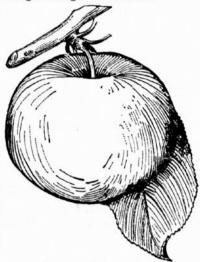
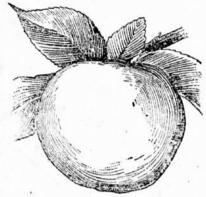
OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES OF WIDESPREAD INTEREST.

Two Profitable and Early Varieties of Apples - The Red Astrachan and the Yellow Transparent, Illustrated and De-

Probably the most profitable early summer apple in every part of our country from Maine to California is the Red Astrachan. It is of Russian origin and of large, roundish form, nearly covered with deep crimson. The flesh is tender, juicy and rich acid. The tree is a vigorous, strong grower of upright spreading habit and a good bearer. The Red Astrachan is one of the most profitable of orchard apples and it is also included among choice garden varieties.



BED ASTRACHAN-A MIDSUMMER APPLE. In the second cut is shown the form of the fruit and leaf of the Yellow Transparent apple tree. This, too, is of Russian origin, and like other Russian varieties is hardy. The fruit is medium in size and of light transparent lemon yellow hue. The flesh is white, juicy and of good quality.



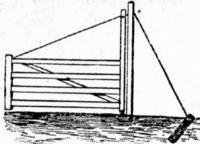
THE YELLOW TRANSPARENT APPLE. For an early apple it is a good shipper. The tree is of upright growth, very prolific and a remarkably early bearer. J. T. Lovett claims that it sometimes

some days in advance of Early Harvest. A Good Farm Gate.

produces in the nursery row the second

year from the bud. It ripens its fruit

The gate shown in the accompanying illustration is, according to Ohio Farmer, one that will not sag.



A GATE THAT WILL NOT SAG.

This gate is made in the ordinary way, except that the post extends up three feet to a large staple, used for the upper hinge. The lower part of this post is an iron rod resting in a socket. A heavy galvanized wire runs from the top of the front post of the gate to the top of the rear post as a brace, and a one-fourth inch rod runs from the top of the gate post back into the ground at A, where it is attached to a broad block. This block is securely fastened in the ground with stones and tamped clay, so that it will not yield any. A heavy, flat stone would be better, sunk below the reach of plow and frost. Properly put up, such a gate will never sag, says the authority quoted.

What Others Say.

Peter Henderson thinks every farmer should have a few acres of root crops on his farm and he will find them invaluable for feeding stock during the winter.

Not half enough is attempted in the way of ornamental gardening with fruit, says a Country Gentleman correspondent. With the strictest utilitarian management few things in the country landscape are prettier than the blossoming or fruiting orchards, and a little taste and skill in arrangement will make the fruits a decided adjunct of the pleasure

To exterminate raspberry bushes in pastures American Cultivator advises to cut with bush scythe and then stock the pasture with cattle to browse the sprouts. It affirms, also, that neat cattle are much better than sheep for exterminating bushes, and that coarse wooled varieties of the latter will do more towards that object than those of finer grade.

Persons owning bees and not located near streams of water are advised by Massachusetts Ploughman to furnish them fresh water daily, as it will save time, which to the bee means honey and to the person means money.

There continues to be an increase in the breadth of oats fully equal to the advance in population.

A slight reduction in the area of cotton is indicated on the Atlantic coast and an increase west of the state of Alabama. Conditions of the crop are relatively low owing to late frosts; lowest in South Carolina, highest in Texas.

THE OLD STORY WHICH CONTIN-UES TO FAIL AS A WARNING.

Another Man Who Sought Sudden Wealth and Failed-Easy Victims of the "Green Goods" Dealers-But This Time a Detective Was Near to Nip the Game.

Deacon Hardshell sat bolt upright in the corner of the family pew, his eyes fixed on the preacher and his whole attitude that of decorous attention. But the droning tones of the parson made no impression on him, for his thoughts were far away. He was thinking of the distant metropolis and the alluring joys which are always so dear to the bucolic heart. "Cracky," he said to himself, "but them Yorkers is up to cute tricks! I kalkerlate, however, I'm just es smart es most on 'em, even if I don't take no daily paper. They've got ter get up pretty early in the morning to fool old Josiah Hardshell. I'll start fur York termorrer, 'n I reckon when I get back I'll show these critters raound abaout here a trick or two that'll surprise 'em.'

HE KNEW THE DEACON. It was late in the afternoon of the second day after these pious meditations when the worthy deacon deposited his gripsack on the counter of one of the modest city hostelries frequented by his kind, and asked the clerk if there were any letters for Josiah Hardshell. There was one letter—a brief scrawl—bidding him to wait in the hotel barroom for his correspondent, who would be on hand at 8 o'clock, and address him as "Queer."

At the hour appointed the deacon's lank form was extended in an armchair in one corner of the barroom, while his eyes anxiously scanned the face of each newcomer. He almost leaped from his seat when a dapper looking young man with a dyed mustache and glittering silk hat bent over him and softly remarked: "Well, Queer, how do you find things in New York?"

