FEARLESSLY THE RIGHT DEFEND-IMPARTIALLY THE WRONG CONDEMN.

VOLUME I.

POLKTON, ANSON CO., N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1874.

NUMBER 16.

The Potato Beetle.

The potato beetle has appeared in considerable numbers in Western New York and other sections of the East. Farmers with whom the potato has been an important crop, says a writer in the Tribune are anxiously asking when they will be forced to abandon its culture. But the potato is too important to the country to be abandoned. Twenty years ago, it seemed as if the midge would entirely destroy the wheat crop, but improved methods of farming have since then flanked this enemy, so that only in exceptional years like the present does it do any damage, and only careless and slovenly farmers find their old enemy dangerous. There is a lesson in this experience with the wheat midge which ought to give hope in the contest with the potato beetle. Farmers have been growing potatoes as before the weevil they had been growing wheat. All this is or will be changed. The man who can't or won't attend to his crop cannot raise even a peck of potatoes. The business becomes a monopoly for men who have brains, industry, and skill and their labors will be liberally rewarded. Nor is the labor of fighting the Doryphora nearly so arduous as is generally supposed. It does not require a great deal of work but what it does need it must have, or certain failure will result. Two or three weeks' neglect will make any after vigilance almost useless. The beetle breeds with wonderful rapidity. But no insect could be more defenseless or more easily destroyed. The larva and perfect insect are always found on the highest part of the vine, and exposed to the full blaze of sunlight. The reddish yellow color of the larva and the bright yellow stripes of the beetle show conspicuously against the green foliage of the potato. The eggs are a bright orange color, and are almost equally conspicuous, always being on the upper side of the leaf and in the sunlight. Where they are not very numerous a man or a boy can watch two rows on each side across the field, and pretty certainly clear off beetles, larva, and eggs. This done thoroughly once a week, the pests will very soon disappear. This is the laborious and expensive system of hand picking, where the enemy is not numerous enough to warrant the use of, Paris green Where Paris green is used three applications are enough even in the worst cases, and the cost is not more than \$5 or \$6 per aere. The price of potatoes will go up to a figure which, with the thorough culture and large crops that must hereafter be grown, will make potatoes more profitable than they have ever before been. It is readily seen that a crop which only really good, thorough farmers can grow must always he high priced. With the best of culture the potato crop should average 200 bushels

24 hills at three feet apart each way. The only secret of success is by thorough culture and manuring to obtain the very largest yield. Crops of 50 to 70 bushels an acre are played out, and men who have been in the habit of growing such crops must go out or be forced out of the business. They can't afford to fight the beetle for such crops. No more poorly prepared and halfcultivated potato-fields. No more crops overgrown with grass and weeds. Clean culture is now a necessity. Farmers need not abandon potato culture, but must plant fewer acres, and give the crop better culture than ever before. It is possible to increase the average potato product not only to 200, but to 250 or 300 bushels per acre. With higher prices for a series of years than ever before, such crops as these cannot fail to be profitable.

per acre. This is less than one bushel to

An Auctioneer's Advertisement.

The Building News, London, is responsible for the following: An English country gentleman recently became tired of his house, and determined to sell it. He instructed an auctioneer, famous for his de scriptive powers, to advertise it in the papers for private sale, but to conceal the location, telling persons to apply at his office. In a few days the gentleman happened to see the advertisement, was pleased with the account of the place, showed it to his wife, and the two concluded it was just what they wanted, and that they would secure it at once. So he went to the office of the auc tioneer and told him the place he had advertised was such a one as he desired, and he would purchase it. The auctioneer burst into a laugh, and told him that that was the description of his own house, where he was then living. He read the advertisement again, pondered over the "grassy slopes," "beautiful villas," "smooth lawn," etc., and broke out, " Is it possible? Well, make out my bill for advertising and expenses, sor, by George, I wouldn't sell that place now for three times what it cost me."

FOUND OUT .- A fond Prairie City mother was watching over the slumbers of her little girl. "Do you see her precious lips move? I wonder what she can be thinking about," said the mother. "I don't know," said the father, "but I'll soon find out." And he thrust his horrid finger into that enough to have caused six nightmares.

