

A few thoughts on agriculture. (Continued.)

We would ask the farmers of the country, the men of busy, brawny arms, and sun-burnt face, with hardened hands, and labor stiffened frames, we would ask this class of men to consider the true position they hold in the community, as regards their pursuit in life, and become sensible of the dignity of their station. They are the producers of all the wealth of the country, their sweat and toil, in heat and cold, support every other class of persons; and although many give back their labor in return, there are thousands of drones in the great human hive whom they have to feed in idleness. How could the population of our large cities live if the farmer was not to carry to them the produce of his labor, in the shape of food to eat? Their industry sustains our great manufacturing establishments, while their co-laborers dig iron ore and coal from their native beds convert one into an invaluable metal, and send the other to market: they dig canals and build rail-roads, found cities and towns, and in fine cause the face of the earth to bloom and blossom like a garden. Hence the farmer has no cause to blush for the occupation he has chosen, because it is useful above all others. The great importance of agriculture, and the necessity of its encouragement, as the means of national prosperity appear too evident to admit a doubt; but history, with its truthful voice, comes to us with notes of warning to impress this fact more strongly upon the mind. The nations of antiquity, which did not pay proper attention to this branch of industry, soon sank back into the savage state whence they sprang. Tyre and Carthage may be mentioned as noted instances. They flourished almost exclusively by reason of their manufactures, and although they shown with great brilliancy for a time they finally went down never to rise again. They lacked the great corner stone of prosperity their rivals possessed in agriculture, hence were obliged to give away in the great struggle for empire.

There is another view in which agriculture is of the first importance, in addition to its being the means of clothing and feeding a people, which is, that it is also the means of civilizing and settling life, disputing with his fellows for the possession of such animals as they might chance to make their prey, and for the spontaneous fruits of the earth. They would have no bond of union, no country, no home. It is the first step from savage to civilized life, for man never makes any progress in civilization until he gives up hunting and fishing, for a living, ceases his wandering life, attaches himself to some particular spot as home, and begins to cultivate the soil and have ownership in it. These are some of the benefits to be derived from agriculture, to civilize, clothe, and feed mankind, which so fix the pre-eminent importance of this occupation that it must be obvious to every one.

No consideration, connected with agriculture is more important to the people of the United States, than the free and universal distribution of land. Nothing has so great an influence upon the institutions of a country as the tenure by which the land is held, and in proportion as there is a monopoly in the hands of a few wealthy proprietors, or it is freely distributed among the people, in the same ratio are the institutions monarchical or republican. Free tenure and general ownership in the soil is the first advance towards civil liberty, and history warrants us in saying, that in no country, in ancient or modern times, have the people possessed their liberty, where the land was owned either by the sovereign or held by a few individuals. India, Russia, and Spain are noted instances of this at the present day. Such a state of things places the power and wealth of a country in the hands of a few individuals, while the masses are in poverty and slavery. In this respect our country is peculiarly fortunate, and the almost universal distribution of land among the people, adds great strength to our government.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Departure of the mails.

The mail, for San Antonio, Texas, via El Paso, left Santa Fe, Thursday the first instant, with two passengers, General William Pelham, Surveyor General of the Territory of New Mexico, and the Hon. Perry E. Brochus, of the first judicial district. We learn that Judge Brochus is called home by the illness of his family. The Independence mail left the second instant, with four passengers, among whom is the Honorable Jose Manuel Gallegos, delegate to Congress, elect, from this Territory.

Wine and grape culture in the United States.

We publish, this week, a communication from the Rev. D. D. Lore, in answer to our article on "wine and grape culture in the United States," which we commend to the attention of our readers. Next week we will publish a second article from Mr. Lore, upon the same subject, when we hope to pay our editorial respects to him in reply. We shall be happy to hear from the Reverend gentleman more frequently.

tes," which we commend to the attention of our readers. Next week we will publish a second article from Mr. Lore, upon the same subject, when we hope to pay our editorial respects to him in reply. We shall be happy to hear from the Reverend gentleman more frequently.

Appointment by the Governor.

David S. Garland Esquire of Fort Stanton, to be Notary Public for the County of Doña Ana.

Surveys of the Public Lands.

Mr. Garretson, who has charge of the field operations of the Surveyor General's office, with his corps of Surveyors, returned to town last week, after an absence of two months: but has again left to resume their work.

Indian depredations.

