

Columbia Democrat.

"I have sworn upon the Altar of God, eternal hostility to every form of Tyranny over the Mind of Man."—Thomas Jefferson

H. WEBB, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRAT

SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN, A FEW DOORS BELOW MARKET-STREET.

TERMS:

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MISCELLANEOUS

FRUIT TREES.

We have from the Boston Bee, another report of a conversation meeting of the farmers of the Massachusetts Legislature. The subject at this meeting was fruit trees.

One thought that in setting out trees they should be placed forty feet apart, which would give but twenty-eight trees to an acre; and another believed that a hundred trees to an acre was none too many. The cultivation of the soil of orchards for other crops was opposed by one speaker, but another thought it would not interfere with the fruit trees, provided the soil was well manured, as they imbibe a different kind of nutriment.

As an instance in illustration of the two last theories, mention was made of the experience of Mr. Moses Jones, of Brooklyn, who, some years since, planted two or three acres with apple trees, set two rods apart. A few years after, he set peach trees between the apple trees—three of the former to one of the latter. He has raised a crop every year among these trees, sufficient to pay the expense of cultivation and management of the whole orchard. From the 112 apple trees in his orchard, he raised during the eighth year, 103 barrels of apples, and about the same time he sold the crop of peaches for \$400.

In pruning a tree, it is of very little importance when the wound occasioned by the removal of a limb, heals, provided the wound heals sound and healthy. The month of August, he thought, was the best time for pruning.

In transplanting, care should be taken to preserve the small roots, and have as much earth as possible adhering to the tree. If any of the roots get broken, they should be neatly pared off. If the tree is not immediately put in the ground, the roots should be shielded from the sun, and perhaps moistened. The holes into which the trees are put should be roomy, the soil well pulverized, and the land deep. The roots should be well spread out. Shaking the tree in order to settle the soil upon the roots is objectionable, as it tends to curl up and break the rootlets.

Peach and pear trees might be nearer together than apple trees, and thrive quite as well. The land should be loosened frequently in dry weather. A great deal of pruning answers only for pear trees, the growth of which might be cut down one-third to advantage. There is a tendency of the best pears to deteriorate. Manure should not be applied to the roots of any fruit trees. In time of drought, much of the moisture of the land could be kept in by covering the roots with straw or coarse hay and stones. At such times it was a great advantage to cover the whole orchard. A moist soil is better for apple trees, and a deep yellow or gravelly loam good for all fruit. If it be very wet it should be underdrained. If the soil is too dry clay mud or plaster of paris may be added to advantage. A northern is better than a southern exposure.

Transplanting may be done at any time from the middle of September, until the trees begin to grow in the Spring. The Fall is preferable if the transplanting be done early.

The Baldwin apple is the most profita-

ble. Among its characteristics is the tenacity with which it will adhere to the tree during heavy gales in which other apples would be shaken off. There is a prevalent opinion that this tree will only bear on the even years. It is an alternate bearer but one said he had ascertained to his satisfaction that it bears on odd years.

The gum may be prevented from exuding from peach trees by the following wash:—four quarts of soft soap diluted in a pail full of hot water to which add one pint of salt and half a pint of saltpetre. Salt and saltpetre applied to the ground is very beneficial to fruit trees particularly for old trees.

Mr. Merriam (says the Journal) mentioned the following experiment in setting out an orchard of young apple trees. He had a piece of ground containing about 3 acres, on which he contemplated putting an orchard. Finding a lot of trees very cheap he purchased them and transplanted into this lot as follows:—He first dug holes four feet in diameter, and three feet deep. The soil he took from the top two inches thick and preserved. He also separated the black loam, and yellow subsoil, and also picked out the stones. He then filled the cavity with half full of stones, and sifted the yellow subsoil among them, then put in black loam sufficient to make a bed high enough for the tree. On the top of this he put sods, inverted, trampled the whole down solid and covered this with about one inch of loam. On this he set the tree, very shallow, first carefully spreading out the roots. He then filled up with rich loam. The circle round each tree is kept clear of weeds during the season. These trees, when transplanted had been long out of the ground, and Mr. Merriam considered it doubtful whether they would live. Notwithstanding, however, last season was very dry these trees all lived and did well. He considered this method an excellent one. The stones had a beneficial chemical action on the soil and kept the land drained. The sods while decomposing make a soft and moist bed for the tree, and obviate the necessity of watering in a dry season. The piece occupied by this orchard he contemplated ploughing and cultivating as soon as convenient.

