the christian messenger.
FEBRUARY 21, 1877.

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|  | $\frac{\text { SCIENCE. }}{\text { Painting woodwork.-Wood is a }}$ porous substance, subject to change by atmospheric effects, such as dampness, heat, cold \&oc. Paint is cesigned to protect the wood from these effects, and to improve the appearance of the article painted, by giving it both colour |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |

AGRICULTURE.
GeEse ruLL of FUN.-A goose has
perhaps the keenest appreciation of
humor of any animal, unless it be her
own arch-enemy, the fox. The writer
once saw in a little grassy paddock some
eight or ten fat and healthy pigs and
half a score of geese. From this pad-
dock a narrow, open gate gave entrance


CHROMOS.
 dock a narrow, open gate gave entrance
into the farmyard. and, as evening drew on, the geese ranged themselves in a
row near this Thermopyla. Obviously, row near this Thermopyle. Obviously,
supper-time was approaching and the pigs wished to return home to their troughs. Equally clearly the geese had given each other the word not to they guarded with out paying toll. they guarded came up a jolly, good-
First there che hully along with a confidence which fully along with a cong to have disarmed criticism, till he came among the geese. Then, with
a cackle and acream, every neck was stretched to get a bite at him, and sypaulling and yelling, the poor little
porker ran the gauntlet. The same porker ran the gauntet.
fate befell six or seven more of his brethren in succession, each betraying increasing trepidation as he approached the corps de garde of geese, whose
chattering and screeckes of delight were almost undistinguishable from human laughter. At last the biggest pig of the party brought up the rear. He
was a pink-fleshed, clean young fellow, with fat limbs and sides, and his ears wer in the intelligeut wide-awake manner which so completely distinguishes the intellectual pig from the mere swine multitude. With a loud grunt of defiance this brave beast charged through the flock of geese, and had actually
almost gained the gate, when a large gray goose made one grab at his fat
ham, caught up the skin in a bunch and gave it a tremendous pinch with her red beak. Needless to say the air
was rent with the squeals of agony of the injured pig and the ecstatic preans.
of the flock of geese in chorus. From of the lock of geese in chorus. From place we derived the impression that a similar game of prisoner's base prob-
ably formed the entertainment of the geese

Aboct apples.-"As iron is rated Appleton's Journal, " so the apple ranks ampong fruits. It is not the most luxurious or the most luscious for the mo-
ment, but it is the most durably valument, but it is the most durably valu-
able, the most practical.". A lady, for many years a missionary in India, said that she was so often apple-hungry
that she would give all the luscious that she would give all the luscious
fruits of that country for one apple. fruits of that country for one apple.
The writer referred to thus continues his talk about apples :

## Scripture and geology, which have been supposed to differ about some

 things, agree as to its age, both placingits its birth just a little before man's, as if it were said, "Now the apple is born,
it is time for man to be, who is destined it is time for man to be, who is destined
to eat it." It is not Genesis, but tradition which makes it the apple that was put into Eve's hand, and afterward literature seems quite at unison in accepting this version of the matter. The unfortunate fruit, whatever it may have been, was said to be the tree of knowledge; and, curiously enough, the apple has a very pertinent relation to the brain, stimulating its life and its activity, which it does by its immense endowment of phosphorous, in which element it is said to be richer than
anything else in the vegetable king. anything else in the vegetable king
dom. But phosphorus is not only brain-supporting; it is light-bringing
and must thus contribute to knowledge


Good rules for farmers.-1. In
gathering seed corn, take such ears
as are finest and from the most prolific

## as are

2. Never take from a stalk having
one ear, if thirty stalks can be found one ear, if thirty stalks can be found
with two or more good-sized ears with two or more good-sized ears.
Generally but one of then is fit for seed, and that. usually the second from
3. Always take ears that are filled out to the end, and that beyond the husk, if such can be found. When you
come to plant, before shelling break come to plant, before shelling break
one ear and see if the pith of the cob is dried up;
not ripe.
If a man keeps cherishing his own knowledge, so as continually to be ac-
quiring new, he may be a teacher of quiring
A go
 head quar
Chromos.
Dec. 13 .

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"How do you define ' black as you pupils. "Darkness that may be felt," replied the youthful wit.

