

PREPARATION OF SEED CORN.

Corn-planting season will soon be here, and I wish some of your readers would try the experiment of soaking their planting corn, in a strong infusion of tobacco, and report in the Cultivator. Last summer, I had two fields of corn to plant, one of which was near the woods. Thinking that the birds might pull up the corn, concluded to soak it in an infusion of tobacco. I took half a pound of smoking tobacco, added sufficient boiling water to cover one bushel of shelled corn; I let the water remain until it had cooled down to lukewarmness; then strained the tobacco out of the water and poured it over the corn in a tub, and left the corn to soak twenty-four hours before planting. The corn was planted on the second of June; it soon came up; and the birds, ground-moles, cut-worms, &c., refused to touch it. On the tenth of June, I planted the other field, which was at least four hundred yards from the woods, with corn soaked in warm-water. About a fourth part of some of the rows in this field was destroyed by the ground-moles and the cut-worms; and the birds also destroyed a considerable quantity throughout the field. If tobacco obviates these difficulties, the remedy is easily applied. F. B. POLEY. [Shippackville, Pa., March 24, 1853.]

WHEN NEWSPAPERS PLEASE.—The London Leader, one of the most piquant journals that reaches us, thus felicitously explains the secret of newspaper popularity:—"It may be very wise to see both sides of a question and to be more anxious about what can be said against you than what can be said for you, but the fact is that the object of most men in buying a newspaper is to enjoy the statement of their own inarticulate notions in the shape of artificial development and expression. A reader never so thoroughly enjoys a paper as when he can say, 'That is exactly what I have said myself,' and he always tries to buy that paper which can give to his own opinions an air of the greatest point and wisdom. It is looking into a mirror which tells him, not the superficial aspect, so inadequate to the expression of his real beauty and dignity, but that inner truth which is a more perfect portrait of the whole man; a mirror which makes Simpson see with his own eyes the Socrates that he feels himself to be. For this reason it is to be taken that the papers which are purchased represent the opinions of their purchasers."

GENERAL HAYNAU'S CORPSE.—A most extraordinary account has reached us in a private letter in Vienna to a high personage here, and has been the talk of our saloons for the last few days. It appears that the circumstance of the death of General Haynau presented a phenomenon of the yet unexplored kind on record, of the left leg of the corpse, which remained limp and moist, even bleeding slightly when picked. No delusion, notwithstanding, could be maintained as to the reality of death, for the other parts of the body were completely mortified, and interment became necessary before the limbs above mentioned had become either stiff or cold. The writer of the letter mentioned that this strange circumstance has produced the greatest awe in the minds of those who witnessed it, and that the emperor had been so impressed with it that his physicians had strictly forbidden the subject to be alluded to in his presence. —Paris Correspondent of the Atlas.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

This great enterprise is being pushed forward with unflagging energy, and there is no doubt will be completed by first of June. Four hundred men are constantly employed on the structure under the direction of Mr. J. E. Detomold, superintending engineer. The New York Journal of Commerce says—With the exception of the dome, the iron work of this portion is now very near completion, and the Crystal Palace begins to develop, in its stately proportions, the design originally conceived by its projector. The interior presents a labyrinth of pillars, rods, ropes, and timbers, with men thickly scattered, and making the air resound with the clatter, clang and creaking of their implements. Curious visitors are excluded by a wire inclosure, with gate-keepers, but the vicinity is daily visited by increasing numbers. The summit of the Reservoir is the favorite look-out place. On Thursday last, it is estimated, not less than 5,000 persons visited the Reservoir to avail themselves of the prospect there afforded. A large number of strangers are already attracted to the city by the Palace.

A correspondent, justly tenacious of the honour of his earthquake, writes to the London Times:—"The non-appearance in the Times of this morning of any reports of an earthquake shock having been felt in any other towns, has somewhat shaken the belief of the good people of Hereford in the fact that a perceptible, and indeed serious shock, was really felt here on Sunday night. Such, however, was the case, and the evidence of a hundred or more people in Hereford, and the neighbourhood could be obtained of the fact." What a tribute is this to the power of the press. The earthquake was an earthquake or no earthquake at all, according to its recognition in the Times or the contrary.

St. Mary's Beacon

LEONARD TOWN, MD. THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 12, 1853.