We learn that four Indians, supposed to be Mogayones, stole from Jose Chaves, near Ileta, on the night of the 28th ultimo, one hundred and fifty head of mules. They were last seen crossing the Puerco and took a south west direction. Lt. Moore, with a party of dragoons, is in pursuit, and it is hoped the marauders will be overtaken and punished. A proper effort will be made to discover to what band this party belongs, that it may be held responsible for this depredation.

We received a communication from Judge Brochus, in reply to our editorial of last week, too late for insertion in the present number, but it shall appear next week.

[For the Santa Fe Gazette.]

Wine and grape culture in the U.S.

Mr. Editor:

It is a compliment to have what we write and publish, read and noticed. It is evidence that some importance is attached to our productions, that they are considered as influential, in a greater, or a less degree. In this view, you have been fortunate in your last editorials, they have attracted attention.

My object at present is, to review your editorial, published in the Gazette on the 15th of September, under the heading of "Wine and grape culture in the U. S."—I differ from you on the subject as there presented, entirely, and ask permission to present the reasons for my dissent. It is a subject of so much importance, that, if possible the truth should be arrived at.

The foundation for your view of the subject, is thus clearly stated. "There are three important reasons why the vine should be extensively cultivated in our country—the small expense attending its cultivation, the large profit it yields." These constitute simply, the pecuniary consideration, and assert that the culture of the vine is profitable. That it may be so, when cultivated to a small extent, may be true, as far as the pecuniary interest of the cultivation is concerned. But that it is not profitable as a great national staple production, "extensively cultivated," is as palpable, as is the poverty of those countries appropriated to the growth of the vine. We presume that it will not be pretended that the vine can be cultivated at less expense, or that it will yield more abundantly in the U. S. than in France, or Italy. Those countries are the land of the vine. It is the great staple of their commerce. And let me ask, has it enriched them? To ask the question, is to answer it with all intelligent readers. The peasantry of those countries are in abject poverty—their homes on the vine clad hills, are cheerless and comfortable.—We take the liberty therefore, to doubt the political economy, however unpoplar it may be, of substituting the vine, for corn and potatoes.

We feel more interested in the third reason assigned, "the beneficial effect it has upon the sobriety of a people." This argument is a very great favorite. It is iterated and reiterated, with all the confidence of a position self evident, or a truth that had never been challenged. It is neither—History and travellers, both deny it. As far as we are posted up on the subject, all history and all travellers, who have paid sufficient attention to the subject to entitle their opinion to weight, deny the position. And to our mind it is a perfect absurdity. We might as well expect to put out fire, by adding fuel: For who will say, that a man cannot get drunk on wine.

The editorial says, and in so saying, it only repeats the popular argument. "All travellers agree in saying, that in the vine growing countries of the old world it is a very rare thing to see a drunken man." All history and experience sustains us in this. This is a mistake that has too long been taken for granted.

One very old history, written in a vine country, written before distillation was known, says "wine is a mocker, and strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." The same history describes accurately, the habits and effects of drunkenness. "Who hath wo? who hath sorrow? who hath contestation? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that

lary long at the wine, they that go to seek mixed wine." Why Mr. Editor, if the drunkard staggering in your plaza yesterday, had sat for the portrait it could not have been more accurate.

Now from this old history to the present time, when sober history has referred to the subject at all, it has been a record of drunkenness on wine.

"All travellers" it is said agree in saying, that in the vine growing countries of the old world it is a very rare thing to see a drunken man." We have not so read travels—Louis Phillips King of the French, who had travelled extensively in France, said, "the drunkenness of France was on wine." He not only acknowledges its drunkenness, but assigns the cause—Hinc E. C. Delavan Esq. who travelled throughout the "vine growing countries of the old world" for the express purpose of observing on this subject, and would therefore be more likely to inform himself, gives a contrary testimony to the above.

The well known Horace Greeley, who has been in France this past summer, has written a letter on this subject, which came opportunely to hand by the last mail. We will ask you Mr. Editor, to give his letter an insertion in your paper next week. It covers the whole ground, and is the result of personal observation, by a very competent observer.

However, this question of "history and travels" can be very satisfactorily disposed of. Give us the history and the quotations from travellers, who affirm and sustain the proposition—let us not be required to believe without proof.

