

Agriculture.

A Thorn Hedge.

Information wanted as to the best method of obtaining a thorn hedge—what the process, &c. Also, in regard to celery, when the seed is to be sown—what the process, &c.

A SUBSCRIBER.

REMARKS.—Hedges are produced by setting the plants—which may be purchased at the nurseries—in good soil, finely pulverized. The process given below is from an article published in the March number of the *Farmer* for 1852.

"My land being light and sandy, I threw out the earth, forming a trench about three feet wide, and eighteen inches deep, filled it up with turf and soil about half full, and the rest with good soil and compost manure, about half and half. I set my plants on the trench, ten inches apart in a single row, in April and May, and cut them down to within four inches of the surface. I keep the land light and free from weeds, and cut the plants every autumn, so that they gain but six inches height each year, the main object being to get the hedge thick at the bottom. Some of my plants I have cut twice, once in Summer, and once in Fall or Spring. I am not decided whether they should be cut once or twice. My plants grew the first year about two feet, and afterwards they have made shoots three feet long, when not stopped, in Summer."—*N. E. Farmer.*

Budding.

The time in which budding is usually performed is from early in July to the middle of September; plums and cherries are among the earliest to be budded, and pears, apples and quinces the latest. If the season in July or even in August, be very dry, budding had better be postponed until there are copious rains. Stocks, from a quarter of an inch to an inch in diameter may be budded, although those of an inch are more suitable for grafting. The buds should be selected from thrifty shoots that have nearly done growing.

Shield, or T. budding, is the most approved mode in all countries, and is described by Downing as follows:

Having your stick of buds ready, choose a smooth portion of the stock. When the latter is small, let it be near the ground, and, if equally convenient, select also the north side of the stock, as less exposed to the sun. Make an upright incision in the bark from an inch to an inch and a half long, and at the top of this make a cross cut, so that the whole shall form a T. From the stick of buds, your knife being very sharp, cut a thin, smooth slice of wood and bark containing a bud.—With your budding knife, now raise the bark on each side of the incision, just wide enough to admit easily the prepared bud. Taking hold of the footstalk of the leaf, insert the bud under the bark, pushing it gently down to the bottom of the incision. If the upper portion of the bud projects above the horizontal part of the T, cut it smoothly off now, so that it may completely fit. A bandage of the soft matting is now tied pretty firmly over the whole wound, commencing at the bottom, and leaving the bud, and the footstalk of the leaf only, exposed to the light and air.—*Id.*

Home-made Guano.

One-half hen manure, one-half decomposed swamp muck, and one bushel of ashes to four of the mixture, put in the day it is used. The ashes should not be put in until it is to be used, as they will set free the ammonia and thereby cause a loss. Save what you have at home, before going abroad after fertilizers; so says common sense.

Present of a Paper.

MR. EDITOR:—A few weeks since, I received a number of your paper containing a receipt making me an advance paying subscriber for one year. My present purpose is not the finding out of my friend, who chooses to remain incognito. I leave that to time and chance. But I shall find him out.

The present of a paper is at once neat, chaste, useful and unexceptionable. Nothing can be more so. It may be received as a gentle hint that a little more reading may be good for us. That to be a little more intellectual will make us better and more lovable. To a farmer it may intimate that a little more learning is no dangerous thing.

Maine.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

LONDON, JULY 18.

[Concluded.]

EUROPEAN COMPLICATIONS.

In addition to what I have named of Italy and Poland, we have now Spain in a ferment. The Court's debauchery and notorious corruption are meeting resistance even in the streets of Madrid, where fighting is going on at the time I write. Since Louis Philippe's intrigues, the storm has been gathering head, and the country appears ripe for revolution. Wholesale executions of men and women fail to stay the revolt, whose secret plans are more dangerous than its open proceedings. There appears scarcely a hopeful sign of true reform anywhere there. Priests and dishonest statesmen, superstition, immorality, and fraud, mark the whole *embroglio*.

Then as to "intervention." France would be ready enough, as in Rome to occupy Spain, and uphold the existing state of things; but that involves us, and the whole European question of that interference which Austria takes in Italy, which Russia lately took in Turkey, and which we have the credit of taking in other places.