Rarity of Hydrophobia.

Opinions of an Experienced Veterinary Sur-

Dr. Edward S. Smith, an old and experienced veterinary surgeon, has given the following opinion about hydrophobia, its causes and its preventives:

"When a person has been bitten by a mad dog it is generally thirty or forty days before any development of the disease is perceptible, or he becomes affected with the disease. The first symptoms of hydrophobia are as follows: the bitten part becomes very painful, and the whole system begins to be affected. The wounded part becomes hard and elevated, and sharp pains shoot from it through the entire system to the

"The terror of having it is altogether out of proportion to the danger of taking it. The actual danger, in fact, of having hydrophobia, is not a fiftieth part so great as of being struck with lightning, about which people have, comparatively, but very little concern. And our advice to all who may be bitten by a dog, and who wish to avoid all bad results therefrom, is to have the bitten part laid open by the knife to the very bottom as soon as possible after the accident has happened, and to thoroughly cleanse the parts with a strong solution of table salt and water. After drying the parts well, cauterize the wound with nitrate of silver, and be sure you get to the bottom of the wound with your caustic. Wet the diseased part several times a day with a strong solution of crude carbonic-acid. The sooner this is done, the safer the patient and if properly done soon after the bite, the success will be almost certain, and the patient need have no apprehensions of the consequences. Having been bitten by dogs myselfrseveral times during my veterinary practice, and knowing of several other persons who have been bitten by dogs when sick, I have treated them in the manner here described. No bad results whatever have ever occurred therefrom.

"Prof. Butler, I believe, did not die of hydrophobia, but of lockjaw, or tetanus. Tetanus is generally developed in from eight to twelve days after the wound is received, or the injury which is the cause of it. It may, however, arise from irritating substances in the stomach, and exposures to cold while the pores are open and the body is in a profuse perspiration. The lockjaw is much more frequent in warm than cold

"If we set apart one case out of every hundred of cases reported as canine madness, we should over-estimate the number of animals suffering from this form and character of disease. The animal is suffering from a mental derangement of the brain. The cause of this abnormal state of the brain is the want of proper hygienic care; their food has been scanty and in most cases putrid, or else the dogs have been unable to procure water, and they must suffer at the hands of street roughs of all ages. What can we expect from this cruel and in human treatment other than a crazed brain and great excitement of the nervous sys

"I should mention one point. Many female dogs are said to have hydrophobia In an experience of twenty-five years de voted to veterinary service I have never seen a female dog afflicted with this disease nor have I seen a well-authenticated case recorded by any authority. And I can in truth assert that in forty-nine cases out o every fifty where persons have been bitten by dogs, and have died, the disease has been lockjaw and not hydrophobia."

A Colorado Pony.

Yesterday, says a Southern Colorado paper, we saw a man, a woman, a good-sized boy, two babies, five or six blankets, a buffalo robe, and two strings of chili on a single pony. Every available inch from his ears to the root of his tail was "taken." The poor animal was very small, thin as a towel rack; of a sickly pale color, and one fore leg was about five inches shorter than the other-the knee joint of that leg was very large, and we supposed that the missing part of the leg was driven in there by the weight above, so that when it was relieved the leg would stretch out again like a turtle's head. In fact, nearly all his legs were short, and the crookedest convention of legs that we ever saw. Taken altogether it was the most amusing horse and load we ever saw. Incredible as it may seem, the wiry little animal passed us on a trot. When he came down on that short leg, and the family "kerplumped" with it, it would have made the oldest man living laugh. Both the children were sleeping soundly, for the motion of the horse served all the purposes of a cradle.

STAMPS .- A young woman in Middletown, Conn., is endeavoring to collect a million postage stamps in two years. She is now on the last three months of her time and has 900,000. Some of her friends thought at first that her scheme was a very wild one, and offered her fine presents if she were successdelicate little girl's mouth and extricated ful. It looks now as if she would win the therefrom a chunk of chewing gum large gifts, which will be ponies, phaetons, new dresses, diamonds, etc.

