

PARIS, MAINE, DEC. 3, 1869.

The President's Views.

A Washington dispatch informs us that the President, in a conversation with a distinguished financier a day or two since, said that some of the leading journals had misrepresented his views, through their Washington correspondent, upon the subject of finance. He declared himself in favor of diminishing taxation so that its burdens might be lighter upon the laboring classes, and he believed that with rigid economy in all the departments, and the impartial and thorough enforcement of the law, a material reduction could safely be made, without interfering with the work going on at the treasury, of selling gold and buying bonds. He stated further, that while he was earnestly in favor of resumption at the earliest possible moment, he believed the present policy of the Treasury Department would take gold so near at par that the last step could be taken without danger to the business interests of the country, which interests he declared must be remembered. The President added that the substance of these views would appear in his next message.

A Letter from Greeley.

The editor of the Tribune has a long letter addressed to Benjamin Butler, on the absolute necessity of the triumph of the 15th amendment to the success of Grant's administration. He concludes his letter in the following words which is a summary of the whole epistle to Butler: "The country regards you as the leader of Congress of those who have been most exacting in their requirements of the defeated rebels, and as least inclined to treat them with confidence or generosity. The reproaches which I have incurred in this quarter, will never attack you, and your adhesion to the policy which the occasion demands will never be attributed to weakness or sentimentality. I ask you therefore, to place yourself promptly and heartily at the head of a movement looking to the instant and complete removal of all political disabilities whatever from any and every one who favors, or who shall favor, the 15th amendment, and their prompt restoration to all the privilege of citizenship. Let us have peace."

Opening of the Suez Canal.

The year which is drawing to a close will be noted for remarkable events in the progress of civilization, not the least of which will be the great project consummated by the Suez canal, or the construction of a ship canal to connect the Mediterranean and Red Seas. This event was celebrated on the 17th of last month. Several centuries before the Christian Era, the rulers of Egypt cut a channel from sea to sea, and it was navigable for vessels of considerable size until the eighth century when it was closed up to punish the Arabs. Mr. Lussan, the leader in this enterprise organized a company in 1854, but so violently did the British government oppose the scheme, that through its influence, the Sultan of Turkey opposed such obstacles that the difficulties were not overcome until 1864 when the work was prosecuted with vigor and carried out to completion. The opening of the canal to commerce was celebrated last week with great pomp and ceremony. The French Emperor, the Sultan of Turkey, the Austrian Emperor and other crowned heads and dignitaries of church and state were present.

The canal extends ninety miles from Port Said on the Mediterranean to Suez, at the head of the Red Sea. It resembles a dike three hundred feet wide at the top and one hundred and fifty feet wide at the bottom, with an average depth of twenty-four feet of water.

The labor and expense of this work has been immense: the money cost up to the first of May last being over fifty-seven and a half millions.

The Oxford Democrat is one of the best country newspapers in Maine, and always well filled with local news, which is what the readers of a country paper desire above all things else. The name of the paper does not indicate its politics any more than the name of the Democratic party indicates its principles, the paper and the party being democratic only in name. The former is an able advocate of Republican principles, while the latter depends entirely upon latitude and the time of day. (Portland Press of Nov. 30th.)

Much obliged. Our principal aim has been to make a local paper, and we are largely indebted to our corps of correspondents who have continued from week to week, to supply us with items of interest. Our thanks are due to them, and we must say, our County is ahead of all others in the spirit and enterprise of its local writers. So long as they continue their interest in our paper, we shall enlarge our list of subscribers and consequently increase our facilities for giving them a better paper.

In one of Oliver Dyer's graphic descriptions of the New York Sun newspaper establishment, in the American Agriculturist for December, we get many interesting facts relative to that immense newspaper concern. The four sides of the paper are worked off at once, on six presses—600 a minute, and thus working an edition like ours, which it takes us five hours to work with our Power Press and Caloric Engine in three minutes. Verily, "there are some things not dreamt of in our philosophy." 87,000 copies of the paper were issued on the 30th of November, 72,500 is an average day. The forms are stereotyped in 30 minutes, six times—otherwise such an immense edition could not be worked. The total cost of a day's paper is \$1,336.44—amount received for advertisements \$1,200.50—for sale of papers \$903.75—total profits on one day's business, \$767.61. And this is kept up every business day of the year. The men of the concern are on the jump, day and night, and live faster in 24 hours, than we do, in our quiet rural precinct, in a year.

Teachers' Institute at Norway.

The week has not proved a favorable one for the Institute, owing to the bad traveling and stormy weather. We visited the Institute at Norway on Wednesday, and found it well under way, with a good interest on the part of those in attendance. The instructors are Prof. Allen of Pennsylvania, and C. B. Stetson, of Auburn. The attendance is not large, some forty or fifty teachers being in regular attendance.

The instruction which we had the pleasure of listening to, was eminently practical, and should be enjoyed by every teacher in the County. Another Institute is in session at Bethel.

The tendency of the new ideas of these celebrated educators, promulgated through the State, is to completely revolutionize our system of teaching and secure a new code of School laws.

We shall hail the day when no teachers are employed in our common Schools except those who intend to make this avocation a life work.

We have not time, this week, to allude to the exercises, in detail, but hope, next week, to give some of the more prominent and valuable ideas advanced during the sessions of both of the Institutes.

Prof. Allen lectured at Concert Hall, on Wednesday evening, on our Common School system. On Thursday evening, the Subject was to be the training of children. The Institute closes on Friday.

