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MISCELLANY.

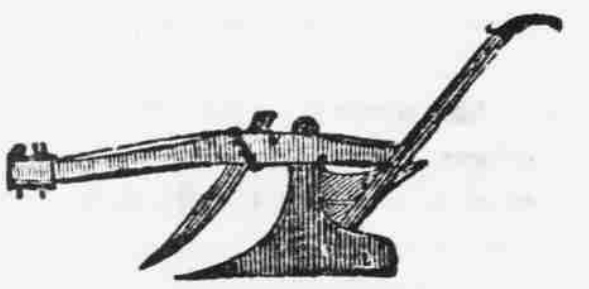


From the Raleigh Star.

THE BLOOMER.

The saucy maid may toss her head
When she her bustle hitches on;
Be mine to praise in artless lays
The graceful girl with breeches on.
The petticoat no more shall float
On limbs whose shape bewitches one;
But in its place with modest grace
Those limbs shall hold the breeches on.
The bucks and beaux turn up their nose
At costly robes with patches on;
But goodness me! what if they see
Such beauty spots the breeches on?
Ye muslin dresses white and thin,
With fairy fingered stitches on;
I fear your day has passed away,
Since women put the breeches on.
Ah! well-a-day, the bard may say,
Shall one bestow his kisses on
A shameless maid, who's not afraid
To put a pair of breeches on!
She'd make him feel, from head to heel,
Whatever else he hitches on;
He has no right, by day or night,
To put a pair of breeches on.
We always see, the graces three
Without a rag the witches on;
But oh! Gad Zook, how would it look
Should each one put the breeches on!
When woman's wit is stirred a bit,
The first reform she pitches on,
Is how she may with least delay,
Just draw a pair of breeches on.

AGRICULTURAL.



NORTHERN AGRICULTURE.

We have heard and read a great deal about the great perfection of Northern agriculture, a result of free labor, commerce, large cities, manufactories, railroads, and canals.

The following from the New York Tribune, does not appear to confirm the impression that has been so incessantly made:

"There is another test of growth not less certain in the indications, and that is the improvement of agriculture in those parts of the State, where the soil is naturally richest and most fertile. In the beginning it is necessary to cultivate superficially the poorer soil, because it can be done easier, requires less capital and does not, like the culture of rich lands, endanger, by its exhalations and the corruption of decaying vegetation, the health of those engaged in clearing it and rendering it productive. But, as capital is accumulated, as population becomes concentrated, as the artisan takes his place beside the farmer, and a steady home market is created, cultivation lays its hand upon the fat soils of the meadows and low lands, clearing them of timber, draining them, ploughing them, and covering them with blooming gardens.

But such is not the process we now behold going on in the heart of the Empire State—From Utica to Buffalo the richest lands are everywhere uncleared and un-drained. In all that stretch of country, whose latent power of fruitfulness is not surpassed in the world, the traveller scarcely meets here and there a new farmhouse, but sees many old ones bearing the signs of neglect and decay. The number of farms instead of increasing is diminishing, and that infallible indication of im-

poverishment, the concentration of lands in fewer and fewer hands, may quite generally be witnessed. Emigrants pass by this region, with its exhaustless fertility, its canals and railroads, while even the natives of the country may be seen selling their homesteads and leaving for the distant and less productive West. Such is the course of things, and although the process is a slow one, no careful observer can dispute that we describe it correctly."

This is quite a different story from the accounts we have generally received.

The State of New York has about as many people engaged in agriculture as Virginia.—But New York has much the finest land, and the most of it. Her farms are surrounded with cities and factories, and intersected with railroads and canals. Yet agriculture is declining. The small farmers are emigrating, and, as for wealthy ones, we do not believe she has a tenth as many as Virginia.

