. The time to put implements in repair is before their use is required. All bright surfaces should have been covered with a mixture of lampblack and kerosene and carefully preserved from abrasion when last put away.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* says: A farmer in the oil regions of Pennsylvania warns people against using petroleum on fruit trees and shrubbery. In the vicinity of flowing wells it kills all the trees; and an orchard in which the trees had been painted with it showed handsome bark and fine fruit the first year, but afterward declined.

The Colusa *Sun* says: L. F. Moulton is having a large bend in the river cleared of timber, and intends planting out an immense pear orchard. This land is between the levee and the river, and he has found by careful examination that pear trees cannot be killed by water standing on them in the winter and spring months.

The fumes of sulphur will destroy any vermin that may be lurking in the feathers of the under part of the fowl. To do this properly pay a visit to the hen in the night and slightly disturb her, when by a natural instinct she will bristle up her feathers all over her body. This, then, is the best chance for using the sulphur.

Says the Marysville *Appeal*: Sheep men inform us that good pasture for sheep is scarcer now than ever before known and hard to obtain. The stubble fields are pretty much all engaged at high prices, and the foothill grasses have been pretty well cleaned out by grasshoppers.

A swine-breeder says: It is fair to assume that at least nine-tenths of the diseases in young pigs are due to overfeeding. It is not safe to feed young pigs all they will eat until they are at least four months old, and then it is not best unless they are destined for early market.

Dr. Congar, of Pasadena, says that the seedling orange crop will be very heavy in that section, while the budded crop will be light this coming season. This, it is said, is the reverse of what it is in Riverside.

It is said that the spores of smut found in smutty grain are so small that 7,500,000 can be placed side by side in the space of one square inch.

It has been estimated that various insects damage the crops of this country to an annual amount of $30,000,000.

The runners from young strawberries should be kept trimmed off, unless needed for additional plants.

Apple trees are much benefited by an occasional dressing of the ground with wood ashes.

The olive crop of southern Europe is estimated to be worth 475,000,000 francs.

Lincoln as a Congressman.

Elihu B. Washburne, our late Minister to France, in an article entitled "Abraham Lincoln in Illinois," published in the *North American Review* for October, thus speaks of the martyred President at the period of his election to Congress:

"Mr. Lincoln took his seat in Congress on the first Monday in December, 1847. * * * He sat in the old hall of the House of Representatives, and for the long session was so unfortunate as to draw one of the most undesirable seats in the hall. He participated but little in the active business of the House, and made the personal acquaintance of but few members. He was attentive and conscientious in the discharge of his duties, and followed the course of legislation closely. When he took his seat in the House, the campaign of 1848 for President was just opening.

"I was again in Washington part of the winter of 1849 (after the election of General Taylor), and saw much of Mr. Lincoln. A small number of mutual friends—including Mr. Lincoln—made up a party to attend the inauguration ball together. It was by far the most brilliant inauguration ball ever given. Of course Mr. Lincoln had never seen anything of the kind before. One of the most modest and unpretending persons present, he could not have dreamed that like honors were to come to him almost within a little more than a decade.

"He was greatly interested in all that was to be seen, and we did not take our departure until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning. When we went to the cloak and hat-room, Mr. Lincoln had no trouble in finding his short cloak, which little more than covered his shoulders, but, after a long search, was unable to find his hat. After an hour he gave up all idea of finding it. Taking his cloak on his arm he walked out into Judiciary square, deliberately adjusting it on his shoulders, and started off bareheaded for his lodgings. It would be hard to forget the sight of that tall and slim man, with his short cloak thrown over his shoulders, without any hat on, starting for his long walk home on Capitol Hill at 4 o'clock in the morning. And this incident is akin to one related to me by the Librarian of the Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. Lincoln came to the library one day for the purpose of procuring some law books which he wanted to take to his room for examination. Getting together all the books he wanted, he placed them in a pile on a table. Taking a large bandana handkerchief from his pocket, he tied them up; and putting a stick which he had brought with him through a knot he had made in the handerchief, adjusting the package of books to his stick, he shouldered it and marched off from the library to his room. In a few days he returned the books in the same way."

