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The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE,....APRIL 12, 1855.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

P. F. B. & Co., American Newspaper Agents, is Agent for this Paper and is authorized to take Advertisements and Subscriptions, at the same rates as required by law. His office is at No. 10 State St., Boston, and is authorized to receive Advertisements and Subscriptions at the same rates as required by law. Their receipts are regarded as payment.

A. T. BOWMAN—Traveling Agent.

The Nursery Examination.

There is just now a great commotion in Massachusetts, in which several N. York papers take special interest, on account of the proposed examination of nurseries. The legislature has made lawful the appointment of committees authorized to examine the schools connected with the Roman Catholic nurseries of the State; rendering such schools liable to the same investigations provided for the protestant schools.

A committee under this law have recently commenced duty, by visiting a nursery in the vicinity of Boston. The result is a general onslaught of old fogeyism upon the dominant party in Massachusetts, in which the aid of 'all creation' is invoked to help in breaking up such a terrible state of things. The Boston Advertiser leads the attack, and the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser is the leading echo from the Empire State. The former publishes a ridiculous account of the terrible alarm produced in the school by the visit of the committee, and of the fearful sufferings of a sick girl in one of the rooms near which the committee passed.

What there is in a Catholic school that renders such a visit so very frightful to the pupils, these papers do not state. We never heard that the children of protestant schools are frightened out of their wits by the visits of the school committee. The State of Maine newspaper, Portland, gives the key to the cause of this new rally, by proclaiming in terrible indignation, that this 'is the work of the miserable Know Nothings of the Massachusetts legislature—the sooner they perish the better!' The Boston Traveller, to which we always look for the religious element in politics, as yet only ventures to assert that so far as its observation extends, the measure is 'universally condemned.' The Traveller's 'universe' is decidedly narrow, and its 'observation extends' in proportion—or it would venture an opinion for itself whether this measure is right or not. This it dare not yet do, as its columns are only half opposed to the present dominant party in the State.

The editor of the Boston Advertiser was summoned before the legislature, to substantiate his charges against the committee; but refused to testify, except so far as to assert that he obtained his information from some of the women connected with the school. His present position is a little worse than ridiculous—and yet better than that of such papers as dare neither approve or condemn.

We look to the course of Massachusetts in this matter as one that will do much good. It will tend to remove the prejudices against catholic schools, by removing the odious secrecy connected with them. We look for no 'horrible disclosures,' though there is reason to suspect something wrong in a secret religious institution, especially when these wrongs have been repeatedly developed in times past. But the mere suspicion of them, in our country, is a serious political and social evil, and one that should be removed if it can be done by the application of such laws and regulations as are made applicable to all similar institutions. The cry of prescription or persecution, which is sought to be raised, is sheer nonsense; and the bare fact that it finds advocates among respectable political leaders, is only so much evidence that these examinations ought to be made; that an assault upon the exclusive privileges and immunities claimed by the Roman Catholics in this country has been too long delayed, and that now it has commenced it should be persisted in, till these secret religious dens are compelled to submit to wholesome laws. Who complains that the schools, hospitals and prisons of the State, even old Harvard included, are required to throw open their doors for such investigations as the legislature may order?—Such complaint would suggest suspicion of rottenness at once. Such suspicion has always existed toward nurseries; and nothing but long established exclusive privileges, wrongfully claimed and reluctantly conceded, has protected them from examinations to which protestant schools are everywhere subject. It is argued that they are religious schools, and that therefore any legal cognizance taken of them would be an infringement of our boasted religious freedom. Are not Unitarian 'Harvard,' and Baptist 'Waterville,' with all similar denominational schools, just as necessarily religious schools? But who would listen to the absurd proposition of allowing them to bolt their doors against all accountability to the public? Nothing is more entirely out of question than such a privilege to protestant schools. Why catholic schools should retain it, except for the poor reason that they have had it too long, nobody pretends to tell. We hope they will have it no longer, and that no party interest or wire-pulling policy will be permitted to interfere with a good work, well commenced by the people of old Massachusetts. Without political freedom, there can be no religious freedom; and when, from sheer policy, the political rights of the mass are made to yield to the religious demands of a sect, the time is near when the strongest sect will have to protect itself. The work of cleansing we trust is begun; and we hope the Republicans of Massachusetts will never look back till it is finished. Then an example will have been set which other States will ultimately follow.

