FARM NOTES.

A GOOD garden is a valuable annex to the farm.

DON'T neglect your poultry; invest in a good breed.

KEEP your milch cows in clean stables, and you will get pure milk.

THE cheese production of the United States amounts to 400,000,000 pounds annually.

IF you have any stock that you are expecting an increase from, give it extra attention.

SAVE your manure; it is worth money to the farm; in fact, it is a regular savings bank.

HAVE your fuel provided for the winter, so that you can bid defiance to storm or blizzard.

IS YOUR mower and reaper, or either of them, exposed to the weather? Interest and rust is a two-edged sword.

HOUSE your sheep every night; if any are weak, separate them from the balance and give them special care.

IF you have not already subscribed for THE FARMER, don't go to sleep until you write a letter and inclose 50 cents for it.

DON'T neglect to provide all your animals with water. If it freezes up, open it, so there will be no difficulty in procuring plenty to drink.

THE farmer that raises stock and feeds his grain to it will keep a better bank account than the one who confines himself to producing grain for market.

THINK well before you mortgage your farm; be sure you can see the way through to the end. It is easier to give a mortgage than to pay it, a fact many discover when it is too late.

PROF. J. M. MCBRIDE, of the Agricultural University of Tennessee, after a variety of experiments during two years, concludes that heavy seeding of wheat will bring the best results and hasten the maturity of the crop. He recommends eight pecks to the acre.

AS MOST of our farmers are interested in this class of claims, we desire to call their attention to a few of the omissions to comply with the law that sometimes occur by owners who are not posted and therefore lose their claims. A careful reading of the law is sufficient. The five acres broken the first year should be regarded as a separate tract, and the requirements of each year complied with toward it. Some persons thoughtlessly plant the second year's breaking with trees the third year—or plant across the tract, making two and a half acres only on the first year's breaking. The crop planted upon it should be potatoes, beans, corn, or some crop that will admit of cultivating, as it puts the ground in better condition for trees. The failure to break the required five acres each year is of frequent occurrence, and more claims are lost from this omission than all others. Six acres had better be broken each year, that it may be beyond any cavil. Where a filing is made upon a claim that had been taken previously, and the breaking or planting done, it does not excuse the party from commencing as if nothing had been done—although he may plow the same tract over that was first plowed.—*Exchange.*

TOO MUCH care cannot be given to the selection of seed that is intended to be sown. It should be entirely free from weeds or noxious grasses. A very little labor in cleaning the seed before sowing will save a great deal of annoyance and work hereafter. When the sod is first turned over the soil is encumbered with no weeds, and by the exercise of a proper precaution it can be maintained in that condition. The early farmers in the Territory are suffering from seeding with impure seed. They are in a measure excusable, as it was no easy matter to obtain seed of any kind, and the proper appliances to separate it from trash were not to be had. The consequence is that their oats and wheat is one-fourth cockle and pigeon (or fall) grass, while their flax has the addition of mustard. They raise an article of low grade, which brings an inferior price, and the ground remains seeded indefinitely with rubbish. It pays to do everything on the farm well; nothing will pay any better than using a pure article of seed. Our gardens have no trash in them until we plant it ourselves. The person who sows clean seed will raise clean grain. It will have all the strength of the soil to itself, and therefore give more bushels of grain and bring a higher price per bushel.—*Dakota Farmer.*

WE believe that history proves that the smaller the farms of any locality the greater the prosperity of the people. If this is true there is a valuable lesson in it. As a rule small farms are better tilled than large ones. It is self-evident that, if forty acres produce 2,000 bushels of corn, it is more profitable than eighty acres that produce a like amount. There is a disposition in American people, or those who adopt this country as theirs, to acquire large quantities of land, especially when it is so easily obtained. Would it not be better to cultivate or improve a quarter section thoroughly, than to butcher over a half section. A family moves out here, the head of it files a pre-emption and tree claim on the choicest of lands; it is surrounded by others equally fine. The sons and daughters that have attained twenty-one years of age all take a half section apiece, they prove up on the pre-emptions and all take homesteads, and in this way the family get from 1,000 to 4,000 acres, according to the size of the family. We admit that the temptation is strong, but is it beneficial or profitable? Would it not be better to sell all but a quarter or half section and devote the consolidated energies upon it? It makes some difference whether you go into specialties; for instance, grazing and stock raising require a larger acreage than a mixed or grain farm. Again, large farms are generally carried on by a system of tenancy, which can never be brought up to the same standard with farms occupied by their proprietors. If a farm of eighty acres can be made to sustain eighty cows, that is its power; it is an eighty-cow power, and is certainly preferable to 160 acres that has no greater power. While we do not say that the larger one can not be increased, we only give the facts as they exist. And we believe it is practically demonstrated by facts that small farms occupied by their owners conduce to the greatest prosperity of a community.—*Dakota Farmer.*