Sanitary Hints

This warm weather, says an exchange, makes all careful housekeepers see to it that the entire premises of the household are thoroughly clean. Bedrooms are sunned and ventilated, bedclothes are at least once week placed in the open air, the living trade. The industry and ingenuity of a boy rooms have abundant ingress of sun and air, of average ability, says the Scientific Ameriand everything that can give birth to a disagreeable smell is put where it can do no harm. The illness in the royal family of best order. The boy England caused by an imperfect piece of make something, alleady begins to feel that plains to select and brand them. plumbing which introduced sewage gases he is somebody in the world, that achieveinto the palace, should long serve as a warning to all those who have in their houses a bath-room, with the usual conveniences. Diluted carbolic acid, copperas water or lime water, will thoroughly purify all drain pipes and keep them inoffensive, if applied often enough. Abundance of dry earth will time. Having nothing to do, is as great a disinfect and deodorize all offensive substances. There is really no need of having and no reater benefits can be conferred on any but pure air and pleasant smells about youths than to teach them, to convert time

country house. The custom of taking down heavy woolen or silk curtains in the summer, of replacing Brussels and Axminster carpets with matting, of using light summer furniture instead of that stuffed and covered with reps or brocatelle, has its foundation more in hygiene and comfort than in fashion or economy. Those who are familiar with recent discoveries which have given rise to what is known as the germ theory of disease, sels; why it is wise to remove in summer all of problems, in that they teach men the woolen articles which are such excellent absorbents and replace them with those easily cleansed and that do not readily absorb atmospheric substances. The curtains, carpets, and furniture in daily use in our living rooms, if placed under the lens of a powerful microscope, would preach effective sermons to untidy housekeepers. Some of these by continued use become e-tually poisonous, and doubtless induce The drinking water of the family eds looking after, and nothing short of certainty that it is free from taint should be accepted. Fatal cases of typhoid have arisen from drinking water which gave no sign to any sense that it was not pure. It is not safe to drink from springs and rivulets by the roadside or in the woods, unless we know that all the sources of those waters are pure. Typhoid and typhus fever are a reproach to civilization, and cannot possibly occur except through violation of the laws of cleanliness and drainage. Where health is concerned there is less objection to the leat failing of good housekeepers of spending so much valuable time on the "mint, anise, and cummin," with the risk of overlooking the weightier matters of the law, "justice, temperance, and the love of God.'

Eating Rats.

It is but a few weeks ago that a hamper f twelve fine rats arrived at a Cambridge Eng.) college kitchen. They had been killed the day before, on the pulling down of a wheat stack, so that they had been clean feeders, and they were all plump and comely to look at. The three largest, which were veritable monsters, were selected for roasting, while the rest were to be made into a fricassee. At the appointed time a party of six sat down to test their merits. After soup and fish, the head-waiter, with an expression of pity not unmingled with contempt, brought in the roast. Half a rat. which had been carefully wrapped in bacon previous to the roasting, was served to each. It was a trying moment, but the plunge was taken, and the first mouthful elicited the remarks: "Well, at all events, it's not nasty;" "No, indeed, it's a great deal better than rabbit;" "I call it very fair eating." fricassee with a white sauce; this was exceedingly good, but of course owed as much, if not more, to the art of the chef than to the The final decision was that rats were not

a delicacy, but that they were wholesome food, and certainly attractive to a hungry to say nothing of a starving man.

Curing Clover.

Clover is not a grass at all. It belongs to the same order of plants as the peas, but, nevertheless, it is used as a forage crop and is treated as the grass crops are; it is fed off, and it is cut for hay to be stored as food for live stock in the winter season. Owing to mence guessing," said the officer. "K-a its nature it is one of the most tender plants to handle in curing for hay. It needs to be dried rather in the shade than in the sun. and the texture of the hay should show a chance." "C-a-g-h-t." "No," thundered certain toughness rather than crispness. Then, again, it should be so cured that even its color may be retained if possible. To do this it is important that it should be cut before the blossom has formed the seed pods.

