TOM'S LETTER,

Now Mollie lay your knitting down, 'tis And soon the stars, like angel's eyes, will peep out one by one,

From where they hide the whole day long, deep hidden in the blue, people do.

I've got a letter here from Tom-nay, wife you need not start-The boy is well, there's nothing here to pain a mother's heart.

He says he's gathered in the grain, a goodly golden store; He says he's paid the mortgage off and laid up something more.

Well wife, tain't quite two years ago, one sultry summer day, When I was working in the fields and get-

ting in the hay, A carriage drove up to the door, and there alit a chap, With laughing eyes, like yours, that looked from underneath his cap.

He helped a little maiden out, with sunny, gleaming hair, And deep blue eyes that looking in you

seemed to read a prayer; I tried to make out who they were, but wife, I didn't know; I couldn't make the team stand still, and

I couldn't make the words out, their heads were turned away; But then an idea struck me quick, just like the boy was Tom-

years before, Our Tom, whom we had mourned as dead most impenertrable.

a dozen years or more. I left the team a standing still, and threw the whip away-

The hull they might ha' gone to smash, I wouldn't ha' cared that day. I reached the house before 'em wife, but naught to you I said;

Somehow, harsh words I'd said to Tom, kept poppin' thro' my head; I couldn't help but think perhaps, I'd been too quick to strike-I'd learned that men like horses, wife, is sel-

dom two alike. They never stopped to knock at all, but open flung the door. "Well, father, I've come back," Tom said, of the fruit .- N. Y. Observer. "to see you all once more."

over all my rules, You did the same, we laughed and cried together-both like fools.

blue eyes was Tom's wife, A little daisy he had won to brighten al

How well we learned to love the bride; and when they went back West, They wanted the old birds to come and

see them in their nest. the letter thro'.

Hold on, now, here's a postscript, with perhaps a word for you, Good gracious! what a funny thing, i takes my breath away-"Tell mother,"-say wife, look at me; is

my hair turning gray? And grandma call me grandpa, just to see how it will seem,

Oh, wife, I think I feel as big as Sheba's famous queen. "Tell mother"-kiss me quick and lay your head upon my arm-

"God sent a little baby down to visit at the



WHEN TO CUT WHEAT.

As we annually draw near to harvest time our agricultural journals begin to urge upon farmers the propriety of cutting wheat early-while it is in the dough, the neck and is still green at the jointsbefore the straw is fully dry. It is often stated that cut in this condition the yield conclusive, let some one show the error:

While the wheat was as green as it would possibly do to harvest, I have cut small bundles, and, at intervals of three from each—say 200—and have weighed Farmer. them. In every case I have found that the fully ripe wheat was from two to ten per cent, heavier than that cut green. I tried it two years on different varieties of not unusual for persons knowing nothing of the history of samples to pick out some of the earlier cuts as the fairest wheat, but there was no difference recognized which would secure a higher price in the

If the earlier cut should prove to yield a greater percentage of flour, the advantage would not acrue to the western farmer but to the miller, and I infer that the articles urging early harvesting are either written ignorantly, or else written in the interest of millers. I conclude that the This ammonia is rapidly absorbed by the proper time to cut wheat is when the last leather, and the effect upon the leather is particle of matter has passed into the kernel, and circulation has ceased. If a man has a large harvest it may be best for him ammonia rots leather, and hence keeping OMNIBUS & BAGGAGE to strike a balance between possible waste harness in the stable is sure to result in at either end, and ent some too green, rather than risk the waste of shelling at last, but this is entirely another matter, of which each one must judge for himself. in New York Tribune.

OVER-BEARING GRAPE-VINES.

Many varieties of grape-vines are liable to over bear, especially when the soil is not rich, giving the roots a poor chance to extend, owing to its hardness; and in such eases, if a very large quantity of fruit sets, it is best to remove a portion of it when very small. Take a pair of scissors in June, and clip out from one third to one half of the smallest clusters, and what is left will ripen well and be And look upon the evil and the good that fruit sets, it is best to remove a portion

There are many places where grapegrowing is not considered profitable, solely owing to an improper management of the vines. The soil being naturally not very fertile, and perhaps otherwise not well adapted to grape-growing in a careless way, the vines are generally set where the root can not easily expand, perhaps by the side of a walk, in the grass, or near a building, where they are quite as badly situated, if the soil be stiff CANCEROUS HUMORS. and clayey, and the result is, that the vines set more fruit than the roots can

To obtain the largest possible quantity of well-ripened grapes everywhere, the MR HR STEVENS :kept a hollerin' "Whoa."