On the subject of "native wines" we clip the following from the "Daily Wisconsin." "It is said that more than two thirds of the Catawba wine sold in Cincinnati, is made of water, sulphuric acid, and honey, with a dash of genuine Catawba wine to give it flavor." Another paper the "Cressent," adds "that the best judges declare that it is impossible to detect the pure article from the counterfeit, by the taste, smell, or appearance." Quite a compliment and comfort to Catawba wine drinkers, is it not?

There is another point in the editorial worthy of notice. It contrasts the wine drinking system to cure drunkenness, with the "Anti license" laws, and to the disparagement of the latter.

Let us see what history and travellers say about these Anti-license laws. The first is a notice concerning the law in New York, and is as follows:—

"Thus far the law has had a salutary effect. It has decreased the amount of drunkenness, and has removed temptation out of the way of its prevention. It has given peace to many neighborhoods by the removal of the causes of strife and it has brought the bright prospect of sober happiness to hundreds and thousands of families to whom happiness has long been a stranger.

The above we believe is a correct account of the way it works, set down dispassionately by one whose opportunities for observation were good, and who formed his opinion upon what he saw and heard, and not from his "prejudices and pre conceived notions of the right or wrong of the enactment itself. [Chicago Daily Tribune;]"

The second extract is from a Michigan paper, showing the good effects of the law in that State.

"When editors, or other people, tell you that more liquor is sold and drunk in Michigan, now than before the prohibitory law went into operation, you may safely tell them that it is no such thing. It does very well to tell that.

Those who drink now drink the more, and those who drink now, who never drank before, but such don't happen to be the case; and the man who sees it so, sees through a "glass darkly." There is, no doubt, liquor sold and liquor drunk, but the observation of every man, in every place, will convince him that there has been an improvement. Exclusively drinking shops have all been closed, and the liquor traffic is no longer the leading business in groceries. The result is, that no assemblages of drunken men—or half drunk men—are to be found. This is a decided improvement, if nothing further is gained. Drinking in secret places will not raise up a new breed of intemperate men, and the present generation will run out in time. Mich. (Ann Arbor) Argus."

The last is more general in its notice, and is taken from a Boston paper. The writers name is attached.

"The Maine law has produced wonderful effects where it has had any thing like a fair trial. During the year previous to its operation, 74 persons were committed to the House of Correction in Portland—during the next three months eight persons—during the next two months, none, and on the 15th of January following, the House of Correction was empty. In Bangor the cost of drunkenness to the House of Correction was reduced 75 per cent, and the pauper tax 97 per cent. In Connecticut the effects of the law have been wonderful. Governor Dutton last year declared repeatedly that there was not an open grog shop in the State. Governor Miner this year speaks in strong terms of the efficiency of the law, and says that many that were opposed to it at first, are now its firm supporters.

The commitments to New Haven jail for drunkenness and offenses resulting therefrom, for the

month before the law took effect, were 123—for the next month 81—a reduction of more than three fourths of the whole number. In New London the inmates of the Poor House were reduced from 26 persons to 6, in five months, three of whom were infirm through age, two were insane, leaving properly but one pauper.

In Worcester, Mass., during the quarter ending June 30, seventy-three persons were committed to the Police Office. This report covers 90 days—50 days before the present law took effect, and 40 days after that time. During the 50 days before there were 59 persons committed, but during the next 40 days there were but 14, showing a reduction in the rate of commitments of more than 75 per cent.

The law is proving ruinous on prisons, jails, and poor houses. One jailor complains that he shall lose \$500 this year. The jailor in Greenfield has had but one prisoner for a portion of the time, to care for, and says, "the law must be repealed, or he will starve." In Vermont 3 jails are empty—2 have but one inmate each—2 others have four each, and through the State the average is 3 to each jail. In Connecticut jails are advertised "To let." The warden of the State Prison in Connecticut is hard pushed—he cannot fulfil the contracts which he has made to furnish prisoners' labor. He says: "We have a good many going out from time to time, and almost nothing coming in."

Dr. Sweet the great bone-setter of Connecticut, estimates his loss this year at \$300, on the business of bone setting, on account of the Maine law of that State.

It appears, then, that if broken bones, full jails, prisons and poor houses are necessary to the prosperity of the country, the Maine law will speedily work our ruin. But if health, peace and good order, sound limbs full pockets, empty jails, prisons, and poor houses are evidence of prosperity, then the Maine law is one of the greatest blessings that Providence can confer on any nation.

M. LAFINGWELL.

Sudbury, Mass., July 24.