IMPORTANCE OF WATER FOR PLANTS.—In experiments performed by Sir J. B. Lawes he found that most plants exhaled during the four or five months of their growth more than 200 times their dry weight of water, drawn up from the soil in which they grew. Dr. J. H. Gilbert stated that the amount of water given off by plants during growth might be approximately estimated as equal to a depth of three inches of rain for every ton of dry substance grown. Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert found by actual experiment that a crop of hay growing on land that had been manured, and giving about a ton and a half per acre, evaporated two inches more rain than an unmanured crop of less than a third of a ton. These two inches were equal to 200 tons of water. A heavy crop of barley evaporated nine inches, or 1,800 tons of water more than bare land lying alongside. These experiments show the importance of underdraining so as to keep the soil pulverized and mellow, to hold like a sponge the water which falls on it, and give it off to growing plants as they need it. A good growing crop keeps the soil in better condition than a soil without a crop, the latter being easily flooded, and again parched by drought; and without underdraining, either artificial or natural, the soil cannot be brought into a good condition to absorb and hold surplus water.—[Country Gentleman.

WAITING FOR THE SPOILS.

The Result of Mr. Nasby's Attempt to Corral the Postoffice.

IN A BASTEEL, CONFEDERIT X ROADS (Wich is in the State uv Kentucky), September, 1885.—The blow hez fallen. Liberty and jestis hez bin outraged in my person. I am languishin in a Basteel at the Corners, with my compatriots, Bascom, Issaker Gavitt, Kernel M'Pelter and Deekin Pogram, and to make the pane more akoot and the sufferin more intense, the blow wuz inflicted by a man wich I voted fur, Grover Cleveland.

Wishin to releeve the President of the responsibility of removin the nigger, Lubbock, wich hez yooserpt my Post Offis for the past twenty years, exceptin the one interval that Androo Jonson wuz President, by the lucky removle uv that goriller, Linkin, we seezed the place, pitched the nigger out in the street onto his nose, and took possesshun uv the office.

Possibly the removle wuz irregular, but wat wuz we to do? The President hed gone up into the Adirondax fishin, leevin me out in the cold, without the meens uv compassin a drink, and after his return he paid no attention to our agonizin appeels.

Wat wuz we to do? Why, we did wat any freemen shood hev done, we asserted our rites by forse. We made up our minds that the civil servis law wuz unconstooshnel, and we abrogated it. That is the way the Corners hev alluz done, and we did it. We took wat wuz our own in our own way. Wuz that nigger, Lubbock, to continuer in the Post Offis wich belonged to me? Never!

Wat happened? Why, a Yoonited States Marshel, barin the authority of the Government, cum into the offis ten days after we seezed it, reinstated the nigger and arrested the hull bilin uv us for histin him out, and we wuz ignominyusly taken to jale, and are to be tried in the Yoonited States Courts, with the brillyant prospeck uv imprisonment for twenty years.

I am willin to die and be gathered to my fathers. Life hez no charms for me, and the finel eend cannot come too soon. I am writin in my dreery cell. Out of the little winder I kin see into the winder uv the Post Offis, where Lubbock sits smilin, occashunly bowin to me ez he sees my eager face throu the bars. In derishun he put up my demijohn in full site, and goes thro the moshuns uv takin a drink from it, grinnin like a baboon ez he sees the anguish on my face. Pollock and Joe Bigler cum in ever and anon, and they also grin at me with a expreshun that drives me mad. I shel go insane ef this continners much longer.

I never understood or appreshated the fable uv Tantalus afore. To see my demijohn in the hands uv another man, to hev it so clost that I cood almost hear the gurgle uv the refreshin flooid and not be able to even smell the refreshin drink, wuz too much. Tantalus wuz surrounded with water and wuz not permitted to drink. I think I cood endoor to see Lubbock foolin with water and smile serenely, but too see him with a demijohn uv whisky, out uv my reech, wuz suthin terrible.