The Kennebec river is clear of ice below Augusta. The ice had worked nearly out of the Kennebec on Saturday.

OUR TABLE.

HARPER'S STORY BOOKS.—This is a monthly series of Narratives, Dialogues, Biographies, and Tales, for the instruction and entertainment of the young, written by Jacob Abbott, and issued in elegant style by the Harper. Each number will contain 160 pages in small quarto form, beautifully illustrated, and printed on superfine colored paper. Five numbers have already been issued, as follows:—

1. Bruno; or, Lessons of Fidelity, Patience, and Self-Denial, taught by a Dog.
2. Willie and the Mortgage; showing how much may be accomplished by a boy.
3. The Strait Gate; or, the Rule of Exclusion from Hell.
4. The Little Lovers; or, the Boys and Girls' Gallery of Pictures.
5. Frank; or, the Philosophy of Tricks and Mischief.

Of those issued we have received all but the last named from Feltz & Co., Boston, who will be happy to furnish those who order at 25¢ a copy or 25 cents a single number. To be had at 30¢ a copy.

FRANK LEBLANC'S GAZETTE, OF PARIS, LONDON AND NEW YORK FASHIONS, for April, is a superb number. Ladies who wish for early and reliable reports of the fashions will find in this publication all they can reasonably expect in a work of this kind. Published by Frank Leslie, 12, Spruce street, New York, at \$3 a year. For sale at the bookstores.

POTNAM'S MAGAZINE.—The April number has a portrait of the author of "Spenserian," &c., and contains the usual number of excellent papers, among which are the following:—American Orators, Rufus Choate, Carlisle of Puritan History, Twice Married, Abbott's Life of Napoleon. On the first day of May next, this magazine will pass into the hands of Messrs. Dix & Edwards of New York, and from that time be under their direction. G. P. Putnam & Co. have issued a card notifying the public of this arrangement and recommending their successors to favor. They say, "In all departments of elegant literature, criticism, popular instruction and amusement, the new management has already secured the promise of most hearty co-operation from the best writers. We have no hesitation in assuring the readers and contributors of the magazine, that they may rely with entire confidence upon the future character of the work, and that the only change will be for the better. It will continue to have our own active co-operation, and all orders for the trade will be supplied by us as heretofore."

GODBY'S LADY'S BOOK.—The April number cannot but be satisfactory to the fair patrons of this popular magazine. In addition to a fine engraving, a model cottage, course of drawing lessons (illustrated), descriptions of dresses for ladies and children, and a piece of original music, there will be found much interesting and valuable reading matter, including a continuation of the romantic 'Life and Adventures of Ferdinand Cortez,' by John B. Duffey. Published by L. A. Godby, Philadelphia, at \$3 a year.

NEW WORK.—T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia, has in press, and on the 5th day of May next will publish, a new work entitled "The Missing Bride," by Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, author of "The Lost Heiress," "The Wife's Victory," &c. It is said to be the best book she has ever written.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for March has the following table of contents:—The Beggar's Legacy. Zaida, a Romance—part 4. Vagabond Life in Mexico. Civilization—the Census. A Peep at Paris. The Story of the Campaign; written in a tent on the Crimea; part 4. The Ministerial Changes.

The four great British Quarterly Reviews and Blackwood's Monthly, are promptly issued by L. Scott & Co., 45 Gold Street, New York. Terms of Subscription:—Any one Review or Blackwood, \$3 a year. Blackwood and one Review, or any two Reviews, \$5. The four Reviews and Blackwood, \$10. Four Copies, \$30.—Postage on the four Reviews and Blackwood to any Post Office in the United States, only 50 cents a year. Vis: 14 cents a year on each Review, and 24 cents a year on Blackwood.

NEW MUSIC.—HORACE WATERBURY, the great Music Publisher, Manufacturer and Dealer in Piano Fortes, of No. 32 Broadway, New York, has sent us the following sheets of popular Music, published by him, with the information that any person sending him \$1, will receive the four pieces by mail, post-paid.

