THE SUMTER BANNER.

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THE SUMTER BANNER:
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WILLIAM J. FRANCIS.

TERMS:

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Advertisements inserted at 75 cents per square, (17 lines or less,) for the first and half that sum for each subsequent insertion. The number of insertions to be marked on all Advertisements, or they will be published until ordered to be discontinued, and charged accordingly.

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☞ Accounts for Advertising, will be presented for payment quarterly.

All letters by mail must be post paid to insure a punctual attention.

AGRICULTURAL.

SHAKER FARM.

The present settlement of Shakers, or United Brethren, at New-Lebanon, was the first spot on which this sect ever located. They commenced here about forty years ago. The society consists at present of about 600 persons, more than half of whom are females. From small beginnings they have acquired large possessions, holding at this time not less than seven thousand acres of land mostly lying contiguously. We spent a few hours examining various objects, connected with this community.

Their buildings are all built in the most substantial manner, and are constructed with particular regard to convenience. One of their barns is considered in all respects the best contrived and most perfect of any we have seen. It is one hundred and forty-one feet long, fifty feet wide, and twenty-five feet high in the walls. It consists of three stories. The basement is devoted to the stock and the storage of vegetables in winter, the second and third to hay and grain. The main entrance for produce is in the third story, which, from being on the side of a hill, is nearly level with the ground. A floor runs lengthwise through the barn, on this story, and the hay and other articles are pitched downward into the bays on each side. The barn is capable of containing two hundred tons of hay, and it is so disposed that scarcely any of it has to be raised higher than the wagon from which it is thrown. Only two hands are necessary to unload—one to pitch off, and one to keep the mow level, thus saving a great amount of labor, compared with what is required in barns of common construction.

The apartments for the cattle are complete. The walls which are of very solid stone-work, are plastered, and though cool in summer, we should suppose they would be so warm in winter that no frost would be found there; windows in each side permit free ventilation. The fodder is thrown into racks for the stock from the "feeding floor" in the second story. In front of racks are mangers to catch any straws that drop from the racks, as the fodder is pulled out by the animals. An open space is left between the racks and mangers, which allows the animals ready access to fresh air, prevents the hay in the racks from being made unpalatable by their breath, and gives room also to slip in boxes, when it is wished to feed with slops or roots. The man who had charge of the stock said he could feed and take care of a hundred animals in this barn with less labor than he could manage twenty in any other barn he ever saw. The cattle stand on a platform with a gentle slope, which renders it easier to keep them clean and dry. The cows are tied with chains around the neck, and are always milked in their stalls, summer and winter. They are milked exactly at fixed times. So punctual are the attendants to this, that a clock is kept in the apartment, and the herdsman told us at what moment the cows would be in their places.

The barnyard is so contrived that none of the manure is wasted. It is kept littered with straw and such waste matters as can be procured, and the manure from the stalls is made into compost with that in the yard, mixed with muck, and is not used till it has become fine by decomposition.

Dairying.—The manufacture of butter and cheese is only carried on to the extent demanded by home consumption. Cheese was formerly produced for sale, and of such quality that it commanded (when old) from 20 to 25c. per pound. The different dairy apartments were shown to us, and all information in regard to the various processes and management cheerfully given. The buildings appropriated to this branch of business are rather small.

They were erected soon after the commencement of the society, and are less convenient than most of their modern structures are; it is, therefore, designed to supply their place with a new edifice, to be constructed on the most approved plan. The several rooms for milk, butter and cheese, are kept with the most scrupulous neatness. Not a fly or any other insect, not even the least speck of dirt, could be here discovered. The cheese room was cool and airy; the windows of which were protected by gauze screens, and the temperature kept low by wetting the floor with cold water. After the cheese is properly cured in this room, and before the weather has become so cold as to make it liable to freeze, it is removed to a room in the cellar or basement of the house. Here the temperature is nearly the same, about 45 degrees at all times. It is kept here for any length of time, and improves with age.

Economical Arrangement.—The cellar just mentioned, (which, by the way, is so cold that no ice house is ever needed,) belongs to the house of the principal or senior family. On signifying our wish to see the arrangements for culinary purposes, two of the females at once accompanied us to the kitchen, and explained their uses. It would be useless to attempt a minute description of all the labor-saving contrivances which are here secured.—We have examined similar departments belonging to various large establishments, but have never seen such perfect conveniences as there are here, and we know not which most to admire, the skill and ingenuity evinced in the original design, or the neatness displayed in their use. A view of this beautifully clean kitchen, and the systematic and quiet manner in which operations are here conducted, is a sight worth seeing. The cooking for a family of some three hundred persons is here done with less labor than is usually required for thirty.