From this cell I, a marter, appeel to the Dimocrisy uv the kentry. We hev bin betrayed. We hev not electid a Dimocrat. We hev not got wat we voted fur. Where are the offises? Who is holden em? Is it the Dimocrisy wich bore the heet and burden uv the day, or is it the eleventh-hour converts whose noses are not yet colered, and who still ware cleen shirts?

Grover Cleveland is evidently panderin to the better element uv his party, or is tryin to be respectable by continoon Republikins in offis. I am languishin in jale, and Lubbock, a nigger appinted by Grant, is holdin the place to wich I hev a prescriptive rite. Bascom's place is bein run by his wife, and the fires have gone out in M'Pelter's Distillery. Mirandy Pogram is cuttin fire-wood, tho she don't complane. She sez she don't keer how long they keep her father in jale, ez she finds it easier to pervide for herself alone than it is to take keer uv him also. I perswaided the Deekin to beseech uv her to sell suthin and send him the proceeds, that we might prokoor ever so little sustenance to sooth us in our afflickshens, but she hartlesly refused. Baseom won't send fur a drop fur us, and M'Pelter refooses to advance even a pint. I am dryer than a lime kiln, and the cotton I spit wood supply a Lowell factory.

Will the Dimocrisy stand this? Are we to git within site uv the promised land and then die of thirst without occupying it? Is there no relief to cum to us? Is it possible thet I shel hev to turn Republikin to git the place that belongs to me?

How long! oh, Lord! how long?

PETROLKUM V. NASBY (Despairin).

Daring Capture of a Slaver.

A correspondent, writing from Zanzibar, on August 25th, says the slave trade is very brisk just now. Both her Majesty's ships Kingfisher and Dragon have made captures recently. The Kingfisher's capture was very cleverly and courageously effected: The steam cutter, being short of coal, left one man and an interpreter on the lookout—with orders to mark down any dhows arriving, but not to get into danger—while she ran down to the depot island to fill up with coals. Scarcely had she got out of sight when in came a dhow. The captain and crew eagerly scanned the surrounding bays and islands for men-of-war boats, and finding none, dropped their anchor. Perceiving that she was a doubtful and suspicious vessel, the interpreter obtained an old canoe, place the blue jacket in the bottom of it with a strict injunction not to show himself, and proceeded to pull off to the stranger. Arriving within a few hundred yards of the dhow, the captain espied the blue-jacket in the bottom of the canoe, and, together with his crew of Arabs (five in number), proceeded to load their guns and flourish their swords. At this crisis the blue-jacket, sailor-like, wanted to make a dash for the dhow; but the interpreter, with poor Captain Brownrigg's fate fresh in his memory, was more wary. "Wait a bit, Jack," said he, "we'll get them all right;" and poling the canoe on the shore, he ran along the beach a little way to a small bay where the boats lie generally hid, and began to shout and shriek to two imaginary boats, telling them to be quick. "Come on, come on," he shouted; "they are going to jump overboard and swim on shore;" and sure enough these five Arabs sprang overboard, and swimming to the shore, four of them ran into the bush, and were not seen again. One of them, however, the captain of the dhow, finding that the boats did not turn up, made toward the blue jacket with his gun; but Jack was quite equal to the occasion. Every time the Arab attempted to take aim Jack flung himself down in the sand; and, on the other side, the Arab, who was up to his waist in the water, ducked underneath whenever the sailor covered him with his rifle. Jack did not seem to realize the danger of letting the Arab come within range of his gun until the interpreter had repeatedly told him that if he did not "pink" the Arab, the Arab would "pink" him. So the next chance he got he fired, and must have struck the Arab somewhere in the chest, for he just shrieked "Allah!" threw up his arms, and sank beneath the water. When the officer returned he found his man and the interpreter in quiet possession of a 57-ton dhow with thirty-five slaves in her. The dhow has been condemned, the slaves liberated, and the Court expressed an opinion that the Arab's death was perfectly justifiable.—[St. James' Gazette, September 10th.

Wife-Selling.

