

Maritime Farmer

Published by

"AGRICULTURE THE TRUE BASIS OF A NATION'S WEALTH."

Maritime Farmer Association

VOL. I.

FREDERICTON, N. B., DECEMBER 25, 1879.

NO. 17

REDUCTION IN STOCK!
Having over-bought in the following goods, we have determined to close them out at **COST PRICES.**

DRESS TWEEDS,
commencing at 3 1/2 cts. per yd.

DRESS GOODS,
175 PIECES,
Commencing at 8 cents per yard.

GREY COTTONS,
10,000 YARDS,
Commencing at 5 cents per yard.

WHITE COTTONS,
2,000 YARDS,
Commencing at 6 cents per yard.

PRINTED COTTONS,
300 PIECES,
Commencing at 6 cents per yard.

Black Lustres,
800 pieces, commencing at 14 cents per yard.

Wool Shawls, 200,
Commencing at 75 cts each.

COTTON FLANNELS,
200 pieces, commencing at 7 cents per yard.

A LOT OF WOOL GOOD,
At quarter prices to clear.

It would be to the advantage of buyers to call and examine prices before purchasing elsewhere.
DEVER BROS.
November 6.

Boys' and Youth's

CLOTHING
Twenty per Cent. Off the Dollar.
AT REDUCED PRICES.

Overcoats and Ulsters,
Coats, Pants and Vests.

Tweed Suits
WITH LONG AND SHORT PANTS, suitable for Boys from six to fourteen years old.

The above goods are offered at twenty per cent. off regular prices for cash.

THOMAS LOGAN,
GENERAL DRYGOODS STORE,
OPP. NORMAL SCHOOL.
Fredericton, Nov. 11, 1879, 8 hrs.

Christmas Cards
and
Wall Brackets.

We have just opened
2000
Christmas and New Year's Cards
at 12 Boxes of Brackets,
which we are offering very low.

A. A. MILLER & CO.,
OPP. CITY HALL.
Fredericton, Dec. 4, 1879.

GOOD TIMES COMING!

Will pay 30 cts. per pair, Cash, for all well-shot Partridges.

WILMOT GUIOU,
Fredericton, Dec. 4.

LAST NOTICE.

Some few of our subscribers have not yet sent the amount due for their subscription to the MARITIME FARMER for the ensuing year. We will regret having to erase any names from our lists but the sum is too small to make an account of, and to save that, and also to avoid sending the paper where there is a possibility of its not being wanted we will on the first day of January, omit sending to all those who will not have paid the small subscription price which secures the MARITIME FARMER for one year. If any who do not receive the paper of January 1st, have paid their subscription we will be glad to be promptly notified as a few unintentional errors might be made.

Agriculture.

Chit Chat on Farm Topics.
We are agreeably surprised to learn of the very general feeling of confidence shared by our farmers as to the marked change in the times for the better, which is gradually and steadily taking place. In a recent call upon many leading farmers on the western side of the river between Hamstead and Fredericton, we learned that this feeling was very general, and we have no doubt that it is very generally shared in by our agriculturists in the other sections of the Province. We were informed by a leading farmer in Burton that all parties residing between the Oromocto and Gagetown are actively engaged; some in securing lumber, others in getting booms for the Fredericton Boom Company, and not a few in getting wood for the Messrs. Glazier's tug boats; and to use his own words, "not an idle man was to be found." The recent rise in the price of lumber in England has given a healthier tone to the lumber market here, and the farmers naturally feel that as operations will be increased so will there be an increased demand for agricultural products. All agree that the crops of the past season have been abundant and in some cases much above the average; in corroboration of which the well filled cellars and barns we had the pleasure of examining, most truly testify.

We are glad to learn of the interest of our friends in the success of the MARITIME FARMER, and many are the pledges we received of a sincere desire as to its future success. This is just as it should be, and while the "Maritime Farmer Association" are making and will continue to make every effort possible to give to the farmers of the Maritime Provinces an agricultural journal second to none, they hope and expect to receive the cordial support of all. Not only so far as their sympathy may be given, but in sustaining it financially by subscribing for it. We trust that our friends will talk the matter over and urge its acceptance during the holiday season upon which we have entered.

Sheep Farming.