Sales.—A large portion of the sales of the society consist of dried herbs, extracts, and the seeds of vegetables. Some fifty or sixty acres of land are devoted to the production of these articles. The amount of sales or the net profits of the business, we did not learn. The cultivation of their herb and vegetable gardens, as well as their gardens generally, is very neat. The herbs and other preparations are put up in the best manner, and are sold by established agents in the large cities, and also travelling agents over a large portion of the country. We noticed a press used for pressing herbs, which appears to possess some important improvements. It was invented by a young man belonging to the society, and we believe he has secured a patent for it. We hope he will furnish drawings and a description of it for insertion in our columns.

We are well aware that many of the improvements of which we have spoken cannot be so readily or advantageously carried out on common farms or individual estates, and we cannot bring them forward as deserving universal adoption; but we think that something of the system which is here observed in conducting business, might be profitably imitated by many of our farmers. Above all, we do not hesitate to recommend, both to husbandmen and housewives, the Shakers' examples of neatness and cleanliness, the imitation of which we are sure would result in the increase of comfort and happiness.—*Alb. Cultivator.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

A BEAUTIFUL SCENE.

J. R. Chandler, Editor of the Philadelphia U. S. Gazette, describes the following exquisite scene. It is more beautiful, more touchingly pure than the purest dream. He was walking in the late watches of the night, when the stars were bright in the heavens—the earth fresh and fragrant with the night dew, and the great ocean on whose shores he wandered, pealing its solemn hymn through the starlit darkness, when he saw this holy scene.—There was no star in the heavens brighter than the fervent aspirations of the simple hearted sailor; and his prayer, was, in God's ear, louder and more sublime than the roaring, of the great ocean:

At length a repeated remark drew my attention towards the bank; looking over which I saw an elderly man in a rough dress with a small boy his side.

"Why not?" inquired the sailor.

"Because you called me so earnestly, and bade me meet you on the beach, as soon as I could get dressed."

"It should not have been neglected." said the old man,

"I should think," said the boy, with an appearance of great deference, "that you could not have been up long."

"No, I had just risen when I called you."

There was a pause of a few moments, which the old man broke by saying:

"We are quite early, and perhaps the duty omitted by both of us at the house may be discharged here. We will scarcely work the worse for it to-day."

The speaker then took off a glazed hat, and displayed a head slightly bald; the long mottled hair on its sides trembled in the slight breeze that set in from the ocean. The younger also laid aside his hat, and both knelt upon the sand. In a solemn tone the father commenced his morning's devotion. I could not catch all the words; but here and the , when special earnestness marked the request I could distinctly hear each syllable. The language was simple, but expressive; and, as much of it was scripture, it occasionally rose to sublimity.—The daily wants and cares and dangers of the petitioner went up to Him, who has taught us to ask "day by day for our daily bread," and when the family and friends had been commended to Him who careth for all, the humble worshippers rose from their knees, and proceeded to the boat which was to convey them to some craft anchored at some distance from the shore. Other ears than mine heard the morning prayer of the old pilot; and whatever fate may be his, I cannot doubt he will be prepared to meet it with the most perfect resignation.

From the Utica (N. Y.) Organ.

AN ESSAY TO MISS CATHARINE JAY.

An S A now I mean 2 write,
2 U sweet K T J,
The girl without a ll,
The belle of U T K.

I I der if U got the 1
I wrote 2 U B 4
I sailed in the R K D A,
And sent by L N Moore.

My M T head will scarce contain,
I calm 1 D A bright,
But A T miles from U I must
M~~ this chance 2 write.

And 1st should N E N V U,
B E Z, mind it not;
Should N E friendship show, B true,
They should not B forgot.

But friends and foes alike D K,
As you may plainly C,
In every funeral R A
Or uncle's L E G,

From virtue never D V 8;
Her influence B 9,
Alike induces 10 derness,
Or 40 tude divine.

And if U cannot cut a ——,
Or cause an I,
I hope U'll put a .
2 my ?

R U for annexation 2
My cousin?—heart and ☞
He offers in a ¶
A $ 2 of land.

He says he loves U 2 X S,
U're virtuous and Y's,
In X L N C U X L
All others in his I's.

This S A until U I C,
I pray U 2 X Q's,
And do not burn in F E G
My young and wayward muse.

Now fare U well, dear K T J
I trust that U R true—
When this U C then U can say,
An S A I O U.

J. S. F.

INTERNAL EVIDENCE.

A man of subtle reasoning asked
A peasant if he knew
Where was the internal evidence
That proved the Bible true?

The terms of disputative art
Had never reached his ear—
He laid his hand upon his heart,
And only answered—"HERE."

STRIKING.

'Come hither my dear, my picture is here,
What think you, my love, don't it strike you?'
'I can't say it does at present my dear,
But think it soon will—it's so like you.'