COMPARING SONS-IN-LAW.

During the Vienna Exhibition an amiable merchant happened to meet in a railway carriage a gentleman with whom he proceeded to hold a pleasant conversation.

"I'm going to Vienna," said the merchant, "to see my daughte who is well married there. My son-in-law deals in paper and fancy leather work, and has a good trade. He is very prosperous."

"I also," said the good-natured stranger, "am going to see my daughter and son-in-law."

"Ah! is your son-in-law well off?" asked the merchant.

"Pretty well. But as he has to carry on his work alone it is sometimes rather tiresome."

"Is your daughter rich?"

"Not as rich as she'd like to be."

"She likes to spend a great deal on her toilet, I suppose."

"No, but she would like to be able to spend a great deal in charity."

"She's a good woman," said the merchant heartily. "It is to be hoped that your son-in-law's business will improve. Good-by, sir. Come to see us, and bring your daughter. We shall be happy to make her acquaintance."

The train arrived at the station at that moment, and the traveler whose son-in-law's business was only "pretty good" was immediately surrounded by grand personages in uniform. After having politely saluted the amazed merchant, he stepped into the carriage of the Emperor of Austria.

The good father-in-law of the dealer in paper and fancy leather goods had been traveling with the Prince Max, of Bavaria, the father of the Empress Elizabeth.

DECORATIONS OF NEW YORK HOUSES.

In some of the Fifth avenue palaces the decorative work represents, not only thousands of dollars, but the combined taste, skill and labor of artists and mechanics. In quaint combinations of colors, richness of drapery, wealth of carving and the beauty of the painted decorations, some of the apartments of these private residences are splendid beyond description. Many of the rooms are so adorned as to illustrate a poem, depict a celebrated battle or give form and expression to some familiar legend or fable. On the frescoed wall of a broad hall, for instance, the lover of Shakspeare may see his favorite plays represented, scene by scene, with all the vigor and feeling of a master mind. In the carved ceiling of an adjoining room he may look upon the portrayal, in almost living figures, of some deed of knightly heroes, renowned in medieval history, while the sunlight trickling through the ornamented window of still another apartment brings into relief some exquisite pastoral scene, tender in its expressiveness and rich in its natural colors. All of these beautiful things are striking evidences of the progress that has been made in the art of interior decoration within the past few years. They have supplanted a style of decoration which was without art, without system and often without attractiveness.—*Carpet Trade Review.*

A FEMALE advocate of woman suffrage appeared before the Kentucky Legislature the other day, and the following day a bachelor in the House brought forward a bill to give women equal claims with their husbands to their children; to practice as physicians in the State institutions; to practice law; to get the same wages as men in the State institutions, and to vote in certain cases. If the rest of the Legislature were so susceptible and disinterested, the bill would unanimously pass, but, unluckily, the large majority are married.

CHAS. BALL, of West Swanzey, Vt., while digging around a cherry-tree in his yard a short time since, brought to light a badly rusted hatchet, which bore on one side the initial letters G. W., and on the other side the figures 1741. There is no telling what can't be found in Vermont when you dig for it.

A CURIOUS CONSULTATION.