'Sparkling Polka'—By THOMAS BAKER.
'Lily White Song'—By L. L. WHITE.
'The Child in Heaven'—A beautiful, affecting and impressive Song, by the favorite composer, L. B. WOODBURY.
'Our Boy'—A Song of the genuine 'Young America' school. Words by C. D. STUART, Esq.; Music by THOMAS BAKER.

A Relic of the Past.
Comparisons may be 'odious' and yet proper enough. We know nothing of progress without comparing the present with the past. Our friend J. M. Crooker, Esq. has enabled us to do this in respect to the venerable institution of Fast Day, by preserving in a neat frame a copy of Gov. Belcher's fast-day proclamation, issued one hundred and twenty-four years ago! As a curiosity we publish it below. It is printed after the style of its day, and is surmounted with the British coat-of-arms—affording, in addition to the matter of the proclamation, an opportunity to compare specimens of engravings and typography with those of the present time.

By His EXCELLENCY
JONATHAN BELCHER Esq;
Governor General and GOVERNOR in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New England.
A Proclamation for a general F. A. S. T.
Upon due Consideration of the Universal Providence of Almighty GOD, and our absolute Dependence thereon for Prosperity and Success in all our Interests and Concerns, and also of our indispensable Duty, devoutly to acknowledge the same, by humble and earnest supplications, and in particular by imploring the Divine Blessing on the Affairs and Occasions of the Year ensuing;

I have thought fit, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council, to order and appoint Thursday the Sixth Day of April next, to be observed throughout the Province as a Day of Fasting and Prayer, Exhorting both Ministers and People, in their public Assemblies and private Devotions, Religiously to solemnize the same, by a sincere & penitent Confession of our manifold and aggravated Sins, whereby GOD has been provoked to manifest His holy Anger against Us in various Judgments; And by supplicating the Divine Favour, for averting the Tokens of His just Displeasure, and for bestowing on Us all needful Blessings; More especially, That it would please GOD to preserve and bless Our Sovereign LORD the KING, Our most gracious QUEEN CAROLINA, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Duke, and the Best of the Royal Issue, with the other Protestant branches of the Royal Family; and that He would bless and prosper the Kingdoms and Dominions under His Majesty's gracious and wise Government, and succeed His Majesty's Councils for the Preservation of the Peace of Europe, and the general Prosperity of his People; That He would graciously please to give Direction and Success in the Administration of the Government of this Province; That He would grant us a convenient Seed-Time and a plentiful Harvest; That He would smile upon our Merchandise, Navigation and Fishery, and defend the same from the depredation of Pirates; That He would establish our Peace and continue our Health, and keep off Mortal Distempers from us; That He would please to grant us Favour in the eyes of our KING, and prolong our invaluable Privileges, Religions & Civil; And, above all, That He would pour out His Spirit upon all Orders and Degrees of Persons in this Land, and direct them to a general Repentance and Amendment.

tion; And that the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ may come in its great Power and Glory: And all Servile Labour and Recreations are prohibited on the said Day.

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, the Third Day of March 1731. In the Fifth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign LORD GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD, of Great Britain, France & Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.
By His Excellency's Command, with the Advice of the Council, JONATHAN BELCHER, Secy.

GOD save the King.

A Home Item.

We have a sample of yarn, from the North Vassalboro' Manufactory, that excels in fineness and finish anything of the kind we ever saw. It is made of the finest Silesian wool, imported by the company, and illustrates a principle in business upon which that model establishment bases its success—namely, excellence over all competition. Their cassimeres, which bore the palm at the World's Fair, are known the world over—or rather, would be, if the demand for them could be met. There, too, are made from imported Silesian wool, finer than has ever been produced in this country. On this point we have an anecdote that illustrates American enterprise. An extensive wool-grower at the west, who had in previous years furnished the company with a very fine article of wool, was at last informed that they had obtained a better quality from Silesia, and should want no more of his fleeces. The next year they received another sample of wool from the same man, with the brief explanation, that the quality ought to be satisfactory, as it was from the same flock from which they had obtained their Silesian wool. Determined not to be outdone, he had sent to Silesia and purchased a part of the flock of sheep from which they had been supplied. Here was competition after their own sort! But they are rarely met in this way—though this was only in the way of supply. The establishment is regarded by manufacturers as a model one, not only in its machinery and fixtures, but in its management. We wish it had a branch in Waterville.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—It will be seen that a State Agricultural Society was organized at Augusta last week, agreeable to the provisions of the statute. A fair is to be held this season. The location of the first exhibition is left to a committee. What attractions can Waterville offer? If the plans of the North Kennebec Society are carried out, in the purchase of grounds and fixtures, there can be no doubt that we can offer better accommodations than any other place. If these plans are defeated, as circumstances now indicate, the exhibition will be somewhere else.—Are the committee who have charge of these plans moving?—or have they moved?—and how does the matter stand? The question should be promptly settled.