School Books.

At the commencement of the Schools, every parent is exercised about the matter of school books. There is a want of uniformity, not only in the towns, but throughout the State. Each town, and almost each school District, has its peculiar text books, and every new teacher is apt to have favorite books which he introduces. Another evil is, that book publishers, to make money, have multiplied series beyond all reason, or benefit.

The only remedy is, to have State legislation, providing for uniformity of text books throughout the State. For lack of this, we are paying forty to fifty per cent. more for books than we need, and more than neighboring States do, which have been wise enough to legislate as indicated. The sum thus saved to the whole State would exceed the cost of running all the Teachers' Institutes. No interests but the book publishers' are opposed to such a move, and we hope our legislature will see to it, the coming winter, that this needed reform be effected.

Village Lyceum.

We are glad to know that a movement has been made to start a Village Lyceum, and that so general a disposition is shown to engage in it, and afford one evening a week, during the winter, for social and intellectual amusement. It is proposed to start the meetings in the Brick School room, and then swarm to the Academy of Court House. It is desirable to have the co-operation of the young, that we may vary the exercises occasionally with declamations and select readings.

The first meeting to organize, will be Thursday evening of this week. Let all aid.

—Gold fell to 121 1/2 on Tuesday, the lowest point it has reached since the war. Many of the New York papers are predicting a financial storm. It is said Peter Cooper and several leading wholesale merchants in that city, are apprehending a financial crisis, while more hopeful merchants, such as Chaffin and others, only consider this croaking. The World says, that in consequence of the depressed state of trade in that city and the country, hard times are coming. Many marble stores in Broadway, and other downtown streets, are unoccupied, while several small firms have been "wiped out" by the heavy losses and extravagant business expenses. Only about half the number of last year's travelling agents are now employed, it is said.

—We are pained to record the death of a lovely little member of the 1st Baptist Sabbath School, the news of whose decease, received by telegraph on Saturday last, and communicated to the school the next day, saddened the hearts of all. She used to recite her little verses very sweetly at the Sabbath School concerts. We refer to Laura Morton, aged six years, daughter of Mrs. Jennie Morton (now Mrs. Tucker) and grand-daughter of Dea. Austin Chase. She died in Detroit, of Pleurisy, on Friday last, 26th ult. Her parents were on their way to Maine, and had been stopping with a friend, (Rev. Mr. Thompson, of Detroit.) Laura had been attending for a day or two, and they started for home with her, but finding she grew rapidly worse, they took the back train, at the first station, and returned to Mr. T's, where she died that night. She was to be buried on Thursday, from the house of Dea. Chase.

—The Bangor Whig and Courier announces that it will appear in an entire new dress on the 1st of January. We are glad to see such evidences of the prosperity of such an old friend. The paper is now under the sole control of Mr. John H. Lynde, and is always reliable on the great questions of the day. Bro. Lynde was remembered in a rich subscriber's will, the other day, and got a thousand dollars for faithfulness to republican principles, and he deserved the gift. We take this opportunity to return our thanks for his generosity in sending us his Daily, in exchange for our weekly.

—The cow of one of our neighbors, the other night, in being driven into the barn, deliberately walked up stairs, into the barn-chamber. This being rather too high feed for her, our friend called in some help, with a view of changing her quarters. This was a feat, however, not so easily done, but by means of ropes and main force she was finally carried off her fair proportions in the loft, and dropped to the ground tier, which, tho' not her's, was Hobbs' choice. It was feared, at one time, that her remains would have to be administered on, in Chambers!

State Valuation.

An Augusta correspondent of the East-port Sentinel writes that papers as follows: The commission on State valuation have their seven clerks at work digesting the returns that have been made. More than a hundred cities, towns and plantations are delinquent. York county more so than any other—not half the returns in; Washington county better than in; Calais, Eastport and Mohegan returns are expected daily. The assessors of some towns make amusement for the commissioners, (which is needed now, and then, where parties are at work on dry figures,) for instance they make four fifths a larger sum than the whole. Another town returns a single page of items with general footings, and says, "our citizens will not pay us to go into particulars, we send as much as we can afford to without pay."

Another town instead of sending their books by express at an expense of fifty cents, put them in the mail, prepaying more than a dollar and leaving nearly four dollars to be paid by the State. The postage bill thus unwisely run will amount to hundreds of dollars. There are assessors who seem to be sticklers for hard money and have made returns on a "gold basis."

Other towns return bank stock at par, cattle, &c., at three-fourths and real estate at three-fifths, showing a discrimination. Another (it is the only case), returns real estate at full value, and money at three-fourths. "Many men, many minds," was never more truly manifested than in these returns of assessors.

—A correspondent of the Portland Advertiser gives another case, as follows:

The following letter was received this week by the Valuation Commissioners from a rural "Seelick man."

"Burd commissions on state valuation we for'd to you our Tax reckon as our Town is small we bay keep our record in one Book for ten years so we send the whole Book Pleas send us when you are down with it we have to refer to it occasionally yours truly &c."

"THE BORED." Is decidedly good. Of all the towns yet heard from as to world's means, Bath seems to be the most "comfortably off." She returns a valuation that gives the nice little sum of \$3503 to each poll.