The above extracts, Mr. Editor, indicate that Anti-license laws have accomplished a very great good.

Respectfully,

D. D. LORE.

Sacramento October 8, 1855.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1853-54. Continued.

- Warren, Seales, Mond, Council Hill, Galena, Menominee, and Dunboth, to Dubuque. From Aurora, Oswego, Beloit, Plain, Samoset, Depot, Burlington, Mendota, La Salle, Tonies, Wenona, Minnisk, Pinalo, Kappa, Hudson, Bloomington, Waukegan, Clinton, Maroa, Deoster, Mueca, Mendon, Tamaqua, Pent, Temorah, Coonoe, Vandala, Paloko, Sandoval, Centralin, Bismarck, Dubois, Duwain, Devero, Makanda, Jonesboro, and Ulin, to Cairo. From Chicago, by Ridgerille, New Ferry, Port Clinton, and Oak Hill, to Waukegan. From Chicago, by Thornton, Station, Rich, Mann, Manana, Kaukakee, Denot, Ashkon, Onargo, Loda, Peril, Rautoul, Urbanna, Pesatum, Neoga, Arno, Oakaw, Wehunks, Edgewood, Farina, Tanti, and Odin, to Centralin. From Chicago, by Geneva, Blackberry, De Kalb Centre, Jefferson Grove, Lane, Dixon, Sterling, Como, Union Grove, Fulton, Lyons, Iowa, and Tipton, to Iowa City. From Danville, by Pilot, Higginsville, Ten Mile Grove, Oliver's Grove, and Avoca, to Pontiac. From Decatur, by Sullivan, Cochran's Grove, Big Spring, and Ewington, to Wehunka Station. From Decatur, by Hopewell, Swingston, Hermitage, Neogy Station, Oakland, and Embarras Point, to Paris. From Decatur to N. M. Browns. From De Kalb Centre, by Broadie's Grove, Jefferson Grove, Lafayette Grove, Kyte River, Ogle, and Taylor, to Grand de Tour. From De Kalb Centre, by Lost Grove, Line, Swinton, New Vigil, and Williamsburg, to De Kalb Centre. From Dixon, by Grand de Tour, Nashua, Oregon, Byron, Hall, New Milford, Elpa, Kishwaukee, Rockford, Harlam, Roscoe, and Rockton, to Beloit, Wis. From Dixon, by Buffalo Grove, Eagle Point, Elk Horn Grove, Rock Creek, Mount Carroll, Derinda, and Avery, to Galena. From Dundee, by Barrington, Flint Creek, Lake Zurich, Gelmer, and Libertyville, to Waukegan. From Earlville, by La Clair, East Paw Paw, Paw Paw Grove, Willow Creek, Storr, Bordie's Grove, and Lindenwood, to Killbuck. From Edwardsville, by Lands Point, Rising Sun, Bond Point, Taylorsville, and Stonington, to Decatur. From Empire, by Mount Prospect, Genesee Grove, and Melledgeville, to Elkhorn Grove. From Erie, by Spring Hill, Jefferson's Corners, Yorktown, Winnsbago, Traxton, and Enon, to Princeton. From Elgin, by New Plato, Udina, Prengree, Hampshire, and Harmony, to Carol. From Elgin, by Dundee, Algonquin, Crystal Lake, Ely-lum, Woodstock, Hartland, Brookdale, Dunham, Chemung, Park's Corners, and Hunter, to Beloit, Wis. From Elgin, by Geneva, Wisconsin, to Elk Horn.