A SPECIMEN.—A very fine piece of work hangs in the Post Office, from the hand of Mr. Lightford, the engineer of Mr. Blanchard's new steam engine. It is a drawing of the locomotive 'Danville,' of the A. & K. Railroad. Those who examine it carefully will discover evidence of most creditable skill. We know not where or by whom a better piece of work can be executed. Mr. Lightford needs no other recommendation.

PEOPLE'S BANK.—It will be seen that the incorporators of the People's Bank, at this place, propose an immediate organization under their charter. The proposed capital stock is \$50,000, which we presume will be readily taken in Waterville and vicinity.

SHAVED OFF.—A friend of ours who has looked horribly for some six months, in consequence of dispensing with the use of the razor, has finally become so far convinced of his folly as to shave his upper lip. The event was brought about in this wise:—happening to want a hundred dollars after the close of the bank, where he always keeps a comfortable pile, he dropped into the store of neighbor M.—to borrow the sum till morning. Neighbor M.—had deposited the day's proceeds, and couldn't accommodate; but 'brother F.' who was present, though not personally acquainted with Whiskerado, offered the favor if he would step to his house. 'What,' says M.—, 'who is sometimes a little waggish, 'do you know this man well enough to trust him for a hundred dollars?' Brother F. answered in his quiet way, 'I have not the pleasure of the gentleman's acquaintance, but judging from his looks he must be a remarkably honest man, or he would not be suffered to stay in town!' Whiskerado appeared next day with a clean upper lip.

NEWS FOR THE NATIVES.—The Belfast Journal announces that 'Miss Harris, at Waterville, in a published card, offers her services to the public as a physician!' Mrs. Harris has not only offered her services, but they have been accepted in a circle embracing more than half the towns between here and Belfast. We venture to assure the Journal that if Mrs. H. patients would accept a substitute, she could give employment to one or two of her medical brethren of Belfast, at good wages. ('Journal please notice')

State Agricultural Society.
A convention of the incorporators and farmers, was held at the State House on Wednesday last, for the purpose of organizing the Maine State Agricultural Society, under the charter recently passed by the Legislature. The attendance was very respectable, although there were not so many out as there should have been. On being called to order, Hon. Elijah Barrell of Greene, was chosen Chairman, and E. Holmes of Winthrop, Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Foster of Gardiner, gentlemen present not named in the act as incorporators were invited to take part in organizing. The charter was then read, and after some discussion in regard to its provisions it was voted to accept it.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Holmes of Winthrop, Fairbanks of Augusta, and Goodale of Saco, was chosen to draft and report a constitution for the Society.
Messrs. Mabry of Hiram, Foster of Gardiner, and May of Waterville, were chosen to report on the constitution.

While these committees were out, the subject of the bounty offered by the State for the encouragement of the growth of flax was taken up, and the matter read and discussed.

The committee on constitution, reported a draft of the same, which was taken up section by section and finally adopted. The committee on candidates for officers reported the names of Samuel Betman of Dixmont, for President; E. Holmes of Winthrop, for Secretary; Wm. Caldwell of Augusta, for Treasurer, and they were unanimously chosen.

It was voted expedient to hold a Cattle Show and Fair some time in September next, and Messrs. Foster of Gardiner, Maxham of Waterville, Fairbanks of Augusta, Thomas of Winthrop, E. G. Buxton of Yarmouth, were chosen a committee to ascertain and name a convenient place for holding the same.