THE CENSUS.—The Census Committee of Congress is now in session considering the leading points of a rough draft of a bill submitted by a sub-committee, the essential features of which are: The establishment of a census bureau under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department; the appointment by the President of a commissioner of the census, whose office shall expire three years from the date of his commission; the appointment by the Secretary of the Interior of one deputy commissioner of the census for each congressional district. The time proposed for taking the census is the month of June, 1870. The details of the schedule and other particulars will be the subject of further consideration, says the Press.

—The Board of Visitors to the Military Academy at West Point recommended in their report that the Cadets be divided into two classes. One class was to return to civil life after having graduated, and the other class, embracing the most promising youth, was to study the higher branches of military science, and supply officers for the army. This recommendation is not endorsed by the leading officers of the army, who express a preference for advanced schools for the cavalry, infantry and artillery, similar to the existing Artillery School at Fortress Monroe, rather than a prolonged course at West Point.

Mr. Editor: You have heard of, and doubtless witnessed a "Ministerial Surprise Party," but it never was my good fortune to witness a party of that character, previous to last Friday evening, Nov. 26th.

My wife and I were invited by a sister to spend the afternoon and take tea, which we most cordially accepted. Soon after tea, a young lad came and informed us that there were some callers at our house wishing our return, and the sister with whom we had spent so pleasantly the afternoon, to accompany us.

When we came in sight of the house, every room was lighted. Suspecting nothing, we entered; but how great was our surprise, when a song of welcome burst upon our ears from joyful hearts within. The song being finished, we were conducted to the Store-room, and presented with a barrel of flour, butter, cheese and other articles too numerous to mention, amounting to \$30. Then to the parlor, where were articles of clothing to the amount of \$16.

After spending an hour and a half socially to our mutual benefit, they bade us good-night, leaving us with cheerful hearts, and gifts to the amount of \$60, for which Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell extend their heart felt thanks.

Weld, Nov. 29, 1869.

Mr. Editor:—Your correspondent, writing from Newry, says there is to be a dancing school opened there the ensuing winter, and thinks they are bound to be up with the times. It is true all public spirit is not dead; yet it seems that a dancing school is not the best thing that might be put in operation, for the development of moral and social qualities of the young, in the town and vicinity. We are glad, however, to say there are those ready to engage in objects having a direct tendency to good. The Sabbath School have taken measures to hold a Christmas festival on Wednesday evening, Dec. 26th, for the benefit of their library.

The exercises will consist of declamations, recitations, dialogues and music. A Christmas-tree will also add to the festivities, and we hope will be as heavily laden with presents for old and young, as those of former like occasions have been. May success crown their efforts to promote the cause of right.

Southern Correspondence.

Dear Democrat—It is true that I have moved to Va., but not to Petersburg. I am on historic ground. Leaving Peru by way of Hartford, Nov. 1st, 1869, on my arrival in Portland, we took Steamer for New York and thence by rail through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland to Washington, Alexandria and thence to Manassas Junction, which is in Prince William County, and six miles from Brentsville, the County seat. I have located myself and family on a splendid farm, one mile north of Manassas depot, which station is on the Orange, Alexandria and Manassas rail road, 35 miles from Washington, 37 from Alexandria, and is the main line road South from Washington, through to Lynchburg, Tennessee and the extreme Southern States, with a branch from Gordonsville to Richmond, Petersburg, and to North and South Carolinas. I am 30 miles by carriage road, by way of Bull Run, Centerville, Fairfax Court House; thence west of Alexandria to Washington. Bull Run is two and a half miles north from me, on the Centerville road. The battle-field is up the Run, and about five miles west from my house. When I shall have visited that memorial field, I will give you a short description of the same, and the relics of the wide spread devastation of remains, as they alternately occupied this vast plain of Country, from Washington, through the counties of Alexandria, Fairfax, Prince William, Fauquier, Culpepper, Orange, Spotsylvania, &c., to Richmond. Every foot of ground on my farm was, during the war, entirely covered with the armies, and the soil was beaten down solid by the tramp of men, horses and heavy artillery. It is said that scarcely an acre of ground can be found on this broad and extensive plain, on which the remains of some poor soldier of the Union or Rebel army is not buried. Near the spring, on my farm, where thousands of soldiers used to drink and fill their canteens, two soldiers were buried.

It has been colder a part of the time since my arrival here, on the 4th inst., than I expected, but it is very pleasant now—no snow and no frost in the ground. I and my family like well. My house stands on a level plain with the Bull Run, Manassas Gap, and the Blue Ridge mountains; from 15, 25 and 90 miles, plainly to be seen in the distance. At the close of the war there were but one or two houses left in sight—but now from my third story windows, I can count twenty farm residences, besides Manassas village, where there are six stores, two public houses, three small churches, two blacksmiths, one tin shop, one carriage shop, two meat shops, one steam grist mill for grinding coarse meal, one mill-liner shop, two or three Attorneys, one physician, a telegraph office, and lastly though not least, the Manassas Weekly Gazette Printing Office. People are coming in here to settle very fast from the Northeastern States. Within two miles of me there are two families from Maine. There are a few here from Philadelphia, Michigan, Ohio, Vermont, Canada, N. H., Massachusetts, but more largely from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. It will not take many years to Yankeeify Northern Virginia. It is very healthy here, and there is any amount of land for sale at moderate prices. I am going into the land sale (commission) business. Shall be associated with two gentlemen of Alexandria, and two of this place (Manassas), who are extensively acquainted in this State. We shall have farms, timberland, and Mill Sites, in our hands for sale, in many of the counties in the State. All who wish to purchase real estate in Virginia, or make enquiries about the same, will please address me at Manassas, Prince William Co. Virginia.