When the railroad was opened for travel between Baltimore and Washington I saw Mr. Webster frequently; but it was not until we were both employed in the important case of Wilson vs. Rousseau, in the Supreme Court, that I was again brought into professional relations with him. Our client, Mr. Jas. G. Wilson, had no less than seven counsel—Mr. Webster, Mr. William H. Seward, Mr. Reverdy Johnson, Mr. Phelps, of Vermont; Mr. Henderson, of Louisiana; Mr. Hall of Washington, and myself. The court had consented to our dividing the points—two speaking to each. But the difficulty was to get us all together for consultation. At last, in despair of succeeding otherwise, Mr. Wilson invited us to supper at the National Hotel, at 9 o'clock, with the understanding that a consultation would take place at 8. It was not until 8:30, however, that Mr. Webster called us to order, stated the object of the meeting, and complimented our host for his excellent judgment as displayed in the means adopted for securing the attendance of his professional advisers. Turning then to Mr. Seward, he said, "And now, Brother Seward, you will begin with reading the record." Records in those days were not printed, as now, but were engrossed on folio cap paper, and in this particular case the record was a heavy pile of manuscript, which Mr. Seward rested on his lap, and which would have taken several hours to read, while there remained not more than twenty minutes before supper would be ready. Mr. Seward, however, began with the formal heading, and was going on when interrupted by a burst of laughter, which was not quieted by the grave, judicial manner in which Mr. Wilson called for order, and requested "Brother Seward" to proceed. By this time Mr. Seward, who had as yet preserved his countenance, joined in the mirth; when Mr. Webster, shrugging his shoulders and turning to our client, said: "You see how it is, Mr. Wilson; there seems to be no alternative but to begin with supper. Do you think it is ready? Perhaps we may get on better with the record afterward;" and to supper in an adjoining room Mr. Wilson and his counsel marched, with Mr. Webster at the head of the procession.

There was more than one good talker at the table, and for a while the conversation was general. It was not long, however, before we were listening to Mr. Webster.

Conticuere omnes, intentique ora tenebant.

He was "i' the vein," and the hours flew by unheeded as there streamed from him, in rapid succession, anecdotes, quotations, references to his boyhood, incidents in his early practice, descriptions of the men who then figured upon the scene, graphic accounts of old familiar places. He was sometimes grave, solemn even; sometimes pathetic; sometimes, and by no means infrequently, quaint, droll and humorous; sometimes setting the table in a roar; then again moving his hearers almost to tears. Sure of his company, he was under no restraint, and seemed disposed to let his animal spirits run away with him, to forget the eminent lawyer and the great statesman, to roll off the sixty-five years that then weighed upon him, and be a boy again. I believe I am the sole survivor of that merry party thirty-three years ago; and, many as have been the social gatherings at which in my own and other lands I have been present, I have no such experience as that afforded by the attempt at a consultation in the case of Wilson vs. Rousseau, in the year 1846.

I ought to add that, somehow or other, when the argument came on, we fell into our proper places, and that Mr. Wilson gained his case.—*John H. B. Latrobe, in Harper's Magazine.*

WEDDING PIPES.

The city of Gouda, so famed for the old stained glass in the Cathedral, and more generally associated with the manufacture of Dutch pipes, is about fifteen miles from Rotterdam. Among the variety of pipes made there is one called the wedding-pipe; it is three feet three inches long in the stem; the bowl is ornamented with coats-of-arms. The Dutch make festivals of the copper wedding, the silver wedding, the golden wedding and the diamond wedding. On the occasion of the copper wedding the stem of the pipe is ornamented with copper leaves twining all the way up the stem, and at each successive festival the leaves are renewed according to the date of the commemoration, which seldom passes the golden. In Amsterdam I once saw a diamond-leaved pipe which had been prepared for a seventy-fifth wedding.—*Good Words.*

THE following is from a Washington letter: "The Mormon church has for years kept an accurate record in detail of the private life—especially at Washington—of every Senator and Representative, and it is this record, I am sorry to say, which has given the Mormons such tremendous and fatal power at Washington for a quarter of a century." When Uncle Sam takes the Mormons by the scruff of the neck they will understand that black-sheep Congressmen are not running the country.

AUTHOR OF "HOME, SWEET HOME."