I saw him pint across to me, and heard him something say.

of well-ripened grapes everywhere, the vines should grow where the soil is nating from a Rose Cancer on my right breast, which urally rieh, or has been made rich by urally rieh, or has been made rich by manures, and spaded from twelve to fifteen inches deep, and kept free of weeds ning to feel better; my health and spirit both felt the and grass. In such a soil the roots of the Although I didn't know the girl, I knew vines will extend in all directions from eight to fifteen feet, and they will sus-My boy who ran away from home so many tain a much larger crop of fruit than they will where the soil is poor and al-

> The summer pruning of grapevines consist in removing all small shoots that will never become good bearing caues, easily distinguished by any person at all acquainted with the nature of the vines. A certain number of the most thrifty canes of this season's growth must be left entire, to produce next years' crop of fruit, or to afford the buds from which the shoots grow that produce the grapes. After six or eight good canes are thus se- MR H R STEVENS :lected, the other canes may, or may not, be cut back to within two or three leaves

I threw my arms around his neck, broke HOW TO DESTROY THE TOBACCO

As we have the best soil and climate in When all was still we found the girl with the State for growing fine tobacco, and as I am a pioneer in the tobacco culture in this section, I will give my modus operandi of destroying the tobacco fly. Destroy all the Jamestown weeds about the MRHR STEVENS:stroy all the Jamestown weeds about the plantatian—leaving about twenty stalks about the lot or fence corners. Take a about the lot or fence corners. Take a "Go and read the letter!" why I've read long neck bottle; put in about one-fourth teaspoonful of strychuine; fill up with water. See that the cork fits tightly. Make a small hole through the centre of H. R. STEVENS, Boston, Mass. cork-put in a goose quill tightly; let the small end of the quill project out about two inches. Make a small hole in the end of the quill, so that the water will not drop or run out, then your poisonous machine is ready for operation.

When the tobacco fly makes its appearance, take the bottle, hold it perpendicular, with the end of the quill in the mouth of the bloom of the Jamestown weed and with the other hand tap the end of the bottle twice, suddenly, which will force from three to four small drops of the poisonous liquid down to the bloom. Go from one bloom to another and finish up the job by sunset. The operation should not be trusted to careless boys. The operation should be repeated three times a week .- S. M. Thomas, Lauinburg, Richmond Co., in Torch-Light.

WHERE TO SET MILK.

There is no doubt that immense quantities of poor butter are made from the or when the straw has turned yellow at cellar used to store vegetables and other family supplies, will impart peculiar taints to the milk and cream, in such a will be greater, and that the wheat will give a greater percentage of flour with skillfully handled. Dairy rooms so situaless of bran. I have for two years tried ted as to catch the odor from the pig sty, the following experiment, which, if not the cess pool, or other decomposing filth, cannot be used for making good butter. There should be a freedom from filth and impurities of every description about the milk-house, and the milk should be deor four days, have cut others, so that the livered by the milkers in an ante-room, fourth bundle was cut when the wheat was or some point outside the milk-room, and dead ripe. I have dried the green wheat from thence conveyed to the place where in the shade, and, after being thoroughly it is to be set for cream. In this way the in the most finished style of crayon drawing cured, have threshed them all, and then fumes and the litter from the stables may from counted out a definite number of kernels be kept from the milk-room.—Practical PHO FOGRAPHS,

Don't Mow too Close.

Now that the having season is at hand both spring and winter wheat. It was farmers should be advised not to try to economize by mowing too close. An old farmer of our acquaintance used to say that he thought "it was better to leave the lower joint for the old brindle cow than to save it for her;" and we wonder that all sensible farmers do not heed his

Harness in Stables.

Harness should never be kept in the stables where manure is constantly generating large quantities of ammonia about the same as would result from saturating it with strong lye. In a word. its damage, more or less.

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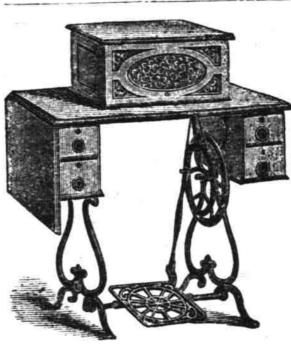
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The Record will of necessity take part in

the politics of the country. If it is the duty of every man to keep himself well informed in respect to public affairs, and to take a decided, and manly part therein, it is especially the duty of the editor of a newspaper faithfully to investigate all questions of public concern, and give to his readers the facts of the same.

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