## Agricultural.

SUPERSTITION AMONG FARMERS. — It would seem that if any man should have a correct understanding of the workings of nature and be able to read all her varied handwritings, that man should be the farmer, whose occupation leads him to constant intercourse and communion with her at all seasons of the year. And this is true when he goes out free from prejudice and with an intelligent purpose to read and understand her teachings. But, unfortunately, such cases are comparatively so rare as to give countenance to the charge that farmers, as a class, are an ignorant and superstitious set of people. A large proportion of farmers believe that the moon rules and controls this lower world. They worship it as a kind of deity that pervades over the vegetable world. They labor under the impression that the moon is constantly "changing," and producing corresponding changes in the vegetable and animal kingdoms. They not only hold these notions theoretically but they are influenced by them in the practical operations of their business. One man will plant potatoes, beets, carrots, and other root-producing plants only when the moon is waning or "going down," that the vigor of the plant may go down to form roots; corn, cabbage, and other top-growing crops must be planted when the moon is increasing, so the growth may be upward; the fence must be built when the moon is increasing, so it will not settle into the ground; the house must be shingled in the dark of the moon, so the shingles will not curl up; hogs must be butchered in the increase of the moon, so the meat may increase in the process of cooking; and in an hundred other equally absurd forms does this superstition manifest itself. As above stated, such persons believe the moon really undergoes frequent changes. But this is not the case; the moon does not change at all. Its apparent changes are produced by a change in the relative position of ourselves to it and to the sun, which change is produced by the diurnal revolution of the earth and the fact that the revolution of the moon around the earth does not exactly coincide with the daily revolution of the earth itself. All the change there is about it consists in the fact that this week we stand where we see the side that is turned toward the sun, next week we have moved over, so we see part of the light side and part of the dark side, the next week the whole of the dark side is turned toward us. How absurd to suppose that the mere change of relation between us and the moon should produce such changes in the material world as are mentioned above! Observation as well as reason teaches that no such influence is exerted by the moon. Out of more than one thousand recorded observations of the moon's change, considerable less than one-half were followed immediately by any change in the weather. In a careful observation of twenty years I have found all the moon signs governing the weather have failed oftener than they been fulfilled. What reliance can be placed in a sign that fails twice out of every three times that it occurs? Does it not fail to be a sign at all, except to the superstitious? Many people, otherwise sufficiently devout and having strong faith in an over-ruling Providence, become practical atheists on Friday. They seem to think that on that day of the week the Great Ruler lets go the reins of the Universe and permits the forces of nature to run riot without any control or hindrance. Hence they fear to enter upon any enterprise or begin any new job of work on Friday, lest they have bad luck. Perhaps a majority of the farmers of the country believe that wheat will turn to "cheat" (chess). While such absurd and nonsensical notions exist and prevail among farmers, it is not strange that we are, as a class, branded with ignorance and superstition. It is the work of the agricultural press to dispel this darkness and shed forth the light of true science.

SHALL WE EAT CHEESE?—Is cheese a wholesome article of food? Cheese, when properly made and cured, is wholesome and more nutritious, pound for pound, than beef. The experience of Englishmen furnishes good evidence of this. They consume more cheese per capita than any nation in the world. They use 100 per cent more per head annually than the people of the United States, and no nation on the globe is more healthy. If we should use cheese as freely as the English do we would find a home market for all our make and more too. More cheese would be consumed if a better quality was offered. Poor cheese is greatly in the way of consumption. Right where the cheese is made little good stock is offered. The poorest is sold at home. In visiting factories it is rare to find a good cheese cut for use of patrons. The manufacture of skim cheese was objected to as contributing to the superabundance of poor cheese. The best cheese to make is full cream, close, firm, and well scalded. This is the safest to handle and best contributes to an extended use both at home and among our English customers. Close texture is of prime importance, as porous cheese often sells for three to five cents less per pound than close.