The custom of selling and purchasing wives in England certainly can claim a very respectable antiquity, and probably is based upon the ancient laws of the Anglo-Saxons. If a freeman took away the wife of a freeman he was to pay his full weregeld, to buy another wife for the injured husband and deliver her at his home. In the reign of Canute the law received some modification; no guardian could compel his ward to marry a man she disliked, and the money paid for her was to be a voluntary gift, and not a compulsory payment. It is not unnatural to suppose that the commodity thus obtained by money was transferable to another for a similar consideration whenever it may have become useless or disagreeable to its original purchaser. It seems, however, not impossible that the commencement of the custom would be found even in times antecedent, when women guilty of unfaithfulness were either put to death or sold as slaves. The value of a wife seems to have been mostly held in light esteem, for one was sold at Gloucester market by auction in 1841 for half a crown, and it is recorded that the purchaser frequently congratulated himself on his "bargain." Even in a commercial sense he could well afford to be jubilant, for the "lot" was attired in a new white bonnet and a black gown, the usual ornament in the way of a halter being included, which was not bad consideration for his money, let alone the lady's charms. In the year 1859 another instance of this moral degradation was furnished by the town of Dudley, where hundreds of people were assembled in Hall street one evening to attend a wife sale. The first bid was three-halfpence, and ultimately reached sixpence. Her husband, in his ignorance, thought that after the ceremony had been repeated three times she actually had no claim upon him. In 1881 a wife was sold at Sheffield for the paltry consideration of a quart of beer, and in 1862 a similar purchase was made at Selby-market Cross at the cost of only one-half that amount, merely a pint of beer, which was thought sufficient for a man's helpmate. The tariff would seem to be on a downward-sliding scale as we advance in the century, for a case occurs, recorded by the South Wales *Daily News*, May 2, 1882, at Alfreton, where a woman was sold by her husband for a still lower valuation in a public house. The modus operandi had the charm of simplicity; in a room full of men he offered to sell her for a glass of ale, and the offer being accepted by a young man, she readily agreed, took off her wedding ring, and from that time considered herself the property of the purchaser.—[Harper's Weekly.

THE DEATH-RATE OF WAR.—It is a truism that in war disease kills more than the bullet. The detailed facts showing this, however, in case of our own war, are of especial interest. The States and Territories contributed to the army of the Union 3,500,000 men. Of these, during the four years of war, there were killed in action 67,030, or 2.88 per cent.; there died of wounds 43,000, or 1.85 per cent., making a total of deaths from violence of 110,030, or 4.73 per cent. On the other hand there died from disease 224,586, or 9.68 per cent., disease being thus twice as fatal as the bullet. The total mortality among Union soldiers during the war would be 334,616, or 14.14 of those engaged. Thus, over fourteen out of every hundred soldiers died in the four years' war. This is an enormous death-rate, but figures are often wrongly used, and they do not accurately indicate the mortality rightly attributable to the war. The ordinary death-rate among male adults is about nine per thousand annually in this country. During the four years of the war there would have occurred, under ordinary circumstances, among the 3,500,000, about 126,000 deaths, leaving, therefore, only somewhat over 200,000 deaths attributable to the war. To put it in a general way, instead of four men who would have died in the natural course of events, fifteen men out of every hundred died in the course of the war. The death rate from bullets is only a little greater than the death-rate in civil life, but the soldier has added the enormous risks from diseases.—[Medical Record.

RURAL LETTER-CARRIERS.—Bicycles and tricycles now help many of our rural postmen to "make good time," as they say in America, provided their beats lie in fairly level country, with tolerable roads. But I am not aware that the letter-carriers of the Fen districts have profited by the wisdom of their French brethren in the Department of Landes, that desert region of reedy marshes and ever-shifting sands, only traversed by muddy uncertain roads. Year by year, owing to the prevalence of westerly winds, the dunes (as these sand-hills are called) encroach more and more on the fertile tracts, actually overwhelming houses and vineyards. Here and there, on the marshy heath, or in the forests of corktrees, are scattered the wretched huts of the people, who are mostly shepherds, cork-cutters, and charcoal-burners. One of their chief industries is the manufacture of *sabots*, or wooden shoes, clumsy indeed, but warranted to stand any amount of wear-and-tear. But even these active peasants find it exhausting work alternately to trudge ankle-deep in the light sand, or through oozy peat-moss, so they have borrowed a hint from the long-legged water-birds that stalk among the marshes, and have adopted the plan of walking on very lengthy stilts. Thus they get over the ground at double pace, and being well raised above the world they can keep a better out-look for their stray sheep or swine, or for the position of such game as may be worth stalking at leisure.—[Cassell's Family Magazine.