JONAS GREENE.

Nov. 20th, 1869.

—Mechanic Falls has been the centre of an immense business in the manufacture of clothing for several years. Mr. J. A. Bucknam has had some years 2,500 names on his books of persons to whom he has given out clothing to be made. This year the firm of J. A. Bucknam & Co. are employing about one thousand persons. Messrs. Dwinall, Goldermann & Co., are employing about the same number. They have made up about 15,000 garments during the last three months.

—Dea. Atwood B. Bumpus, of Hebron, raises some nice fruit. He has our thanks for a specimen of 12 varieties of apples, and one of orange quince, which are equal to any on exhibition at the Fair. Dea. Bumpus was chairman of the Committee on fruit, at the Oxford County Agricultural Fair, and shows by what he can do himself, that he is capable of judging of the products of others. He has the reputation of putting up his apples for the market, on the square.

—Among the enterprising traders in South Paris, to whom we have alluded, the old settlers should not be forgotten. Stability and experience in business are among the best recommendations for a man. Mr. Otis C. Bolster, in the old brick store, has long been known for his fair dealings and accommodating qualities, and is the oldest trader in the county.

SEVERE ACCIDENT. On Sunday afternoon last, as Jonas Bisbee, Esq., one of our Selectmen, was driving down a steep hill at North Paris, a portion of the harness broke, which caused the horse to kick. Mrs. Bisbee attempted to get out, when she was hit by the foot of the horse, as he kicked through the fender, and a compound fracture of her leg, below the knee, was the result. The horse was then secured, without other damage.

The Ellsworth American says that a Mr. Grant of Crabtree's Neck, Hancock, a few days since was chopping off a tree that was blown nearly down in the gale of Oct. 4th, and when partly chopped off the stump bounded back into its old place catching Mr. Grant by the thigh and holding him so firmly that it took four men with pries to release him.

Paris Hill.

There have been movements in Real Estate of considerable importance and amount, by parties here, the past week. The heirs of the late Simon Cummings have disposed of building lots in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., to Wm. Deering, Esq., of Portland, for four-fifths of the Permisewassee Woolen Factory, in Norway. The mill is under a lease of five years to a party of three, from Lewiston, and is under the supervision of Wm. A. Barrell, Esq. They are reported as doing a thriving business, employing about fifty persons, and running the mill day and night, manufacturing repellants. The mill property is valued at \$25,000, and rents for \$3000 a year, taxes and insurance. There is a question about the right to the water, for the use of which \$500 a year is demanded by other parties.

Mr. J. K. Hammond has bought a piece of wood land belonging to a part of the same heirs, for \$700.

E. and C. Willey, young men from Canada, who have been at work here the past season, have bought the Partridge farm of Mr. Samson Andrews, for \$2300.

South Paris.

Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 25th, the citizens of this vicinity assembled at the vestry of the Congregationalist Church, to listen to an address by Hon. Sidney Perham, and to organize the "Paris Farmer's Club." The organization was effected as follows:

President, G. G. Phelps; Vice President, Jarius K. Hammond; Secretary, G. A. Wilson; Committee on Subjects, I. M. Thomas, A. S. Thayer, Stephen Richardson. Then followed the address of Mr. Perham, in the plain and forcible style so well known to the inhabitants of this Congressional District.

Commencing with the fact, that by the Laws of Nature, the people were divided into classes, each having different callings and occupations; he showed how these were all interwoven and dependent upon each other—that any increase in knowledge, or productiveness, in one branch, scattered its benefits equally upon the other; and in no occupation more so, than in Farming.

True Farming is as much a trade or science, as any other occupation, and it is a matter of serious regret that so many of the young men of our land, shun the tilling of the soil, to obtain a bare subsistence in trade, or some of the learned professions. No man is so thoroughly independent, as your thorough and prosperous farmer.

Formerly, physical power was the great motive power in agriculture—now it is mental power. Machines are constructed, to perform almost all of the ordinary duties on the farm, so that one man can perform the work of many. No man can be called a thorough farmer, who tries to till more land than he can properly manage; who takes more from the land than is returned to it in some form or other. Mr. Perham then ran rapidly over the great questions and topics that are now being discussed so earnestly, in the agricultural world. First, the great, and all-important question, embracing nearly all of the others; "How shall we get the greatest crops, with the least expense—and at the same time keep up the fertility of the soil?" Then with regard to manures—which pay best; growing crops, foreign fertilizers, or home manufactured manure; deep or shallow plowing—Rotation of Crops, &c., &c.

The address awakened a lively discussion among the farmers present, upon some of the questions raised, and showed great diversity of opinion, upon many points. The Committee on Subjects, proposed the following question for discussion at the next meeting: "Is it advisable to plow in manure deep, or leave it near the surface?" The Club after extending a cordial invitation for all to unite with them, adjourned, to meet at the Engine House Hall, Saturday evening, Dec. 4th, at 6 P. M.

This Club is destined to meet the want long felt in the community, and its projectors feel convinced that if the members will only attend the meetings, and impart their experience, as well as listen to that of others, a vast amount of good will result from the Club.

East Rumford.

Mr. J. C. Farnum sold two barrels of nice Baldwin apples, last week, for a barrel of nice flour, worth \$10.00—a trade which could never have been made before this year.

Wm. W. Farnum, W. M. Adams, and T. J. Bisbee, are trying titles for the biggest hogs—neither one daring to kill, for fear the others may beat.

