

NORTHWESTERN NEWS.

Interesting Items Gathered from Various Localities.

ILLINOIS.

Burglars broke into Kasper & North's store

death by hanging as to stand on the tips of the toes is still extensively inflicted in China. The barbarous custom of conferring honors on widows who commit suicide is also continued.

—At the recent festival of Big Joss Pidgey, in Canton, the temple was lighted with ten large 2,000-candle power electric lights, which brightened the interior, and lit up the hideous features of the assembled demons and josses.

—The report that Lake Ngami, in South Africa, which was one of the earliest notable discoveries of Livingstone, is gradually drying up, has been confirmed by Dr. Schinz, a German explorer, who recently visited the lake.

—An association was recently organized in Scotland for the systematic cultivation of mushrooms on a large scale. The mushrooms are grown in a disused tunnel of the North British railway in Edinburgh. The tunnel is about three-quarters of a mile long, and eight hundred yards are occupied by the mushroom beds. In the care of which fourteen men are employed.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

—Popular faith is being nailed to hypnotism in France, where all kinds of ailments and peculiarities are now being treated by the mesmerists. The cure of drunkenness has been attempted by what is called "suggestion," the patient, while "under control," being ordered to abstain from all intoxicants, and success is said to have been achieved.—*Arkansas Traveler.*

—In a certain periodical it is stated the Jews in Moldavia have a method of making honey into a hard white sugar, which is employed by the distillers of Dantzic to make their liquors. The process consists in exposing the honey to the frost during three weeks, sheltered from the sun and the snow, in a vase of some material, which is a bad conductor of heat. The honey does not freeze, but becomes hard as sugar, transparent and white.

—The famous floating island of the Derwentwater, England, has come to the surface again after a long disappearance. This is a mass of decaying vegetation forming a layer of peat, on top of which is a thin covering of clay bound together by the roots of vegetation. It rests on the clay bottom of the lake, but sometimes some force, supposed to be in the gases generated by the decaying matter, causes it to rise to the surface. Its extent sometimes reaches half an acre, and it rises and falls with the water, until finally it sinks out of sight again, to be gone probably for several years.

—In the Bahama Islands there are three sorts of soil—white, black and red. The white consists chiefly of calcareous sand. The black is vegetable mold, and very fertile. The red earth, however, is described in a recent government report as being the most important and fertile of all. It contains considerable oxide of iron, but geologists are at a loss to account for its origin, as no similar soil is found in the neighboring submarine banks, or by soundings in the deep sea bed about the islands. On some of the larger islands it covers thousands of acres.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

—Travelers in Manchuria suffer tortures in warm weather from the attacks of midges and gad-flies. Mr. H. E. M. James, of the Bombay civil service, says if there be a time when life is not worth living it is summer in the forests of Manchuria. Clouds of midges darken the air and bite fiercely. Men at the plow wear circles of iron on their heads in which are placed bits of burning touchwood, the smoke of which keeps off the insects. The gad-flies attack animals more than they do men. They are as large as stag beetles, and pierce a mule's hide with great rapidity, so that the beast will soon be covered with streams of blood. Fortunately, they are sluggish and easily killed.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

"GIVE ME LIBERTY."

How Patrick Henry Delivered His Immortal Speech.

In his most interesting "Life of Patrick Henry," Prof. Moses Colt Tyler is very positive in his statements showing that Henry possessed logical powers and knowledge of law, political science and history; he cites the debates in the Virginia convention, where Henry held his ground in close hand-to-hand combat for twenty-three days against formidable antagonists on all the difficult subjects of law, political science and history involved in the Constitution of the United States. He has brought to light an important and a most interesting description of Henry's manner of delivering his most celebrated speech. It is contained in the manuscript of Edward Fontaine, which is now in the library of Cornell University, and is as follows:

shows that there were 2,484 loadings made to allow the passage of 987 boats, 293 barges and rafts, 4,219 tons of merchandise, 330,309 bushels of grain, 901,494,987 feet lumber, 45,360,000 feet logs, 126,344,279 shingles and 65,370,148 lath. These figures represent the freight traffic of the season. All classes were more active than last year.