It was stated by one gentleman that application of hard soap to the wounded part of apple trees had proved successful in causing them early to heal—he had injured young trees by applying potash as has been recommended in some publications—he found that four and a half pounds of potash dissolved in a pail of hot water one quart of which added to a pail full of cold water made a safe and valuable wash for young trees. Also a wash of equal parts of plaster of paris soft soap and fresh cow manure diluted with water to cause easy application with the brush an excellent manure.

Among insects which troubled fruit trees the horner caterpillar girdler and white worm were mentioned. The best remedy against the horner is to cut it out removal with the hand was the most efficient course to take with caterpillars or a stiff wire brush would serve—the girdler is a small worm which gets between the bark and the trunk and does much injury and the white worm may be found in the gum which exudes from the tree.

The same subject will be resumed at the next meeting. With regard to caterpillars that if they would use the 'ounce of prevention' they will take the first pleasant day to use their thumbs & finger in removing from their fruit trees the little waxen cells in which the eggs of this insect are deposited ready for hatching in May. The other day we had the pleasure of removing about 20 of these embryo nests from the branches of a favorite apple tree.

COOKING CORN MEAL AND CORN FOR HOGS.—No safer position, we think can be assumed, in the economy of stock feeding, than that quantity as well as nutriment is essential to their preservation in a perfectly healthy condition. If we admit the correctness of this position and few facts are more clearly obvious, then it results as an inevitable inference that meal, and not only meal but corn,

should be cooked before fed. Corn, by being boiled or steamed is increased in bulk nearly two hundred per cent., while meal is increased, by the same process, more than three hundred per cent. To place the subject in a position more easily comprehensible, one bushel of corn, after being steamed or boiled, will measure three bushels. To cook a bushel of meal, five bushels of water are required, so that every pound of meal will give nearly four and a half pounds of mush, with a volume corresponding increase.—*Maine Farmer.*

OSAGE CUSTOMS.

Among the Osages a young man of eighteen will sometimes say to a widow of twice his age perhaps, come take a hunt with me. The widows were ho, (yes.) This means that these two will hunt together like man and wife; both carrying their own horses, camp kettles, and equipment.

On the hunt, the man, hunts, the woman saddles and unsaddles his horse, uncorks his meat, builds his lodge, collects his wood, cooks his food, and makes his moccasins—and in every respect takes the place and part of a dutiful and helping wife, yet they are not married. Sometimes they repeat several hunts, and even live years together, and the woman bears children, still it is no marriage. However well this young man may be suited with his hunting companion, should he be so fortunate as to rise to rank of a brave warrior, he casts off without ceremony and marriage, that is buys a wife after the custom of his nation, and is praised for so doing. His previous union is not considered honorable for a brave or warrior. No man can marry a warrior's daughter that is not a warrior himself. Consequently mothers often cry and pray, and before their sons, that they may be men enough to go to war, and kill and scalp the Pawnee, and be successful in stealing horses, that they may rise to grade of warriors, and get honorably married.

No Osage feels honorable, nor is considered honorable, nor treated honorably, until he distinguishes himself and is called a brave or warrior. This he may do in one of the five following ways:—shoot down his enemy; knock him on the head after another has shot him down, scalp him after he has been shot down, and knocked on the head; shoot through two buffaloes with an arrow; one shot, or steal ten horses. To do either of the above acts entitles him to the name of a brave, and to the privilege of carrying a tomahawk. All others are waiters and kettle tenders. A brave or warrior may strike a kettle tender, and he cannot resent it, or return the blow, until he rises to the same grade, then he may do it if it should be twenty years afterwards. All girls among the Osages are sold in marriage. I have never known an Osage girl take up with a man, as the term is used among some other nations. However poor the mother, aunt, or guardian is, she will demand something for her daughter or ward in marriage. The girls being in demand, and the mother giving them up only for value received, lead the mothers to watch the girls in the strictest manner. Widows of every grade and age make their own marriage contract, and in the loosest possible manner. But the girls are as chaste as those of any other nation. I have never known of a runaway match among them.—*Cherokee Advocate.*

Suited Exactly.—Our friend George Williams, of Henry, who is the 'cause' of more 'twit in others,' than any other member of the Alabama House of Representatives, was better pleased at the passage of the measure of 'Biennial

Sessions' than any one else we saw at Tuscumbas. "By G—" said he, "it suits me exactly; the d—d locofocos beat me every other year sure; next August I'll try to be beat in course—I shall miss that, save about \$200 electing money, and slip in in '47, like an 'iled oyster! By G— boys, it suits me p'ime!" —*Weunka Whig.*

HOUSEHOLD TREASON.

