

traordinary exhibitions, was once common in England, at this season.

The custom of *saltling the apple trees* at Christmas, with a view to another year, is still preserved, both in Cornwall and Devonshire. In some places the parishioners walk in procession, visiting the principal orchards in the parish. In each orchard one tree is selected as the representative of the rest; this is saluted with a certain form of words, which have in them the air of an incantation. They then either sprinkle the tree with cider, or dash a bowl of cider against it, to ensure its bearing plentifully the ensuing year. In other places the farmer and his servants only assemble on the occasion; and, after immersing cakes in cider, hang them on the apple trees.—They then sprinkle the trees with cider; and, after uttering a formal incantation, they dance round it, and retire to the farm-house to conclude these solemn rites with copious draughts of cider.

### AGRICULTURAL.



Hill's first of Arts, source of domestic ease; Pride of the land, and patron of the seas.

#### ON THE PRODUCTION OF PLANTS.

It is, we believe, an opinion received by a great part of the community, even in this enlightened age, that there are some vegetables, which spring up spontaneously, being produced from no root or seed, but from some imaginary virtue in the soil. The advocates of this opinion, refer us to the growth of white clover, where ashes or gypsum have been strewed, to the weeds which grow on lands recently burnt over, and to the production of plants in other places, where no seed has been sown, and where none is supposed to exist. This notion of spontaneous propagation was generally received among the ancients, and Virgil tells us of *nullo de semine fruges*. It is now, however, universally exploded by men of science; and with a view of correcting this too common error among other classes, we have selected the following remarks from Dr. DWIGHT'S TRAVELS.

Sir Humphrey Davy observes, that "seed excluded from the air will remain for years inactive in the soil, and yet germinate under favorable circumstances."

*Hampshire (Ass.) Gaz.*

The lands in Adison, which have been once cultivated, and again permitted to lie waste for several years, yield a rich and fine growth of hickory. Of this wood there is not, I believe, a single tree in any original forest within 50 miles from this soil. The native growth here is white cane; of which I did not see a single stem amid a whole grove of hickory. Similar specimens of an entire change in the forest vegetation are common in many, perhaps in all parts of New England, where the land has been cultivated, and again covered with wood. This change is commonly attributed by unthinking, as it has often been by thinking men, to equivocal generation; the material elements being supposed to possess a chemical power of originating, and perfecting vegetation, without the aid of seeds. To support the supposition, however, philosophy, although she has frequently adopted, has never been able to find a single fact, or allege a particle of positive evidence. The opinion obviously contradicts all known analogy; and is sustained only by that broken reed, *inefficientness*.

The seeds of vegetables, when lodged beneath that thin stratum of earth, within which they germinate, have no apparent tendency to decay; but continue to possess all their vegetative power through an indefinite number of centuries. When the existing forest is cut down, and its seeds are destroyed by cultivation, those which were shed by a more ancient growth, being thrown up by the plough within the limits of this stratum, spring up in their turn; and cover the surface with trees of a new kind. The following facts will throw some light on this subject.

A field, about five miles from Northampton, on an eminence called Rail Hill, was cultivated about a century ago. The growth here, and in all the surrounding region, was wholly oak, chestnut, &c. As the field belonged to my grandfather, I had the best opportuni-

ty of learning its history. It contained about five acres, in the form of an irregular parallelogram. As the savages considered the cultivation dangerous, it was given up. On the ground there sprang up a grove of white pines, covering the field, and retaining its figure exactly. So far as I remember, there was not in it a single oak or chestnut tree. Pines were as thick as they could conveniently grow; and when I first saw them, about the year 1760, had attained a considerable size. When I last saw them, more than twenty years afterwards, they were large trees; yet there was not a single pine, whose seeds were, or, probably, had for ages been, sufficiently near to have been planted on the spot. The fact that these white pines covered this field exactly, so as to preserve both its extent and figure, and that there was none in the neighborhood, are decisive proofs that cultivation brought up the seeds of a former forest within the limits of vegetation, and gave them an opportunity to germinate. The regularity and limits of the process are entirely inconsistent with the doctrine of equivocal generation.

A respectable farmer in Guilford informed me, some years since, that 30 years before the event, to which I principally refer in this paragraph, took place, his father, while reaping a field of wheat, found a quantity of chess; which he directed his reapers to reap also, and bind in bundles, to be carried home for fodder. On the day when the wheat was carried home it was inconvenient to carry the chess: it was, therefore, thrown upon a bank, or headland. The following night it was drenched with rain; and was finally left to rot upon the place. Thirty years after this fact, the field having come by his father's death into the possession of my informant, it became necessary to make a new fence between that, and another bordering upon it; but as a considerable number of bushes had grown up upon the headlands, on both sides; he concluded to remove the fence, and break up these headlands.—The ground was accordingly cleared, and ploughed; and on the spot where the chess had been thrown, there sprung up a new crop of chess as evenly spread, as if it had been sown by a skillful hand.