THE CABBAGE WORMS.—A correspondent of the Sun says: "Last year I tried soapsuds for destroying the cabbage worm, and found it a success. I used soft soap, making the suds pretty strong, and sprinkling the cabbage once a week, whereby I saved my crop. The worm dies almost immediately if well sprinkled with the suds."

The Leisure Time of Boys.

We would suggest, to the many parents who are perplexed with the difficulty of finding the wherewithal to amuse and interest their boys, to give their lads every opportunity of acquiring a mechanical can, may easily be made to furnish him with a never-failing source of amusement of the who can produce or ment of a result is not a reward reserved for grown people only. And the education of mind, ear, and hand, which this use of tools and mechanical appliances furnishes, is of a great and real value, beyond the good resulting from the occupation of leisure snare to the young as it is to the full grown; now wasted, and often worse than wasted, into means of pleasant recreation and mental improvement. The boy, whose time and mind are now occupied with marbles and kites, may be a Watt, a Morse, " a Bessemer, in embryo; and it is and inly an easy matter to turn his thoughts and the use of mechanical tools is the most habit of using their reflecting powers systematically, so carpentry, turning, and other arts, are of high importance. These occupations teach boys to think, to proceed from initial causes to results, and not only to understand the nature and duty of the mechanical powers, but to observe their effects; and to acquire knowledge by actual experiment, which is the best way of learning anything. All the theories culled out of books leave an impress on the mind and memory which is slight compared to that of the practical experience of the true mechanic. Our advice is to all who have the great re-ponsibility of the charge of boys: Give them a lathe, or a set of carpenter's or even blacksmith's tools; give their mind a turn toward the solid and useful side of life. You will soon see the result in increased activity of their thinking capabilities, and the direction of their ideas toward practical results; and, still more obviously. in the avoidance of & mischief and nonsense (to omit all Nence to absolute wickedness and moral degradation) which are, to too great an extent, the pastime of the generation which is to succeed us.

"Free" Egypt.

An Egyptian correspondent says: "There is not an article sold to the Khedhive or his people, from a pin to a steam-engine, which does not yield tribute. We read a good deal of the word 'backsheesh' in all books and writings about Egypt, but we do not know how often it is the echo of the utterance from Europe. In no other country in the world does a traveler of rank expect to be lodged, boarded, and carried about gratis by the ruler. Here it is the rule. If the governor of an Indian province, with which Egypt has got no more to do than with Kamschatka, arrives at Suez on his way to Cairo or Alexandria, he has a special train put at his disposal when asked for; if he wishes to stay in Cairo he has a house assigned to him, carriages and horses, a staff of servants, and his stable spread with every luxury. Does he want to go up the Nile, he gets one of the Viceroy's steamers to tow his biabeah. Many people come here who expect their consuls to ask such favors as of Each man finished his portion, and three or | right, never reflecting on the wholesome exfour picked the bones. Then came the ample set in other countries, and more especially in our own, where even greatness allied to loyalty is occasionally obliged to take care of itself in private apartments and pay for its own broughams."

A Singular Cat. An old army surgeon was very fond of perpetrating a joke on others, though very angry at being made the subject of one himself. At a dinner when the decanter passed freely and frequently, a brother officer said "Doctor, I've got a letter from Capts Gand I'll wager you a dozen of old port that you can't guess in five guesses how he spells cat." "Done," said the Doctor. "Comdouble-t." "No." "Kat-e." "No; try again." "Cat-e." "Missed again." "Cadouble-t." "No; try again, it's your last the wag; "you've lost your wager." "How did he spell it, then?" inquired the Doctor. with great petulance. "Why, he spelled it c-a-t," replied the wag, with the utmost gravity, amid the roars of the mess. The Doctor sprang up, choking with rage, exclaiming: "Gentlemen, I am too old to be trifled with in this manner."

The fashion of wearing the wedding ring on the finger next to the little finger originated in an ancient superstition that there was a mysterious connection between that finger and the human heart.

Extraordinary Lassoing. Branding California Cattle-Driving Herds from the Foothills.