THE number of eggs laid by a duck depends very much on the breed to which she belongs. In all poultry the non-sitters lay more than those that are concerned in the rising generation. Thus the Aylesbury will lay a greater number of eggs than any other duck. The black duck, called the Labrador, or the East Indian, or Buenos Ayrean, is a good layer. The Rouen is an average layer, and the wild duck lays few compared to these. An old duck is, as a rule, a better layer than a young one, but it is impossible to give the average of any of them. Aylesbury ducks begin to lay in November and December; Rouens three months later. Both the time when they begin laying, and the number of eggs they lay, are influenced by their keep and by judicious management.

LEATHER MAKING.—Tanning is a business as complicated as that of dyeing, or making iron, or gas, and needs the investment of capital in buildings and machinery, together with practical knowledge and skill. The hides are first put into a lime vat which loosens the hair, they are then scraped, trimmed and cleansed, and placed in vats along with a solution of various barks or other substances containing what is known as tannin. In these vats a chemical combination of the gelatinous or glue producing substance of the hides with the tannic acid of the bark occurs, and the product is what we know as leather. It then undergoes various processes of polishing, currying, coloring, &c., before it is finally fitted for market.

KEEPING CIDER SWEET.—Sulphite of lime will arrest the further working of cider at any state of its fermentation. The sweetness of the cider is thereby retained, but its aroma and delicate vinous flavor is almost entirely destroyed. Cider made late in the Fall of sound apples, racked off into clean barrels, after the first fermentation is over, the barrels kept well filled and bunged up, and stored in a dry cellar, with a temperature not much above the freezing point, will keep sweet for a year and improve at the same time in aroma and flavor.

AN orchard of 100 acres, near Davisville, Cal., produced the last season apricots and peaches which sold for $10,000. It is presumed this fruit was shipped to the Eastern markets, though the Sacramento paper in which we find the item gives no definite information to this effect.

## Scientific.

THE THEORY OF MOLECULES.—An atom is a body which cannot be cut in two. A molecule is the smallest possible portion of a particular substance. No one has ever seen or handled a single molecule. Molecular science, therefore, is one of those branches of study which deal with things invisible and imperceptible by our senses, and which cannot be subjected to direct experiment.

Molecule is a modern word. It does not occur in Johnson's "Dictionary." The ideas it embodies are those belonging to modern chemistry.

A drop of water may be divided into a certain number, and no more, of portions similar to each other. Each of these the modern chemist calls a molecule of water. But it is by no means an atom, for it contains two different substances, oxygen and hydrogen, and by a certain process the molecule may be actually divided into two parts, one consisting of oxygen and the other of hydrogen. According to the received doctrine, in each molecule of water there are two molecules of hydrogen and one of oxygen. Whether these are or are not ultimate atoms I shall not attempt to decide.

We now see what a molecule is, as distinguished from an atom.

A molecule of a substance is a small body such that if, on the one hand, a number of similar molecules were assembled together they would form a mass of that substance, while on the other hand, if any portion of this molecule were removed, it would no longer be able, along with an assemblage of other molecules similarly treated, to make up a mass of the original substance.

Every substance, simple or compound has its own molecule. If this molecule be divided, its parts are molecules of a different substance or substances from that of which the whole is a molecule. An atom, if there is such a thing, must be a molecule of an elementary substance.

AN English professor has recently been investigating the character and causes of certain phenomena, which the inhabitants about Lake Geneva call fontaines. They are the irregular spots which appear on the surface of the lake when it is ruffled by a brisk breeze or by falling rain. Where the surface of the lake has its normal color the waves are sharp and move rapidly; but when the limits of a fontaine are reached, they become more sluggish in their movement, while the bases are convex and the tops round. A careful examination of these surfaces proved that the phenomenon they exhibit is due to the presence of oily matters that are suspended or float upon the water, which foreign substance may have come from a factory situated on the banks, or from some passing steamer. In order to verify these conclusions the professor took occasion to deposit, at certain points, small quantities of oily liquids. By this means fontaines were readily produced. It was, moreover, determined that one-third of a cubic inch of oil would suffice to cover a surface of about forty-three thousand square feet. Although the thickness of this layer was hardly one two-millionth of a millimetre, it was still sufficient to reduce the friction of the winds, and so visibly affect the waves. Fishermen upon the Mediterranean sea are acquainted with this property of oil to render the surface quiet, and so often cast a few drops of it on the ruffled surface of the water, being thus enabled to see the fish below. A piece of plate glass fitted into the bottom of a wooden box is also used for a similar purpose.