"Be gosh!" gasped the deacon. "How

in thunder did you know me?" The man with the high hat and dyed mustache suppressed a smile with some difficulty. He might have answered that he knew him because he was the only man in the room whose hair was suggestive of chicken feathers, whose boots had been greased instead of blacked, whose face betokened anxious expectancy and whose whole appearance denoted familiarity with rustic methods of

He did not say this, but he said what pleased the deacon excessively, and raised himself at once in the estimation of that excellent ruralist. His reply was: "Oh, I'm accustomed to recognizing people right away. I know a shrewd man when I see him. Let's take a drink."

"Don't keer of I dew, stranger said the deacon, as he rose from his seat and accompanied his newly made friend to the bar. "I guess I be abaout es shrewd es they make 'em daown aour way, 'n it's gotter be a pretty smart Yorker es kin take in old Josiah Hardshell. Young man, gimme a leetle mite o' rum 'n

CHARLEY, ALSO, WAS KNOWN. "And now to business," said the dapper gentleman, as the two seated themselves by a small table in a corner of the

"I'm with ye," responded the deacon eagerly, "'n I kin tell ye, young man, ye'll find me a pretty hard nut to crack every time. "That's the only sort of men we deal

with," responded the other impressively, and I can assure you, sir, we make it a point to find out just how shrewd a man s before we put ourselves in his hands. Now this stuff that we're going to sell you will go down your way exactly as well as the real thing. You can't tell the difference, and nobody else can for that matter. We can sell you \$2,000 of our sort of goods for \$300 of yours, and if you keep your mouth shut as tight as we keep ours nobody'll be the wiser. You can use it in your neighborhood for paying your grocer and lifting the mortgage off the farm, and the money goes away off and nobody's hurt at all. Then when it's all gone you can send to us for more.

The deacon's eyes glistened with de-light. He thought of the "critters" in his neighborhood whom he could swindle, of the mortgage which he could wipe off and the immense profit he could make out of the transaction.

"It looks ter me like a kinder good scheme," he observed cautiously: "but be all them bills of yourn es good es that there dollar ye sent me?"

"Just look here!" retorted the other. producing a roll of crisp, new greenbacks; "can you tell whether these are queer or not? Step up to the bar and see if we can buy a couple of drinks with any one of them"-

"I'll have to take you in, I guess, Charley," said a well dressed man who had been sitting near by, apparently absorbed in his paper. "And I guess you'll have to come along, too, as a witness," he continued, addressing the deacon, whose blood was freezing in his veins.

The dapper young man was bailed out the next day, but the deacon is still languishing in the House of Detention. It has just occurred to him that there are certain "Yorkers" who are as smart as he is, and that some of them may be found in hotel barrooms, while others are in the service of the New York detective force.-New York Star.

Long and Quick Jumps.

Harry Kennedy, the ventriloquist, has been pluming himself upon a long made by him from New York to San Francisco and back. He made the trip in one day less than a month, and played two weeks in San Francisco. But George Rignold has the best record at this sort of theatrical traveling. He went from San Francisco direct to New York to play at a charity matinee, and at the close of the performance went direct to the depot, and was at once headed back for San Francisco. He did not targe there either, but proceeded to Australia. - San Francisco Argonaut.

ANOTHER VIEW OF IRRIGATION.

the subject of irrigation in Dakota and the Northwest. The Press argues that irrigation by artesian wells does not look very promising, and that such artificial irrigation in Dakota is quite unnecessary, at any rate. It admits that the weather has been unusually dry in the Northwest this year, but makes the point that this is exceptional. That the East, this year especially, has had an excess of rain at the expense of the West. It reasons that any section of country is liable to an over-abundance of rain, or a lack of rain, and that because there have been two or three dry seasons in Dakota, it by no means follows that irrigation is necessary.

This is all very well said, but, none the less, the majority of Dakota farmers believe that artificial irrigation is not only feasible but also quite desirable. A good artesian well will pay for itself in a few

WET SEASONS PREDICTED.

Mr. Warren Upham, of the United States geological survey, predicts that a series of wet seasons will begin next year in Dakota. From careful scientific and geological observations, Mr. Upham is confident that the period of change from maximum to minimum moisture, and from the least moisture to the most again, occurs over an average range of ten or twelve years. The dry season began there in 1883, and the extent of them has, according to this authority, now been reached.

INDIAN RELICS WANTED.

The officers of the North Dakota university, at Grand Forks, have asked contributions of Indian and mound builder relics from all Dakotans who have anything of the kind, the object being to arrange and classify for public use, which is not possible while they are scattered here and there among private parties. An interesting and valuable collection can be made, and every citizen should take part in making it.

RESERVATION RED TAPE.

Word comes from Washington that Secretary Noble declares that the reservation cannot be opened by executive proclamation, but that the treaty must go back to congress for ratification before the proclamation can issue. This puts off final action for a few months, though it cannot affect the final result.

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JAMESTOWN DAK,

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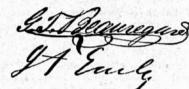
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Prizes of	5.000 are	25 00
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