like an embodiment of helplessness and agony. After a solemn pause he raised his eyes and chained hands toward Heaven and prayed in words and tones which thrilled every heart: "Forbid it, Almighty God!" He then turned toward the timid Loyalists of the house, who were quaking with terror at the idea of the consequences of participating in proceedings which would be visited with the penalties of treason by the British Crown, and he slowly bent his form yet nearer to the earth and said: "I know not what course others may take," and he accompanied the word with his hands still crossed, while he seemed to be weighed down with additional chains. The man appeared transformed into an oppressed, heart-broken and hopeless felon. After remaining in this posture of humiliation long enough to impress the imagination with the condition of the colony under the iron heel of military despotism, he arose proudly and exclaimed: "But as for me"—and the words hissed through his clinched teeth, while his body was thrown back, and every muscle and tendon was strained against the fetters which bound him, and, with his countenance distorted with agony and rage, he looked for a moment like Laocoon in a death-struggle with coiling serpents; then the loud, clear, triumphant notes, "Give me liberty," electrified the Assembly. It was not a prayer, but a stern demand, which would submit to no refusal or delay. The sound of his voice as he spoke those memorable words was like that of a Spartan pean on the field of Plataea, and as each syllable of the word "liberty" echoed through the building his fetters were shattered; his arms were hurled apart, and the links of his chains were scattered to the winds. When he spoke the word "liberty," with an emphasis never given it before, his hands were open and his arms elevated and extended, his countenance was radiant; he stood erect and defiant, while the sound of his voice and the sublimity of his attitude made him appear a magnificent incarnation of freedom, and expressed all that can be acquired or enjoyed by nations and individuals invincible and free. After a momentary pause, only long enough to permit the echo of the word "liberty" to cease, he let his left hand fall powerless to his side and clinched his right hand firmly as if holding a dagger with the point aimed at his breast. He stood like a Roman senator defying Caesar, while the unconquerable spirit of Cato of Utica flashed from every feature, and he closed the grand appeal with the solemn words "or give me death," which sounded, with the awful cadence of a hero's dirge, fearless of death and victorious in death; and he suited the action to the word by a blow upon the left breast with the right hand, which seemed to drive the dagger to the patriot's heart."—*Chicago Journal.*

Silver Weddings in France.

Silver marriages are very pleasant festivals in France. When a couple have completed twenty-five years of married life the event is celebrated with all the show of festivity possible. In the first place there is a religious ceremony in church, which has a good deal of the outward form of a genuine wedding. The lady is again called the bride, and her toilet is superb, supposing her position in the world justifies it. The flowers which she is expected to wear are large white ox eyes—known in France as reines marguerites. The bridegroom wears a dress coat. The pair are surrounded by their children and grandchildren—if there are any. All relations are invited, for a grand family muster is considered essential. A dinner is given, followed by a ball, which is opened by the newly married couple, the lady dancing with her eldest son and her husband with his eldest daughter.—*Cor. Chicago Journal.*

Foreigners in Asia.

The Asiatic policy as illustrated by both the Chinese and Japanese, is to employ Europeans and Americans only far enough to instruct their own people. Thus, in Japan, no office of instruction has been filled, except in a temporary way, by any foreigner, however able and accomplished he might be. The Japanese boast that not a foreigner is in their navy might well have included the fact that not a foreigner is retained in any scientific department, college, school, or in any department of instruction, a month longer than is actually necessary. The trained native takes his place. The Chinese are manning their own dock yards and navy, dispensing with foreigners as fast as possible.—*San Francisco Bulletin.*

General Fox has given no report to the War Department desiring to approve the plan for the proposed Belle Isle Park bridge in Detroit, and expressing doubts whether it will not, if built, be swept off its foundation within a year by the immense floods of ice that will be borne down against it from Lake St. Clair.