THE POTOMAC AND PATUXENT RAILROAD.—A bill incorporating a company under the style of "The Potomac and Patuxent Railroad Company," has just passed both branches of the Legislature. We have not seen the bill, but understand that it is the intention of the company to construct a rail road from some point in or near Baltimore, along or across the head waters of the Patuxent, to some point on the Potomac River, not higher up than Liverpool point in Charles county and (by Mr. Dent's amendment) not lower down than the mouth of St. Mary's river in this county. Liverpool point, we believe is opposite or nearly opposite Aquia Creek. This route, by means of a steam-ferry across the Potomac, and will considerably shorten the distance, and consequently the time of travel, to Baltimore. It is said the company have the money all ready to commence operations. They have, it is true, a long line of river shore within which to choose their point of connection, but who knows but what the point selected may be within our own county, and that thus our borders yet may ring with the snort of the iron horse!—We expect to recur to the subject at some other time.

ST. MARY'S READING ROOM AND DEBATING SOCIETY.—At a regular meeting of this Society on Thursday last, 5th inst., the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing four months: President.—Dr. A. J. Spalding. Vice-President.—G. F. Maddox. Cor. Secretary.—E. L. Spalding. Recording Secretary.—R. M. Shanks. Amanuensis.—George I. Spalding. Treasurer.—James C. Greenwell. Librarian.—Thomas Daily. Standing Committees.—On Finance.—Messrs. J. F. King, William A. Loker, William Franklin Combs, George W. Richardson, and Gustavus Greenwell. On Questions.—Messrs. E. L. Spalding, Geo. S. King, Edward T. Biscoe, D. R. Abell, and N. Furck.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE COUNTY.—Dr. Sydney Evans, collector of the port. George Goddard, keeper of Blakistone's Island Light house, vice Noah Bailey. Richard Edwards, keeper of Point Look-out Light house, vice Wm. A. Baxter. Wm. I. Yates, postmaster at Leonard Town, vice Geo. W. Richardson.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY JOCKEY CLUB.—There was quite a respectable meeting at the Court House, on Tuesday last, of gentlemen from all parts of the county, interested in the formation of a Jockey Club. Several subscriptions were readily obtained on the spot, and from the spirit manifested, there seems no doubt of the complete success of the undertaking. Get your brag thorough-breds ready, gentlemen! for we think it likely you will have a chance of trying them next Fall. The proceedings of the meeting will be found in another column.

The Marlboro' Gazette states that the Tobacco plants in that vicinity are suffering very much from the fly. So extensive are the depredations that many planters will have to plant but short crops. We also hear of many complaints in our county in relation to the great destruction of plants from the same cause.

THE WEATHER.—We have considerable rains lately, which have been beneficial to the farmers. Last Saturday, we were visited by quite a hail storm. CORN PLANTING.—Our farmers generally have finished planting corn. From the difficulty of procuring the favorite description of guano, comparatively little of that valuable fertilizer has been used; and we supposed we will see the difference in a shortened crop.

MAGAZINES.—We have the May number of both Harper's and Putnam's Magazine. Both excellent numbers—the possession of the one cannot make one forego the desire for the other. The June number of Harper will commence a new volume, and so afford a good opportunity to subscribe. The June number of Putnam will close its first volume.

SPIRIT-RAPPING.—Some of our townsfolk and country neighbors having been trying experiments lately in the table-moving and table-rapping line, and having become extremely interested in the mysterious science, we publish, for their benefit, the following editorial on the subject from the Marlboro' Planter's Advocate of the 12th of January last. To preserve our medium position however, we must enter a disclaimer in the onset; we don't wish to be understood as endorsing, or pressing the Advocate's views—not we! We think it exceedingly cruel in the editor to bring a matter-of-fact battery to bear upon a beautiful system of magnetic telegraphy with which our countrymen are delighted to experiment. We would indignantly protest against any material agency in their movements and rappings! Our friends are left therefore to their own conclusions as to the true of false reasoning of our little-of-faith neighbor in the premises.

"Our usually quiet town has been set agog, within the past week, by experiments in animal magnetism. Who originated the experiment we know not, but it has become the all-engrossing topic. We hardly think there is a house in the village, in which the wonder has not been exhibited. Large centre-tables have moved slowly around, and little candle-stands and card-tables have been hopping about, at a rate so astonishing as to demand a passing notice.

"The process is this: Three or four persons surround a stand or table, and place their hands upon it, their palms just touching the surface, and each one's fingers in contact with those of his neighbor. They are then directed to will the table to move around in a certain direction, and that most intently. After remaining in this position for about four or five minutes, the table begins to move in the direction wished—and the stronger the will is exerted, the more rapid the motion. When the rotary movement is going on, those surrounding are directed to will the table to rise on two feet, which it soon does, still preserving its first motion. If willed to come up on one foot, it comes in a jiffy. In a word, it will move in any direction almost, in which is desired, provided the hands be kept upon it.