Hon. S. P. Benson, one of the delegates to the meeting of the U. S. Agricultural Society, in Washington, being present, upon being called upon gave a very interesting account of his mission, accompanied with useful remarks in regard to the apathy among farmers in preparing their claims to public patronage and protection.

The thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Benson for the faithful discharge of the duties entrusted to him.

On motion of Mr. Clark of Bangorville, it was voted to print 2500 copies of the constitution and charter, for distribution among the members of the Society.

Messrs. S. P. Benson, Foster, Percival, Fairbanks, I. W. Buxton, were chosen a business committee to aid the Secretary in preparing for the Cattle Show and Fair and all other business necessary to be done before the next meeting of the Society.

It was voted to reserve \$100 of the State bounty on flax by the State Society, and distribute \$400 among the County Societies to be offered in premiums by them for the same. Adjourned to meet at the time and place of the Cattle Show in September next.

[Kennebec Journal.]

Tricks on Travellers.

We rarely take up a New York paper without seeing some account of a countryman swindled of his money by the Patent Safe trick, mock auctions, timble-rigging, dropped pocket books, and other methods well known to and practiced by the scoundrels of that metropolitan nest of pickpockets. As a specimen, we give the following from the New York Post:

A man hailing from the State of Maine, a farmer and timber cutter, went into a mock auction store in Broadway this morning, and purchased a watch for the sum of four dollars. Finding that, instead of silver, he had been cheated with a pewter watch, he demanded a return of his money.

A disinterested individual at his side, however, induced him to exchange his bargain for a better watch by paying six dollars more.—The poor fellow shelled out the difference in gold dollars. Upon an inspection of the article he found that it was no better than the first.

The farmer had now his eyes opened, and saw that he was 'done for.' He again demanded his money, which was again refused by the auctioneer. Being a stranger in the city and unacquainted with its localities, he knew not what to do in the premises.

While cogitating on the subject, a little boy, who had witnessed the transaction, volunteered to conduct the countryman to the Mayor's office. They immediately left the store, followed by one of the Peter Funks, who frequently shook his fist at the orchid for interfering with the 'auction business.'

The boy and countryman came to the Mayor's office, and the latter stated the case to Justice Piercy, who is temporarily occupying the position of Justice Osborn.

After relating the circumstances of the swindle, the timber-cutter said he was anxious to go home this afternoon. He had only limited means and could not conveniently remain in the city.

Officer McKinney was then despatched with his victim to the mock auctioneer's, to make them disgorge. Upon his arrival at the store, and making known his business, the watch dealer 'gave back the ten dollars with remarkable politeness.'

The party presently returned to the Mayor's office, and the countryman received his money from the officer. Justice Piercy told him that he had received a lesson, which he hoped would not soon be forgotten. Notwithstanding the frequently published notices of mock auctioneers, it seems impossible to deter our rural friends from entering their shops to get cheap bargains.

We should think one-third at least such cases are from the State of Maine. We are sorry to say it, because the fact reflects but little credit upon the astuteness of our people. We fancy we are tolerably 'cute' here at home—have our eye-teeth out—can't be dilled—and all that. But some of us seem to be more barmy in the heads of the New York necromancers.

The truth is, that not one in a hundred of these victims take the papers. They know enough already—or think they do—which amounts to the same thing. What is it to them what is going on outside of their own homestead? Reading the news is a mere waste of time. And so, when they undertake to travel, they are innocent of all knowledge of the 'ways of the world,' and get skinned alive like seals. It serves them right.

The last number of the London Morning Advertiser, contains the following:
VIENNA, Thursday night, 22d. The negotiations have come to a dead lock. Russia refuses point blank to dismantle Sebastopol. Hence the Conference is a failure.

According to conversational rumor the following arrangements, if its details could be adjusted, would meet the views of the parties. Russia would not object to concede the entire freedom of the Black Sea, and the opening of the Danube—as also the permission to erect Turkish forts on the Asiatic side of the Buxine—and would consent to receive consuls within Sebastopol. If this be decided, the Bosphorus and Dardanelles could not be closed against Russia, consequently her fleets would be free to visit the Mediterranean. This, it must be observed, is given as mere rumor.