Fred M. Dreyer, of Detroit, went out to get waste in the manure yard, thrown out and trampled in the mire. This is for want of a knowledge or will to feed it properly. Prof. Henry, of the Wisconsin Experiment station, believes that 40 per cent. of the fodder is lost by feeding it whole. We think the loss is even greater than this, and that fully two-thirds by weight is lost by feeding corn fodder whole, while 80 per cent. of it or more is utilized by cutting it and feeding it with meal. This is a most important saving, for if, as we believe, well-saved corn fodder is worth from \$5 to \$8 per ton when hay is worth, \$8 to \$12 and more in proportion, as hay is worth more, the loss of one-half of this valuable feed is a serious affair. Few farmers have the true idea of the actual value of fodder corn, or of corn grown for fodder, as much as for grain. It is or may be made the chief support of the stock for the winter, and can be grown for \$3 per ton, dry weight. Thus it is the cheapest fodder that can be procured.

The present method of reducing corn stalks to a condition for feeding needs improvement. A mere cutting leaves the stalks in short pieces, with sharp edges which cut the mouths of the animals and cause considerable pain. The writer has found that whole stalks, which can be chewed from end to end, are eaten more easily than the short, sharp-edged pieces left by the fodder cutters. It is not much better when the cutter crushes the stalks, for the sharp edges still cut the mouth. What is wanted is a shredder or grinder that will reduce the stalks to a fibrous mass. This may be done by means of steel cutting plates centered eccentrically, so as to slice the stalks longitudinally and reduce them to shreds. The sugar-makers use a shredding machine consisting of a drum covered with teeth like those of a circular saw, by which the stalks are reduced to pulp. Either of these methods would be effective for the purpose desired, and would add a large percentage to the feeding value of the fodder.

Ensilage seems to be the corollary of corn-fodder, and that one is specially made for the other. It is as easy to grow 20 tons of corn as it is to get 1 ton of timothy hay, and to grow 40 tons of it as 2 tons of timothy. Manure and cultivation only are required to produce the largest crops of it. By some curious metamorphosis, not explicable by the chemists, a large part of the nutriment contained in the green fodder is lost in the drying, and consequently it is desirable to cure it in the silo, when the loss of available nutriment is very little, if any at all. The result is that if a farmer grows corn for fodder he must cure it in a silo, and if he wants a silo he must grow corn to fill it with. No doubt the remark that farmers who have silos and have grown corn to fill them with are not borrowing trouble about the results of the extremely dry weather which has prevailed the past summer is true, and that fodder corn and the silo are indispensable to every well-managed farm and a great economy in the feeding of stock. The saving of labor over the ordinary method of curing fodder corn is very considerable, and will easily pay a large part of the expense of growing the crop.—*N. Y. Times.*

MISTRESS AND MAID.

A Few Pertinent Suggestions Concerning Practical Housekeeping. As there are two sides to most questions, so there are two to the vexed one of mistresses and servants. A capable mistress usually keeps competent help; first, because at once she knows whether the servant is already what she desires, or if not, whether she is amenable to such teaching as shall soon make her satisfactory. But if the mistress herself would make a poor servant if their positions were reversed, then a bad servant will not become a good one in her service! A woman who knows nothing of cooking can not give orders so as to deceive her cook into believing that she knows what she is talking about, though a well-trained servant will listen respectfully and wait a fitting time to smile at or to take advantage of her mistress's ignorance. Unless the woman knows how, when and what to cook, her orders are untimely and unseasonable. She will order a cook to boil ham and have it cold for lunch at 1 p. m., and will give her order at 11 a. m.! The cook measures her mistress at once. A housekeeper trying to conceal her ignorance from her servants by assuming a tone of confidence in giving her orders is a pitiable spectacle, for at heart they do not respect her easily-seen-through pretense as much as they would her lack of knowledge, if she openly trusted them. The woman who can not build a

SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

Why Farmers Should Carefully Examine the Causes Which Produce Them. Let a farmer raise an extraordinary crop of any kind and he immediately "rushes into print" to give an account of it. Then farmers and newspaper

editors are cool, and the oven heated to the right degree for cake is not ready for bread, and so on to the end of the chapter. Half the fire that is needed for baking will boil and broil and toast to perfection, and all these points must be understood before one can so manage a fire as to have it ready for each and all these divisions of cooking, as the proper moment for the separate uses comes.