The Hon. Judge Reeve, of Litchfield, told me some years ago, that a farmer of his acquaintance having sown turnips, and suffered some of them to remain on a field, they produced seed the following year, which was scattered on the ground. For 25 years afterwards; i. e. to the time, when the fact was mentioned to me; whenever this field was ploughed, turnips in considerable numbers sprang up in this spot. Mr. Parker, an English gentleman from Yorkshire, who came some years since to the U. States, as the Agent from the merchants of England to the Government of this country, informed me, that a tract of marshy ground on the Eastern coast of England had, some years before, been purchased by several gentlemen and drained. On the earth, which was thrown out of the ditches, cut through it, there sprang up a great quantity of white mustard. As this plant had not been known to grow anywhere in the vicinity, within the remembrance of any living man, its appearance excited much curiosity.—After many schemes to account for it had been proposed, and rejected, it was found that, 200 years before, white mustard had been extensively cultivated on the same spot by a colony of Dutch settlers.

I could easily add other instances to these; a number of which have fallen under my own observation; but it must be unnecessary. If seeds will continue possessed of vegetative life for twenty years, they may, unquestionably, continue possessed of it 200, 2000, or 20,000. There can, therefore, be no difficulty in assigning the cause of any phenomenon like that, which gave birth to this discussion.

*The Shakers*.—It has been decided in Kentucky, that the law which authorizes the imposing fines by a court martial, on the Shakers, for not attending ordinary musters, is unconstitutional and void, as the religious tenets of that society forbid them bearing arms; and the property seized by the sheriff for such fines was restored.

The law of that state increasing the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, from five pounds to fifty dollars, has also been declared unconstitutional, because it deprived the party of trial by jury; and in consequence of this decision, the law was amended so as to provide for a jury trial before a justice of the peace.

*National Intelligencer.*

### INTELLIGENCE.

He comes, the herald of a noisy world, News from all nations lamb'ring at his back.

#### FOREIGN.

NEW-YORK, JULY 8.

We have received by the Alciope London papers of the morning of May 20th. Mr. Lushington had notified the House of Commons that he should on the 29th move for a committee on the duties upon the importation of certain articles into the British colonies of North America and the West Indies.

LONDON, MAY 20.

The French papers of Friday 17th have arrived. The elections to the Chambers absorb every other interest in France.—From the organization of the Electoral College of Paris, we have reason to infer that the left side will obtain the ascendant. Among the candidates is M. Ternaux, the great manufacturer. Paris being the residence of the agent of government, and the focus of ministerial influence, the result of its elections, if favorable to the liberal party, may be regarded as the general feeling of France on the late proceeding of the Executive.

PARIS, MAY 17.

The Pope is said, in a letter from Rome, of April 21st, to be in a declining state. He fell from mere weakness on entering his chamber, after holding the last consistory.

From the uncertain state of the negotiations between Turkey and Russia, the diplomatic communications between St. Petersburg and Paris are watched with great anxiety. An extraordinary courier arrived here two days since, from St. Petersburg, with despatches.

From a Liverpool Paper.

At the late town meeting respecting pauperism, the great number of public houses was referred to as one great cause of this growing evil; they are stated to amount to 1275 in this town. It appears from the Parliamentary Return of the last Session, that the whole number of licences for ale and spirits in Great Britain was 45,670, which, taking the population at 13,000,000, would make one public house to every 300 individuals, or to every 52 houses in the kingdom. In Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, and other large towns, the proportions are not much different. They are as follows:—

PLACES.	POPULATION.
In Manchester and Salford	358 120,000
In Birmingham	401 90,000
In Bristol	420 100,000
In Liverpool	1275 110,000

Dr. Willan, in his Report on Diseases, &c. says, "on comparing my own observations with the Bills of Mortality, I am convinced that considerably more than one eighth of all the deaths which take place in persons above 20 years of age, happen prematurely through excess in drinking spirits."