A NEW TEXTILE PLANT.—The ordinary wood nettle is found in profusion on the Alleghany mountains, often at a level of over 5,000 feet above the sea. A short time since, M. Rozel succeeded in transporting to Europe a number of living specimens of the plant, some of which he dispatched to the Prussian Minister of Agriculture, in order that the value of the weed, if any it had, might be determined. It appears that quite favorable results have been obtained in using the plant for textile purposes, and for such employment it is now attracting considerable attention in Germany. It is known botanically as the *laportea pustulata*, and is perennial. As it is, therefore, unnecessary to sow the seed each year, the plant has in this respect an advantage over hemp or flax, while it is stated to necessitate less labor and expense in preparing the fiber. In a wild state, the nettle attains a hight of two or three feet, but we learn that such as has been cultivated in Berlin has already exceeded this limit, and it appears possible that, by care and proper soil, even a still greater altitude may be gained. Experiments thus far made point to the fact that the plant will prove a not unimportant addition to our textile materials.

WE copy from *Appleton's Journal* the following note on subterranean fishes in California. We give it to our readers in the confidence that it would not have received the indorsement of that journal until its truth was verified by reliable evidence: It appears that the agent of the California Petroleum Company, at San Buenaventura, wanting water to supply the company's wharf at that point, determined to sink an artesian well on the sea-beach, not five feet from the high-water mark. At the depth of one hundred and forty-six feet a strong flow of water was obtained, which spouted to the height of thirty feet. Soon after, the attention of the agent, Mr. Bard, was directed to the fish with which the waste water from the well abounded, and which, on examination, proved to be young trout, "thousands of them being thrown out at every jet." They were all of the same size, about two inches in length, and were perfectly developed, the eyes being also perfect. As the temperature of the water, as it comes from the well, is 64° Fahr., the fish must have entered it but a brief time before their expulsion, since they could not have lived long in such high temperature, and yet the nearest surface-stream was several miles distant.

CAPTAIN JONES, of the smaller Yellowstone expedition, while at Two Ocean Pass, a short distance south of Yellowstone Lake, confirmed a most important discovery. It had been reported by some of the scouts and miners that there was a small stream of water which, close to the pass, was split in two by a small peninsula, one branch following the Yellowstone and Missouri to the Gulf, the other making its way into the Snake river, and thence to the Pacific.

AN economical improvement has been introduced on an Eastern railroad, by which a great saving of coal is made. It consists of a coil of pipe placed inside the smoke-stack of the locomotive, and connected with the pump which supplies the boiler. The cold water from the tender passes through the pipe, and is heated by the exhausted steam and spent heat from the flues.

ALLOY FOR DENTAL PLATES.—A dental alloy is made as follows: Bismuth, tin, and lead are purified by separately melting and pouring upon clean marble slabs until all dross is removed, and afterwards melting and pouring into lemon juice. The alloy is composed of platinum, gold, silver, bismuth, tin and lead.

IT is proposed in England to construct an eighty-ton rifled gun. The largest ever yet made there weighs only thirty-eight tons. The calibre of the new gun will be about seventeen inches.

## Domestic.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.—Bread which is one of the most expensive things in a household, is often carelessly wasted through a want of thought, yet there are several ways in which it may be used to advantage. The ends of loaves of bread, burnt or heavy rolls, cold biscuit, &c., &c., which are generally to be found in every household, should be broken up, put into a bowl and covered with milk or even water, for several hours when they should be well beaten and mashed, with a spoon until they form a sort of batter which, with the addition of one or two eggs, a small piece of butter, and a tablespoonful of flour, will make nice muffins for tea, or batter cakes for breakfast. Pieces of bread dried for a few moments in the oven, and then grated into covered tin boxes, will often prove most useful in preparing nice dishes. "Pain perdu" is another appetizing dish which owes its attractiveness to stale bread, slices of which are dipped into a custard made of three eggs, a pint of milk and sugar to the taste, and then fried to a bright golden brown in the nicest lard or butter. "Croutons" is the French name for slices of toasted or fried bread, either triangular or square, but very small, which they use in soups, and upon which they serve their famous hashes and minces, and few will believe, until they have tried the experiment, how much so small an addition adds to the size and flavor of a dish of minced chicken, minced veal or beef hash and we here take occasion to enter our protest against the absured yet prevalent idea that economy and stinginess are synonimes. Economy, true economy is a just distribution of dollars, stinginess is a constant sparing of cents.