France, too, though her political voice be gagged, broods in secret. Revolutionary societies are said to be extensive, well organized, and increasing in spite of the energetic police. War is over, and the Emperor must find some other theme to occupy his people and prevent their studying politics too deeply.

The Empress of Austria has given birth to a Princess, and Francis Joseph is disappointed of a son and heir.

Alexander is to be crowned at Moscow on the 31st of August, and great preparations are being made for the event.

POISONING.

Another strychnine trial is going on—a man charged with so murdering his wife. Public interest is created, from some resemblance to Palmer's case, and the contradictory medical evidence regarding the drug used.

Other recent cases have proved the present careless and indiscriminate sale of poisons, and it is a fact that this crime of the middle ages is fearfully on the increase. Next session, perhaps, a Bill will be passed restricting the sale of these agents of death.

THE EARLY-CLOSING AND SATURDAY-HALF-HOLIDAY MOVEMENT.

The Associations for the above objects are very busy. Forty-one sermons last Sunday, and 10 the week before, were preached in London, for these Societies: 30 by clergymen, and 21 by Nonconformists. This activity thus displayed has been prompted by movements relative to Sunday bands and other amusements. The Association's argument is, that by affording leisure in the week-day, the Sabbath will be more devoted to the worship of God, and less temptations be afforded for country excursions, &c., &c.—those who now go, being then able to breathe fresh air and enjoy the beauties of nature, with relaxation from toil, without infringing on sacred observances. This is a step in the right direction, and is daily gaining ground. The excessive labour which competition and mammon-getting extort from all classes should be checked; religion, morality, and physical well-being, alike demand it; and the want has now become a stern necessity.

A large meeting was held in Exeter Hall with especial reference to milliner's and dress-maker's assistants; Earl Shaftesbury, Lord R. Grosvenor and the Bishop of Oxford, powerfully supporting it. The statements showed that during "the season," work was extended sometimes to 19 or even 20 hours out of the 24—inducing, at the weeks end, total prostration, and laying the seeds of incurable disease. What hope could be entertained, under such circumstances, that the poor debilitated toilers (themselves the weaker sex) would spend the Sabbath in observing public worship? O that those employers who talk so loudly of rest for toilers, would loosen their firm clutch of brain, bone, and sinew on but one day out of six, and not strive to shield their own grasping avarice by a false cry of humanity, a sham interest in their servant's welfare!

LONDON CITY MISSION.

Mr. Fowell Buxton recently gave an entertainment to 320 missionaries, at his residence near Leytonstone. Clergymen and dissenters joined in loving affinity to celebrate the day; and Sir N. Buxton, Bart., was also present. Dinner took place in a marquee in the grounds, and rural sports followed till tea-time. A short meeting was afterwards held, the host and hostess were honoured in the usual way, the National Anthem was sung, and the gratified party returned to town. The cricketing and other exercise would do these good men service, and, by healthy relaxation, fit them the more for their self-denying and arduous exertions.

GREAT ART-EXHIBITION.

Manchester is about to inaugurate an exhibition in accordance with that pacific animus which in the late war especially distinguished her name. Art and peace walk hand in hand; and art is to have an exposition somewhat like the first Crystal Palace. The proposal is, "a display of art-treasures from all parts of the United Kingdom. These treasures may belong to the past or the present—to the palaces of the rich or abodes of the poor—and may comprehend all that is beautiful or remarkable in sculpture, painting, manufacture, drawings, photographs, furnishings, antiquities, costumes, or tapestry. The building is designed, and will be opened next May. An efficient council is formed, £70,000 has been collected already, and Lords Ellesmere, Derby and Overstone are the patrons.

Prince Albert has also written a letter to Lord Overstone concerning the project, stating, "it will give me the greatest pleasure to give you any feeble assistance I may be enabled to render." The Prince also expresses the Queen's best wishes for the success of the project, and adds many suggestions for the attainment of practical and national usefulness, by "illustrating the history of art in a chronological and systematic arrangement, which would enable the most uneducated eye to gather the lessons which ages of thought and scientific research have attempted to abstract; and present to the world, for the first time, such a gallery as no other country in the world could produce." "No country invests a larger amount of capital in works of art, of all kinds, than England; and in none, almost, is so little done for art education."

These are words worthy of the founder of our Great Exhibition; and under such auspices there is ground for hope that the project will be well carried out. Of its beneficial tendency there can be but one opinion.