C. H. Abbot raised ninety pounds of Goodrich potatoes from one and a half pounds of seed.

Owing to losses by Swift river flood, it is feared that Mr. Drutche, the heaviest manufacturer of Boots and Shoes at Rumford Falls, will have to close up his business.

The Mills of Mr. H. S. Hall, at Rumford Falls, are in running order again. The flume was carried away by the great freshet.

Buckfield.

The roads and bridges are now repaired, and it is said the expense will be but a little over a thousand dollars, much below the estimated damage, at the time.

The store of Messrs. Atwood and Spaulding is nearly completed. It will be very commodious and one of the best to be found any where about. It is to have a double entrance and two apartments, one for dry goods and the other for groceries, &c. They are determined to do a rushing business, when they get into it, and they will certainly have the facilities for so doing.

The drovers, Messrs. Morrills and Farnham, have had a good season driving Cattle to Brighton. It is estimated that they have driven about 600 head. They have bought some lower than last year, and the market has been more fluctuating about.

We are all elated at the prospect of the

completion of the Railroad to Canton during next month, the prospects for which look so favorable.

Bethel Items.

Bethel is rather quiet just now; all seem to be prepared and waiting for snow and sleighing.

Mr. G. R. Willey intends moving into his new and spacious store this week; when finished and furnished it will be one of the best, if not the best in the county. All the shelves and drawers are of ash, finished in oil. Mr. W. understands the drug business thoroughly, and his store is a great addition to the place.

We understand that Mr. S. B. Foster, formerly of the firm of Foster & Godwin, and M. Powers, intend opening a Boot and Shoe store in the building now occupied by Mr. Willey, on Church street. This is what the place needs, and we wish them success.

Mr. J. E. Ayer, formerly Lieut., in the 12th Me. Regiment, starts for New Orleans today, to take a clerkship there. We are sorry to have him leave, but hope for his early return.

The Teachers' Institute meets here this week. It should be attended by all young people, and we hope it will be.

We understand that our tailor, Mr. S. R. Sheehan, intends to visit Bryant's Pond Tuesday of each week, the coming winter. Mr. S. is one of the best tailors in the county, and by this arrangement the citizens of Bryant's Pond are enabled to secure his services at their own place of business.

At the annual meeting of Gould's Academy, the following officers were elected. President of the Board, Gilman Chapman, Esq.; Vice President, David F. Brown, Esq.; Secretary, R. A. Frye, Esq.; Treasurer, Abernethy Grover.

Noros.

Why is it that so many of our farmers, now-a-days, neglect butter and cheese making, and go into other business which they say is more profitable than the dairy? It is a fact that there is not more than one half the amount of butter made in this section that there was ten years ago. We hear some of our far-seeing farmers enquire if, in these days of progress and improvements, in which the farmers have so much help from machinery and all his improvements improved and in some cases almost perfected, why the process of butter and cheese making is still old fashioned and laborious. Raising young stock for the market would not be as profitable as making butter and cheese, and with less labor. I am well satisfied with common farmers, here in Oxford County, butter making is the most profitable part of their business, and I don't believe in running to all one thing—that is if butter brings a good price, go into cows and nothing else, or the raising of sheep, horses, hops, potatoes, cranberries, but do some at all sorts that are profitable, so that if one fails you have something else to look to. But in regard to the dairy, I know that many farmers' wives think that their lot is a hard one. Well, we admit it is, where with all other duties, a woman is left to make the butter of four to eight cows, and do much of the milking. That is not the way it should be done, but let a man do the hard part—do the milking, the carrying into the cellar, straining and bringing out—also churning and pressing the butter into the tub, for by so doing, where it is necessary, a woman's work can be made comfortable and pleasant. And why should not a man do all this, if butter making is the most profitable business done by farmers? I believe it is, if a man does all the hard work himself. I will say, since November came in, my wife has made from the milk of two cows fifty pounds of butter and seventy of cheese. Who has made more than that? But after all, I go in for woman's rights and choose to let them lead off in the dairy business.

Noah Ames was drowned while skating on Round Pond, near Lock's Mills, on the 21st of November. He was about 22 years of age. His parents, we learn live near Greenwood City.

John A. Buck's oldest son, twelve years of age, while out one day last week, after beech nuts, in company with another boy the latter having an axe, met with a sad accident. As they came to a beech tree, the latter said, "I will cut down the tree," but the other boy put his arms around the trunk, to climb it just as he struck, the blow cutting off every finger on his right hand.

Mr. E. Clough is doing a big thing in his Starch Mill having bought some twenty thousand bushels of potatoes this fall, to grind to starch.

Hops are now being sold at fifteen cents a pound.

The ladies connected with this Congregational Church will hold a levee in their vestry, on Tuesday evening, December 7th. A good time is expected.

—Mr. S. J. Mills of West Bethel, raised from 1-2 lb. of Early Rose potato 1-2 lbs—pretty good doing for a man that wants to sell his farm and go West. He also raised some White Flint wheat that is exciting considerable attention.

C.

Not one half of the number of sheep will be wintered in this part of Oxford County this year. Farmers have not only reduced their number, but many of them have disposed of the entire flock. Sheep will do better this winter for not being confined from the ground so long. Last winter and spring was the most fatal ever known for the sheep and lambs in Maine.

