Thistles.

—People who are preparing to swear off had better begin to write our their affidavits.

—A lady joking about her nose, said: I had nothing to do in shaping it. It was a birthday present.

—If some of the unsanctified sinners in the days of Noah had sawed his boat would it have put a stop to the rain.

—The women, remarks the Springfield Republican have come to stay. The Lewis says that stays are killing some of them now.

—Notwithstanding all the modern improvements of husbandry the matrimonial harvest is still gathered with the cradle and threshed by hand.

—A young lady, on Tuesday night at the Post Office, said: If I don't get a letter by this mail, I want to know what he was doing Sunday, that's all.

—Some women after they have learned to know their husbands wish they had learned to No them when they were only sweethearts.

—A senses-taker, said the old lady; weal, there's m an' Jeromiah, an' Sarah Ann, an' that's all, 'cept Jim, an' he's a fool an' ain't got no senses to take.

—Keep up with the procession of life, young man; right up in the front where the band is. If you ever fall to the rear, where the elephants are, you are apt to be walked on.

—Boston Home Journal: Bachelors are beginning to tremble for their freedom; the ladies are already forming leap year clubs, and getting widows from for their instructors.

—Michigan is the place for self-sacrifice. When a young lady who has been eating onions appears at a country dance all the rest bite an onion that he may not feel embarrassed or lonely.

—The latest tramp lament is: Yes, mum; wuth a million a week ago; lost it all in stocks. Haven't eat anything for a month. (A tramp always gets brown when he wrestles with chronology.)

—A drunken congressman said to Horace Greely one day: I am a self-made man. Then, sir, replied the philosophical Horace, the fact relieves the Almighty of a great responsibility.

—I never turn out for scoundrels, said a bully, meeting a Quaker, and stepping up square before him to inaugurate a quarrel. I do, said the Quaker, and placidly took the other side of the way.

—The fashion of putting 650 buttons down the back of a dress has disappeared, but they now use 1,300 hooks and eyes on the front, and a man can't lay up a dollar to save his life.

—Bumper, to educated man on train West bound do you travel for? My own. What line of goods do you deal in? Common sense. Well, my friend I must say you carry a very small sample.

That was an observing fellow, if he was but six years old, who said: Papa I wish you'd quarantine against Tom Jones coming here every night to see Jennie. Its got to be too epidemic.

—A man in a rural settlement who has been an inveterate smoker for the last twenty years has suddenly and permanently given up the practice. He knocked the ashes off his pipe into a keg of blasting powder.

—A rich Scotchman at the point of death, said to his pastor, Do you think if I left ten thousand pounds to the Presbyterian church my soul w'd be saved? I can't promise you anything, answered the good man, after a second thought, you may as well try it.

—Little Willie will make his papa the end of all perfection. One day he said: Mamma, how good is God? As good as papa! Oh, yes, said mamma, a great deal better. Willie looked up at her as if she had uttered a heresy, and remarked emphatically, Well, now I don't believe that.

Friend or enemy, it is important to know just where your acquaintances stand. We have a great deal of sympathy with the western hunter who observed that the rattlesnake is a square honest reptyle, that lets you know when he means to reason business, and gives you time to step back.

—An old darkey who peddles clams about town was heard to remark that a horse for which he had paid 75 cents had dropped dead in the shafts on the day after the purchase, and he wound up by saying, I's done now, and buys no more cheap hosses. I's gwine to have a good hoss nex't time if I have to go to Rahway and pay $4 for him.

—Nevada boasts of a curious bug about the size of a quarter of a dollar, and its peculiarity is that while it is shaped much like a turtle, it walks on half of its legs at a time. It has six legs, three on a side. When it walks it balances itself on its edge and moves along at a good pace on three legs. Some times it walks on its two fore legs like a man in a circus walking on his hands. The Piute Indians call it 'circus bug, you bet!'

—The Scotch colony established at Wimbledon have been enjoying their favorite game of curling during the recent frost. A keen curler and a true son of Scotia let off rather a keen specimen of 'wut' the other day on losing the game, owing to the bad play of his partner, who happened on this occasion to be a Sassenach. Turning on him with a sardonic grin, the Scotch man remarked, Eh, maun, you'll ne'er make a curler in this warld, and you'll nae see ice in the next.

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Important Letter

From a Distinguished Physician

No single disease has entailed more suffering hastened the breaking up of the constitution than Catarrh. The sense of smell, of taste, of sight, of hearing, the human voice, the mind, one or more or sometimes all yield to its destructive influence. The poison it distributes throughout the system attacks every vital force, and breaks up the most robust of constitutions. Ignored because but little understood by most physicians, impotently assayed by quacks and charlatans, those suffering from it have little hope to be relieved of it this side the grave. It is time, then, that the popular treatment of this terrible disease by remedies within the reach of all passed into hands at once competent and trustworthy. The new and hitherto untried method adopted by Dr. Sanford in the preparation of his Radical Cure has won my hearty approval. I believe it likely to succeed when all the usual remedies fail, because it strikes at the root of the disease, viz. the vitiated blood, while it heals the ulcerated membrane by direct application to the nasal passages. Its action is based on certain fixed rules, and unless the vital forces are too far exhausted, must, in the great majority of cases, effect a cure.

