

Agriculture, &c.

HOW TO DRY SWEET CORN.

When the corn is in good condition for eating, the grains being fully grown, boil a quantity of ears just enough to cook the starch, and then let them cool and dry a few hours, and then shell or cut off the grains and spread them in the sun till dried. The best way to dry the corn is to nail a piece of cloth of very open texture on a frame, which if two feet wide, and five long, will be of a convenient size to handle. If the corn is spread thinly upon this cloth it will dry quickly without souring. It should be covered with a piece of mosquito netting to keep off the flies. Another person gives the following directions for drying sweet corn: "As soon as the corn is fit for the table, husk and spread the ears in an open oven, or some quickly drying place. When the grains loosen shell the corn, or shell as soon as you can. Then spread upon a cloth to dry in the sun, or on paper in a warm oven; stir often, that it may dry quickly and not overheat. It more resembles the undried by its being whole, is sweeter, and retains more of its natural flavor by drying faster. When wholly dried expose it to the wind by turning it slowly from dish to dish; the wind blows off all the troublesome white chaff."

GREENING PICKLES WITH GRAPE LEAVES.

It is considered very desirable by house-keepers that pickled cucumbers, mangoes, &c., should be of a deep green color. They taste no better, but they look nicer. To produce this greenness, it has been customary to place the pickles in a brass or copper vessel, pour hot alum water over them, and let them remain until the desired color; that is, until the salt of copper, verdigris, has acted upon them sufficiently. A better way of doing it without the aid of poisons, is recommended by Mrs. Haskell's Encyclopedia, which is as follows; "When packing the cucumbers in salt, line the barrel, bottom and sides, with grape leaves, and pack between the layers of cucumbers a quantity of the fresh leaves, until the barrel is full. When salted through, remove them from the brine, and pour boiling water upon the pickles several times. If not the desired color, line a tub in the same manner that the barrel was prepared, and pack the pickles with a large quantity of the leaves. Heat vinegar boiling hot, pour it over the pickles, and cover them tightly. If, the next morning they are not sufficiently greened, drain off the vinegar, reheat it, and pour it over them again; repeat the process until of the color desired. When they are sufficiently greened, pour over them hot vinegar; if they taste of the vine leaves, change the vinegar after a week."

HOW TO MAKE BREACHY CATTLE.

We are too apt to underrate the intelligence of the domestic animals under our charge; and yet a moment's reflection should teach every farmer that cows, horses, sheep, and pigs, are very apt pupils; and most farmers or farmers' boys are quite proficient in teaching them to do mischief. Thus we find many persons, when turning stock into or out of pasture, instead of letting down the bars, leave two or three of the lower rails in their place; and then, by shouting or beating, perhaps, force the animals to leap over. This is capital training, the results of which are seen in the after disposition of animals to try their powers of jumping where a top rail happens to be off, and this accomplished, to set all fences at defiance, and make a descent upon the corn or grain fields, as their inclination, ability, or hunger may prompt them. Another good lesson is to open the gate but a little way, and then, as in the case of the bars, force the cattle forward, and by threats and blows compel them to pass through. The result of this teaching is shown in the determined spirit manifested by some cattle to make a forcible entry into the stable, yards, and fields.

CATTLE KILLING IN BUENOS AYRES.

A correspondent of the Tribune writes from Buenos Ayres:

This is not an agricultural country, but pastoral. The animals raised are in numbers respectively, as the order in which I name them—sheep, cattle, horses. The exports are chiefly the various parts of these animals—as hides, horns, hair, tallow, bones, beef, etc. There is economy in preserving every part except the beef. This is taken off in sheets, and dried and salted and dried again, until all relationship to beef can be very safely denied, and it is then jerked beef ready for exportation to Brazil or Cuba.

"The number of animals slaughtered in this vicinity is almost incredible. The following are the statistics on that subject from January 1863, till May 15th: In Uruguay, 519,600; in Buenos Ayres, 205,900; in Entre Rios, 190,000; in Rio Grande, 300,000. Total for so much of 1863, 1,215,500.