"The idea that this is all effected by the exercise of the mind or the will is, of analogy between this case and the effect generally produced by what is termed animal magnetism. The will is an abstract thing, as it were—immaterial and subjective. Its action does produce a bodily movement—for we will, and, as consequence, move our limbs. But it is impossible, from its very nature, that it should exert any influence upon an external and concrete thing. In animal magnetism what is effected? Why, by the action of one will, another is brought into subjection, influenced and directed. But then the subject of operating will is not a concrete thing, but another will—abstract like itself. It surely cannot follow that the mind or the will has power to move a bodily, material, and sensible object, because it has power to effect a thing like itself, immaterial and sensible. It is absurd to suppose that what is internal or subjective, as the philosophers say, should have any power over what is external or objective, say by means of some material thing, over which the subjective has a natural inseparable control, as the muscles of the body.

"But apart from the nature of the will we suppose this motion is further falsified by a fundamental rule of natural philosophy: that every body will remain in a state of rest until removed by some foreign force. Now, this force must be a material one, proceeding from some other concrete thing—else there can, assuredly, follow no movement. If this be denied, then we demand of the objector, that he show a motion caused without the intervention of bodily force—for certainly it has never been exhibited so far, in the progress of science.

"If it be insisted, however, that it is the placing of the hands upon the table, and call a table to him, all day long, rather poor recompense for his troubles. But if he should put his hands upon it and tell it to go, it would, we think, be exceedingly apt to start upon its legs. Here, then, is the proper explanation of the august phenomenon of Table-Moving. It is astonishing with what little effort a single person can turn a small table. Indeed, it may be done almost imperceptibly to himself, with the palms of his hands. When, therefore, some four or five have their hands upon it at the same time, each one has to exert a mere fraction of the originally required force. The quantum required from each would be so small as only to be expressed infinitesimally. When, therefore, a number of persons are standing around the table in question, with their palms touching it and their minds

intently willing it in one direction for some minutes, is it any wonder that the table moves? The muscles act without their perceiving it, being induced thereto by the intense absorption of the mind and the strong exercise of the will. But the moment the hands are off, the motion ceases, however strong the will continue.

This, we are satisfied, is the only sensible explanation—but we are sorry to be obliged to say, we think it correct. We had much rather the other idea were true; for it would be a startling development as well as a great convenience, if a man could whistle for his table to come to him, and have chairs and smaller furniture hopping about at his beck and call!"

ST. MARY'S COUNTY JOCKEY CLUB.

On motion of Dr. Thomas A. Lynch, a committee was appointed by the chair for the purpose of reporting some basis upon which the club should be organized. The committee, composed of Messrs Lynch, Benjamin G. Harris, Geo. C. Morgan, Edmund S. T. Maddox and James W. Miltimore, having retired for that purpose, in a short time returned and reported to the meeting the following form of subscription and resolution, which were unanimously adopted:—

ST. MARY'S COUNTY JOCKEY CLUB.—We the undersigned, constitute a Jockey Club for St. Mary's county, agreeably to rules hereafter to be adopted by a general meeting of its members; each subscriber to pay to the Treasurer, hereafter to be appointed, a sum not less than Five dollars annually.

The club to continue for five years, and not to be abolished during that time—subscription to be paid to the treasurer by the day preceding the race in each year.

Resolved, that three gentlemen from each district of the county, be appointed by the chair, who shall hand round a list, headed in conformity with the one just reported, for the purpose of obtaining subscribers to the Jockey Club this day formed; and who shall report to a meeting of said Club, to be held in Leonard Town, on the second Tuesday of July next.

In compliance with the resolution, the chair appointed the following gentlemen to carry out the object proposed by it: Charlotte Hall.—Col. John H. Sotheron, Dr. H. H. Bean and Theophilus Harrison.

Chapico.—Dr. Thomas A. Lynch, Edmund S. T. Maddox and Dr. R. P. Blakistone.

Leonard Town.—Benjamin G. Harris, George C. Morgan and John H. Tucker.

Factory.—John J. Alstan, J. Edwin Coad and Wm. E. Coale.

St. Inigoes.—Wm. A. Kirk, John A. Dunbar and John A. Crane.

On motion of Jas. W. Miltimore, Esq., it was resolved that these proceedings be published in the St. Mary's Beacon.

The meeting then adjourned to Tuesday, the 12th day of July next. H. G. S. KEY, President. JOHN H. TUCKER, Secretary.