BOILED SWEET POTATOES.—Sweet potatoes are not pared before boiling; partly because it is far easier to peel them afterward, and partly because if boiled in iron they turn black. For the same reason they should be cut as little as possible before cooking" and they should be neither probed nor lifted with a steel fork. Have them nearly of a size, and stop their cooking as soon as they are done. This is the great secret in cooking any kind of potatoes well. Drain off the water, and let them stand and dry until wanted. If any are left to cool, they can be made presentable by steaming. Another good way to warm them is to slice and brown them on a griddle. Frying them in butter or in fat may suit some perverted tastes, but it injures their digestibility. A better way is to slice them into warm milk, cover close, and cook till they begin to break; salt slightly, and mix them until but little milk is visible. This dish is also very good made with Irish and sweet potatoes mixed.

Another way is to make a white sauce with milk or with green corn milk, add to it cut sweet potatoes (cold or hot), and pieces of batter-biscuit in equal quantities, heat, gently but thoroughly, and serve warm. Stir it very little or it will be messy. There are so many methods of serving cold sweet potatoes, that they need never be thrown away; and if they are not wanted for immediate use, they can be sliced and dried.

TO COOK CAULIFLOWERS.—Select those that have the fewest tiny leaves upon their surface and the whitest blossoms. The large leaves must be opened at the sides to make sure that no cabbage worms—those hateful pests—infest it. Wash the head in strong salt and water; pin it up closely in a cotton cloth and place it in boiling water; let it boil constantly for twenty-five or thirty minutes, according to the size. Care must be taken not to boil it too much or it will fall to pieces when dished. Place it as whole as possible upon a platter and pour over it white buttersauce made of half a pint of milk, a heaping teaspoonful of flour and a small piece of butter. Thus served, it is one of the handsomest vegetables that you can place upon your table, and it goes charmingly with sweet potatoes, squash, corn and beans, and meats of all kinds.

THE ETIQUETTE OF INVITATIONS.—The square and the oblong envelope are the extremes of fashion for enclosing wedding invitations. For weddings at home, to which all the guests are invited, a square sheet is used without cards, and the entire invitation, including the parents', bride's, and groom's names, date and hour of wedding, with number of residence, is done on this page in lightly shaded script. For home weddings, "Request the pleasure of your company" is used; while for church wedding invitations, "Request your presence" is preferred. For announcing marriages, instead of separate cards a nearly square note is now used, with both names and date of the marriage upon it. The words "At home" are still used for day receptions, though seldom for evening.

APPLE BREAD.—Weigh one pound of fresh, juicy apples, peel, core and stew them to a pulp, being careful to use an enameled saucepan, or a stone jar placed inside an ordinary saucepan of boiling water, otherwise the fruit will become discolored; mix the pulp with two pounds of the best flour; put in the same quality of yeast that would be used for common bread, and as much water as will make it a fine smooth dough; put into an iron pan, and put it in a warm place to rise, and let it remain for twelve hours at least. Form it into rather long-shaped loaves, and bake in a quick oven.

BOILED GOOSE.—Cover with boiling milk and let it remain twelve hours. Wash off the milk cover with cold water; set it over the fire; when boiling hot take it from the water, wash in warm water, and dry with a cloth. This process keeps it from tasting oily. Then fill the body with a force-meat of bread crumbs highly seasoned with pepper, salt, onions, and sage. Put in cold water and boil gently until tender, an hour or an hour and a half. Serve with giblet sauce, pickles, or acid jellies. Beets, turnips, and cauliflowers are suitable vegetables to accompany boiled goose.