BROILED TOMATOES.

In order to have tomatoes nice, cooked in this manner, the largest ones must be selected. Cut them into rather thick slices, seasoning each piece with pepper and salt. Use an oyster gridiron to broil them on—a common one will answer—and cook them but a few moments.—When sent to the table, add butter.

ONIONS FOR CATTLE.—A correspondent of the Journal of Agriculture has great faith in the efficacy of a peck of onions for ridding cows or oxen of lice. He claims to have found them an infallible remedy in his practice. They also give tone to the stomach, and are especially valuable in hot weather, when working cattle lie in the shade at noon time, and refuse to eat.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Autobiographical Sketch.

By REV. CHARLES TUPPER, D. D.

EVENTS OF YOUTH.

(No. 9.)

Bad books, like bad company, exert an exceedingly pernicious influence. Every person should, therefore, abstain from reading them, and endeavor to prevent their circulation.

While I was teaching school in the early part of the year 1814, I wished to give a little book to one of my pupils, as a reward. There were not then such facilities in the country for obtaining suitable books for this purpose as are now afforded. I recollected that I had purchased a pamphlet several years before, in which were some things of a lascivious tendency, which were very exceptionable. As, however, it consisted of a number of distinct stories, it occurred to me, that it might be so pruned as to remove what was objectionable, and it might then answer my purpose. I therefore took the pamphlet one morning into my school-house, kindled a fire, opened my pen-knife, and commenced the operation of pruning. Glancing my eye over the first page, I noticed something that I could not approve; and consequently cut out the leaf, and threw it into the fire. The next leaf exhibited traces of the same evil, and it was treated in the same manner. By this time I began strongly to suspect that a pernicious vein pervaded every part of the book; that the whole was tainted. I proceeded, however, with my investigation, reading only till I came to some word or expression which appeared to me unsuitable to be read by a child, or indeed by an adult, and then using the knife. When this process was completed, nothing but the cover remained. All the leaves had been committed to the flames. It would be highly conducive to the interests of morality, and to the general welfare, if many other books were treated in the same way.

An old school teacher, who was acquainted with me, had remarked at the commencement of my teaching, that I would learn as much as any of my scholars. This was probably correct. I never neglected any of them, however, as no teacher should, for my own advantage. Arithmetic was the principal branch of learning in which it was requisite for me to make proficiency, in order that I might be fully qualified for the discharge of my duty. My knowledge of this was previously quite limited. Having procured "Walkingame's Tutor's Assistant," without any aid I nearly made myself master of all that it contained.

Having completed the term for which I was engaged, and enjoyed the pleasure of receiving assurance that my labors were highly satisfactory to my employers, I returned to my former occupation, namely, that of husbandry.

I now resumed the study of Latin almost exclusively. The work of translating was peculiarly interesting to me. During the long days of summer I was so constantly employed in manual labor, that I could scarcely find any time for translating. I therefore commenced a practice to which I had not been accustomed, namely, that of sitting up late at night, that I might enjoy the luxury of devoting time to my favorite exercise. Students have in many instances adopted the pernicious habit of turning the night into day, and the day, or a considerable portion of it, into night, by setting up till very late at their studies, and then sleeping till late in the morning. Though their health is very liable to suffer from this course, yet they may take time in the day for the restoration of exhausted nature. With me, however, it was otherwise. I continued to arise early; and my constitution, which was slender, and never well admitted of the deprivation of sleep, succumbed under the pressure of undue exertion, both physical and mental, without sufficient intervals for restoration. The consequence was, that intolerable head-ache compelled me to suspend my study. It is evident to me that I became quite nervous; for whenever I would attempt to recall to mind any of the Latin lessons formerly learned, my head would presently ache distressingly.

Thus painful experience taught me the necessity of returning to my former prudent and healthful practice of retiring to rest at an early hour. This practice, as all acquainted with me are aware, I have been accustomed to observe, so far as it has been in my power, to the present time. It will probably be retained to the close of mortal life.

