Irish News.

King's.

Julia Quinn, a few days since, went through the streets of Clara cheering for the Boers, but unhappily the "peelers" raided her, and she was sent to prison for seven days.

Hugh Maguire of Clara was arrested and fined for brandishing a sword and cheering for the Boers.

Leitrim.

The members of the Carrick-on-Shannon branch of the United Irish League intend to make a vigorous war on the nefarious system of grazing.

Justice Murphy in opening the spring assizes for the county at Carrick-on-Shannon said to the grand jury: "There are only four bills to go before you. I understand the case of the county is normal. Boycotting is flourishing and will continue to flourish until some steps are taken to stop it."

Limerick.

There was brisk competition for the valuable post of secretary to the Limerick county council. The issue remained between Mr. Robert Roche and Mr. Mitchell, nephew of the chairman of the council. Mr. Roche received 16 votes and Mr. Mitchell 15. An objection was lodged against one of the votes cast for Mr. Roche.

Longford.

Logan branch of the United Irish League at a meeting held lately passed the following resolutions: "That we pledge ourselves to enforce the rules laid down for us in the programme of the United Irish League" and "that we condemn the system of grabbing."

Louth.

The unfortunate man, William Roddy, who killed his wife some time ago under such terrible circumstances near Dundalk was arraigned on the capital charge at the Louth assizes. The jury found him guilty, but declared him to have been insane at the time of the murder. He was sent to the Dundrum Criminal Lunatic asylum.

Mayo.

Mr. John O'Donnell, M. P. for South Mayo, took his seat in the house of commons on March 21. He was introduced by Dr. Ambrose, M. P., and Mr. J. F. X. O'Brien. As he was proceeding to the table Mr. Ballykilbeg Johnston cried out, "God save the queen." Mr. O'Donnell was cordially welcomed by the Irish party.

Meath.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held in Oldcastle recently to establish a branch of the United Irish League.

Monaghan.

The dedication of the Church of St. Joseph, Monaghan, was performed on March 18. Cardinal Logue officiated.

Bishop Owens of Clogher is ill. His complaint is lung affection, supervening an attack of influenza.

Queen's.

At the opening of the assizes for Queen's county Justice Madden, addressing the grand jury, said, "I am glad to observe that this calendar is a light one and that there is nothing in any of the cases to suggest anything unsatisfactory in the general condition of your county."

Roscommon.

Patrick Farrell, Ballyleague, has been co-opted a member of the Roscommon county council in room of the late Mr. Thomas Doran.

The Marist Brothers, Athlone, hope to be able to open their splendid new school on an early date. Athlone is particularly favored, inasmuch as it is the only Irish town, excepting Sligo, where the Marist Brothers have established a seminary where boys may be trained for the novitiate.

Sligo.

Mr. John O'Dowd, chairman of the Sligo county council, was elected unopposed for the parliamentary vacancy in North Sligo created by the retirement of Mr. Collery. Mr. O'Dowd was lately deprived of the commission of the peace for expressing sympathy with the Boers, and the ex-J. P. becomes now M. P. for his native county.

Tipperary.

One of the most noted Irishmen in the English civil service, John S. Purcell, C. B., has retired. He has been nearly 40 years employed in the inland revenue department, says The Freeman's Journal, and has risen to the high position of comptroller of stamps, registrar of joint stock companies and registrar of banks. He is a native of Carrick-on-Suir.

Tyrone.

A successful concert in connection with the Cookstown and Kildress tables for the national Catholic bazaar was recently held in the Dunamore schools. The spacious buildings were taxed to their utmost.

Waterford.

Mr. W. Kearney, chairman of the Waterford district council, has resigned. He seconded the election of a Protestant night nurse for the Waterford union, where almost the entire number of persons sick were Catholics and, of course, ought to have a nurse of their own religious feelings. The parish priest of Killer, Passage, condemned the absurd business at mass, and Mr. Kearney felt himself bound to resign and did so.

Westmeath.

The people in Westmeath are now fully alive to the importance of founding branches of the United Irish League. It has a wholesome influence in restraining landlords who believe the best remedy for Irish grievances is the wholesale eviction of the tenants.

Wexford.

At a meeting of the Enniscorthy board of guardians held recently D. Nowlan proposed that the salary of the Catholic chaplain be increased from £50 to £100 a year, so as to enable him to celebrate mass daily in the workhouse. The resolution passed.

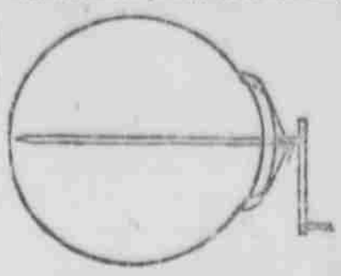
FARM AND GARDEN

A CORN SHOCK BINDER.

It Makes a Straight, Compact Shock and Saves Twine.

Take a round hard wood stick—hickory or ash is best—18 inches in diameter and 4½ feet long and with a drawing knife sharpen one end to a tapering point.

On the other end fasten a stout hard wood crank. Exactly in the center of a piece of wagon felly bore a hole just large enough to permit the round stick



A SHOCK BINDING DEVICE.

to turn freely when inserted. Round off the inner corner at both ends and bore an inch hole diagonally through the felly at each end. Plane the felly smooth and round off all sharp corners to avoid wearing the rope. Procure 12 to 15 feet of half inch rope and tie a knot in one end and wrap the other with soft wire.