- From Fairfield, by Marlan's Grove, and Enterprise, to Mayville. From Farmington, by Uniontown, Hermon, Abingdon, Berwick, Ellison, and Alena, to Harper's Mills. From Farmington, by Middle Grove, Midway, Troy Mills, St. Augustine, Greenbush, Roseville, New Lancaster, Ellisanville, Alena, and Harper's Mills, to Burlington Iowa. From Frederickville, by Brownand, and Sheldon Grove, to Astoria. From Freeport, by Kirk's Grove, Yellow Creek, Hazlewood, Kent, Ward's Grove, and Plum River, to Derinda. From Freeport by Rock River, Howard, and Harrison, to Rockton. From Freeport, by Cedarville, Buena Vista, McConnellsville, and Oneca, to Monroe, Wisconsin, and back by Cadex, Winslow, Illinois, and Wadhams's Grove, to Freeport. From Freeport, by Eleroy, Lena, and Nora, to White Oak Springs, Wis. From Freeport, by Mill Grove, Yellow creek, Hardwood, Kent's, Ward's Grove, Plum River, or Derinda, to Galena. From Freeport, by Jackson, Cherry Grove, and Mount Carroll, to Savannah. From Fulton, by Henls, Union Grove, and Empire, to Sterling. From Fort Wayne, Indiana, by Rochester, Rensselaer, Lacon, Illinois, Toulon, New Boston, Tualsboro, Iowa, Wanelle, Washington, Oakalosa, Indianola, and Winterset, to Council Bluffs. From Galena, by Avery, Elizabeth, Derrida, and Hanover, to Galena. From Galena by Hanover, Portsmouth, Savannah, Argo, Bluffville, Fulton, Albany, Cordova, Port Byron, and Hampton, to Moline. From Galena, by South Hollow, to Dunleith. From Galeburg, by Haw Creek, Maquon, Uniontown, and Middle Grove, to Farmington. From Galeburg, by Granite, Ionia, Utah, Millersburg, Ferdinand, and Drury, to Muscatine. From Galeburg, by Centre Point, Henderson, Ontario, Heath Land, Andover, and Morris-town, to Green River. From Galeburg to Ogawka. From Galeburg, by Victoria, Lafayette, Toulon, Elmira, Oacola, to Tiklawa. From Galeburg to Burlington, Iowa. From Galeconda, by Big Bay City, to New Liberty. From Galeconda, by J. R. Pott's, to Brooklin. From Galeconda, by Bolton, and Sarahsville, to Marion. From Galeconda, by Rock and Broad Oak, to Vienna. From Grayville, by Albion, Parker's, Fairview, Olney, Newton, and Gosport, to Charleston. From Greenup, by Springville, to Republic. From Greenup, by Paradise, to Cochran's Grove. From Greenup, by Ceiran and Campbell, to Christian. From Havana, by Quiver, Pilot, Hill, Long Point, and Allen's Grove, to Delavan. From Hennepin, by Florida, Caladonia, Ox Bow, and Magnolia, to Wenona Station. From Hickory Hill, by Keeneville and Bell Prairie, to Mount Leambers. From Henry, by Lone Tree and Urispe, to Fiskima. From Hick's Mills, De Kalb County, to Cherry Valley, Waukegan county. From Hillsboro, by Woodsboro, Mount Kingston, Stanton, Bonker Hill, and Woodburne, to Shipman. From Hutsoville, by Annapolis, to Bell Air. From Hutsoville to Elkton. From Holly, by Illinois City, Copper Creek, and Eliza, to New Boston. From Jacksonville, by New Bethel, Ben. H. Page's, A. H. Calvin's, Samuel B. Hodges, and Turkeytown, to Peter Wagon's. From Jacksonville, by Sandy, Manchester, White-hall, Carrollton, Kane, Jerseyville, Delhi, and Godfrey, to Altou. From Jacksonville, by Indian Creek, Emerald Point, Rushaway, Petersburg, and Sweet Water, to Middletown. From Jacksonville, by Arcadia, to Beardstown. From Jacksonville, by Franklin, Waverly Lacost Spring, Cunningham, and Hoover's Point, to Carlinville. From Jefferson, by Leyden Centre and Leyden, to Sagene. From Jerseyville, by Jalapa, Letcherville, Orsenfield, Athensville, and Scottsville, to Franklin. From Jerseyville, by Otter Creek, to Graf-ton. From Jerseyville, by Jersey Landing and Portage, Des Sioux, to St. Charles, Mo. From Joliet, by Selfridgeville, and Channahon, to Sandy Ridge. From Joliet, by Lockport, to Plainfield. From Joliet, by Jackson Creek and Reed's Grove, to Wilmington. From Jonesboro, by Cypress Creek, to Metropolis City.

STAGE LINE.

FROM INDEPENDENCE TO SANTA FE. Leaving each end of the route the first day of each month. Fare through, From November 1st to May 1st \$150 From May 1st to November 1st \$125 Packages and extra baggage 35 cents per lb. in summer, and 50 cents in winter, but no package charged less than one dollar. Although charge at the risk of the owner, and no responsibility for any package worth over fifty dollars unless contents given and specially contracted for. Provisions, arms, and ammunition furnished by the proprietors. All passage money must be paid in advance. HOCKADAY & HALL. November 3, 1855.