### DOMESTIC.

#### AWFUL WARNING.

NATCHKZ, JUNE 1.—On the evening of the 25th ult. a man by the name of William Clark, from Pittsburgh, and late of Baton Rouge, was killed by a stroke of lightning, on the bluff, in front of this city, while standing under a tree for shelter. This unhappy man had just been indulging in the most extreme profanity, insulting the Majesty of Heaven in terms of wanton malignity, and amongst other dreadful expressions, had just expressed a wish that the Almighty God would send a flash of lightning from Heaven to strike him to death. The thunder at this moment was raving, and the lightning flashing through the Heavens in the most appalling and terrific manner, and in a few moments the boasting tongue which breathed anathemas against its Maker, and the eye that had braved the venging flash, lay still and closed in death. He lay a scathed and withered corpse on the blackened earth; and his soul was wafted on the red wing of the tempest, to plead for mercy at the tribunal of that Deity so lately outraged and defied. How weak and how wicked are the idle denunciations of man; to revile, outrage his fellow man; is wicked; to revile, to outrage and to defy his Creator, is horrible!!

NORFOLK, JULY 1.

*Daring attempt at Robbery, and death of the Robber.*

Mr. James W. Langley, a gentleman who is a native of this place, but who at present resides in Plymouth, (N. C.) informs, that on his way here, on Thursday last, about sunset, in Gates county, (N. C.) about 36 miles probably from Suffolk, and in a rather solitary road about three miles from any house, while leisurely riding along reclining in his chair, his horse was suddenly stopped by a stout negro fellow apparently six feet high, remarkably fat in the face, and probably 36 or 37 years of age, who immediately ordered Mr. L. to give up his money or he would take his life—at the same time brandishing a long two-edged knife and approaching Mr. L. who continued to keep his seat in the chair. Mr. L. at first told the fellow that his trunk contained all his money, which he might take; but the fellow immediately replied that he "lied," for he knew he had other money; but proceeded to unlash

the trunk from the rear of the chair.—While he was busied in taking off the trunk, from the threats he continued to use, Mr. L. found it prudent to take out a bundle of notes which he had in his pocket and hand it to him, requesting him to open them and tell him the amount, for he intended to publish the circumstance as soon as he reached Norfolk, which the fellow said he was welcome to do, and to say that his name was *Pomp*. While the fellow was in the act of overhauling the notes, Mr. L. being all the time armed, (of which, however, the robber had no suspicion) drew a pistol from under his coat behind, and shot him dead—the contents of the pistol, consisting of 18 buck shot, passing through his side, under the short ribs and out near the spine. To confirm his death, however, Mr. L. dismounted and gave him a blow on the forehead with the butt of his pistol, secured his trunk again in the rear of his chair, repossessed himself of his money which *Pomp* had taken from him, and drove on. At a distance of about 2 1/2 miles from the place he met a couple of men on foot, to whom he communicated the circumstances in part, but he did not care to relate all the particulars until he reached Suffolk, lest he should be detained; which would have been a great detriment to him, he being anxious to get to this place.

Mr. L. understood at a house at which he stopped the night previous to this rencontre, that some countrymen, who were returning from market, had been robbed at the same spot by three runaway negroes, which circumstance put Mr. Langley more fully on his guard, and gave him an opportunity of displaying that presence of mind which so completely defeated the object of the robber, and to which he was probably indebted for the salvation of his own life and property.

[The last Edenton Gazette, from several circumstances, doubts the truth of the above narrative; but no "gentleman," we should suppose, would publicly lend his name to give currency to so despicable a falsehood. It would be a most ungentlemanly and wretched manœuvre to obtain a most unenviable celebrity.]—E. S. C.

CHARLESTON, JULY 2.

*Melancholy Accident*.—A lady of this city and a maid servant, while bathing on Sunday night at Sullivan's Island, were unfortunately drowned—getting into deeper water than they imagined. The body of the lady was recovered a short time afterwards, and great but ineffectual exertions were made to restore her; all means in the power of those present were unfortunately used in vain. The body of the servant was found yesterday.—*Courier*.

UTICA, N. Y. JULY 2.

Col. Brady, of 2d U. S. Infantry, with 250 fine soldiers, have arrived at Buffalo, and are waiting the return of the steamboat to take them to the new post about to be established at the falls of St. Mary, at the outlet of Lake Superior. This destination of one of the battalions of the 2d regiment, is a most judicious measure on the part of our government. It will give security to an extensive frontier heretofore unprotected, and so completely insulated as to be, in the winter, when the navigation of the lakes is closed, entirely at the mercy of the savages. In addition to which, we learn that Maj. Baker, of the 3d U. S. Infantry, with a respectable detachment of that regiment, is to be immediately stationed at Sagana Bay, a place ultimately destined to be the seat of government of a state which will possess greater advantages than any inland state in the Union; having more than eight hundred miles of its frontiers washed by navigable waters—with a greater extent of territory than all New England—the quality of its lands second to none in the United States—the lakes and rivers which embrace it on three sides, abounding with the best fish that swim in fresh water—a healthy climate, and a choice of either New-York or New Orleans for their markets. There are already, formidable military posts at Mackinaw and Green Bay, and a small garrison at Chicago. This liberal and wise disposition of frontier protection, will encourage emigration into Michigan territory, and remunerate the general government by promoting the sale of their lands. Would the United States direct some of their eminent engineers to join the garrison at St. Mary's, after the necessary barracks and fortifications are completed, they might so employ the help which could be spared from the garrison, as in a few years to canal and lock around the falls, about three fourths of a mile, and open a passage for vessels into Lake Superior.