FISH CHOWDER.—One layer of thin slices sweet pork and one of fresh fish; season with pepper, &c.; one layer of split crackers, and so continue to repeat until sufficient to cook. When done, cover the whole with cold water and boil slowly one hour, keeping it just covered with boiling water. After the whole once boils, add scalding new milk, let it boil up once and serve hot. Thin slices of onions can be added at first, if desired.

SAGE TEA.—Take dried sage leaves, half an ounce; boiling water, one quart; infuse for half an hour, and then strain; sugar and lemon juice may be added in proportion required by the patient. In the same manner may be made balm and other teas. These infusions form very agreeable and useful drinks in fever, and their diaphoretic powers may be increased by the addition of the sweet spirits of niter or antimonial wine.

ORANGE AND LEMON ESSENCE.—Now that this fruit is so cheap, everybody can make extracts of the rind for themselves at slight expense. Cut the fresh peel in dice, fill a large-mouthed bottle, and cover with brandy or alcohol.

CASTOR OIL FOR CORNS.—The *Southern Medical Record* says that castor oil applied to the corn, after paring closely, each night before going to bed, softens the corn, and it becomes as the other flesh.

## Humorous.

INCONGRUOUS PARALLELS. — Reading Mr. Mark Twain's late and widely quoted speech in response to the toast of "Woman" at the festival of the Scottish Corporation of London, and recalling Artemus Ward's oratorial vein, one is prompted to wonder with which humorist the peculiar style was original. As reported by English papers, Mr. Twain said, in the course of his remarks: "The phases of the womanly nature are infinite in their variety. Take any type of woman, and you shall find in it something to respect, something to admire, something to love. And you shall find the whole joining your heart and hand. Who was more patriotic than Joan of Arc? Who was braver? Who has given us a grander instance of self sacrificing devotion? Ah, you remember, you remember well what a throb of pain, what a great tidal wave of grief swept over us all when Joan of Arc fell at Waterloo.- (Much laughter.) Who does not sorrow for the loss of Sappho, the sweet singer of Israel? Who among us does not miss the gentle ministrations, the softening influences, the humble piety of Lucretia Borgia? (Laughter). Who can join in the heartless libel that says woman is extravagant in dress when he can look back and call to mind our simple and lowly mother Eve arrayed in her modification of the Highland costume. (Roars of laughter.) Sir, women have been soldiers, women have been painters, women have been poets. As long as language lives the name of Cleopatra will live. And not because she conquered George III.—(laughter)—but because she wrote the divine lines—

'Let dogs delight to bark and bite,
For God hath made them so.'

The secret of the "fun" here is in extravagance of misassociation, and that is the trick of the following passage from one of Ward's English lectures: "I like art. I admire dramatic art, although I failed as an actor. It was in my schoolboy days that I failed as an actor. The play was the "Ruins of Pompeii.' I played the Ruins. It was not a very successful performance, but it was a better than the 'Burning Mountain.' He was not good. He was a bad Vesuvius. The remembrance often makes me ask. 'Where are the boys of my youth? I assure you this is a conundrum. Some are amongst you here, some in America, some are in jail. Hence arises a most touching question: 'Where are the girls of my youth? Some are married; some would like to be. Oh, my Maria! Alas! she married another—they frequently do. I hope she is happy, because I am. Some people are not happy; I have noticed that. My orchestra is small, but I am sure it is good so far as it goes. I give my pianist ten pounds a night and his washing. I like music. I can't sing. As a singist I am not a success. I am saddest when I sing; so are those who hear me. They are sadder even than I am. The other night some silver-voiced young man come under the window and sang, 'Come, where my love lies dreaming.' I didn't go; I didn't think it would be correct."

You have heard of the man who, going down the river in a flatboat, moored the boat to the bank, and going up into the timber, saw a fellow climbing first one tree, then rapidly descending (and occasionally falling), running to another tree and repeating the operation. Continuing this for some time, the flatboatman asked him what he was doing. The stranger, pointing to a woodpecker on the topmost branch, asked the flatboatman if he saw that woodpecker. "Yes," said the other, "but you certainly do not expect to catch it?" "No, of course not," said the stranger, "but I will worry it."