Thus we see inexperienced announcing itself in late meals, from too little fire at the right moment, burned toast and steak from too much; cake crusted top and bottom, and lead-like in the center; good, sweet loaves of bread in an oven too cool, or with upper crusts like charcoal, and soggy bases from an over-heated oven!

If we were to open a cooking-school the first lesson would be how to build a fire in an empty stove; the second would be how to rebuild a fire if by accident (?) this should "go out." The third should be how to keep a steady heat; the fourth how to control or temper the heat, so as to have it quick for one hour if needed, and slow and steady for the next, if one desired. After this is well learned it is soon enough to allow a pupil to handle eggs and flour. Do so sooner, and much is sadly wasted.—*Christian at Work.*

EDUCATED RUSSIANS.

Why They Generally Drift Into the Ranks of the Nihilist Party.

In many countries—notably in Germany—lamentations are frequent as to the overcrowding of all the learned professions. The universities are said to produce more highly-trained men than the country can employ, so that many aspirants are yearly doomed to failure, and these are said generally to drift into the ranks of the most extreme political parties. Yet in Germany and elsewhere those who fail have other possibilities of life open before them. In Russia their position is far worse. Almost every man of liberal education who does not possess a private fortune is an official. Many of the large commercial houses receive subventions from the government, or did so at the time of which we are speaking; all are anxious not to incur unpleasantness by employing any one who is distasteful to the authorities. The men who were unable to complete their education, and those who were viewed with suspicion, were therefore cast helpless into a world which for them, to use a German saying, was nailed down with boards on every side. It was only natural that they should join the extreme party, but their influx into the brotherhood of land and liberty rapidly changed its character. We can not at present follow the story further. The only idea of the original founders which seems still to have a vital force is the hope that by the offer of large material advantages to the peasants and workmen the latter may be induced to lend their support to political movements which have now become entirely revolutionary. Many of the Nihilist leaders, however, are already rather Socialists than Liberals, Radicals or Republicans.—*Saturday's Review.*

EFFECT OF NICOTINE.

Irritation of the Stomach Produced by the Use of Tobacco.

I suppose that the least harmful method of smoking is the use of a clean pipe with mild tobacco, a pipe that has not absorbed the nicotine. The harmfulness of a pipe comes of its having absorbed a great quantity of nicotine, so that you are constantly taking more of it into your system. The cigar would come next in favor. Of course, the stronger a pipe is the more nicotine there is in it, and the more nicotine you have the greater is the chance of injuring your system. The chief constituents of tobacco smoke are water, carbonic acid, carbonic oxide in a state of gas and nicotine.

When a man smokes too much the excess produces an irritation of the stomach, and the membrane secretes irregularly and does not produce the due amount of gastric fluid. That is the first phase. After awhile the stomach gets into such a condition that it tolerates this state of existence, so that there is not the same nausea produced in an old smoker that we find in a younger smoker. Whether smoking is good for a man depends on his organization. I do not think that smoking is ever beneficial for a nervous man. Then, again, much depends on how much a man smokes and when he smokes. There are certain men who, when they are tired, when their nervous system has been on too great a strain, will smoke one or two cigars; they will become quiet. The nervous man should not smoke at all. Phlegmatic persons would be least liable to be harmed.—*Dr. W. M. Buller, in Epoch.*

that their remarks will be kindly received. But the seeker after information about his failure may obtain excellent advice from them.