The impression was general, that an attack upon Sebastopol would shortly be made, and that a grave event has just occurred at Moscow. The large hall of the tower of Ivan-Valk, in the Kremlin, fell to the ground at the moment when the ceremony of swearing allegiance and fidelity to the new Emperor was going on, and by its fall crushed nearly 100 persons. For a people so superstitious as the Russians, this disaster has appeared a most sinister omen, and the latter which gives an account of the event states that the effect on the public mind has been that of great consternation.

SAD ACCIDENT.—A young man, 28 years of age, by the name of John L. French, residing in Chelsea, opposite this city, was killed on Wednesday last by the accidental discharge of a gun which he was holding by the barrel and using for a bat with which playing ball. The whole charge entered his side, inflicting a terrible wound, and causing almost instant death. He was an active, industrious young man, and his sudden death is peculiarly affecting to his family and friends. [Hallowell Gazette.]

Setting out Fruit Trees.
There is little difference of opinion among nurserymen and fruit growers in regard to certain important facts connected with the transplanting of trees. All agree that young trees should be taken up carefully, as many roots retained as possible, and that the roots be kept moist until placed again in the ground. All agree, likewise, that in setting out the trees, great care should be taken to pulverize the soil and bring it directly in contact with every portion of the roots. But when it comes to the question of the proper time for transplanting trees, there is some difference of opinion. One nurseryman will tell you that all seed fruit (apples, pears and quinces) should be transplanted in the fall, and all stone fruit: peaches, plums, cherries, &c., in the Spring. Another will tell you that all fruit should be transplanted in the fall, and another is quite as earnest in the belief that Spring is the best time. So many circumstances of season, of soil, of climate, and of subsequent treatment, enter into the culture of fruit trees, that these conflicting views are scarcely to be wondered at. Nevertheless, the writer of this believes that the great preponderance of testimony will be found in favor of fall transplanting for all kinds of fruit trees. No good reason has yet been given why stone fruit should be affected differently from seed fruit, by fall transplanting. It may be that the peach, which is scarcely hardy enough for some of our winters, is injured sometimes by the harder freezing of the ground where it has been disturbed in the fall; but the easy remedy for this is the covering of the roots with a greater depth of earth than is intended shall remain upon them, thereby shielding them from the too greater severity of the frost. In fact, it will be found much to the advantage of all trees transplanted in the fall, to heap around them a mound of earth which will be sufficient to turn off the water occasioned by melting snow, and to keep the wind and frost from displacing them.

It is customary with some farmers to stock down their young orchards with grass the first, second, or third year after the trees are set out, and let them take their chance with the browsing of cattle in winter. Money thus invested is worse than thrown away. Trees, especially on our old lands, will not grow bound down under a crop of grass. The frequent stirring of the soil is absolutely essential to the growth and development of the tree. There are very few soils so poor that they will not grow fruit trees, if kept well stirred up with the plow, the cultivator, or the hoe. In fact, those who have been most successful in the cultivation of fruit for market, are of opinion that barn-yard manure is by no means requisite to the speedy growth of wood fibre; and the writer of this has grown apple and pear trees quite as fast as they ought to grow on a hard and gravelly soil, with no other manure than compost, placed in the hills of corn and potatoes planted among the trees. The stirring of the earth, in hoeing the crops, was much better for the trees than any possible amount of manure would have been, if left lying dormant with the soil. On no account whatever should stable manure be brought in contact with the roots of trees. Its invariable tendency is to cauterize them. But a better way is to dispense with stable manure entirely, and mulch the trees, during both summer and winter, with straw, litter from the barn yard, potato tops, or even shavings. These substances keep the ground loose, and at the same time impart to it that constant vegetable decay, which is essential to the formation of fibrous wood. Swamp muck and peat muck are also excellent substances to place around fruit trees, whether young or old.