—A recent publication on the prices of wild beasts for shows states that a first-class hippopotamus is worth \$5,000 or \$6,000; a lion \$1,000 or \$2,000; an elephant, \$3,000 to \$6,000; a giraffe \$3,000; a Bengal tiger, \$2,000; a leopard \$600 to \$800; a hyena \$500; and that a New York house in the last three years has sold \$112,000 worth of these animals, exclusive of a lively trade in monkeys, birds, &c.

—We hope to receive some account of the Teachers' Institutes, being held at Norway and Bethel, this week.

Editorial and Selected Items.

—Christmas will be along in about four weeks. Don't forget the children.

—Rev. Z. Thompson proposes delivering a series of Lectures at the Universalist Church on Sunday evenings. The first will occur next Sabbath. Subject: The first transgression—metaphysically, morally and theologically considered.

—Plummer is out with a big advertisement, which will interest all. He knows how to stir up trade, and he does it.

—The Bells, BELLS, BELLS! those way up in the steeple, that ring out to the people. We are glad to hear them again, morning, noon and night; they serve to connect us with the outside world.

—Thanks to Senator Morrill for bound copies of the Congressional Globe for the last session.

—We have a geographical description of Waterford, which is said to be true to nature, tho' rather laudatory, which will appear soon. We should like to hear from historians of other towns.

—The Oxford Baptist Quarterly meeting will occur at Bryant's Pond, on Tuesday, Dec. 28th, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

—The Portland Press says that the work of graduation on the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad has been commenced at Brownfield and other points between Portland and Fryeburg.

—The Union Association will meet at North Waterford with Rev. J. W. H. Baker, Dec. 14th, at noon. Scripture Lesson, Luke 16: 1-12.

—The friends of C. C. Cushman, Esq., County Commissioner, will be glad to hear that he is convalescent, and able to ride out and attend to official business.

—Congress will meet next Monday. It is said the President's message will be short—a matter of rejoicing for printers, at least.

BENEFIT OF ADVERTISING. Mr. Solomon R. Edwards, of Norway, brought in an advertisement of his farm, last week, and before the paper was issued, he sold it to America Bonney, of Sumner, for \$250.

—A man at Mechanic Falls was recently attacked on the street by a rat. His thick cow hide boot proved too much for the "rat" who beat a retreat, whereupon the gentleman "went for" and after a smart battle killed him.

—It is stated that the interest of Hon. Geo. F. Tilton, in the Portland Press, has been sold to Geo. Gifford, Esq., who is to be the chief editor of the paper. We are glad to know that Bro. Gifford is hale enough to return again to his editorial labors.

Town Schools.
The village District School, South Paris, will be taught this winter, by Otis B. Rawson—to commence next Monday.
The Berry District, at West Paris, is to be taught by Wm. Pulsifer.
The Harbor District, North Paris, by J. Cushman, to commence next Monday.
No. 6, West Paris, by Charles B. Benson. It commenced two weeks ago.
Elliot F. Benson is to teach in the Forbes District.
Luther Maxim, in the Stearns District.
Clinton Young, in No. 18, or the "Hollow" District.
Miss Ada Lane in the Tuell District, N. Paris, to commence next Monday.
L. O. Brackett, of West Paris, who taught the Winter term of the Whitcomb District school, last year, will teach it again this winter.

—Dr. G. M. Titchell, Dentist of Bethel Me., makes the filling and preserving of the natural teeth a specialty. Having had great experience in that department, he is successful in saving many teeth that others would extract. "Folsom's Patent Packing Ridge" used on all Rubber Plates, is of the greatest benefit, as it prevents the teeth from starting while eating, and the food from getting under the plate.
Dr. T. is at Gorham N. H., the week following the second Monday of each month.

A Hard Case.
The particulars of an atrocity in a Chicago school-room recite a tale of passion almost incredible for belief. The boys' name is Willie Atkins, and he is about seven years of age. He went to school in the morning bare and strong. During school hours he played with some other boys, when the teacher dragged him across the room by the hair, pounded him with a ruler upon the head, neck and back, and threw him against a steam pipe. His skull was fractured, and his right side was paralyzed from head to foot. The child went home, reported the treatment he had received and complained of a pain in the head. In the night the brain fever set in, during the insanity of the fever the little one constantly cried out "Don't strike me! Oh, don't strike me!" The next day he had eight convulsions in one hour. The teachers name is Adelaide Herrick; she is nineteen years of age and of a violent temper. The father of the boy, Mr. Edward Atkins, had just obtained employment in the newsroom of the St. Louis Republican, and expected to remove his family in a few weeks. He was suddenly summoned home, to find Willie in a critical condition, and a young child dead from congestion of the lungs. Willie has since died.

—An interesting letter from Portland was received too late for this week.

PERUVIAN SYRUP.—This valuable medicine has been silently making its way into public favor by the numerous remarkable cures it has performed. Its singular efficacy is owing to the profoundness of iron which in this preparation remains unchanged, and is the only form in which this vital element of healthy blood can be supplied.

To stop an itching head use Hall's Vegetable Sialian Hair Renewer, a sure cure.

"KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE."

That the place for the people of every part of this County to buy their

DRY GOODS,

IS AT THE

Oxford County Dry Goods Establishment!

Where the proprietor's intention is to enable them always to find a LARGE, VARIED and COMPLETE SELECTION of all goods such as make up the Stock of a First-Class City Dry Goods Store.

We are now engaged in opening FULL LINES of

WINTER GOODS.

All of which will be offered at our USUAL LOW PRICES!