[*Sentinel*.]

*Ship Hannibal*.—The steam boat Nautilus will take the passengers and visitors, this morning, on board the Hannibal, now at the Narrows, bound to Liverpool. We have never seen any thing more costly and magnificent than the cabin ornaments of the H. The state rooms are spacious, and the whole formed, either of mahogany, or those elegant woods, maple, cherry, &c. which are capable of a high and beautiful polish. The bannisters, leading from the deck to the great cabin, are of massive brass, bearing a polish like gold;

a brass seat, highly ornamented, is at the head of the cabin; and the rudder, and two other conductors, passing through the cabin, near the windows, are encased in rich brass columns. The curtains to the state rooms are of crimson damask; and festoons of damask, with blue silk fringe and tassels, are tastefully carried round the cabin windows, supported at each end by large anchors of rich burnished gold; and the corners are also held up by golden tridents. Rich Brussels carpets, highly coloured landscapes, and other ornaments, give a splendid appearance to the ship. She was built and thus completed by our worthy fellow citizen John Black, and is supposed to have cost \$40,000.—*N. York paper*.

The Editor of the Philadelphia National Gazette, in commenting on Mr. Jefferson's second letter in reply to the "Native of Virginia," thus concludes:

"Mr. Jefferson is now, we believe, in his 73rd year—perhaps older. For several years past, he has not meddled with politics, but has been chiefly occupied with the improvement of the system of public education in his native state—a noble and most valuable purpose; his leisure has been employed either in abstruse and elevated studies, creditable to the scientific character of his country, or in exercising a munificent and elegant hospitality, extended with equal kindness and grace to his old political enemies and to strangers of every nation. Whoever is acquainted with American History, must know how much he contributed to the accomplishment of our national independence—with what ability and repute he served the republic in the most critical circumstances, before the time when the distinctions of Federalist and Democrat were established—and how largely he added to the intellectual honours of the American name, by his writings and scientific merits.

"These are considerations which, joined to that of his great age—a congenial and irresistible one to every feeling heart—would seem of a nature to render any intrusion upon his tranquility odious to all generous minds, and doubly odious the truthless attempt to involve him and the country in the disgrace implied in the charges of the "Native of Virginia," were those charges to remain even undetermined in public opinion, as to their truth or falsehood. It was Mr. Fox, we believe, who said in the British House of Commons "It is neither wise nor noble to keep up animosities forever. It is neither just nor candid to keep up animosity when the cause of it is no more. It is not compatible with a generous nature to bear malice, or to live in ill will. Amicitia sempiterna, inimicitia placabilis—Eternal friendship—placable enmities."

FRONT THE CHARLESTON MERCURY.

If one half of the news lately received from Turkey be true, there will be no necessity for the interference of Russia to expel the Mussulmen from Europe; their empire will be ruined by the arms of the Greeks alone. Thessaly and Macedonia are, from their position and their population, of the greatest importance to Turkey, and an union of these provinces with the people of Morea and its neighbourhood will go far to effect a complete emancipation of the whole country from the sway of the Turks. Our last accounts speak confidently, as to the truth of insurrectionary movements in those quarters; as also of the defection of some of the largest and richest of the islands in the Archipelago.

Supposing these statements to be true, the whole population of the islands will be raised against the present masters. An accession of so much weight would give an entire superiority, on the sea, to the Greeks, while a complete facility would be secured to furnish the people of the interior with arms and supplies, from the sea ports that are every where to be found on the coast.

When the islands and the ports are once fairly in the hands of the Greeks the resources of the Turks will be so narrowed, and the war will be so harassing to them and their alarms will be so perpetual, that they will be thrown into a state of distraction, and be able to act no where with effect.

The position of Thessaly, placed between the country immediately touching Constantinople and the Morea, completely isolates the latter, and in a state of alliance will secure it from any attacks.—Thessaly is also a country admirably fitted for defensive war, being filled with defiles and passes, and covered with mountains that present excellent military positions. A successful movement in that country would immediately put the important