It is also important that judgment should be exercised in the trimming of fruit trees. Some permit them to grow with suckers at the roots and on the limbs, and others cut and slash away as though all a tree had to do was to grow itself away from the knife. Both these extremes are to be avoided. When the tree is transplanted, about as much should be cut from the limbs as will correspond with the loss of roots; and the tree should be slightly trimmed from year to year thereafter, as it develops its suckers or superabundant wood; but on no account should the larger limbs be severed, unless they are in some way diseased. They may be headed in, if inclined to grow so as to give an awkward appearance to the tree; but the severing of large limbs cannot fail to shorten life. In such matters as these, the better way is, never to listen to the suggestions or extravagant opinions of those whose knowledge is in reverse to their practical experience, but to pursue that judicious course which every man's common sense will suggest, if he will but take the trouble to think upon the ordinary rules which govern vegetable life.

In some cases trees are set out, and a few feet of soil around their bodies kept in a mellow condition, while the grass sward occupies the remainder of the field. This is wrong. It is the earth at the extremities of the roots that needs to be kept loose, that they may extend themselves in every direction from the tree. In order to ascertain the difference between these two modes of cultivation, the writer of this, last spring, purchased at auction a dozen small peach trees. Half were set in ground planted with potatoes, and the other moiety in grass land, where the soil and sod were only disturbed sufficiently to give place to the trees. The former more than doubled their size, while the latter scarcely grew at all. It may be safely set down as a rule, that land devoted to fruit is in no danger of being too often or too thoroughly cultivated, provided the roots of the trees are not broken or otherwise injured. In fact, it is better to break or displace a root occasionally, than to permit the soil to become hard, sod-bound, or overrun with weeds.

[Cor. N. E. Farmer.]

BRUTAL MURDER BY A BOY.—A gentleman from Kiskatom, in the town of Catekill, has given the following particulars of a most appalling tragedy: On Saturday last, John H. Edwards, a lad aged 15, living in the family of his uncle, John W. Hungerford, requested permission of the wife of Mr. H. to use a double-barrelled gun, which was in the house, for the purpose of seeking game. Permission being granted, they both shortly after left the premises in different directions, when Edwards soon returned and commenced breaking open all the drawers and chests in which he supposed there was two hundred dollars, which Mr. H. had received a few days previous. Not finding the money, he loaded the gun with slugs and shot, and deliberately fired the contents of one of the barrels into the breast of his uncle, who by this time had reached the house. Mr. Hungerford fell, pleading for life, when the little dead angel presented the gun and snatched it. Mr. H. partially recovered and fled, pursued by Edwards who again fired with fatal effect. He then returned to the house, placed the gun in its usual place, and escaped from the bloody scene. Little hopes are entertained of Edwards's recovery.

Edwards was dressed in a striped plush cap, black silk cravat, black antisept vest, dark gray pantaloons with a patch on one knee, and calkin shoes. He has light hair and light complexion. A reward has been offered for his arrest.

Since the above was in type, we learn that the boy Edwards was caught at the oyster shop of Peter Lyon, Catekill, on Monday last. Hungerford it is thought, will not recover. Several slugs were lodged in his lungs.

[Coxsack Union, Extra.]

SAD ACCIDENT.—A sad accident occurred in Mt. Vernon, in this State, on Thursday morning last. Moses Robinson, an old man 70 years of age, was taken to death in his own house. The house was all inflated when discovered, at 4 or 5 o'clock, A. M., the inmates, with the exception of Mrs. Robinson, barely escaping with their lives. One young man in the second story was obliged to leap from the window. The bones of the old man were found upon the hearth; it is supposed he was bewildered and unable to find his way out.

ANOTHER MAN SUFFOCATED UNDER A SOUTH BRIDGEMAN.—We learn that a man was found dead at South Berwick one day last week, covered up in a pile of manure; that his name was Ferguson, and has been missing ever since the first of January. His wife stated that he started to go to Portland, and has never since been heard from. She has since removed to Great Falls, and some other family has since taken their premises; and when removing the manure he was found as above stated. Strong suspicion rests upon his wife.

The above facts we give as we hear them, without vouching for the truth of them.—[Eng.] There is some jealousy of express companies at the south, on the part of railroads. A late Savannah paper says there was a meeting of the presidents and other representatives of all the railroads between Washington City and Montgomery, Alabama, at Augusta recently, when it was determined, unanimously, to stop the express business over the roads represented. It was contended that the express companies are accumulating large fortunes while the railway companies do all the work.

