

QUERIES & ANSWERS.

THE "WORLD'S FIRST WEDDING."

BY REV. DR. TALMAGE.

FIFTEEN DECISIVE BATTLES.

Fare to Nashville for the Confederate Reunion—How the Mississippi Levees Are Kept Up—Vetches—Parsons Homicide—Etc.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you please give a receipt in your Sunday's issue for making soap, hard soap, and one for making soft soap, if you can spare the space for both? I. X. L.

Let some reader of ours send a receipt.

Millet. To the Editor of the Dispatch: Please say in your Query column what millet seed weigh per bushel, and oblige a subscriber. R. E. C.

Jvanhoe, Va. German millet, 10 pounds to the bushel; Hungarian millet, 45 pounds to the bushel.

The Parsons Homicide.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you please give in your Query column the year, month, day of the week, and date that Colonel Parsons was shot by Goodman? and oblige. Risky, Va. A SUBSCRIBER.

Colonel H. C. Parsons was shot in the lobby of Gladys Inn, Clifton Forge, Va., on Friday morning, June 29, 1894.

Mississippi Levees.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: How are the levees on the Mississippi River kept up, whether at State expense or at the expense of the United States Government? J. A. L.

Those in aid of navigation by the General Government. The others—by far the greater part—by the State and local governments and private enterprise.

Tickets to Nashville.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: We would like to know what the fare from Richmond to Nashville, Tenn., will be during the reunion. By answering through the Dispatch you will greatly oblige. AN OLD SOLDIER.

The rate via the Norfolk and Western road from Richmond to Nashville and return for the Confederate Veteran Reunion will be \$1.85. Tickets will be sold on June 19th, 20th, and 21st, limited to continuous passage in each direction, good for return passage within ten days from date of sale.

General Mercer.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Hugh Mercer was a surgeon on the staff of Prince Charles at Culoden, 1746. He was at Braddock's defeat, July 9, 1755; escaped through the woods with one companion, and was killed as a General Mercer in command of Virginia troops (I think) at Princeton, 1777.

Can you tell me: 1. Where did he live in Virginia? 2. Was Charles Fenton Mercer his son? 3. Is there any autograph of his known to exist? I think I have found one in Sir Richard Blackmore's "GRAND HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN," which I suspect came to my library through Charles Fenton Mercer, who was an intimate friend of my grandfather.

What I want to know is, whether the autograph in my book of Hugh Mercer is one of General Mercer, and that can be proved reasonably by comparison with a known genuine one? B. T. J.

These are questions that we cannot answer, but perhaps some reader of ours may be able to give the desired information.

A Merchant's Gain.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you oblige a reader of the Dispatch by giving the work and answer to the following problem: A merchant gains a sum equal to 2-3 of his capital. The half of his gain multiplied by 1-5 of his increased capital equals 4 times his gain. How much had he at first? G. W. M.

One half of his gain is 1-3 of his capital. One fifth of his increased capital is one fifth of 5-3 of his capital, or 1-3 of his capital. One third of his capital multiplied by 1-3 of his capital is 1-9 of his capital. Four times his gain is 8-3 of his capital. So 1-9 of his capital multiplied by his capital is 8-3 of his capital.

Dividing by his capital we get 1-9 = 8-3, or his capital = 24. Proof: Gain = 24 - 12 = 12; his gain = 12; his increased capital = 24 + 12 = 40. So - his gain, 8 multiplied by - increased capital or 8 - 64 = 4 x 16 or 4 times his gain.

Standard Yard—Simple Seconds Pendulum.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: To settle a dispute, will you please state in your Query column— 1. What determines the length of the standard yard of England and America? 2. What is the simple seconds pendulum? Respectfully, P. B. HIDDEN.

Patis, Robinson county, N. C.

1. The American standard yard is identical with the imperial yard of Great Britain, which, under William IV., was declared to be fixed by dividing a pendulum, which vibrates seconds in a vacuum at the level of the sea at 62 degrees Fahrenheit, in the latitude of London, into 360,000 equal parts, and taking 36,000 of those parts for a yard.