Why is this? The owners of small farms, naturally and wisely prefer to become the owners of large ones, and move off to the West, where land is cheap. So far as the consumption of a family is concerned, it is produced from land worth, in the West, two dollars an acre, as well as from land, in N. York, worth twenty. And as for the surplus production, it comes to market from afar, at a cost not so much greater as the difference of interest in the value of lands remote and near as to the principal markets. In this state of things it would be well for New York, if the taste of agriculture were sufficient to induce her wealthier citizens to live in the country.—But that is not the case. The love of city life—its pleasures, parties, theatres, concerts, dinners, and luxuries—prevails. And instead of a preference for country over city life, a partiality for the latter prevails so much that whenever a man acquires wealth in the country, he removes to the city. Besides, there is difficulty, uncertainty, and vexation in obtaining the free labor to cultivate a large farm.

Nor is it common for the poorer classes to prefer country life. They can enjoy the shows, the parades, the tipping, and all the coarser and cheaper kinds of dissipation in town. They can receive their wages daily, or weekly, and can enjoy promptly the proceeds of their labor.

Why, we forget that there is no instance in history of a great, wealthy, refined, rural population in the country, except in the South.—And slavery is the cause of that. Abolish slavery, and forthwith the taste, enterprise, talent, and wealth of the South will forsake the country, and crowd into cities, and be wasted, degraded, and consumed.

Prior to the institution of African slavery in this country, the feudal system, which compelled the barons to occupy their castles and estates was the first great movement towards the creation of a wealthy rural population. But as the feudal system gradually gave way before commerce and manufactures, towns and cities drew from the country its riches, talent, and power: so that now the last and most feudal of countries in Europe, which was England, has a single city containing about one fifth of the population.

Well, a republican government cannot be maintained over a large population resident chiefly in cities, unless each becomes a separate State. Nor can the mass of people remain free even in a single city and State. When population is crowded so densely together, the greatest inequality of property and condition ensue; and if suffrage is universal, a division of property must ensue.

It was evidently the design of the Hebrew system to prevent this concentration of people in cities, by allotting to each tribe, its own lands, and prohibiting their alienation to other tribes, and even preventing intermarriage between the tribes. For all the neighboring nations of Asia were partial to city life, and many of them consisted of cities chiefly.

The tendency of the present commercial and abolition policy, is to convert ours into a city population, with all its vices, slavery, want, disease, and decay.

Philosophy of Eating.—Use but two or three kinds of food besides bread and butter, at a single meal, and never eat anything between meals. You should eat at

regular hours, and but three times a day, with two intervals not less than five hours each, nor more than six.

Cold water retards digestion, and so does any liquid, if much is taken during or soon after a meal; half a glass at a meal is enough. From an hour and a half after a meal, until within half an hour of the next one, you may drink as much water as you desire; it is best, however, to drink but a swallow or two at a time, with an interval of half a minute or more; otherwise, you may take more than nature requires before you know it, just as in eating fast. If too much liquid is taken during meals, it dilutes the gastric juice, thus weakening its powers of digestion, and retaining the food longer in the stomach than is natural; it also causes an acid stomach, heartburn, fullness, belchings, and bad blood, producing, according to circumstances, a dryness, or rawness, or a sensation in the throat, like indigestion from other causes, whether from quality or quantity of food.

All errors as to diet arise from quantity or quality, and I propose one safe rule to each applicable to all persons, and under all circumstances.

As to quality, the general rule is to eat that which you like best, and which you find by close observation and experience is followed by no uncomfortable feeling about the head, hands, feet, nor stomach.

As to quantity, take as much of one meal as will allow you to become decidedly hungry by the next meal; this can only be determined by consecutive observations; but remember, never swallow an atom of food unless you are hungry; never force a particle of food on yourself; the brute creation cannot be induced to eat nor drink, if slightly ill or excited, guided only by the poor blind instincts; and we, who are so much higher than they, by the reason that is within us, ought to feel ashamed to act less wisely; and yet, nine tenths of all our ailments, acute and chronic, enter here; and nine tenths of them all might be cured thus, if taken in reasonable time, and if properly persevered in.