Appropos of art, I may mention a scheme of the Prince consort's for the removal of the National Gallery collection (whose present site is justly complained of) to Kensington Gore, and a more suitable building. Parliament, however, would not support the plan, and rejected it in spite of very great influence which the Court knows well how to wield. In our days, however, Court influence cannot always have its own way.

Everything Mr. Editor, must have an end; so must this letter from

YOUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

For the Christian Messenger.

Sketches of a Western Tour.

MR. EDITOR,

Our last communication having been for some time mislaid in the Post Office, we had given up the idea of continuing these sketches, but as it has come to light we beg to offer an additional remark or two as a conclusion.

We arrived at Indian Harbour in St. Margaret's Bay, in time to spend a few days very agreeably amongst our old and valued friends there, previous to the meeting of the Eastern Association. And we rejoiced to find that, though they have been destitute of regular pastoral labour since last autumn, yet they have sustained an interesting Prayer-meeting, and are making an active effort to erect for themselves a neat little Chapel, which when finished will add, not only to the appearance of the place, but to the welfare of the people. They are unable, we regret to say, even in connection with the St. Margaret's Bay church, to realize more than £75 towards sustaining a Pastor. And it is well known that no efficient man can be secured for that amount. The probability is, therefore, that they must remain

destitute for an indefinite time, unless they can obtain an appropriation of some £20, from the funds of the Central D. M. Board. The field is extensive and promising, though it is partially missionary ground; and if a man of some experience could be permanently settled amongst them, with the blessing of God much good would doubtless be accomplished.

But with regard to our Eastern D. M. operations. It has already been announced by the Secretary that the treasury is empty, and that the Board in consequence have felt themselves conscientiously bound to suspend all further action until it is replenished. How long this sad state of things, which we all most deeply deplore, shall be allowed to continue, remains for our brethren to decide.

To meet present exigencies, much indefatigable effort is imperatively demanded, and liberal voluntary contributions are strongly solicited. Until they are realized nothing can be done. To our brethren, therefore, we earnestly appeal. Shall we have to shut our ears to the Macedonian cry, constantly resounding from every quarter of the land? Shall we remain heedless of the moral destitution so widely prevalent; dry up the fountain of our sympathies and indolently retire from all effort to evangelize the perishing multitudes around us. Is there not money enough still in the hands of our noble-hearted brethren whose liberality has so often been tested, to meet all claims in connection with this all-important department of Christian enterprise?

The inefficiency of our system is universally acknowledged, and special committees have been appointed to amend it. But must nothing be done till that is accomplished? Must we retire from the field entirely until the wise heads of our Denomination make it convenient to introduce an improved plan of operations? We say no; and feel assured that every lover of the cause will respond no. Let us arouse from our apathy, and do what we can. Let the widow cast in her mite; the poor man his pence, and the rich one his pounds; and the Lord's treasury will soon be sufficiently replenished to enable the friends of missions to do something more definite and satisfactory than is now being done. The cause of God demands it; the souls of benighted perishing sinners demand it; our own consciences demand it. May God help us to respond.

Truly yours,

J. C. HURD.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The question has been some time asked in our hearing why write a Biography. Our answer is, not for the purpose of extolling the creature or of passing undue encomiums on the dead, but for the twofold purpose of notifying the friends and connexions of the departed relatives of their peaceful end, and of showing to the world the wonderful effects of Divine grace through its regenerating influences on the heart of man, in humbling the heart, subduing the will, controlling the desires and establishing the mind through that truth, by which, if the soul is made free it is free indeed. Not that every professor exemplifies religion through life and makes a happy end. The language of our Prince is, "Not every one that saith unto me Lord Lord shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, But he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven." They being justified by faith become new creatures in Christ Jesus, as saith an apostle, "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works". Every failure on their part is a cause of grief, a source of sorrow and anxiety. How beautifully expressed by Watts,

They mourn their follies past,
And keep their hearts with care.
Their lips and lives without deceit
Shall prove their faith sincere.

The wheel of time in its evolutions causes us continually to near the brink of eternity, our arrest and removal will certainly be accomplished at an appointed time. When the dust shall return to its dust and the "spirit to God who gave it." Circumstances connected with the following have brought us to feel with Job that, "Man cannot pass the bounds of his habitation."