2. Theoretically, a simple pendulum is a material particle, suspended by a weightless cord, and vibrating without friction, and a pendulum of actual material is called a compound pendulum. A seconds pendulum is one which makes a swing in one direction in a second.

Vetches.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you be good enough to explain through your Query column what are vetches, how they are cultivated, and what soils are suited for them? There are a number of kinds or species of vetch, both native and introduced. The native species, where they grow in considerable abundance, afford excellent forage, but little or no attempts have been made to propagate them. The two best known vetches, the seeds of which may be obtained from leading dealers, are spring vetch and hairy vetch. The spring vetch (vicia sativa), is an annual 12 to 20 inches high. It is a native of Europe and Western Asia, where it has been cultivated for many centuries, being regarded as one of the best selling crops in cool, moist climates. In the United States it has proved adaptable to cultivation in New England and other Northern States. Seeds should be

wife filled that with plants and flowers. But they also looked from it far, far beyond it. He says: "One thing you need not deprive us of entirely when you put up your houses and factories around us, and that is the sky." Then comes a chapter, "The Sky," with its descriptions of clouds and storms. Sky scenery is the grandest and most beautiful that the human eye is permitted to see, or the human soul to enjoy. Byron said to a boy he had married with his breaker, and we can say to the clouds, that from a boy we have revelled in their glories, grandeur, and beauties. Sky and clouds often present illusions like water, and the whole firmament can be compared to an ocean. Byron says expressly: "The sky spreads like an ocean hung on high, Resplendent with those Isles of light, So wildly, so spiritually bright, Who ever gazed upon them shined, And turned to earth without repining, Nor wish for wings to be away And mix with their eternal ray."

There are other chapters on Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn, Flowers, and the great things of nature. The whole work will do good to pent-up city-zones. IN THE PALE. Stories and Legends of the Palestine. By Henry Hlowetz. Philadelphia: The Jewish Publication Society. 367 Pages.

The author says that in explanation of this collection, "The Ruse-Judging a genuine story-telling, it should be remembered that the tellers of the tales current in Russian Jewry are students of the Talmud, accustomed to the hyperbolic characteristics of much of the unique literature to which they devote their lives. It is not too hazardous to say that in point of inventiveness, they can vie with the Arabian Nights entertainments, and in ideality and moral elevation they far surpass them. These tales," he adds, "of fact, folklore, and fiction may serve to open a window to the great things which at least half of scattered Israel suffers, worships, and dreams."

A personal of the collection will show that hardly too much is claimed in this connection. Certainly no invention, not to say the extravagant, yet, withal, the poetic reaches a high development in "The Bad-Schem and His Golem"; "Car Nicholas I. and Sigmund's Last"; "The Legend of the Rothschild's Castle"; and "The Legend of the Ten Lost Tribes," while in "Ezra and Huldah" we have a most ingenious and dramatic love story. In each story there is a moral, and none of the least. The illustrations are by Mendel Menpes' "The Work of T. Millie Dow," by Norman Garstin (nine illustrations); "On the Choice of Simple Furniture," by A. M. Baillie Scott (nine illustrations); "A Decorative Modeler," Alexander Chapman (two illustrations); "A Mortimer Menpes's Japanese Drawings" (eleven illustrations); "Evolution of Village Architecture in England," by G. L. Morris (eight illustrations); "Studio Talks," (twelve illustrations); "Recollections of Recent Publications" (one illustration); "The Lay Figure"; "American Studio Talks." The International Studio, and the interest that attaches to its letters, will be found of great use to our students.

182 TO 1825. Personal Recollections and Experiences in the Confederate Army. By Captain James Dinkins. Illustrated by L. T. Dickinson, of Cincinnati. Cincinnati: The Robert Clarke Company. 22 Pages.

The papers comprised in this volume were begun without any purpose of writing a book, and were written in odd moments that could be spared in the demands of active life. They are personal recollections of a Confederate soldier, who entered the army at the age of 16 years, participated in the first battle of the war, Bethel, and served through the remainder of the war, his service having been in Virginia, and the last half in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama. The style is pleasant, battle scenes and camp-life are described in a spirited and prominent characters are introduced, and the anecdotes are sixteen in number. The book will interest both young and old.