John Howard Payne was the author of the song, "Home, Sweet Home." He was born at New York, June 9, 1792, and at the age of 13, while in a counting-house, began to edit a weekly journal called the *Thespian Mirror*, and several years later, while a student at Columbia College, published twenty-five numbers of a periodical named the *Pastime*. When he was scarcely 17 years old he made his debut as an actor at the Park Theater, New York, in the character of Young Norval, and subsequently appeared on the stage at Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other cities, and June 4, 1813, appeared at Drury Lane Theater, London. For about twenty years thereafter he was variously engaged in England as an actor, manager and playwright. One of his plays, "Brutus," was produced in 1818, with Edmund Kean in the principal part, and he also wrote "Virginius" and "Charles the Second," which are considered among the best of his writings. The work, however, which has made his name most familiar to the world is the song, "Home, Sweet Home," which was written for "Clari, or the Maid of Milan." In the year 1832 Payne returned to the United States, and was United States Consul at Tunis, Africa, from 1841 to 1845, and again appointed in 1851, and died there April 10, 1852. From a recent number of a London paper we quote the following: "The author of 'Home, Sweet Home,' J. H. Payne, a poor but genial-hearted man, was walking with a friend in London, and, pointing to one of the most aristocratic houses in Mayfair, he said: 'Under those windows I composed the song of "Home, Sweet Home" as I wandered about without food or a semblance of shelter I could call my own. Many a night since I wrote those words, that issued out of my heart by absolute want of a home, have I passed and repassed in this locality and heard a siren voice coming from within those gilded walls, n the depth of a dim, cold London winter, warbling "Home, Sweet Home," while I, the author of it, knew no bed to call my own. I have been in the heart of Paris, Berlin, London, or some other city, and have heard the people singing "Home, Sweet Home," without a penny to buy the first meal, or a place to put my head in. The world has literally sung my song until every heart is familiar with its melody. My country has turned me ruthlessly from office, and in my old age I have to submit to humiliation for bread.' It is hinted, by those who ought to know, that the genial-hearted man's improvidence caused his family no slight trouble and expense."

A ROMANCE IN TWO CHAPTERS.

Twelve years ago, after an American named Wallace had got his family and "traps" aboard an ocean steamer at Liverpool returning to this country, he suddenly remembered that he had forgotten to pay the nurse girl at the hotel. As there remained two hours before sailing, he set out for the hotel. On his way he got into an altercation with a man on the street, which ended by the American's knocking him down. In revenge he accused his assailant of trying to pick his pockets, and had him arrested. Wallace offered $1,000 for his release in order that he might take the steamer. The police didn't believe his story, and, having had a telegraphic order from the United States that morning to arrest a counterfeiter, they thought he would answer every purpose. He could not identify himself, the hotel keeper saying that he knew nothing about him except that he went away from the hotel without paying the nurse girl. He was therefore sentenced and imprisoned for two years. At the end of that time he learned the rope-maker's trade, and earned enough to come home as an emigrant. On reaching this side he could find or hear nothing of his wife. He set to work, however, and made a small fortune, which he subsequently increased to a large one by means of a mining speculation, that led him finally to Utah. At Salt Lake a friend, in answer to his needs, conducted him to a widow's home, who was famous for the excellence of the shirts she made. His friend introduced him as a gentleman who wanted some shirts made. The woman gave a scream. It was his wife, and the young girl in the room the baby he last saw in the steamship. Her husband, failing to return on the vessel, she concluded that he intended deserting her, and, having considerable money, she made her way West, lost her money in San Francisco gambling in stocks, and was supporting herself in Salt Lake by her needle.

THE number of persons charged before magistrates in England and Wales in the last year with being drunk and disorderly is more than double the number charged in 1863, nearly twenty years ago. The increase was chiefly from 1867 to 1873, the first year of the Intoxicating Liquors act, since which time the number has been nearly stationary. In 1867 the number was 100,357; in 1868, 111,465; in 1869, 122,310; in 1870, 131,870; in 1871, 142,343; in 1872, 151,084; and in 1873 it leaped to 182,941, whereabouts it has stood. The increase of drunkenness is reported as among men; the crime has diminished among women.

INDIA IN HOT WEATHER.