BY BULWER.

Heaven support thee, old man! thou hast to pass through the bitterest trial which honor and affection can undergo—household treason! When the wife lifts high the blushing front, and blazes out her gully when the child, without voice, throws off all control, and makes boast of disobedience, man revolts at the audacity; his spirit arms against his wrong; its face, at least, is bare, the blow, if sacrilegious, is direct. But when mild words and soft looks conceal the worst for Fate can smite when amid the confidence of the hearth starts the form of Perfidy—when from the repulse swells the flood of its terror—when the breast on which man leaned for comfort, has taken counsel to deceive him—when he learns, that, day after day, the life entwined with his own has been a lie and a stagnation, he feels not the softness of grief, nor the absorption of rage; it is mightier than grief and more withering than rage, it is a horror that appals. The heart does not bleed; the tears do not flow, as in woes to which humanity is commonly subjected; it is as if something out of the course of nature had taken place; something monstrous and out of all thought and forewarning; for the domestic traitor is a being apart from the orbit of criminality; he has no fear of his innocent children; with a price on his head, he lays his safety on the bosom of his wife. In his home, the ablest man, the most subtle and supple, can be as much a dupe as the simplest. Were it not so, this world were the riot of hell!

Death of a Mother.—Aside from that of a wife, the death of a mother has nothing in it more touching than any other event does happen, we look back upon the days of our infancy and childhood, when a fond mother watched over our outgoings and incomings, when the dull hours of night were marked by her watchings.

We think we have done our duty when we have laid her in the gloomy grave, wetting it with our tears and raised a stone over her dust, and chanted a hymn to her memory. But there is a duty which maternal affection has imposed upon us and which nothing but stern conformity to precept can perform. It is to follow her precepts and exemplify to take home to our hearts the solemn warning which heaven-born love dictates, to practice those virtues which ornament every department of life, and to cherish fondly the memory of her whom we are indebted for life, for happiness, and I might almost say for heaven. If we fail to perform these, we prove ourselves traitors to our nature, to our conscience and to our God.

Effects of Music.—The power of music was weakly manifested in a brilliant way at a recent concert. The members of the Victoria, in attempting to cross the snowy Alps, became benumbed with cold and nearly frozen, and laid down to perish among those eternal snows. The great General with a sagacity and a mind to meet every emergency, ordered his band of music to play with a spirit and animation their celebrated martial air. It was performed, and the effect

was without a precedent. It warmed their souls with the fire of patriotic devotion, aroused their dying energies, they sprang to their feet and the march was accomplished with success.

WAR NEWS.

SANTA ANNA'S ADVANCE.

From the New Orleans Delta of Feb. 25th.

If the statements made by all the Mexican papers and letter-writers be entitled to confidence, it is obvious that Santa Anna entertains designs against Monterey, and has begun his march against that point. Our correspondents represent that large bodies of troops are being thrown forward upon the road to Monterey as well as the road between Tampico and Monterey. But the most definite statement we have seen is contained in a letter published by *La Patria*, set evening from Tampico of the date of 24th February which states that 16,000 of the most brilliant troops (*troupe brillante*) are marching for the road between Saltillo and Monterey. This information was communicated by a letter written from San Luis. Another letter written from Tula of the date of 21 February states that on the 1st of the month Gen. Parodi, with a brigade of 1500 men composed of the 12th regiment of Infantry of the line styled the 'Faithful Soldiers of San Luis,' and a battalion of the National Guard of Jalisco, with three pieces of artillery, were marching in the direction of Monterey, by the road of Matamoros. The Sierra is fortified at every point, by the battalions of Puebla, Guarda Costa de Tampico, the company of Veterans, and three companies of Cavalry. In the village of Talles, Col. Jose Antonio Castellon is stationed with a respectable force to defend that point. Gen. Urrea with 1500 men of the first regiment of Cavalry, 'Primero R publicano,' must have already arrived at Victoria de Tamaulipas.

These movements are no doubt made for the purpose of drawing off our forces from the contemplated attack on Vera Cruz. Santa Anna expects to cut off Taylor's communications, to block up both the roads to Tamargo and to Tampico. These movements are by no means to be regarded as insignificant they deserve the serious consideration, and will no doubt excite the utmost vigilance and activity of preparation among our forces near Monterey. Fortunately Gen. Taylor, who is never caught napping is in command at Monterey, with about 4,000 men. This force can easily hold that place until reinforced. But, in the meantime, the Mexicans are pushing forward towards Matamoros, from the road which leads through Victoria. Urrea's Cavalry are no doubt the advance of a large force intended for this point. This will be a bold movement, but is characteristic of Urrea, who is a prompt and decided officer. If however, his force consists only of cavalry, we do not apprehend any serious consequences from an attack on Matamoros. The great fear is that they may intercept our communications along the river, and the road from Matamoros and Camargo to Monterey. We trust, however, that Gen. Scott, who seems to be moving with great caution and prudence, will not weaken our forces on the Rio Grande, so as to expose our lines to be easily broken, and the hard-earned results of a most expensive campaign thus be lost to our arms.