TWIN SISTERS 94 YEARS OLD.—In the town of Summit, Schoharie county, are two remarkably old ladies, twins of 94 years of age. They were born on the 6th day of August, 1791, in Dutchess county. Four years later their father, Henry Tinklepaugh, removed to the town of Summit, built a log house and prepared to spend the remainder of his days in that fertile region. Bess and Kate, as the young lasses were called, soon won the admiration of the sturdy farmer lads of that section, and at sweet 16 Bess accepted the lot of William Brazee, and settled down to married life. Fifteen years ago she entered her widowhood after a long and happy married life. Her sister, Mrs. Catharine Rider, has respected the memory of her departed husband, Philip Rider, for forty-eight years, and still is a beautiful old lady of many personal charms. Both these women are described as prepossessing, well preserved, active and in the full possession of their mental faculties. Each was the mother of seven children, the eldest of each family being alive, one at the age of 65, the other 68 years. Each is said to be capable of walking a distance of five miles to the village with little apparent effort, and they are, on the whole, the most remarkable twins perhaps in the State. Their parents reached the age of 90 and 91 years respectively, and a younger brother is still living in Sullivan county at the age of 82 years. [Albany (N. Y.) Argus, September 18th.

GREAT EARTHQUAKE OF SCIO.—Among the more recent earthquakes was the one that destroyed most of the Island of Scio. On the 3d of April, 1881, about an hour and forty minutes after noon, the city of Scio and thirty or forty villages in the southern part of the island were disturbed with a violent trepidation. The shaken and cracked houses were still standing, when, a few minutes afterward, a second shock, equally violent, came on, and finished the work of the first. With it five thousand persons were buried under the rubbish. A little while afterward four thousand other persons were killed. Hardly had the people recovered from the terror of one shock, than others come on, causing general panic and stupor. Hardly a quarter of an hour would pass without a new shock, and the wounded who had succeeded in extricating themselves from the rubbish were buried in it again. "Death," said an eye-witness, "seemed to pursue its victims with fury. In less than an hour Scio was an utter ruin." The agitations of the ground continued, with only short interruptions, for a year. During 1879 and and 1880 Scio had suffered from tremors, sometimes repeated as many as ten times in a day. Mitylene and Smyrna were also similarly affected, but none of the shocks were strong enough to cause great anxiety. They were, as it were, the subterranean preparation for the catastrophe that was to burst out a few months afterward.—[M. A. Daubree, in Popular Science Monthly.

LAMP SHADES AND THE EYES.—Professor H. L. Cohn describes a long series of determinations of the relative values of various forms of lamp shades. The method pursued was to measure the brightness of white paper lying on a table, over which the source of artificial light was suspended at a given distance, by means of a Weber photometer. As one would anticipate, the general effect of a shade is to increase very greatly the illumination immediately under the light, and not modify it notably at an angular distance greater than 45° from this region. The last section of the pamphlet, which deals with the illumination requisite for easiest use of the eyes, is of the most general interest. Taking as a measure of the value of the illumination in this sense the number of lines which can be read from a newspaper in a minute, and as the unit of illumination that of a normal candle at a perpendicular distance of a meter from the paper, he finds that the best illumination is not less than fifty such units. Since even a fifth of this illumination is very rarely secured, except immediately under a lamp provided with a good shade, the author emphasizes the conclusion that few school children work in a satisfactory light.—[From Science.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE as a refrigerant drink in fevers. Dr. C. H. S. Davis, Meriden, Conn., says: "I have used it as a pleasant and cooling drink in fevers, and have been very much pleased with it."