While my youthful readers may be admonish-

ed by my error, and the injury sustained from it, to avoid excess even in efforts to acquire useful learning, I would affectionately and earnestly entreat them, for their own good, always to keep reasonable hours. The homely adage "Early to bed, and early to rise, Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise,"

which was taught me in the days of my childhood, is unquestionably well worthy of attention. This course is, indeed, equally conducive to morality. The cases are in all probability very rare in which one who constantly observes this rule becomes immoral, or addicted to any gross vice; but it is notorious that many of those who do not adhere to it, fall into immoral practices, and ultimately contract vicious and ruinous habits. In fact it is disreputable for a man in health, who has not been unavoidably deprived of his rest, to lie in bed late in the morning. It is naturally regarded by many as an indication either of dissolute habits, or of indolence. I would therefore particularly advise students to guard sedulously against becoming accustomed to study late at night. Bad habits are readily contracted; but their abandonment is a difficult and rare attainment.

ERRATA.—In No. 8. C. M., Aug. 19, p. 261, line 8, for "five cultivated farms," read five, &c., line 28, for "his," read is.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission in P. E. Island and Cape Breton.

DEAR EDITOR,

I left Margaree on the 25th ult., for home, and spent one Sabbath at Ship Harbor, where I met with Brothers Gesner and Moser, licentiate preachers. Bro. Gesner had been sometime on the ground laboring to good acceptance. The friends were hoping to retain one of them to occupy the field. Thence I travelled to Annapolis and preached once in company with Elder G. Miles who had just arrived on his mission. I arrived at home on 3rd inst., finding the friends well, and the Church ready to receive their returned Pastor. Thus laboring eight weeks under an appointment of the Mission Board; two in P. E. Island, and six in Cape Breton. "Hitherto the Lord hath helped me." I was cordially received and the word preached was attentively heard. It was in many instances difficult to leave the people; so urgent were they to hear the Gospel.

Preached 27 sermons. Addressed 6 meetings. Made 96 pastoral visits. Held 3 Conference meetings. Baptized one person. Distributed 200 pages of tracts. Travelled some 600 miles.

RECEIVED FOR THE SOCIETY.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Collection Lot 49, P. E. Island, Ship Harbor, Mabou, Rachel Potter, John Macdonald, William Ingraham, John Burton, Murdoch Maclean, Murdoch Macdonald, Catherine Fraser, Lauchlan Macdonald, Donald Macdonald, William Hart, Collection Port Hood, Collection Ship Harbor, Peter Paint, B. Scott.

Total £6 7 4

Yours truly, B. SCOTT.

For the Christian Messenger.

Meeting-house at Barrington.

MR. EDITOR,—

During the past few months our little Baptist Church in Barrington, has been making an effort to obtain a place of worship. At present we are dependent to a great extent upon our brethren of the Free Will and Free Christian denominations for the use of their houses. These, of course, are not always at our service, although they kindly grant us the use of them when not otherwise occupied by their own ministers. Under such circumstances we are like sheep without a fold of our own, and deeply feel the need of a house of worship. As our number is small, and none of us possess a super-abundance of this world's goods, we cannot, of ourselves accomplish the desired object. We have therefore determined to appeal to the sympathies and crave the assistance of our brethren and friends in other parts of the province.

During the summer I have visited Locke's Island, Liverpool, Milton and Yarmouth, obtaining, on behalf of the Church, subscriptions and contributions, some of which I beg leave here to acknowledge. As the principal part of the subscriptions from Milton and Liverpool were pay-

able in building materials, not yet collected, I will pass over them at present, but acknowledge them in due time.

LOCKE'S ISLAND.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes X. Z. Chipman, Michael Shaw, Wm T. Shaw, L. P. Churchill, Isaac Lloyd, G. I., X. A. Chipman, Mrs. Churchill, Joshua Chadsey, Mrs. John Locke.