For sale by the publishers. PAUL A. HERALD OF THE CROSS. By Florence Marchant. Philadelphia: "Hitts" and "Stephen." Philadelphia: Henry Altemus. 187. Pages 45. Purple cloth.

This author bears a distinguished English name, but appears to be an American. He is deeply interested in, and the results of her extensive researches have been presented in her three works, in a way which is well calculated to stimulate the piety of her readers and to increase their appreciation of the inestimable blessings of the Christian faith.

To her reverence for the sacred Scriptures she adds that for her father, to whom this work is dedicated. MUNICIPAL PROBLEMS. By Frank J. Goodnow. A. M. L. L. D., Professor of Administrative Law in Columbia University, author of "Municipal Home-Rule." The Macmillan Company, New York and London. 187. Pages 62. Price, \$1.50.

Persons not posted on the subject will be surprised to learn what a mass of well digested thought and discussion has been accumulated by able writers of different countries.

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A dose of No. 10 whets the appetite. A dose of No. 10, before or after eating, will save you the distress caused by poor digestion.

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ferent nationalities in regard to municipal systems and administration. This is clearly evidenced by the citations and extracts in this work of Professor Goodnow, in which he has considered in his previous one. The questions which he discusses are of vast practical importance in our land of municipalities of every description, and he writes to the intelligent gentleman who are now taking such a deep and timely interest in the condition and prospects of our own city of Richmond.

THE KING, THE KNAVE, AND THE DONKEY. By Pythias Damon. Chicago: T. S. Denton. 187. One of the Denton series. Paper. Price, 25 cents.

This is a political history and satire, with much truth and sharpness in it. Its account of the absurdity and vices of the present is quite striking. The people are the donkeys, and oh! what have they not had to endure, even since the advent of Jesus, which promises peace on earth and good will to men.

"Sugar differs from fat in specific sweetness. Sugar is much affected by United States senators; hence is a more elegant term than fat."

This definition of "sugar" has become peculiarly significant at the present writing—May 15, 1897.

THE CHOIR INVISIBLE. By James Lane Allen, author of "Summer in Arcady," "A Kentucky Cardinal," etc., etc. The Macmillan Company, New York and London. 187. Cloth, ornamental cover. Price, 75 cents.

This work contains beautiful and inspiring thoughts and well sustains the reputation which the popular author has earned. A discriminating lady, who has enjoyed it, insists upon appropriating it, and cordially recommends it. "So do not, and cordially recommends it."

We believe that Mr. Allen is a native of Kentucky, whose "Blue Grass Region" he has celebrated in one of his productions.

VIRGINIA LAW REGISTER. May, 1897. Table of contents: John Randolph Taylor—Sketch of (with portrait)—R. T. Barton. II. Jurisdiction of County Court in Miscellaneous Cases—Judge John H. Ingram. III. Lien of Fieri Facias Upon Real Estate—Sketch of (with portrait)—R. T. Barton. IV. United States Supreme Court Decision: Covington, etc., Turnpike Company vs. Sandford—Constitutional law, due process of law, equal protection of the laws, corporations entitled to corporate franchise, a contract, right of State to regulate trade, regulation must be reasonable. V. Virginia Decision, reported in full: Temple vs. Wright—Construction of instrument—Other Recent Virginia Decisions: 1. Catt vs. William Knabe & Co., manufacturing company—Deed of trust, fraud per se, clause rendering corpus of trust fund inalienable. 2. Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad Company vs. Few—Instructions, railroads, duty to persons crossing track. 3. Morganster vs. Commonwealth—Criminal law, intoxicating liquor, sale on bond, indictments, series of cases. 4. Digest of Code construed. 4. Boston Flower Company vs. Carman Lumber Company—Supply liens, section 285 of Code, equity jurisdiction, lien enforceable by vendor on sale of chattel, enforceable at law. 5. Digest of Code construed. 4. Boston Flower Company vs. Carman Lumber Company—Supply liens, section 285 of Code, equity jurisdiction, lien enforceable by vendor on sale of chattel, enforceable at law. 6. Bryshire vs. Jones—Chancery practice, cross-bill, new matter, new parties. 7. Fuller vs. Conrad—Dower, principals upon which assignment is to be made. 8. Fisher vs. White—Mortgage, assumpsit, chancery pleading—Answer of one defendant, not evidence against another; agency—Proof of admissions of defendant. 9. Cook—Municipal corporations, right to require license-tax of attorneys residing without, but having offices within, city limits. 10. Robertson vs. Smith—Judicial sales, confirmation, practice. 11. City of Norfolk vs. Johnkins—Appellate practice, measure of damages, personal injuries, discretion of jury; municipal corporations—Liability for defect in street; new trials—After discovery of evidence. 12. Sherwood vs. Atlantic and Danville Railroad Company—Railroads, purchaser under foreclosure suit, liabilities of old company; construction of charters—Railroads, branch lines, section 124 of Code, maintenance, construction of statutes. 13. Jameson vs. Rixey—Partition, lien for equity, duration, personal decree; laches—Ignorance of rights; notice—Facts shown in title papers, equitable estoppel. 14. Ballou vs. Ballou—Partition, allowance for improvements by one cotenant, personal decree, limitation. 15. Sulphur Mines Company vs. Phenix Insurance Company—Fire insurance, condition against incumbrances, appellate practice—Objection that policy does not