The finer all food is cut with a knife, before put into the mouth, the sooner and easier it is digested, on the same principle that a large piece of ice placed in a vessel set in water will require a longer time to melt, than if it were first divided into many small pieces.—The gastric juice dissolves solid food from without inwards; hence food, especially all kinds of meat, should be cut in pieces, not larger than a pea, before it is placed in the mouth, taking in as many pieces at a time as is convenient. This precaution would not be needed were persons to eat slowly, and masticate their food properly; but our national habits are otherwise, nor is there much hope of a speedy change in this respect.

For an hour after dinner, and half the time for other meals, do not lie down, do not sit to sew, nor maintain any stooping position; do not ride on horseback, nor study, strain, lift, nor perform any labor, bodily or mental; a leisure stroll in the open air is best; or reading a newspaper; these require no mental effort. While walking, keep your hand behind you, and your chin on or above a horizontal line, and endeavor to feel in a good and cheerful humor with yourself and all the world.

Dr. Hall.

A Melancholy Sight.—Dr. Reid, a traveller through the highlands of Peru, found lately in the desert of Atacama, the dried remains of an assemblage of human beings, five or six hundred in number, men, women, and children, seated in a semi-circle as when alive, and staring into the burning waste before them.

They had not been buried; life had not departed before they had thus sat around; but hope was gone; the Spanish invader was at hand, and no escape being left, they had come hither to die. They still sit immovable in that dreary desert; dried like mummies by the effect of the hot air, they still keep their position, sitting up as in solemn council, while over that dread Areopagus silence broods everlastingly.

A Good Bargain.—A gentleman of this city but a few years ago married a pretty little girl of ninety pounds, and now has a pretty extensive wife of more than

two hundred. He confesses that he has more than he bargained for—and better than he merits.—Many husbands might with truth confess the latter.

Extraordinary Case of Drowning by two Fighting Men.—Yesterday, just after noon, two Irishmen named Daniel Hennessey and Miles McFadden were drowned in a most singular manner, near the Fitchburg Railroad wharf in Charleston. McFadden had been employed by Hennessey to work or board the schooner Alert till 12 o'clock, for half a dollar, and a dispute arose between them as to the arrival of that hour. They clinched, and in their struggles for the mastery both together fell overboard into the water where instead of trying to save themselves, they continued to pummel each other until both sank to rise no more. Their lifeless bodies were soon after recovered by persons on shore, who had in vain seasonably attempted to rescue them as their efforts were entirely disregarded by the excited combatants.

Boston Transcript.

Another Excursion Riot.—On Saturday last, the steamer Oregon left this city for Verplank's Point with a large excursion party, comprising about a thousand persons of both sexes. Everything went off pleasantly until they landed, when a part of the company strolled away from the boat, and having found a suitable spot commenced a dance. Pretty soon an Irish laborer from a brick yard in the vicinity made his appearance and insisted upon joining in the dance. This was objected to, when he seized one of the girls as if to make her his partner, and was instantly knocked down by a lad belonging to the company. Not liking this, he retired and soon returned with a large party of his fellows who made an indiscriminate onslaught on all they met. Having dispersed the dancers they proceeded to the boat. The first thing the hands on board the steamer saw was a whole gang of wild Irishmen running down to where they lay. One red-headed fellow stepped forward, twirled his shillelah three times over his head, jumped up, struck his heels together and whooped, and at it they went like so many devils.

The boat was instantly assailed with a perfect shower of brickbats, which were chiefly aimed at the ladies' cabin. The windows, lamps and chandeliers were broken, and the woodwork considerably injured. The boat was got under way as soon as possible, leaving some two or three hundred of the party on shore, who came down in the cars of the Hudson River railroad. No further disturbance occurred after the departure of the steamer.

It is said the damage to the Oregon must amount to several hundred dollars.
N. Y. Day Book.