Bore a small hole through the round stick about three inches from the crank and put a light iron ring about two inches in diameter on your rope. Double a piece of strong soft wire and insert it in the hole through the round piece. Put the rope through the loop in the wire, drawing the knot up to the loop. Then wrap the rope half way round the stick and fasten with the wire, leaving the ring between the two fastenings.

Now tie a ring about an inch in diameter on one end of a short piece of strong cord and tie the other end through the hole in the felly that comes on the left hand side when the binder is in use. This cord should be just long enough to reach the end of the crank handle, as its use is to prevent the crank from unwinding while the twine is being adjusted around the shock. Drive a small wire nail a short distance into the upper side of the felly near the left hand end and bend the top so as to form a hook. Your machin is now complete.

Slip the felly piece on the round stick with the concave side from you, thread the rope through the hole in right hand end and thrust the sharp end through the shock at the height you wish the band. Take hold of the rope, walk round the shock with it, thread through the hole in the left hand end, and through the ring fastened to the round stick draw up all slack and tie with a bowknot.

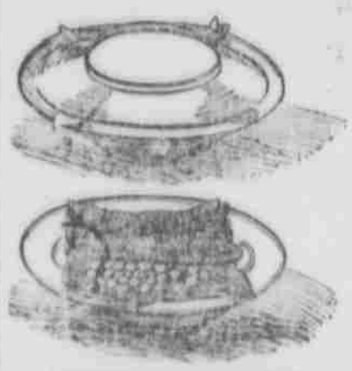
Now turn the crank until you have squeezed the shock as tightly as you wish and slip the small ring attached to the cord over the end of the crank handle to prevent unwinding. Tie a loop in the end of your binding twine, catch it on the hook on top of the felly piece and walk around the shock, taking care to keep the twine close to and above the rope. When you have found the length required, cut the twine, slip the end through the loop, draw taut and tie.

This may seem a little complicated. About a few hours' practice will enable any one to do the work rapidly.

The correspondent who originally described this device, substantially as here repeated, in The Farm, Field and Fireside says its principal advantage lies in the quality of the work performed. Drawing equally from both sides, it makes a very compact shock, which keeps out rain and snow. It makes the shock stand up and saves twine.

Testing Crimson Clover Seed.

The germination of crimson clover seed even when the seed is comparatively pure often leaves much to be desired. The seed deteriorates rapidly with age. There is, however, a simple quality test within the reach of any



A HOMEMADE SEED GERMINATOR.

buyer, as shown in a homemade germinator illustrated in a circular of the department of agriculture.

A piece of moist flannel is laid upon a plate, and a certain number of seeds are counted out and laid upon the flannel, a second fold of which is placed over them. Then another plate is inverted over the whole. The seeds are removed and counted as fast as they germinate. Good crimson clover will sprout 80 to 90 per cent of the seed within three days.

East of the Alleghany mountains the hay crop is decidedly short in almost all districts, and while weather conditions in New England favored a moderately heavy growth for the second cutting the whole yield is much the smallest for a number of years, according to The American Agriculturist.

New Mexico Democratic Platform.

We, the representatives of the democratic party of New Mexico, in convention assembled at Albuquerque on the 14th day of April, 1904,

Do hereby reaffirm our allegiance to the time honored principles of the Democratic party as exemplified in the Chicago platform of 1896 and 1900 [illegible] and administered by our great chief Thomas Jefferson—the [illegible] of political creeds.

We believe in the immortal sentiment expressed in the Declaration of Independence, that "all governments are instituted among men to secure the inalienable rights of the people, and that the powers of the government rest upon the consent of the governed" and that the principles of the constitution follow the United States wherever it may go, and that liberty, equality, fraternity, and the pursuit of happiness are secured to the people of every country to be extended to all the people, including those of Mexico, and we therefore condemn the aggressive and expansionist policy of the present Republican administration, and of congress in regard to territory which has been acquired as a result of the late war with Spain, and we specially denounce the action of congress creating a tariff wall between Porto Rico and other parts of the country, and endeavoring to call the attention of the people of New Mexico to the fact that in the policy thus inaugurated were to be enacted into law, under certain conditions, duties could be imposed upon all exports and imports between this territory and the rest of the United States; that our citizens could be deprived of all voice in the government of this territory, of the right of trial by jury, of the writ of habeas corpus, of the right of public assembly and all other fundamental rights; and that arbitrary dispotism could be erected upon the ruins of free government.

We believe: An American financial system made by the American people, to be secure by the American people, to be secured by the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present ratio of 16 to 1 without the aid or consent of any other nation; amendments to the constitution authorizing an income tax, and providing for the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people; the immediate construction and fortification of the Nicaraguan canal by the United States; independence for Cuba; home rule for the Philippines; eternal opposition to trusts; a vigorous foreign policy; a tariff levied for purposes of revenue, to be so adjusted as to operate equally throughout the country and not discriminate between a class or section, and taxation limited by the needs of the government honestly and economically administered; statehood for New Mexico; a financial system which recognizes the government's sovereign right to issue all money, whether coin or paper; the retention of the greenbacks as they now exist and the retirement of the national bank notes as rapidly as greenbacks can be made to take their place; the [illegible] of the postal savings bank system; the [illegible] of the Chinese exclusion law; the [illegible] of the alien land law; the [illegible] of the [illegible] and the [illegible] of the [illegible] and the [illegible] of the [illegible] and