TRIAL OF DR. WORTHINGTON.—The trial of Dr. Thomas C. Worthington, for the murder of Mr. Charles Crook, of Prince George's county, and which case was removed from Prince George's Circuit court to the Circuit Court of Anne Arundel county, was commenced at Annapolis on Thursday last. Counsel for the State—James S. Franklin and A. R. Sollers, Esqs. For the prisoner—Reverdy Johnson, Thomas G. Pratt, J. M. S. Causin, Wm. P. Maulsby, Samuel Berry, and John B. Brooke, Sr. The case was opened on the part of the State by the Attorney General, James S. Causin. The examination of the witness was concluded on Friday, and the argument commenced on Saturday by Mr. Franklin, in a speech of an hour and a half. J. M. S. Causin, Esq., followed in a speech of about the same length. He was followed by Reverdy Johnson, Esq., and the case was concluded by A. R. Sollers, Esq. The jury retired and after an absence of about half an hour, returned into court with a verdict of "guilty, insane at the time of the offence, and unsafe for him to be permitted to go at large now."

In whatever country Germans assemble in sufficient number, their first consideration seems to be to found a Liedertafel, or singing-club. We hear that in Surabaya, in India, a party of Germans have established a club, and gratified the European residents with some excellent German concerted and vocal music.

MARYLAND FASHIONS IN OLDEN TIMES.—The Centreville (Md.) Times publishes a letter, written by the Hon. Thomas Bedingfield Hands, in 1784, to a relation in England, from which we make the following extract, as showing the fashions of those days. The letter is dated "Chester, in Maryland, November 12, 1784," and after a reference to family affairs, says:—

Maryland is now the Maryland that it was when I first arrived here. Letters and science, politeness and luxury are abundantly seen, in our manners, buildings, equipage, furniture, plate, dress, &c. In our dress, we run the route, which you ladies set us. My daughters now take seventeen yards of three-quarter mantua silk; and twenty-three yards of satin or taffy, to make them a robe. Whereas a little more than half of this quantity did use to serve their late excellent mother. When the gowns come home I find my silk cut into rags by flourishes, and my lace into shreds by what you call a needle.

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EARTHQUAKE IN WHEELING.—The Wheeling Times says:—

"A slight shock of an earthquake was felt in Wheeling on Monday, about 15 minutes past 9 o'clock, A. M. It was so sensibly felt in all directions, and shook the building occupied by the Linsley Institute so violently, that the teachers fearing its fall, dismissed the scholars. No sound was heard, we believe, and although the rocking of the earth was but momentary, it was so sudden and powerful as to excite alarm.

We copied yesterday a note from the Washington Republic, that a shock of an earthquake was felt in that city on Monday morning, at about the same hour, it appears from the above, it was felt in Wheeling.—We have heard of no one who felt it here.—Bell. Patriot.

THE FRANKLIN FUND.—The £1,000 left by Dr. Franklin to the city of Boston, to be let at an interest to young unmarried artisans in sums not exceeding £60 sterling, now amounts, to \$15,280.55. Franklin estimated that it would reach \$381,619 in one hundred years, but owing to losses it will probably reach about \$400,000. One provision of the will was that when the fund should amount to \$581,640, half a million dollars should be appropriated to some public works, which should be judged to be of the most general utility to the inhabitants of Boston. The loans are now rarely applied for at all, and it is proposed that the fund be deposited in the Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Co, and in the Savings Banks of Boston.

A BUSINESS GIRL.—We are well acquainted with a young and very handsome girl, says the accomplished editor of the Merchants' Ledger, who has the principal management of a large mercantile establishment in a flour-hire country town, who visits different cities alone, stops at hotels, purchases supplies of food, goods, hardware, China, groceries, shoes, nick-nacks, and multifarious saleables which make up a "stock" in a miscellaneous store. She gives notes, makes contracts, and all such business as belongs to her; and we have never yet learned that she has sacrificed one iota of the dignity, admiration and respect which are her just due as a young, amiable, and very pretty woman.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY.—Died on Saturday, the 30th ult., at the advanced age of 120 years, Monica, a servant woman of Mrs. Eliza Lancaster, of Cobb Neck, Charles county, Md. Incidents which she frequently related furnished data from which her age could be nearly ascertained. She was a servant of the most uncommon industry and fidelity. Though for many years left to her own pleasure, and under no restraint, she would, until within a few months of her death, try to render services to her mistress, to whom she was devotedly attached. Such longevity, kindness, and attachment, speak well for our county. —Port Tobacco Times.

A HUNTER OF KENTUCKY.—The correspondent of Evansville Journal writes as follows about a Kentucky hunter:—"Wat Eckman—it would do you good to see him—has followed hunting for a livelihood since the year 1831. Since that period he has killed 2 bears, 984 wolves, 3847 coons, 990 foxes, 761 wild geese, 2040 pheasants; 44 ground hogs, 80 wildcats, 14 polecats, 209 minks, besides squirrel, quail, and other small game beyond his power to calculate. The sum he realised from his game, skins, &c., falls but little short of \$12,000.