STRETCH OF PRIVILEGE.—Daughter of the house (to a privileged old friend of the family)—"Dear Mr. Lupus, you don't seem to be enjoying yourself. I should like to have you waltz this once with me."

Privileged Old Friend—"My dear child, I don't dance; but, if it suits you, I wouldn't mind sitting here with my arm round your waist while the others are making themselves dizzy."

JAPAN TRAITS.—Sarah—"The Japanese are not allowed to wear beards, mum, are they?"

Mistress—"What an extraordinary question, Sarah. I never saw one with a beard. I think, perhaps, it's more the custom to shave."

Sarah (of rather mixed ideas)—"Lor, mum, I shouldn't think they'd go and do that." Take all the Japan off, mum, wouldn't it?"

A GENTLEMAN who attended a recent Sunday school concert, was unexpectedly called upon to make a few remarks, and, rising promptly to his feet, as a man will do when stunned and bewildered, grew red in the face, gasped once or twice, nervously caught hold of his chair, and then sank heavily back into it with the simple but perfectly natural information, "By gracious!"

SEMINARY VS. CEMETERY.—Bailie Sawman—"Of coorse I want Wullie to have a guid eddycation, in fac, I'm thinking o' sending him to the ceemetry at Rothesay." Councillar Troot—"The Ceemeturie? Ah, ye'll be wantin' him to learn the dead languages, eh? *B. S. (who does not see it)*—"Of coorse, of coorse—deed an' leevin."

AT the breaking up of a dinner party, two of the company fell down stairs, the one tumbling to the first landing-place, the other rolling to the bottom. It was observed that the first seemed dead drunk.

"Yes," said a wag, "but he's not so far gone as the gentleman below."

A NEW YORK merchant, while recently taking dinner upon one of the Canadian steamers, very innocently took an egg, broke its shell and emptied its contents, as he supposed, into an egg-cup. After arranging it to suit his taste, he raised the supposed cup, when lo it was a "China napkin-ring."

A CLERGYMAN who left notice in his pulpit to be read by the preacher who exchanged with him, neglected to denote carefully a private postscript, and the congregation were astonished to hear the stranger wind up saying: "You will please come to dine with me at the parsonage."

SOME young men marry for dimples, some for ears, some for noses; the contest, however, generally lies between the eyes and hair. The mouth, too, is occasionally married. Does a man know what he invites when he marries a woman for her mouth?

IN old times an essential part of a bride's outfit was sand for scouring her kitchen implements. Now-a-days they don't trouble themselves about the sand; all that is required from the father is that he shall "down with the dust."

CONFESSION IN CONFUSION.—"Now, tell me, Doolan, truthfully, how often do you go to chapel?"

Pat.—"Will, now, shure oi'll till yer riv'rence the trut'. Faix, I go as often I can avoid!"

A New-HAVEN editor spent last Sunday in Slawson, and attended church. When the contribution box came around he was in a doze, but on being nudged hastily exclaimed, "I have a pass."

THE *Louisville Courier* says that "a Terre Haute man who has been trying to make both ends meet is living on head-cheese and ox-tail soup."

## Miscellany.

### An Unimpeachable Witness.

Solomon was called upon to decide some knotty cases of law and equity in his time, and the records of his court are esteemed pretty good authority. Among other cases he had to decide one about the ownership of a child which was claimed by two motherly women. A suit something like this lately came before a Cincinnati justice, and was decided on similar principles. A railroad man had an educated mocking-bird in his office. The bird could do a great many tricks with his voice, and among other imitative utterances he could mimic a locomotive whistle, and turn himself into a full-fledged calliope upon provocation. He was a little lame in his left leg, and among some peculiarities of plumage he had one extra long feather in his tail.

