ALWAYS WILLING TO IMPART INFOR-MATION AND GIVE ADVISE.

There was a rap at the back door of a New Auburn home where the writer was on Wednesday in search of information regarding a matter of public interest, and a very small girl entered with a tin pail.

"Marm says," said she, "that she guessed your wash'll look like time when it's took in. It's gettin' all dirt and

The woman made no reply but turned her attention to the writer.

"And my ma says," continued the little girl with the pail, "that she'd think you'd want to see your close reel; it's all one sided and your clothes hangs in the

"Yes, child," said the lady of the house.

"And marm says that she wish't me to say to you that there's a blind up in your second story that's flappin', and that your cat's over to our house an' ain't been fed for a week, an' that your boy Joe ain't been to school for more'n ten days, and that if that flour you lent her is the best you've got she don't see how you make any bread that's fit to eat and that she wish't you'd let me have a ball o' butter if it is good. Marm wanted me to say, too, that she thinks the shingles must be leaking water into your upper chamber on the front side.'

"Seems to me," said the woman with a forced smile, as the child went out "that I've got the obliginest neighbors a woman ever had."-Lewiston Journal.

RICE VERSUS COTTON.

We notice the following telegram addressed to the cotton growers of the south by Messrs. Dan Talmage's Sons of this city, and think that it is most timely and full of suggestion:

"Wherever the culture of cotton is curtailed we suggest the growth of rice. It is adapted to either lowland or upland; as an all round crop, is among the safest and most profitable of southern crops; gross results, \$40 to \$75 per acre; cost of cultivation, \$20 to \$35; difference in outcome due to character of cultivation or season. The consumption of rice in this country is increasing annually per capita and at far greater ratio than production to meet its home demand, and were the product increased even tenfold the surplus could be marketed abroad at prices which would leave a handsome margin to planters."

It appears to us that there is little use to recommend a reduction of the area heretofore planted in cotton unless at the same time there be some recommendation as to a profitable substitute. There can be no question but what there ought to be less cotton raised, and the fearful and unsatisfactory results of the present year will not be lost if they shall burn into the mind of every planter the wisdom and expediency of a diversity of crops. This lesson is as yet but half learned, and the sooner that it is fully learned, that by so much as one raises at home he is independent of outside extraneous influences, the better. It may not be possible to guarantee prosperity, but a wise diversity of crops is certainly a guard against adversity, inasmuch as it is rare that there is an all round failure. Many of our planter friends are now having a practical illustration of the folly of putting all of their eggs into one basket It would seem to us that rice offered a most profitable outcome, and we believe that either it or some other food product is among the best. Men can do with most scanty habitation, clothing, or even tobacco and whiskey, but eat they must, and therefore to this extent are dependent upon those who furnish the food supply. Rice certainly would seem to off the best solution at the moment,

the outturn is far short of rements, and any slight undoubtedly stimulate and so insure a good for the grower.-New y and Commercial List.

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