TO CURE THE TOOTHACHE.—Take a paper of tobacco, pour upon it a wine glass of warm water, squeeze out part of the moisture, and after placing the pulp upon a slice of bread, apply it as a plaster to the face. There is nothing like it, says an anonymous somebody, for the toothache—and it is the only remedy for it in its worst form, the ague in the face.

Roasting meat by gas has been successfully tried in several large establishments in England. It is reported to be a very economical, convenient, and excellent mode of cooking.

It is stated that at Nottingham, England, the great centre of lace manufacture, they are now manufacturing a most beautiful article of lace for window curtains, bed curtains, &c., of wire, iron houses, iron ships, and an iron lace capes for the ladies!

A comet will make its appearance in 1853, whose period of revolution is 67 hundred years. It was seen in the year 104, 392, 683, 975, 1264, and the last time in 1556. It is remarkably brilliant.

An English paper states that several recent cases of bad health had been traced to papering rooms with green paper. The color is formed in part of arsenic. In some parts of Germany this kind of paper has been forbidden by the authorities.

It is stated that Senator Pearce, of Ohio, has accepted the invitation to visit the State of Ohio.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

WHEAT.—The few Md. wheats coming to market have been readily taken at 112a114 cts. for good to prime, and we quote those rates to-day.

CORN.—The prices of Md. white have ruled throughout the week at 53a54 cents, and of Md. yellow at 58a59 cents, and we quote the same rates to-day, with light supplies and fair demand. OATS.—We quote Md. at 38a42 cts. GRAIN.—The stock is entirely exhausted. A cargo of 1,600 tons Peruvian destined for this port, has been ordered to New York, whence it will soon find its way to this market.

TOBACCO.—The demand continues very active and the market very lively. There is much competition among buyers, and all the parcels at all desirable are promptly taken, so that the stock in the hands of agents is not allowed to accumulate. We correct our quotations to conform to the current rates of the market, viz: Common \$4.50, 4.75; good common \$5; ordinary middling \$5.25a5.50; good to fair middling \$5.75a\$6; and fine \$6.25a8, according to quality. There is not much inquiry for Tobacco over \$6, through such descriptions can be sold. The receipts from the upper counties in the state are small as yet, but such parcels as reach the market sell freely as follows:—Tops or tails \$1.50a5.50; seconds, or ground leaf, \$5a8; reds and spotted \$8a11; yellow \$15a18.

FISH.—Herring, are disposed of freely at \$4.75, for short and long barrels. The quantity of Shad and Herrings taken in the North Carolina and Potomac Fisheries is large this season, but the demand for them from the shores being pretty active, the receipts here are somewhat curtailed. The Susquehanna Fisheries have made poor returns as yet, the quantity taken not being sufficient for the supply of the neighborhood.

DR. L. D. MANDY, says of STABLEY'S ANODYNE CHERRY EXPEC- TORANT.—"I have administered it in several cases of Bronchial Affections, with the most happy results, and from a knowledge of its admirable effects, I can with the greatest confidence recommend it." &c. See advertisement in another column.

MARRIED, April 24th Jno. C. Smith to S. E. Elliott.

DIED. At Chapico, in this county, on Wednesday, the 4th inst., William Smith, aged about 60 years. In this district, on Friday, 6th inst., Richard Hayden, aged about 52 years.

MCCORMICK'S REAPER AND MOWER. C. H. MCCORMICK has appointed C. Cottingham & Johnson agents for the sale of McCormick's Patent Virginia Reaper and Mower Combined, for 1853. This machine has been greatly improved and strengthened expressly for the Southern market. One of the great improvements is the shortening of the platform, which places the reaper closer to his work. Farmers wishing to purchase this justly celebrated premium machine for the coming harvest will please send their orders early, or call on Cottingham & Johnson, Maryland Agricultural Works, No. 121, Pratt street wharf, Baltimore, who will give a satisfactory guarantee to the most doubtful. C. & J. continue to manufacture their last improved threshing machines and horse powers, with wrought axes, steel laid. Their machines have given universal satisfaction in St. Mary's county the last three years. Also, Rail-way, Horse powers, with a complete assortment of Agricultural Implements. Grain Cradles, a very superior article, in store and for sale by COTTINGHAM & JOHNSON, No. 121 Pratt street Wharf, Baltimore. May 12, 1852—tf.

A LARGE Supply of Ploughs, received for sale by SPALDING & GREENWELL, April 7th.