Now that the season has closed, every farmer who has had poor success with crops, not clearly chargeable to

neglect or ignorance, should give careful attention to the following:—All young animals need liberal and kindly treatment, and watchful care. The farmer's eye should ever be on the alert to discover the first sign of disorder, and when found, it should be remedied at once.

—An apple tree on the premises of Joseph F. Plummer, in Upper Swampscott, Mass., has a rose grafted on it that blossomed beautifully this season. It was a pure white and had the fragrance of the apple.—*St. Louis Republican.*

—Spiced Chocolate.—Have some chocolate grated in quantity desired, as some prefer more than others. Add ground cinnamon and cloves to taste. Mix these ingredients into French cream and form into small cubes.—*Exchange.*

—An excellent salve for bruises is the following: Take the leaves of catnip and bruise with salt pork in a mortar, or with a rolling-pin. If applied to flesh wounds and bruises of any kind, it will at once allay the inflammation.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

—Snow Padding.—One-half a box of gelatine in a pint of boiling water; when dissolved and nearly cold beat briskly with the whites of four eggs; two cups of coffee sugar, the juice of a lemon; make a custard of the yolks and pour over it; add the grated rind of the lemon to the custard.—*Exchange.*

—Breakfast Puffs.—Scald four tablespoonfuls of corn meal in a little water; while hot stir in two tablespoonfuls of butter. When cool, add two eggs well beaten, two cups of sweet milk, eight tablespoonfuls of flour and salt to taste. Bake in cups in a quick oven.—*Golden Days.*

—Omelette.—Four eggs well-beaten; to this add one cupful of milk, into which has been stirred one tablespoonful of cracker meal (rolled crackers) and one of cornstarch; stir all well together; pour into a frying-pan, well-buttered. This will make two large omelettes, or four small ones.—*Boston Budget.*

—Let the bill of fare be varied from day to day. When you get hold of a good recipe put it in a scrap book, which should be kept in every kitchen. In a short time you will have a large number of recipes which you can rely on, and reference to this will suggest variations in the daily food. Never admit any thing but a tested and reliable recipe.—*Indianapolis Sentinel.*

—At the recent Boston meeting of the American Pomological Society, Prof. J. A. Linnet read an instructive paper on insects injurious to plants. He said there were three hundred and twenty thousand species of insects in the world, and that seven or eight thousand of the species found in the United States were fruit pests, no fewer than two hundred and ten species being enemies of the apple. These facts sufficed to show that a successful fruit grower must know something about entomology. Constant watchfulness appears to be necessary. Within two years, a borer which has hitherto confined its attention to peach and plum trees, has begun to attack the apple.—*N. Y. Ledger.*

HUMAN NATURE.

An Incident Proving That It Is Strongly Represented in Every Man.

The talk one hears on the street all tends to convince one more and more that there is a great deal of human nature in man. This is what a special examiner of the United States Pension Office told me to-day while waiting for a street-car: "I was examining and taking evidence in a pension claim in Nebraska last summer. The claimant belonged to a little country church, and the witnesses were the pastor and several members of his church. It was beautiful to see the clearness and directness with which they all testified and swore that the claimant had been unable to do any work on his farm for five or ten years. The story was becoming monotonous until I visited the home of an aged elder in the church, who was somewhat deaf. I explained to him my office and my business very carefully, and then took down his sworn statement concerning the claimant and his disabilities. But to my great surprise he testified that the claimant, whom he had known intimately for fifteen years, had never seen a sick day, nor missed a day from work, in all that time. I cross-questioned him rigidly, but only made him the more emphatic in his former statements. So he signed the deposition, and I administered the oath, and was taking my departure, when he asked me, in an uncertain, anxious way: 'Ain't you an insurance agent?' 'Ain't you going to insure his life?' When I undeceived him he looked very miserable, but did not offer to retract his statements."—*Chicago Journal.*