The bird disappeared from his cage one day. The owner, in a day or two, visited the shop of a bird man to look around among the tuneful prisoners. One fellow appeared to know him, but the man had no recollection of the feathered acquaintance. He looked at him closely, and the bird seemed to say by the twinkling of his eye and the set of his head: "Don't you know me?" This bird appeared to be lame in his right leg, and had no particularly long tail-feather. As the railroad man was turning away the bird got up steam and gave the shrill whistle of a locomotive, and danced round like a conductor threading the aisle of a car. There could be no doubt about it, but how changed! The railroad man asked the merchant where he got that bird? He had bought him, of course, but he could not tell from whom. The owner claimed his bird, but the merchant did not recognize his claim, so the case was taken to court, and the bird too. The bird man and five of his friends all swore like parrots that the bird had just come up from the South, and could not, therefore, be claimant's bird. The railroad man's witnesses, even, could not recognize the bird in court as their old acquaintance, with a lame left leg and a long tail-feather. The owner was confident, however, and told the judge that if the bird would only speak he could settle the matter.

Then the bird, as if it knew the case was going against him, did speak, and the judge told the man to take the bird. It was found that his feathers had been pulled, and cut, and stained, and that a toe-nail on his right food had been twisted and pinched off, so as to make it lower than the other one. But the mocking-bird was believed in court before the oaths of half a dozen men. This case of evidence will never be found in any of the law books.—*St. Louis Republican.*

### Health and Talent.

It is certainly no exaggeration, when we say that Health is a large ingredient of that which in every-day-life is called Talent. A man without Health may be a giant in mind, but his deeds are the deeds of a dwarf.

Give him, on the contrary, a rapid circulation of the blood, a good digestion, the body, the muscles, and tendons of a man, the cheerfulness, the implicit confidence, which arise therefrom—and though he possesses but a small amount of brain, nevertheless, he will not be blinded in prosperity or inconsolable in adversity.

It is particularly true in this country, that the number of centenarians in each community—*i. e.* men, in whom powerful intellects are united with bodily strength—is a small one; that in general, a man has all reason to consider himself lucky, when he draws as a prize—in the lottery of life—a healthy stomach without mind, or a sharp intellect with a sick stomach. Of both prizes, a weak intellect in a herculean body, is nevertheless preferable to a giant mind, with a sick constitution. One pound of energy with one ounce of talent, accomplishes greater results than a pound of talent with an ounce of energy.

The very first requirement for success in life, is to be a good animal. In any one of the learned professions, a strong constitution is at least worth as much as fifty per cent. more of brain. The wit, the imagination, the eloquence, yea! all actions of the mind, receive thereby a power and beauty, to which they could never attain without it, whereas, intellect in a weak body is like "gold in the pocket of an enervated swimmer."

A mechanic may possess nicely polished and sharp tools; but what will they benefit him without a strong arm and without a vigorous hand? What will it benefit, when we make the mind the store-room of all imaginable knowledge, and do not possess the power to turn the key, in order to enter into this chamber?


### Interesting to invalid Ladies.

HARLEMVILLE, Columbia Co., N. Y., July 9, 1873.

R. V. PIERCE, M. D.:

*Dear Sir:*—Your favor is just received. I intended to have written to you several weeks since concerning the improvement in my health, which is now very apparent. I have used one bottle of Favorite Prescription with the best results, although I will admit I was somewhat discouraged after its use (for a short time only.) I took it under very disadvantageous circumstances—having the supervision of the house and during the season of "house cleaning" I was obliged, through the incompetency of help, to do more than I ought, and, of course, suffered dreadfully, lifted when I ought not to have raised my hand, and did all I could to bring "order out of chaos"—but upon laying aside all cares and continuing the remedy I find after using less than one bottle to be so much benefited that I have discontinued the use, with no return of the symptoms of which I wrote you. I have suffered terribly and what added to my distress was the consciousness of not procuring relief from ordinary sources, at times it seemed about impossible to stand so great was the distress. All of those severe neuralgic pains have disappeared, they were so bad at times I could hardly walk without some external pressure. They seem to have left me like magic, suddenly, and have had no return; all other symptoms have been removed. The severe weakness and faintness have disappeared, and I can go up stairs with comparative ease now. I would have informed you ere this of my improvement, for I appreciated it, but I was fearful it was only transient benefit I was receiving, but I think sufficient time has elapsed to consider the beneficial results permanent. Accept of my best wishes for your future success and your kindness in advising me.

Very truly,
11 Mrs. M. NETTIE SNYDER.


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