Economical Manure Sheds.—H. M. Baker, a Virginia farmer, thus describes the manner of protecting his manure from washing rains and the exhausting power of the sun:—

"Set a row of forked posts through the cattle yard, 10 feet high to sustain a range pole. Nine feet distant, set another row, eight feet high; and nine feet further, another row six feet high; put range poles upon these and cover the whole with old rails or poles, and brush, and upon these, put straw, cornstalks, or sedge, to form a roof, which will shed off most of the water and all the sun. Brace the corners well to prevent accidents from high winds, and heap up all your manure, commencing at one end, so as to allow cattle to occupy the other portion, and you will gain twice the cost of the shed every year."

Hemp Cotton.—Mr. George C. Davis has exhibited in Louisville, Kentucky, a specimen of hemp prepared in such a manner that it resembles flax cotton, and seems equally well adapted for the manufacture of textile fabric with that new article. The process of Mr. Davis is much more simple, quicker done, and less expensive than M. Claussen's, and he thinks the cost of preparation will not exceed half a cent a pound, which will enable hemp growers to compete with cotton, and manufacturers to choose between cotton, flax, or hemp, at about the same pri-

ces. Perhaps the same process applied to the cotton stalks may produce similar results, as well as several other fibrous plants, hitherto considered worthless.

We believe the discovery of a new method of preparing fibrous plants for the manufacturer is destined to work a revolution in trade at no distant day.

American Agriculturist.

The Watch Illustration of the Pendulum Experiment.—The famous pendulum experiment for showing the rotation of the earth, which is now attracting so much attention, may be made intelligible in the following manner:

Let a gentleman hold out his left hand, palm upwards, standing we will suppose with his face towards the east, then let him make a pendulum of his watch by taking hold of the guard or chain at a distance of about a foot from the watch, and holding it with his right hand over his left, set it swinging to and fro, towards himself, that is, so that the vibrations shall be parallel to the fingers of the hand. If while things are thus arranged, the experimenter remains stationary, the watch will continue to vibrate parallel to the hand; but now if he begins slowly to turn round upon his heel, towards the North, holding his left hand out straight as before, with the watch vibrating over it, it will be perceived that the vibrations will begin immediately to diverge from the line of parallelism, and by the time that the observer has turned one quarter way round, so as to face the north, the vibration will be across the hand.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the palm of the hand, in this case, represents a portion of the surface of the earth, and the turning of the observer the rotation of the earth upon its axis, while the right hand, which represents the point of suspension of the pendulum, though it rotates with the earth and thus partakes of its motion, does not change the plane of vibration. In other words, the pendulum continues to vibrate parallel to itself, notwithstanding the angular motion of the hand beneath it.

By repeating this experiment and reflecting upon it, any one may obtain clear ideas of the philosophy of this celebrated experiment.—N. Y. Sun.

The way they do things in old Virginia.—A Pic Nic on rather a grand scale has recently come off near Dunnsville, Essex county, on the Rappahannock River, at which upwards of a thousand persons were present. All of note both ladies and gentlemen, young and old, in several of the adjoining counties, including the city of Richmond and embracing an area of fifty miles or more, were invited.

Such a gathering of the beauty and respectability of that section of the State has not for years, if ever before, been drawn together, and the most perfect enjoyment prevailed throughout.

It is said that about one thousand invitations were issued. A large arbor was erected for those fond of the pleasures of the dance, and a brush house for the accommodation of the ladies in the arrangement of their dress.

The Music was brought from Richmond at a large expense.—*Ral. Star.*

South Carolina.—It is amusing to see the immediate secessionists of South Carolina, amidst their expletives and fiery speeches and toasting, not forgetting the creature comforts of this life. The sentiments at their jovial boards frequently allude to the skill of their host, and the excellent feast provided for them; and here is one given at a recent celebration, which embraces the entire circle of human joys:

By Madison Moody: Peace and Plenty.
"Corn in the big crib and money in the pocket,
Baby in the cradle and a pretty wife to rock it,
Coffee in the closet, and sugar in the barrel,
Silence round the fireside, and folks that never quarrel."—*ib.*

The geographical centre of the United States at the present time, is in the Indian Territory, 120 miles west of Missouri. The present centre of our representative population, which is constantly moving Westward, is ascertained, by actual calculation, to be just about at the city of Columbus, Ohio.