The above were all paid.

YARMOUTH.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Saml. Brown, Wm. Churchill, A. C. Robbins, G. Wm W. man, Young & Baker, Jos Shaw, Lewis Allen, Mr. Doucett, G. Swainson, N. Utley, W. H. Gildley, Edgar Kelly, Mrs. Geddes, Jos. Wetmore Jr., A. W. Homer, Jas. Murray Jr., A. S. Murray, Mrs. Churchill, J. K. Ryerson, Andw. Goudey, Jos. McConnell, Jos. O. Haley, Mrs. L. Kelly, John D. Kelly, John Hatfield, T. M. Lewis, Ansel Robbins, A. Friend, Wm. Harris, G. R. Ditty, B. Brown, Senr., W. Waddleton, S. F. Raymond, Edw. Hugstis, S. M. Ryerson, J. B. Kenney, Jno. E. Dennis, J. G. Dallinger, Robt. Brown, G. S. Brown, Mrs J. W. Lovitt, Capt J. W. Lovitt, Kenny & Haley, George H. Allen, Benj. Brown, Jr., Joseph Treffy, Col in Y. M. House, John Haley, Comfort Haley, Wm. Haley, Nathan Haastis, M. S. N. McConnell, Jesse Wym, John Crowley, Asa Robbins, Mrs. C. Robbins, J. A. Flint, A. W. Potter, Jos. Rogers, Z. Vicker, Ansil Crossby, Wm. Raymond, B. R., paid \$4.00.

* Those marked with an asterisk are paid or to be paid in building materials and articles for sale.

Any friends disposed to assist in our undertaking, will oblige us by forwarding their favors to bro. W. L. Crowell, or myself.

Yours in Christ,

W. H. RICHAN.

Barrington, Sept. 1st, 1863.

For the Christian Messenger.

Another letter from Rev. John Sprott.

TO REV. GEORGE DIMOCK:

My Dear Sir,—

I am glad that you are able to read my crooked hand. Were we near to each other we could have a long conversation, pleasing as at Green Alley in the month of July. We are both in the sere and yellow leaf. The world has run away from us. A young generation do not know us, and have little relish for our conversation. The iron pen of time has recorded great changes since you and I first saw the light. I well remember the thunders of the French Revolution when Great Britain was a barrack and the continent of Europe battle ground, and when regiment after regiment were sent away to the harvest of death, and many of my school-fellows followed the life and the drum. They got a gory bed and a soldier's sepulchre. At that time the mechanics of Paisley and Manchester were abandoning the Bible for the writings of Tom Paine and Voltaire. Hume predicted that in the nineteenth century superstition would fade away and philosophy would triumph. By superstition he meant Christianity; by philosophy he meant infidelity. Hume died in 1776. A quarter of a century brings us down to 1801, when the Bible Society commenced its march to universal empire.

What do we now behold? Prejudice giving way and every where a thirst for the Word of God. Kingdoms rise and fall, individuals live and die, but the word of God shall last for ever. The close of the last century was a dark period in our Scottish History. War was the applauded achievement of mankind and infidelity desolated the fairest provinces of Europe. Our churches were like the mountains of Gilboa without dew on fields or offerings. Piety was at a low ebb and whiskey was an universal favorite with both saints and sinners. Good men saw the evil and sighed and prayed for better times. In due time the clouds began to break away and we saw a clearer sky. An influence fell on the churches more refreshing than the breath of Spring. Missionary Societies were formed in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, and in many other places, and money was collected to send the gospel to heathen lands. People were astonished that they had so long neglected to carry into execution the last command of their Master,—to preach the gospel to all nations. The Baptist Church in England took the lead in this great work of mercy, and sent Carey and his companions to India in 1792. What a blessing to the world was the conversion of such men as Swartz, Vandercamp, Henry Martyn, John Williams, Robert Moffat. These names will be remembered when the warriors of the age are forgotten. The conversion of the world was the grand object for which the Saviour suffered and died. The conversion of sinners is