EXTRAORDINARY DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA.—Mr. A. Rogers, of Franklin, Ohio, died of hydrophobia last week. He was bitten by a mad dog thirty years ago. Being a man of powerful physical frame, weighing near two hundred pounds, it is possible that the strength of his constitution kept the effects of the virus in his system subdued. On the fifteenth of January, however, a small, half-starved dog bit him on the hand, when he instantly remarked to his wife that he never felt such a pain. A severe headache and a slight nervous fever ensued. When Mr. Rogers became aware that the dog was mad, he at once felt that, under his peculiar situation, with the virus of a former bite in his system, his case was hopeless one, and immediately made his will, commending his apprehensions to no person, not even his family. A few mornings afterwards, on attempting to wash his hands and face, he found himself unable to get his hands into the water. He ate but little breakfast, and in a short time went to bed. About twelve o'clock Friday night he was seized by a fearful spasm. During all his spasms, to the very moment of his death, he was conscious of his condition, and seemed to take particular care to harm no one during his ravings, though he was in the same room with his friends and attendants.

INTERESTING NEWS FROM UTAH AND THE MORMONS.—We have dates from Great Salt Lake City to Feb. 7th.

The Eastern mail arrived at Salt Lake City on the evening of Feb. 6. This arrival brought intelligence of the appointment of Col. Stepien as Governor of the Territory, vice Brigham Young; Harris, Secretary, vice A. W. Bakell; and some other changes. The news took the Mormons by surprise, but it was thought no open opposition would be exhibited.

On New Year's Day quite a serious collision took place between the United States soldiers and the citizens at a drink-shop. Five arms were freely used, and seven or eight persons were shot, but fortunately none of them were killed. Two of the soldiers were severely wounded, and for a time it was thought they could not recover. The Mormons ordered out the 'Legion,' threatening to destroy the whole battalion of United States troops in the city under Colonel Stepien. The three companies of United States troops were paraded under arms—they strengthened their position, and waited for the assault of the 'Legion,' which was every moment expected. This state of quasi warfare lasted for three days; when calm councils prevailed and hostilities ceased.

The Territorial Legislature of Utah, at their late session, passed an act organizing Carbon Valley into a County of that name. They had appointed one Styles as District Judge, and Orson Hyde as Probate Judge of the County. From the temper of the inhabitants of Carbon Valley, very few of whom are Mormons, and most of whom have applied to be incorporated into the State of California, it is probable these appointments would be received with little favor. Styles is notoriously incompetent, and being very despotic. Orson Hyde is President of the 'Twelve Apostles,' and is one of the leaders of Mormonism. Among other legislation was the passage of an act called the 'Gift Law,' by which the faithful are to cut all their real and personal estate of every kind in Brigham Young! If remains to be seen whether Congress will tolerate such outrageous legislation in one of the National Territories.

Oxford, N. Y., April 9.

DISGRACEFUL RIOT.—A most disgraceful riot occurred in this place yesterday morning. It appears that a Roman Catholic, who had been married by a Protestant clergyman, and in consequence excommunicated, entered the Catholic church in company with a Protestant friend, while the congregation were assembled for public worship. The priest, Canon, immediately ordered him to be put out, when order was most faithfully carried out by both male and female worshippers. At the door a light commenced, in which it is said the priest took part. The exercises in the church were suspended, and a crowd assembled at the nearest hotel, where more fighting ensued between the Catholics and Protestants, in which the former came off second best. The priest was arrested and is now in custody. It is also several more of the rioters. No arms were used, and no lives were lost; but many persons were badly injured. All a quiet morning, and the examination of those arrested is being proceeded with.

NOVEL, RASCALOUS MOVEMENT.—Gent Smith, Beriah Green, and a few other spirits of that order, have lately been holding a meeting of several days at Orono, to subvert the sacred altar of all old religious denominations and organizations, and build up a system of their own to take the place of every other. They held that all sectarianism is wrong, and that there should be but one universal church, and that honestly should be the only test required to entitle a person to the rights of citizenship, and so on.—[Bangor Daily News.]