Messrs. Cox and Quinn own large ranges Southern California, and they do an extensive business driving cattle northward into Placer and Nevada counties, to be sold decide a bet." I do not complain of the in the mining towns, principally Grass Val- fatuity of this person, says Max. He cannot ley and Nevada City. Last winter they help it; he is in such a condition of intelkept an immense herd in the foothills, and a few days ago they drove them out on the hend that the prophet Isaiah possessed

of the thirty or forty men assembled were Americans. Most of the horses were halfbreeds or full-blooded Americans, but in After a careful survey of the situation in Southern California the mustang still pre-

vails on the stock-ranch. head, is huddled in the middle of the open plain, and the proprietors and vacqueros are riding around them. What few footmen there are present keep well out of the way, for these Spanish cattle have a great curiosity to inspect a man's heels. Their long, slender, shining horns are held aloft, and with dilated nostrils they sniff the coming prey. One of the men says to a vacquero: "You see that big, black fellow, with a crop and a slit in the right, and an overslope in musings into a channel which shall give the left? Bring him out." The vacquero full scope to their faculties. To most boys rides into the herd, gradually worms the animal to the outer edge of the band, then fascinating of all occupations. As logic suddenly clapping spurs to his horse hunts lighting in the chase, follows his every motion so closely that the animal, though driven straight forward. Another owner recognizes one of his animals, and the same process is repeated with this one.

There are a few to be branded, and there is no corral to confine them in they are compelled to resort to the Mexican plan. The animal is first separated from the herd, and then a vacquero rides him down and lassoes him by the horns. Another rides up and lassoes him by the hind legs, if he skilful enough, or if not throws one side of the loop on the animal's back and the other on the ground behind him, and he presently backs into it, when it is quickly drawn tight. Then the two horses set out in opposite directions, the animal's hind feet are pulled from under him, and he comes down one would think at the imminent hazard of breaking his backbone. A man sushes up with the branding iron and claps it on his right hip, where it makes a cruel singeing

It is frequently a good deal worse busines to get away from him than it is to catch him, especially if he has fight in him, and he generally has by this time. The brander gets out of the way; while the two horsemen are holding the animal tight with the lassoes around their pommels and the horses at a dead set, a third rides up, and lassoes are slackened a little, the one around the horns is slipped off, and the man instantly mounts his horse before the animal can rise, and flees, while the raging brute struggles free from the other lasso and perhaps gives chase. Thus both lassoes are recovered, and everybody gets off with a whole skin.

One of the most extraordinary feats performed consisted in the lassoing of a sucking calf with a loop fifteen feet across. It requires great skill to throw a lasso with such an enormous loop, and it has to be hurled a long distance to narrow down sufficiently to catch so small an animal. In Texas I have seen a man lasso a prairie dog, but he used a small rope and a very small loop.

One of the men executed a feat which would seem incredible to a person who had not witnessed it. Riding at full speed across the plains, nearly abreast of a steer, he spun the lasso ahead and took in both his fore feet, bringing him down with a raking plunge on his nose.

Dogs and their Masters.

The Boston Journal adds the following to the personal devotion of dogs to their mas- Mills circuit had been interrupted, and two ters. A gentleman named Dale died in men were sent out to look up the leak. With helsea, Mass. . He had for many years owned a black and tan terrier that was his gations, until they finally located the trouble constant companion, and only when he accompanied his master did the animal ever leave the house. The Journal says: "The dog watched by the bedside of his master during his six weeks' sickness and remained in the chamber until a few moments after they had before regarded as a piece of kite his body had been prepared for burial, when he went down stairs and out of the house, since which time the family have been un- wire was supported down to the yard below, able to obtain any tidings of his where- where it was attached to an iron bar driven abouts. A similar occurrence took place in deep into the ground. What to make of Chelsea about a year since in connection this arrangement these workmen did not with a dog owned by a gentleman. Most know, but they were enlightened when a persons through the square will remember a party of boys entered the yard, and under ferocious brindle dog that generally occupied the direction of a youth of fifteen, who lived a position in the doorway of his master's in the house named, joined hands and were shop in the day-time. The dog had got given a smart electric shock, which astonquite old, nearly blind, and was quite a ished them and amused the youthful operburden to himself, when his owner one day ator much. The ingenuity displayed by the remarked to a friend that he thought the boy was considered great, and exhibited a next day he would have him killed. The good deal of knowledge of the eccentricities animal happened to be within sound of his of the subtle electric fluid, but he was inmaster's voice. He deliberately got up and formed that he mustn't draw any more supwalked out of the store, since which time he plies from the City Hall batteries, and his has never been seen by him."