We Open This Day, direct from Manufacturers' Mills, 20 pieces
New Style Woolens.
For Men's and Boys' wear, including BEAVERS of various grades, Tricots, Diagonals, Gabardines in various shades.
Also, heavy MILLTOWN, in Blue and Gold shades—new and ready to wear.
Also, a large line of PANTALOON GOODS, in newest, most stylish and colorings, in plain, mixed and Plaid Fabrics.
All Wool TWEEDS, warranted to wear well, at 50c.

We shall open on Friday, several pieces of extra grades Woolen for Men's wear, at \$1.50 per yard. These goods are just out of the looms, are made to sell at \$2.00 to \$2.50 per yard, but owing to slight cuts on edge of goods could be put upon the market as first grade of a first-class manufacturer; hence we have them at only \$1.50 per yard.

MEYER'S SHIRTS and DRAWERS.—An immense stock—twelve grades at bargain—30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 60c, 65c, 70c, 75c, 80c, 85c, 90c, 95c, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 1.60, 1.70, 1.80, 1.90, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 2.60, 2.70, 2.80, 2.90, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 3.60, 3.70, 3.80, 3.90, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 4.60, 4.70, 4.80, 4.90, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 5.60, 5.70, 5.80, 5.90, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 6.60, 6.70, 6.80, 6.90, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 7.60, 7.70, 7.80, 7.90, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 8.60, 8.70, 8.80, 8.90, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 9.60, 9.70, 9.80, 9.90, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 10.60, 10.70, 10.80, 10.90, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 11.60, 11.70, 11.80, 11.90, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 12.60, 12.70, 12.80, 12.90, 13.00, 13.10, 13.20, 13.30, 13.40, 13.50, 13.60, 13.70, 13.80, 13.90, 14.00, 14.10, 14.20, 14.30, 14.40, 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Agricultural.

Rambles Among the Farmers.

W. Newall Thomas of Oxford, has this year made an experiment with Bradley's super-phosphate on corn as follows: He spread 50 loads of manure evenly on two acres of potato land and cross-plowed it in. He then put 20 loads of good hog manure in the hill over the whole ground. He applied one barrel, 220 lbs., of phosphate, excepting four rows, of 55 hills each, to which he applied a handful of plaster and ashes, equal parts. The result was the four rows of plaster and ashes produced 198 lbs. of sound and 12 of pig corn. Four contiguous rows, phosphated, gave 236 lbs. of sound and 8 of pig corn.

Although the superiority of phosphate over plaster and ashes is here shown, yet we think the advantage not so great as though the land had received less manure last year and this. The amount applied would warrant a good crop this year, which, with the application of stimulants, gave the best corn we have seen.

The 20 loads of hog manure referred to was manufactured by two hogs from horse manure, muck, &c. This is what every farmer should do, make his hogs work a part of their passage through life, instead of running riot over the pasture or highways. Horse dung is here manufactured into the best of manure for corn, which, if left in the heap, would burn up and become nearly valueless.

Ten loads of hog dung in the hill will nearly or quite double a crop of corn, which, in return, will add materially to the keeping of a hog.

Mr. Thomas thinks it best to sow oats on his breaking up, the next year plant potatoes, and the third year corn. We cannot see it. We believe the oat exhausts the land more than their value, and that the soil is not of much value to the food crops. When a young farmer broke an acre of land and sowed it to oats, receiving some dozen bushels—not enough to pay for the labor and seed. The next year we broke alongside and planted with corn and potatoes across both plowing. The corn and potatoes were not two-thirds as good on the oat ground as on the new breaking up. Being now an old farmer we cannot commend this process generally. Should the land be stubborn and the sword tough, this rotation of crops may be judicious.

Neither do we believe in keeping land so long under the plow. If we keep our land up but two years—one in corn and potatoes, and one to grain—we reach our mow land twice as often as though we kept it up four years. It is better to plow our land often. Then the English grasses will not bind out.

Neither do we believe in applying too much manure before seedling down. Mr. Thomas used 10 loads to his potatoes, and to his corn, the next year, 35 loads—total 45 loads. 25 or 30 loads per acre, with 200 pounds of phosphate, will give a good yield of corn or potatoes. Our grass land, being reached the oftener, will produce more hay by this method.

Mr. Thomas has experienced the sad benefit of feeding his grass land in the fall. Five years ago he severely fed his mowing with droves of sheep. The next year he did not cut half of his usual amount of hay. Since then he has not fed his grass land in the fall or spring, and his grass crop has returned. He had rather lay his hay to feed his cattle than to feed his mow fields in the fall and spring.

There are intelligent and practical farmers among the granite hills of Oxford. We yesterday broke bread with such a one. Geo. P. Whitney of this town has a farm of 300 acres, whose broad fields supply attest the intelligence and enterprise of their owner. These fields are enclosed with long lines of stone walls, are nearly level and perfectly smooth so that the clicking of the mower is heard over their whole extent. His buildings are ample including a noble barn 42 by 76 feet. From the cupola we obtained delicious views of his farm. This barn, with a hay 76 feet long and 6 feet below the sill, was completely filled to the ridge with 80 tons of hay. He uses the horse hay fork, with which he raises hay to the attic. He finds it a very great labor saving machine. Twenty years ago his farm produced but 25 tons of hay. He has brought his farm to its present thrift by returning all it that came from it, and by manufacturing manures. His hogs were earning a part of their living by manure—the manufacture of manure from horse dung, muck &c. He raises his muck from the pit with a stone derrick, and dumps it into the cart, a load at a time.