Since the above was written, we have seen a letter from a Mexican officer written in great confidence and secrecy, stating that Gen. Urrea had been ordered to march on Matamoros, and was already considerably advanced on the road.

Correspondence of the Daily Delta.

TAMPICO, Mexico, Feb. 18, 1847.

A letter was received here yesterday from Victoria, stating that the lancer force at this place had been greatly augmented, and that the Mexican troops there would number quite well on to six thousand men. After the arrival of this reinforcement, the commander hauled up before him all those who had sold corn to the Americans, and otherwise assisted them. Those who were most prominent in the business were sent off to the city of Mexico, in irons—amongst them

was a man of 80 years of age. For my own part I cannot fully believe that any considerable Mexican force will come or have come this side of the mountains, and in nothing the reports I only do so to keep up with others. — That the lancers are at Victoria, who left there on our approach, I can believe, but nothing else. There was a rumor in circulation at the time we left Monterey, that Gov. Morales was in or near Victoria, with 7000 men but we found that near 6000 were 'in buckram.' The same might be applied to the move on Saltillo, as the cavalry of Gen. Gonzalez, at the same time of our counter-march to Monterey, was magnified into an immense army.

The sailor, Pioneer came in from Lobos Island last night, having left it on the 8th inst. The captain reports that he sailed from the island a few days ago with one hundred men, destined for the wreck of the Ondiska, to render assistance to the vessel if practicable, and to assist the volunteers, but finding that the troops had left there, set fire to the wreck, and returned to the place from whence they sailed, disembarked the men, and then proceeded to this place bringing up despatches from the ship-of-war *St. Mary's*, direct from the squadron. These despatches from Com. Canner are said by an officer to be of an important nature, but their contents have not, nor probably will not, be made public.

Col. Baker, of the 4th Illinois, recently from the Brazos, made a speech to his men yesterday evening, in which he took occasion to say that they would be marched against the enemy in a few days. This he was certain of, and the Colonel having been in Washington very lately, and just from Gen. Scott, was reckoned to speak by the word. He said also that Gen. Scott would be here in a day or two.

The Matamoros game of cutting into our frontiers is now in the full tide of successful operation, and no less than five have had their blood let out in one night by the greasers' knives, but I did not hear of more of the wounds being mortal. The gallantry of our boys generally leads to the difficulty.

I conversed this morning with a gentleman from off the island of Lobos. He says that six companies of the Louisiana have landed there; a part of the Pennsylvania and one or two vessels of these with troops.

From the same correspondent's letter, bearing date Feb. 12th, we make the subjoined extracts:—

The *Republicano* of the 2d, also contains a letter from San Luis Potosi, affording much information as to the movements of the Mexicans, and ought to be published, if it is only to show that their is some real magnanimity yet in Mexico. The writer hints at the idea of rejecting at the capture of 70 or 80 men, by over 2000 of their own people. But to the letter.

SAN LUIS POTOSI, Jan. 27.

Yesterday, at 2 o'clock in the morning, there was great rejoicing in the streets. The church bells rang out their merry peals and many a rocket was fired off during the ceremony. All this was occasioned by the receipt of the 'miserable' notice that over 2000 Mexican cavalry under the valiant Gen. Miron, had surprised and captured about 80 'Teuquees,' who were out with their axes in search of forage. The place which they surrendered at is called Tanque de la Vaca.

To-day the corps of infantry have left for Saltillo—also a brigade of horse and a brigade of foot artillery, having fourteen guns—three of 24, three of 18, four of 16, and the residue of 12s and 8s.

We are assured that in less than two days there will go out another division, and on the following day the rest of the forces which are in San Luis.

Gen. Twiggs' guide informed him last night, that all the men taken by Miron, at Saltillo, had been shot but he does not credit it, nor does any one else—the idea having no doubt arisen from the fact of the shooting of several Mexicans who were with Maj. Gaines.

The rumor I sent you about the arrival of a force, in addition to the Lancers, at Victoria, is no doubt true; for a Mexican