The Cuban Question. A singularly sagacious person in Belvi-

dere, New Jersey, writes to Max Adeler to ask whether the Cubans or Spaniards will be whipped in the present struggle in Cuba. He says he wants to know so that he "can lectual chaos that he is unable to comprequalities which have not been handed down With the exception of two Mexicans, all to me. He simply yearns to have that bet decided, and when that is done he will be happy. I will try to decide it for him. Cuba, I feel certain that if victory finally perches upon the banners of the Cubans the The great herd, numbering about 3,000 Spaniards will not bring the conflict to a successful conclusion, while if the Spaniards crush the enemy into the dust, the Cubans can hardly be expected to reach such an issue as will justify their indulgence in triumphant exultation. At the same time if the Cubans should happen to acquire the supremacy and to exterminate the Castilian hordes completely, it is more than likely that the Spaniards will not achieve a permanent suppression of the rebellion. Of course in the event of the complete subjugation of the Cubans the efforts of Spain would be crowned with success; and the rebels would probably not obtain the ascendancy. But we cannot close our eyes to the unwill readily see why and how matting is a and mathematics have a value beyond actor across that the curacy in argument and the correct solution open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the Cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; then the trained horse, eager and detect the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; the trained horse, eager and detect the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; the trained horse, eager and detect the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; the trained horse, eager and detect that the cubans have but open; the trained horse, eager and detect the trained h every obstacle to victory; while if this should be the case the Spaniards would dodging like a wounded hare, finds itself hardly obtain the mastery as readily as if the contest should result in the subjugation of the Cubans. In either event the party that secured its object would be most likely to overpower its antagonists, while the party that suffered repulse would find the end to be disastrous. This is a view of the situation which ought to commend itself even to a thick headed person in Belvidere as being definite and conclusive. If it does not settle that bet I do not know how it can be settled, unless the disputants fight each other for the stakes. In that event I advise the opponent of the man who wrote to me, not to fire at his enemy's head unless he has a shot gun which doesn't scatter, and is warranted to send projectiles through a very dense sub-

Burmese Elephants.

Mr. Vincent gives an interesting account of the elephants employed in the immense timber-yards at Maulmain. The power, sagacity, and docility displayed by these trained animals are wonderful. They are chiefly employed in drawing, stocking, and shifting the huge teak logs, some of them weighing as much as two tons; which are cut in the forests upon the banks of the Salween, and floated down the river to timber-yards. A log that forty coolies can scarcely move, the elephant will quietly lift upon his tusks, and holding it there with nis proboscis, will carry it to whatever part of the yard he may be directed by his driver. He will also, using trunk, feet, and tusks, pile the huge timbers with the utmost precision. It is surprising to see the sagacious animal select and pick out particular timbers from the centre of a large heap at the driver's command. The elephants are directed by spoken orders, pressure of the driver's feet, and the goad. It usually requires a year and a half to train an elephant thoroughly for the lumber business. Sometimes an animal will break his tusks from being forced by an ignorant or brutal driver to carry an excessive load, but generally he knows his own strength, and refuses to lift more than his tusks will bear. Should these break off close to the head, the elephant would die; if only cracked, they are bound with iron, and rendered as serviceable as

A Smart Boy.

A few days ago the delicate tests in the Boston fire-alarm office showed that one of numerous well-authenticated instances of the electric currents on the Dorchester Lower much patience they continued their investi between two signal boxes. They then examined the wire connecting the two boxes, and fund it intact. But the tests continued to contradict the evidence of the eyes, and a closer scrutiny developed the fact that what line, was a fine insulated copper wire, which ran from a house-top on which the main mother said he shouldn't.