He has this year used phosphate for potatoes with good success. He says farmers should manufacture more manure—all they can—and not depend on phosphates &c. for permanent manures. He has a cranberry patch, which he is extending, where he raises great if not sweet cranberries. He has commenced top dressing which he is sure will be profitable on a large farm where the most of the help must be hired. The crops on a portion of one field was killed by worms. He top dressed this last fall, sowing a part of it with grass seed last fall and a part this spring. It all looks finely, there being no difference in the fall or spring sowing.

I. M. Thomas of South Paris, well known in that vicinity as a friend to, and a laborer in the cause of agriculture, is a model farmer. He has, this year, raised 200 bushels of shelled corn, one acre of sweet corn for canning, 175 bushels of grain and 350 bushels of potatoes. Who in Oxford has raised as much?

Questions are asked "Scars," which we will now answer.

"When would be the best time to set them, willows for fence, spring or fall?" You may set them any time, Sundays excepted. The willow will live under any conditions. It is a hard thing to kill. We once cut limbs from old willow trees and set them where the apple trees were

in full blossom. There were no new limbs or twigs upon them, yet the old limbs buds started the same year, and they are now splendid trees. We have cut and hauled home willow stakes in the winter, and set them in the spring. They all lived. There is a willow tree of immense size in the town of Fayette, grown from a riding stick, which a man brought from New Hampshire. When he stuck his stick in the ground, by the bars, and it has grown to its present enormous size.

Your Reader has a cellar that is always wet. A drain carries away the water, but does not keep it dry. What shall he do? Why remove his cellar where the under soil is porous; or what is perhaps, easier, cement or flag his cellar with drains underneath.

Your Reader asks if apples given in sufficient quantity to a cow, will dry up her milk? Yes, and so will anything else; a new feed of grass, provender, roots, &c. A proper quantity of anything the cow will eat will increase her milk; but when she is gorged the functions of nature are stayed. We have experienced the drying up of milk when cows were turned into an orchard where the apples were half picked, in old time. A few apples, even sour, will give a cow a good appetite and will not dry up her milk. Sweet are better. [SEARS—Lewiston Journal.]

Hints.

The Ploughman gives the following hints:

I. Cover your strawberry vines lightly, or you smother them. Pine boughs are just the thing for it; but oak leaves, seaweed, or coarse hay are good. Remember, long manure is fatal to them.

II. Keep your hog pen well supplied with fresh absorbents—peat is best of all, and see to it that your "porkers" beds are high and dry.

III. Tie up your Lawton blackberries and protect them till the frosts of May are fairly over; spade some hog manure into the earth around your current bushes and cover well the beds of your asparagus; after cutting close the branches, with fresh dressing from the stable. Salt them liberally, for the plant came from the sea-side.

IV. Put your potatoes into barrels dry and cover them with sand. Keep your pumpkins, squashes and tomatoes in the sun, and make the most of them before they perish. Do not leave your pumpkins out till spring, the frost sometimes destroys them; but dig them out and salt them well with sand. Protect your peach trees; and your grapes will come to fruitage earlier if you lay them down in season. Save your seeds with care and cleverness. Take the best alone—but still enough to supply yourself and neighbors.

V. Pay your taxes.

VI. Make your barn and hen pen tight and tidy for the winter; house your cattle early, so that your tools and implements are fairly under cover; haul out your muck for frost to pulverize; put a lock upon your granary; fatten betimes your fowls for market, and lay your plans for 1870.

VII. Attend the lyceum, church, and sewing circle. Chew no tobacco, drink no rum. Keep a clear conscience, and own no man anything but love; look ever on the sunny side of life; persevere the Bible and the papers carefully, and you may come in time to be as happy as your honest uncle.

Crops in Maine.

The Maine Farmer has made up his yearly estimate of the crops the past season, and from it we learn that the hay crop in the State probably fell off one-fourth or one-third in bulk from last year, but all unite in pronouncing it of excellent quality, secured in good condition, and of equal value to feed out with the larger yield of last year. The yield is 800,000 tons, equal to 1,000,000 tons produced in 1868. Hay is higher at the present time than it has been known for several years, selling in this section for from \$18 to \$12 per ton, loose. One of the causes of this high price is that stock is low, and rather than to sell, farmers are intending to winter more and keep their hay. Next stock has not been so low for years as now. The corn crop suffered very much in consequence of the lateness at which it was planted, and the dry, cold summer; but the yield will be much greater than was anticipated, but will hardly come up to the average. The yield will be 900,000 bushels.

The yield of potatoes is about the average, in consequence of the large number planted. In some localities they have rotted badly. The yield is estimated at 4,000,000 bushels. The grain crops have done well. Barley is said to be the best it has been for years; yield, 800,000 bushels. Oats filled well, with no injury from rust; yield 2,000,000 bushels. The yield of wheat is 2,000,000 bushels, with little loss in consequence of rust or mildew. The yield of apples is less than half a crop, choice picked fruit selling from \$4.50 to \$5. a barrel.

A gentleman in New York having occasion to go into his sitting room the other day, found a bill of smoke from a smoldering fire. On throwing open the window to let out the smoke, a flame shot up directly in front of the window, in which stood a large glass globe containing gold fish. This had acted as a burning glass, concentrated the sun's rays, and set the floor on fire.

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L. W. WILCOX, Agent.

NOV. 12, 1869. RUMFORD POINT, ME.

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