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANOTHER LIFE SAVED.

Mrs. Harriet Cummings, of Cincinnati, Ohio, writes: "Early last winter my daughter was attacked with a severe cold, which settled on her lungs. We tried several medicines, none of which seemed to do her any good, but she continued to get worse, and finally raised large amounts of blood from her lungs. We called in a family physician, but he failed to do her any good. At this time a friend who had been cured by DR. WM. HALL'S BALSAM FOR THE LUNGS, advised me to give it a trial. We then got a bottle, and she began to improve, and by the use of three bottles was entirely cured.
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RAILROADS, STEAMERS, ETC.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

TRAINS LEAVE AND ARE DUE TO ARRIVE —AT— SACRAMENTO.

LEAVE (FOR)	FROM SEPT. 28, 1885.	ARRIVE (FROM)
7:20 A.	Calistoga and Napa	7:05 P
*2:30 P.	" "	*11:25 A.
12:05 P.	Colfax	10:20 A.
10:30 A.	Delta & Portland, via Davis	3:45 P.
¶*6:00 A.	Redding, via Davisville	¶*2:50 P.
¶*6:05 A.	" via Chico	¶*11:30 P.
7:05 P.	Knights Landing	7:05 A.
*3:15 P.	Mojave, Deming, El Paso and East Emigr't	*9:00 A.
1:00 A.		2:00 A.
7:35 P.	Ogden and East Express	7:00 A.
9:15 A.	" " " Emigr't	1:50 P.
2:30 P.	Red Bluff, via Marysville	10:15 A.
6:00 A.	San Francisco, via Benicia	8:00 P.
7:20 A.	" " " "	7:05 P.
2:50 P.	" " " "	11:25 A.
11:30 A.	" " Livermore	2:20 P.
*10:00 A.	" " steamer	*6:00 A.
11:30 A.	San Jose	2:20 P.
11:30 A.	Stockton and Galt	2:20 P.
*6:15 P.	" " "	*9:00 A.
*11:30 A.	Tulare and Fresno	
7:20 A.	Vallejo	*11:25 A.
2:50 P.	"	†7:05 P.
	S. and P. R. R.	
*7:30 A.	Folsom, Latrobe and	*1:55 P.
*3:00 P.	Shingle Springs	*10:15 A.

A. For Morning. P. For Afternoon.
* Sundays excepted. † Sundays only.
¶* Freight and Accommodation Trains.
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ap7-tf

CANCER OF THE TONGUE.

A Case Resembling that of Gen. Grant.

Some ten years ago I had a scrofulous sore on my right hand which gave me great trouble, and under the old time treatment healed up, but it had only been driven into the system by the use of potash and mercury, and in March, 1882, it broke out in my throat, and concentrated in what some of the doctors called cancer, eating through my cheek, destroying the roof of my mouth and upper lip, then attacked my tongue, palate and lower lip, destroying the palate and under lip entirely and half my tongue, eating out to the top of my left cheek bone and up to the left eye. I could not eat any solid food, but subsisted on liquids, and my tongue was so far gone I could not talk. Such was my wretched, helpless condition the first of last October (1884), when my friends commenced giving me Swift's Specific. In less than a month the eating places stopped and healing commenced, and the fearful aperture in my cheek has been closed and firmly knitted together. A process of a new under lip is progressing finely, and the tongue, which was almost destroyed, is being recovered, and it seems that nature is supplying a new tongue. I can talk so that my friends can understand me, and can also eat solid food again. If any doubt these facts, I would refer them to Hon. John H. Traylor, State Senator of this district, and to Dr. T. S. Bradfield, of LaGrange, Ga.

MRS. MARY L. COMER.

LaGrange, Ga., May 14, 1885.

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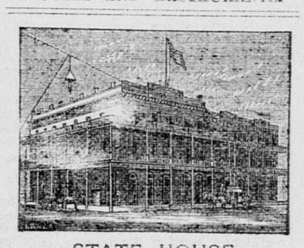

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