I will briefly indicate the thermometric features, say at a central position like Allahabad. In January the indoor temperature will reach its minimum, perhaps standing at 54 deg. The rise is very gradual, and gets into the "eighties" toward the middle of March; when steady at 85 deg. punkahs become necessary. Above 90 deg. the heat is oppressive, and at 95 deg. horribly so. This is generally the temperature during the lull between the monsoons. In exceptional years I have known pillows and sheets to be uncomfortably hot, requiring sprinkling with water; and I similarly retired to rest in drenched nightclothes. But the hot weather is mercifully interrupted by two remarkable meteorological phenomena. First, at its commencement we have almost always violent hail-storms, which beneficially cool the air, and then at its acme we have those very remarkable electrical dust-storms, which impress fresh life and vigor all around. Let me describe one. Nature seems subdued under the great heat, and is in absolute repose. Not the faintest breath is there to coax the faintest movement in the leaves; silence prevails, for even the garrulous crows can't caw because their beaks are wide open to assist respiration. Suddenly the welcome cry is heard, "Tufan ata!" (A storm is coming!) and the house servants rush in to close all doors. Anxious to witness the magnificence of the approaching storm, you remain out to brave it, and soon feel its approaching breath on your cheek. Looking to windward you see a black cloud approaching, and before it leaves and sticks, kites and crows circling around in wild confusion. You now hear its roar; while rapt in admiration, you are enveloped in its grimy mantle, and have to look to your footing in resisting its fury; and this is no joke, for eyes, nostrils and ears are filled with dust. As the blast approaches you may see a flash of lightning and hear its clap of thunder, and then feel the heavy, cold rain-drops which sparsely fall around. Darkness black as Erebus surrounds you, darkness which literally may be felt, for clouds of dust occasion it; and if you are within doors night prevails, requiring the lighting of lamps. The storm passes, light returns, and you find everything begrimed with dust. Every door is now thrown open to admit the cool, bracing, ozone-charged air, which you eagerly inhale with dilated nostrils, and feel that you have secured a fresh lease of existence.—*Chambers' Journal.*

BOILER EXPLOSIONS.

It is probable that one-third of all the steam boilers that explode with destructive violence are such as use flashy, quick-burning fuel. The furnace doors of such boilers must be often opened, and in the case of green sawdust the draught must be strong, so that when the furnace doors are opened a sudden chill of the furnace plates is caused by the inrushing cold air. The effect of the sudden cooling of parts of the boiler is to unduly contract and strain them, the contraction being resisted by those parts that are not so suddenly cooled. In cylinder flue boilers, externally fired with flashy fuel, the contraction of the bottom of the shell is resisted by the rigid internal flues. Then the strain causes slight bending of the head flanges if they have pliable wrought iron heads; or if heavy, unyielding cast iron heads, then the strain caused by the contraction of the lower side of the shell is concentrated at the transverse seams, the weakest of which will yield and begin to leak, or it will pull in two between the rivet holes, perhaps one-third the way round the boiler before exploding.

The *Scientific American* gives the appended list of boiler explosions and the resultant casualties in the United States in 1881:

Sawing, planing and woodworking mills, 48; iron works, 17; portables, thrashers, hoisters, etc., 15; steamers, tugboats, etc., 13; locomotives, 13; distilleries, breweries, soap works, 11; dwelling, steam heating and drying, 7; bleaching, boiling, digesting and drying, 6; grist, flour and paper mills and grain elevators, 5; cotton, woolen and knitting mills and factories, 4; mines, oil wells and works, 3; mills and works not classified and those not characterized, 18; total, 160. Number of persons killed, 250; number of persons injured, 328.

AMERICANS ABROAD.

Well-bred Americans, says an English paper, are precisely like all other well-bred people, and, of course, have few peculiarities, except that of being not only very rich, but having a vast quantity of available ready money to spend on any passing fancy. The American lady is entirely different from her English sister. She is generally very vivacious as well as accomplished, and is also well dressed as well as pretty. Very fastidious carpers might object that she is sometimes over self-conscious, and perpetually conveys the idea that she is under arms; but she is charming, nevertheless, and wears the prettiest shoes in the world.

A MAN at the Executive Mansion who wanted to see the President wrote as follows on his card as an inducement to be let in: "My wife is a personal friend of one of your groomsmen."