RECEIPT FOR MAKING INDIAN PUDDING.

The readers of the Banner will find the following a good receipt for making an excellent and cheap pudding, of which we have often partaken. It was furnished by a lady.

"An Indian Pudding, and ——— &c.,"
And plenty of good fresh butter, &c.

Mix well together the following articles: 1 pound of good butter, one and a half pounds of sugar, six eggs, two quarts of claughber or buttermilk, (skim milk perhaps will do,) one teaspoonful of saleratus, and two quarts of finely sifted cornmeal. Bake one hour in a tin pan and serve in the same. To be eaten hot with a plenty of good fresh butter. The above materials make a pudding amply sufficient for twelve persons.

HUMANITY will direct us to be particularly cautious of treating with the least appearance of neglect those who have lately met with misfortunes, and are sunk in life. Such persons are apt to think themselves slighted, when no such thing is intended. Their minds, being already sore, feel the least rub very severely. And who would be so cruel as to add affliction to the afflicted!

A Good One.—The Springfield Gazette tells a good story about a clergyman, who lost his horse on Saturday evening. After hunting in company with a boy till midnight, he gave up in dispair. The next day, somewhat dejected at his loss, he went into the pulpit, and took for his text the following passage from Job—

"Oh that I knew where I might find him.'

The boy, who had just come in supposing the horse still the burden of thought, cried out, 'I know where he is. He's in Deacon Smith's barn.'

CURE FOR THE BITE OF A RATTLESNAKE.—One or two spoonsful of sweet oil taken inwardly, and the wound annointed well with it, has been found to be an effectual cure for the bite of a Viper or Rattlesnake.

From the London Daily News.

SAN JUAN D'ULLOA.

On the termination of the war with Spain, after the miserable remains of their garrison had been sent off to Havanna, I went with two companions over to the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. It is a tremendous place if at all well manned. No wonder it had held out so long. Had it not been for the raging of the yellow fever within its walls and the want of provisions, the Mexicans would never have taken it without a naval force very superior to the one they then possessed, though they have never since had any force comparable to that one.

"The outer walls of the fortress are of immense thickness—upwards of twelve feet, and in the positions most exposed, the walls are seventeen or eighteen feet in depth of solid white stone. It is a very porous and rather soft stone, so that balls do not split or crack it so much as they quietly embed themselves. These outer walls have batteries all around: the guns are well planted, with here and there a neat corner for a mortar. The inner walls are so constructed that if the outer walls are gained it would still be at a slaughterous expense to the besiegers, if the garrison were at all competent to avoid themselves of their position.

We entered the fortress from below at the principal gate, which was of great strength, and very skilfully contrived; and then went along a stone passage, which had several gateways, and 'cunningly devised' narrow passes, with high stone walls on each side. This was terminated by a canal, or moat, with a draw-bridge over it. We next arrived at flights of stairs, and passing up several vault-like ascents, we gained the top of the grand batteries. The general characteristic is that of great strength, and plenty of room to work in. They mounted 120 long 24 pounders, all of brass. They were for the most part, in excellent condition. The mortars were of large callibre, though not in such good order as the guns. The powder magazines were each literally a dry stone well, plugged at the top with blankets, and having a round metal lid over the mouth that opened upon the batteries.

"We next descended to the inner works, and gained the secondary walls by a circuitous route. Besides the necessity to the besiegers of having guides who well know every turn of the works, the excitement and smoke are almost certain to produce a confusion, in which the voice or presence of the guides would be lost, and the party dashing onward might only arrive at a dead wall, a gap looking out upon the sea, or the mouth of a twenty-four pounder.—The circuitous route of our descent from the upper to the lower range of walls was entirely exposed to their batteries, the guns grinning at us all the way, like so many black tusks, as we traversed stone causeways and narrow passes. Whole regiments might here be raked down, after they had conquered the outer walls. But the 'chances of war' are numerous; and one imperfection in the greatest power (if otherwise perfect) may render it inapplicable, and perhaps ridiculous. On arriving at their inner batteries, we found the guns in a wretched condition. They were no better than a Chinese effect 'calculated' to strike terror into the mind.—But one may imagine how very angry the subtle architect of this formidable castle would have been, could he have seen his excellent arrangements for the safe and nearly certain destruction of the assailants thus rendered abortive.