Ayer's Argument.

If there is any reason why you should use any sarsaparilla, there is every reason why you should use Ayer's. When you take sarsaparilla you take it to cure disease; you want to be cured as quickly as possible and as cheaply as possible. That is why you should use Ayer's; it cures quickly and cheaply—and it cures to stay. Many people write us: "I would sooner have one bottle of Ayer's Sarsaparilla than three of any other kind." A druggist writes that "one bottle of Ayer's will give more benefit than six of any other kind." If one bottle of Ayer's will do the work of three it must have the strength of three at the cost of one. There's the point in a nutshell. It pays every way to use

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

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lower long primer type, must be made in lower case. 16. Morotook Insurance Company vs. Postoria Novelty Company—Insurance, warranties, construction. Fire insurance, warranties, construction. 17. Elliott vs. McGhee—Venue, residence of defendant; vendee—Liability to mortgagee upon assumption of debt, sale of property. 18. Bolton vs. Yellines—False imprisonment, detainer, malice, measure of damages; municipal corporations—Liability to private actor for judicial act. 19. Bolton vs. Yellines—False imprisonment, detainer, malice, measure of damages; municipal corporations—Liability to private actor for judicial act. 20. Bolton vs. Yellines—False imprisonment, detainer, malice, measure of damages; municipal corporations—Liability to private actor for judicial act.

Astronomy. (Observations of a Philosophical Friend of Ours.) The science of astronomy is said to have had its beginning with shepherds in the open air, watching their flocks by night. These beguiled their loneliness and improved their opportunities and pleased themselves by noticing, contemplating, studying the heavenly bodies—the moon and stars—until the sun would arise and overwhelm them with its light and glory, and swallow up the stars with its brightness, and be all in all to creation.

The wise man says: "A man of understanding separateth himself and seeketh after all wisdom." A great, noisy, shouting, staring, rushing crowd does not accomplish much for itself or for anything else, except to trample over things and spread its craziness, and draw into its vortex all within its reach and influence, and vote fools into office. To the lonely, thoughtful, devout man Nature opens her bosom, displays her mysteries and wonders, declares her glories, and shows her handiwork; and tells of the wisdom and power and goodness of God.

These old shepherds first admired the divine beauty of the heavens and the wonderful firmament in which they were set. Presently they noticed them, some holding their positions, some changing their places, and some moving around. And so they recognized and marked the fixed stars, the constellations, and the planets—the wanderers. They knew what they did know, held to their observations, and feared and wondered, and their hearts and minds were enlarged. They were not mere star-gazers or bewildered stargers. They read and pondered the heavens; they valued their observations, recorded them, and added to them. Their knowledge was progressive—growing, standing, and advancing comprehending. And the results of their observations were first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear of knowledge. And astronomy has grown into a great, positive, and infinitely expansive science. And our earth, enclosed in its brilliantly illuminated canopy, is to us but as an egg of unlimited promise, or as a bark on the ocean of infinite space and eternity. And birth canabars us as mariners for a never-ending voyage.