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

TO ALWAYS insure light dumplings mix and let stand two or three hours before rising; cut into thin strips, roll in flour and boil twenty minutes.

VELVET CREAM.—Whites of four eggs beaten to a stiff froth; two teaspoonfuls each of sugar, currant jelly and raspberry jam. Beat all together briskly. Serve with or without cream. With cake it is a delicious dish for dessert.

SOFT GINGER CAKE.—One cup of molasses, one cup of sugar, one cup of sweet milk, half a cup of butter, one egg, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, ginger and raisins to suit the taste. Stir in flour enough to make a soft batter, not as thick as ordinary cake. Bake slowly.

PARSLEY SAUCE.—Wash a bunch of parsley in cold water, then boil it for six or seven minutes in salt and water; drain it, cut the leaves from the stalks and chop them fine. Have ready some melted butter and stir in the parsley; allow two small table-spoonfuls of leaves to one half-pint of butter. Serve with fish and boiled fowls.

CREAM BISCUITS.—Delicious little cream biscuits for afternoon tea are made by mixing self-raising flour with cream, which roll into a thin, smooth paste, prick, cut and bake immediately. They should be kept dry in a close tin box. If the flour is not self-raising, salt it lightly, and mix with a dessert-spoonful of baking powder.

HAM SANDWICHES.—Chop the ham fine and season it with salt, pepper and mustard. If the lean meat alone is used a little melted butter may be added. Spread between thin slices of bread. Cheese sandwiches are very nice; the cheese may be grated or cut in thin slices. Mustard is added or not as pleased.

SNOWDON CAKE.—This is a genuine Scotch recipe, and is a great favorite with Scotch-American families. Beat to a cream half a pound of butter, three-quarters of a pound of granulated sugar, the whites of six eggs, half a teacup of cream, and one pound of Bermuda arrowroot. Add the beaten yelks of two of the eggs and a very little salt. Bake in a mold one hour or more.

MASHED POTATOES.—Pare and boil the potatoes, and, after every trace of the water has evaporated, mash them with your pestle, still in the kettle over the fire; they are naught if not kept hot. Get out every suggestion of a lump and as you mash put in a generous quantity of fresh butter, and, if you have it, some cream—if not cream, enough milk to make the potato rich and moist. Salt it to taste, and serve fresh and hot dish piled up and smoothed over in a hot with a little black pepper sifted on top. Mashed potato which has stood on the stove for a while before serving is poor stuff. If you want the top brown hold over it a salamander or a very hot stove lid—don't put the dish into the oven, that only makes the contents watery.

THE arrangements for the organization of a new line of fast steamers between this country and Europe have so far progressed that the scheme is now looked upon as a certainty. The new company propose to build at first three ships, sailing weekly, and to increase the number as business warrants. Vessels are promised which, in ordinarily good weather, will make 500 miles a day and accomplish the trip inside of six days. They will save 270 miles of water travel and all delays at the bar at Liverpool and New York, beside the delays of quarantine at the latter port. It is proposed to build these vessels somewhat after the model of the English torpedo-boat—500 feet in length and from fifty to fifty-two feet beam. As they are to carry only express freight, it is believed to be possible to construct them not only for greater speed but for greater safety than the ordinary steamship, and to so construct their water-tight compartments that it will be next to impossible to sink them. As there will be the same weight above as below the surface of the water, it is also believed that the steamers will not rock like ordinary ones. They will carry passengers and express freight only.

A BICKERING pair of Quakers were heard in controversy, the husband exclaiming: "I am determined to have one quiet week with thee!" "But how wilt thou be able to get it?" said the taunting spouse, in that sort of reiteration which married ladies so provokingly indulge in. "I will keep thee a week after thou art dead," was the Quaker's rejoinder.

AN Indiana woman's first husband was drowned in Hog lake; her second cut his hand with a thrashing-machine while falling in a vertigo; her third while starting to hunt rabbits caught his gun on a projecting window casing and shot himself to death. But her friends are willing to bet that she will have no trouble in filling the vacancy.

STATISTICIANS estimate that the population of this country has increased over 1,000,000 since the taking of the census in 1880, making our population upward of 52,000,000. It is believed that in 1890 it will approximate 60,000,000.