GEO. BEARD, M. D.

Nobel 41 Block, 86 Flatbush, Oct 1, 1874.

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Agricultural.

THE WHEAT REGIONS.

Not many years since the Genesee Valley and the central parts of the State of New York were mainly devoted to the production of wheat; from that point its cultivation gradually moved westward and northward, and now Minnesota and Kansas take the lead in this great crop. But this change does not mark the decay, but rather the progress of agriculture in the regions from which the culture of wheat has mainly passed. In the great Mississippi Valley wheat has found its natural home upon the Loess formation tion the boundries of which are not yet known. The soil of this same formation has been cropped with wheat for centuries in China without exhaustion. The value of this soil is presented in Mr. Abram S. Hewitt's speech, in which the resources of this country are so ably presented. The eastern boundary of this formation is somewhere in Ohio; the western extends to the great plains west of the Mississippi.

The farms of Central New York are better cultivated and more productive than when they were devoted to wheat. Even in the more sterile state of Massachusetts the data of the last national census (which were quite inadequate in respect to the products of agriculture of that State) disclosed the fact that Worcester county stood only third among the county divisions of the whole country in the value of the products of agriculture. The first was Lancaster county, Pa.; the second the great dairy county of St. Lawrence, N. Y.; the fourth was Hartford county, Conn.; not until the fifth did we reach the corn country, La Salle county Ill.; sixth the wheat county Oakland county, Mich.; and next we come back to Burlington county, in New Jersey.

In 1870 the value of products of agriculture of the five counties of Lancaster, Pa.; St. Lawrence, N. Y.; Worcester, Mass., Hartford, Conn., and Burlington, N. J.; all situated in the far East, was $38,804,240. Yet the area of improved land on which this value was produced was only 3,058 square miles. The value of the farms of these five Eastern counties represented by this square was in 1870, $182,786,611. The value of all the improved lands in the great corn State of Illinois was only five times as great; the value of all the farms in the great wheat state of Minnesota a little more than one-half as much, and the great cotton state of Mississippi less than one-half.

In this country corn and wheat are but the pioneers of agriculture, and the cultivation of cotton is almost semi-barbarous, even under its present improved conditions of free labor—less than half a bale to an acre is the average, and that is the product of land under the rudest methods and most unfit conditions of cultivation or of the poorest kind. One bale of cotton to an acre is the minimum of good cultivation.

The dairy products of the nation cannot readily be graphically presented by a line representing a specific area of land, but the value of butter and cheese is nearly, if not quite, as great as that of the cotton crop; and, if the value of the milk consumed as food be added, the total value of the dairy product is more than that of the cotton crop and as much as or more than that of the wheat crop.—*N. Y. Herald.*

A correspondent in the *Country Gentleman* says: "In order that lime may act as a benefit to a crop the soil must have in it, in some form the elements necessary to the growth of plants. Then the lime will be enabled, in its chemical capacity, to liberate the imprisoned pabulum, so that the plants may assimilate it. In experience it is found that giving small doses of lime at a time is all that is needed to attain the object, where such attainment is practical at all. Large doses of lime, in certain cases, produce incontestible effect, without question. That the action of lime on the mold or soil differs, some elements being liberated, while other substances are destroyed or modified in their action, is equally indisputable.

It will be found that many men who keep a store, run a blacksmith shop, or oversee a factory, are very much interested in everything relating to agriculture, and often have gardens filled with the choicest vegetables, fruits or flowers. Nor is it certain because they may live at the "Center," and occupy residences of a different style from most farm houses, that they necessarily feel "above" the people who live in the old fashioned low country dwellings, so familiar, perhaps, to their own childhood days.

The principles upon which the government of our country is founded know no caste, except the caste of real merit and solid worth. We believe there is no class who more fully accept and appreciate this fact than the comfortably wealthy and intelligent business men of the country, and we are glad that so many of this class are willing to join the farmers in their various efforts at social, mental, and moral improvement. So, if the shop keeper, the blacksmith, the carpenter, the cotton weaver, the physician or the minister, are enough interested in the study or advancement of agricultural pursuits to join the farmers' club, let them be admitted with a warm, hearty welcome, for it is far from impossible that we shall not gain from them as much as, or more, directly or indirectly than they will from us.

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WILLIAM BULLEY.

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