No doubt astronomy is the oldest of sciences. Light and the establishment of lights in the firmament, to fulfill their office for man, constituted the first work of creation; and they properly made the first study of our progenitors and fathers. They were the gates and everlasting doors to the temple of the Supreme. The heavens, even the heavens, are the work of the earth hath He given to the children of men.

Practically the common crowd disregard astronomy, and set down its students as star-gazers and visionaries, and estimate it as their devotees. Have no more profit from its shining lights than those that walk and not what they are.

And yet, how practical is astronomy! It is the first lesson of the knowledge of God. Its sphere is infinite space. Its business is the swaddling of our baby world as a new arrival in the family of the universe. It orders and measures for us times and seasons, and shows us how the earth is controlled and how we are to cultivate it and get the fruits of it. It unfolds to us permanency and order and wisdom and power and beauty. "Of old hath Thou laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou shalt endure. They shall wax old as a garment, and as a vesture shall Thou change them, and they shall be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail." The heavens declare the

glory of God and proclaim His dominion. Astronomy is the first and highest of studies, as the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy is understanding. It announces to man the greatness of God and the dignity and possibilities of manhood. And in its harmony sublimates the soul, and we read the doom of distant time: That man's degenerate soul from crime Shall yet be drawn; And reason o'er this mortal clime Immortal dawn.

Astronomy, teaching us of times and seasons, is the light of agriculture; teaching us of the fixed stars and the motions of our earth, it is the guide of navigation and light of commerce; measuring our days and weeks and months and years. It measures and rules and orders and regulates all our ways and works; fixes the periods of history. Its great plans, revolving around the great centre and source of light and life—paying their adoration and praise and orders and regulations for their pickie crop. Some have planted acres in cucumbers for the Fredericksburg pickle factory, and some are sowing the fertilizer and preparing the soil to be seeded down a week or two days later.

It seems quite certain at this time that a newpaper will be started at Colonial Beach, Westmoreland county, at an early day. It will be remembered, from reports in the correspondence in Richmond several unsuccessful attempts have been made in recent years to start a little weekly at that growing town of the Potomac, but the business qualifications and "pick" of the gentleman who is now heading the movement is almost a guarantee that the proposed enterprise will materialize.

The telephone line from Fredericksburg to the lower part of the Northern Neck has just been repaired from the former point down to this place. Captain G. W. Briggs, Superintendent of the public schools of this county, gives it as his opinion that the late convention of superintendents in Richmond will result in great good to the cause of education in Virginia, for the reason that the information gained by the various county and city superintendents will render them very much better acquainted with their official duties and make them much more efficient school officers.

Mrs. R. H. Sorrell, of Washington, D. C., is here superintending the preparation of the gardens at her summer home, one mile from this place. Mrs. M. Mountjoy, a prominent lady of this county, who spent the winter in New York city, and recently returned to her home here for the summer, is very ill with fever, of a typhoid character. Mrs. William Muzze, who returned to her home here two or three weeks ago from Washington, where she went to have an operation performed by an oculist, has just been repaired from the former point down to this place.

There are eleven candidates in this county for the office of Overseer of the Poor. Each magisterial district is entitled to one overseer of the poor, and the salary attached to that office is about \$29 per year. It puzzles the average citizen to know why an office imposing many duties and paying \$29 per year is in such demand.

As a result of the heavy rains this week, the public roads in many places are in bad condition. The wash-outs and deep mud make travel somewhat difficult. The early calves are unusually fine this spring. They are larger, whiter, and tender, and have been ready for the table about two weeks.

Old papers for sale at 25c a hundred at Dispatch office.

A HINT TO ECONOMICAL HOUSEKEEPERS TO SAVE MONEY.

BARGAINS IN GROCERIES

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Down-Town Stores, 1820-1822 E. Main St. Old 'Phone, 316. New 'Phone, 509. Up-Town Store, 606 East Marshall. Old and New 'Phones, 34.

What You Can Buy for 25c. at S. ULLMAN'S SON'S.