"We now descended a very wide and steep flight of stone stairs which led down into the grand castle square, or little town, as one might almost call it. We entered at the bottom through stone gateways, [the architect had never missed an opportunity for giving the besieged protection in retreating, and time to rally,] and found ourselves in a large open square enclosed on all sides by very lofty walls, the lower part of which displayed doors and entrances into barracks, guard houses and shops of various kinds for the sale of such articles as a garrison would need. The Governor's house is at the farther end. It was a genuine soldier's lodgment, and very bare of all ornament, except those of war, for it was riddled all over with the marks of shot and shell. Its strong covered balcony, intended to serve as a protection both from the broiling sun and the fall of missiles, was in many places torn in long gaps. All the towers and buildings of any elevation had been knocked about and defaced by the shot and shells from Vera Cruz, previous to the surrender of the castle. But the mutilations and destructions did not materially affect the strength of the place. Very few of the guns had been dislodged; even the outer batteries were not injured so as to render them ineffective, with the exception of a gap of ruins in one or two places. There is about a mile's breadth of sea running between San Juan d'Ulloa and the town of Vera Cruz.

"How strongly and skilfully this fortress is protected by art the reader has now some idea; but San Juan d'Ulloa is equally protected by nature; for, while the defences of art which I have briefly described are chiefly devoted to the side and angle facing the town, those angles which face the main ocean on the opposite side, or back of the castle, are protected by long successions of rocky reefs, utterly defying the approach of any vessels of war. Many black and rotting wrecks, visible even at high water, attested some of the natural 'terrors of the place.' But in these days it is generally understood by all military men that no place is impregnable, and that a thorough soldiers, well officered and led, can, and will, and do, take any place. At what cost is not the question. The thing can be done."

BEAUTIFUL SWISS CUSTOM.—It was formerly the usage of the Swiss peasantry to watch the setting sun, until he had left the valleys and was sinking behind the ever snow-clad mountains, when the mountaineers would seize their horns and sing through the instrument "Praise the Lord." This was caught up from Alp to Alp by the desendants of Tell, and repeated until it reached the valleys below. A solemn silence then ensued, until the last trace of the sun disappeared, when the herdsman on the top sung out "Good Night," which was repeated as before, until every one had retired to his resting place.

The Swedish mountaineers, since the days of the great Gustavus, have been extravagantly fond of music. The female mountaineers blow on an instrument called a *lar*, a sort of long trumpit, sometimes *twelve* feet in length. Its sound is strong, and at the same time sharp, yet by no means unpleasant. When supported by one and played by another, it presents a very odd appearance, and may be heard at a very great distance.—*Sat. Cour.*

CHARMS.—What charm is there in woman, if she has not modesty? She may flirt with the beaux, and gain the admiration of the gay villian, but to the circle of virtue, she is a reproach and dishonor. The good may pity her, but they turn from her presence, as one that may contaminate. What deficiences there may be in nature—if a woman is as plain as a log hut, and yet is modest and virtuous she possesses charms which the good and great respect and reverence. The virtues of the mind shine with brilliancy and never tire the beholder, whilst the beauty of the face and the symmetry of the form, where there is nothing else to recommend them, flash out and dazzle for a moment, and then sink forever.

THE BITTER MELON.—The famous oriental philosopher, Lockman, while a slave, being presented by his master with a bitter melon, immediately ate it all.

"How was it possible," said his master" for you to eat so nauseous a fruit?"

"I have received so many favors from you, that it is no wonder I should once in my life eat a bitter melon from your hand."

This generous answer of the slave struck the master to such a degree that he immediately gave him his liberty. With such sentiments should man receive his portion of sufferings from the hand of God.

THE POET.—At the time that Jupiter was sharing the goods of the earth among mortals, after he had given to each his portion, the poet presented himself at his throne, and begged that some might be given to him. 'You are too late my friend,' replied Jupiter: 'I have already given the lands to the farmers, the magazines to the merchants—nothing is left. Where were you when all these things were divided?' 'At that time,' replied the poet, 'I was with you; I looked upon your countenance and listened to your voice.' 'What can I do for you?' said Jove; 'the earth is given away; the fruits, the produce of the chase, the merchandise, are no longer mine to give; but if you are content to live with me in heaven, you shall not be denied access there.'

LITERAL BLUNDERS.—"Betty," said a learned lady to her dingy Abigail "go for some spirit for the lamps, and tell Mr. Mixum that the last he sent was so very weak that it only served to make the darkness visible."

"Yes'm," replied Betty, and away she ran with the message, which she delivered as follows:

"Missis says, she last sperrits you sent wa'an't good for nothin'; and it only served to make the *darkness miserable*, it was so weak, it was."

SCARCE.—Unbustled ladies, pure and undefiled Christians, disinterested friends, common honesty, sound potatoes, first rate butter, happy old bachelors, and *rich* printers.

Our pride rests not so much upon what we are, have been, or have accomplished, as upon what we fondly imagine we will be, or will, at some future time, accomplish.

A BUNCH OF KEYS.—Mrs. J. D. Keys an Iowa lady, has furnished her astounded lord with four little Keys. These are doubtless the identical Keys spoken of by the poets as "distressingly discordant."