- 6 pounds Best Granulated Sugar.....25c. A Good Family Flour, spring wheat, 25c. bag, kind you pay 35c. for elsewhere. 2 pounds Best Cream Cheese for.....25c. 5-pound pail Best Home-Made Preserves for.....25c. 10-pound pail Best Jelly for 25c.; 2 pounds Tip Top Roasted Coffee for 25c.; 4 cans Table Peaches for.....25c. What You Can Buy for 50c. at S. ULLMAN'S SON'S.

- 5 dozen Clothes Pins for...5c. 10c. Box T. M. Blacking for.....5c. 10c. box Electric Paste Polish.....5c. Can Best Tomatoes.....5c. Can Best Corn, 5c.; 1 1/2 pounds Brown Sugar for...5c. Large can Boston Baked Beans for.....5c. 1 1/2 pounds Soda Crackers for.....5c. 1 1/2 pounds Ginger Snaps for.....5c. 1/2 pound Good Green or Mixed Tea for.....5c. 1 pound Best California Bartlett Pears for.....5c. 1 pound Best Large California Prunes, for.....5c. 1/2 pound Tea Dust for 5c., good as any Tea you ever drank; 2 Cakes Kitchen Soap for Cleaning, for.....5c. 2 boxes Washing Powders for.....5c. 1 pound Fresh Lemon Cakes for.....5c. 10c. bottle Ammonia for...5c. 1/2 gallon Sour Pickles for 5c.; Condensed Milk, 5c. can. 10c. box Shirt-Waist Starch for.....5c. 2 boxes 10c. Shoe Blacking for.....5c. Bottle Imported Worcester Sauce.....5c. 1/2 peck Irish Potatoes for...5c. 10c. Bottle Ladies' Shoe Dressing for.....5c. Other bargains as follows: Ice-Cream Salt, 10c. peck. Snow Flake Patent Family \$4.80 per barrel, or 30c. sack. A good Family Flour, \$8.90 barrel, or 25c. bag. Brownstuff, 70c. cwt.; Shipstuff, 70c. cwt.

Our 4-year old Rye Whiskey is the best on the market, and we only charge \$2 gallon or 50c. quart. Good Rye Whiskey, \$1.50 gallon. Imported Holland Gin, \$3 gallon. Virginia Claret Wine, 50c. gallon. Home-Made Blackberry Wine, 60c. gallon. Jefferson Coffee, in 1 pound papers.....12c. Best Oats, 28c. bushel. Carolina Rice, 4c. pound. Best Mixed Corn, 38c. bushel. Orange County Country Hams, 10c. pound. Imported Switzer Cheese, 20c. pound. Battle Axe Rolled Oats in 2-lb packages.....8c. New North Carolina Clipped Herrings, 8c. dozen. Good Green or Mixed Tea, 15c. pound. Nice Fat Mackerel, 12c. dozen; Salt Salmon, 8c. can; Early June Peas, 8c. can; Grated Pineapple, large cans, 10c. can; Best City Meal, 43c. bushel or 11c. peck. Best Silver King Patent Family Flour, \$5.10 a barrel, or 32c. sack; Large cans Fern Condensed Milk.....7c. Money Order must come with all shipping orders. It will pay you to write or phone for one of our complete Price Lists. It's a regular money saver.

THE NORTHERN NECK.

Grateful Showers—The Cross-Personal and General Notes. COMORIN, KING GEORGE COUNTY, VA., May 15—(Special.)—The grateful showers which began to fall here early this week were very much needed, and the crops have responded and are growing very nicely. The corn was yellow and "sickly-looking up to Wednesday, when the fine rain watered the thirsty fields and changed the color to a dark green.

The wheat crop has also greatly improved this week. That in Stafford county is especially well advanced and thrifty-looking. The Stafford farmers are well ahead with their farming operations, and notwithstanding the low prices of grain, they have planted large areas of corn. Those adjacent to Fredericksburg, and also many along the railroad some distance away, are now making preparations for their pickie crop. Some have planted acres in cucumbers for the Fredericksburg pickle factory, and some are sowing the fertilizer and preparing the soil to be seeded down a week or two days later.

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