With proper care and skill there is probably no branch of farm husbandry that will give better results for the capital invested than sheep farming. Every farmer in New Brunswick should strive to carry a moderate size flock on his farm, while many in favored localities would do well to carry large flocks. With the ready market now open to us either in the United States or England, there need be no doubt of quick sales for all surplus stock. Drovers and dealers have been scouring the Province during the past season for sheep as well as cattle. Aside from this view of the case, mutton is essentially the laboring man's meat. A quarter of Lamb or Mutton can be had in our Meat Shops for a moderate price per lb., and can readily be kept fresh until consumed by the family; while beef in pieces for family use is generally sold for double the price. Farmers, too, can always supply themselves with fresh meat from their flock very readily and at all seasons of the year. Lands under sheep pasturage are gradually enriched, and this fact of itself should be a great inducement to increase their numbers. The fleece is another important consideration, as wool is steadily increasing in value with a more active demand. As our woolen factories are increased in numbers and capacity for the manufacture of woolen goods, so will the demand for wool be increased. This tends to increase the value of the animals to the breeder and leaves a larger margin of profits after paying for care and keep. In order to insure success, great care should be exercised in the choice of animals to breed from, as on this a large extent rests success or failure. While there is no

farm stock more susceptible to good care and feeding; there is none which will degenerate more quickly by neglect in selecting the proper animals for breeding purposes, and want of care and attention. The necessity for new blood, in the ordinary course of breeding is imperative, and he who does not take the pains to secure it, need not be disappointed if he gradually witness the deterioration of his flock. Sheep should also be provided with good shelter from the storms of winter, (it need not be warm,) but should be dry and airy, and so arranged that they may go in and out at pleasure.

Breeders may suit their fancy in the choice of breeds; as a rule, however, we think that long wools will be found to give the best satisfaction, possessing, as they do, a good weighty carcass at an early age, combined with heavy fleeces.

The following comparative test of the different breeds as made on the "Experimental Farm," at Guelph, will be of interest to our readers. First let us take the quantity of wool shorn on the 15th day of April, 1878, from stock rams of the following breeds:

| BREED. | Live weight of animals. | Weight of Fleeces. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Border Leicester..... | 345 lbs. | 17 1/2 lbs. |
| Cotswold..... | 308 " | 17 " |
| English Leicester..... | 270 " | 11 1/2 " |
| W. D. A. Long Wool..... | 270 " | 15 " |
| Oxford Down..... | 254 " | 14 " |

It will be seen that the Border Leicester in this test has carried of the palm followed closely by the Cotswold, which is a little deficient in weight of carcass but equal in weight of fleeces. We now invite an attentive examination of the following test in which is given the order of merit in the several points mentioned, and the whole number of points scored by each breed, the merit mark being 100.

| BREED. | Weight per lb. | Softness. | Net weight. | Uniformity. | Density. | Length. | Strength of Wool. | Length of Lamb. |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------|---------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Border Leicester..... | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Cotswold..... | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| English Leicester..... | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| W. D. A. Long Wool..... | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Oxford Down..... | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

If the points as valued in the above test are true generally in Ontario, so far as the different breeds are concerned, I do not think they would compare in all cases with the opinions of our sheep farmers of New Brunswick. It is a fact that the growth of wool is materially changed, for better or for worse, by the physical characteristics of a country, that the nature of the soil, drainage, temperature, rainfall, vegetation, shelter, care, food, all have an effect upon its growth and value. We were scarcely prepared to see the English Leicester, (the leading breed in New Brunswick) classed last on the list, while the Border Leicester takes third rank. The Cotswold enjoys, according to the test, undisputed right to the first position, a fact which our breeders will do well to note. We do not remember to have seen many Cotswolds at our Provincial Exhibitions, indeed the only ones we ever remember to have seen, were those shown by John H. Reid Esq., of York County, whose enterprise in securing thoroughbred stock is so well known, and to whom the Province is largely indebted for the energy he has displayed.

The Oxford Down, which occupies second place, is certainly deserving of a fair trial at the hands of our breeders, and just here we may be permitted to remark that the Government in making the next importation would do well to consider the propriety of securing a number of this breed along with others so that our farmers could give them a trial.

We are inclined to the opinion that a service could be rendered the County by the Government by securing a few pairs of each of the breeds not already in the Province and placing them in the hands of reliable men to test their adaptability to our soil and climate. Of one thing we are quite sure, that sheep farming if carefully and attentively followed will both enrich our farms and increase our cash deposits.

Sheep for the Markets of the United States.

The farmers of the Maritime Provinces have sold large numbers of sheep to drovers who are shipping them to Boston and other markets in the United States. This trade has been carried on for quite a number of years in the upper Counties of New Brunswick bordering on the State of Maine, and has been steadily increasing. This trade has been vigorously prosecuted along all our lines of railway, and the numbers sold for exportation have been larger than in any previous year.

Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia have also furnished large numbers of sheep for the markets of the United States. The trade is being rapidly developed and bids fair to assume large proportions. The St. John Daily Sun states that 600 sheep were dispatched from Fairville on Monday, the 15th inst., by the St. John and Maine Railway, for Bangor, Messrs. E. Smith, Wm. Kane and P. McDonald shipping 200 each. About 900 sheep have been shipped from Fairville this season.

Few countries are better adapted for growing sheep than New Brunswick, and our farmers would do well to increase their flocks so as to be able to take a greater advantage of the extended markets now offered in England and the United States.

PROVINCIAL FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

We desire to call the attention of the farmers of New Brunswick to the fact that the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at Sussex early in the month of February. Full particulars will be given in the next issue of the FARMER. We trust that Agricultural Societies, County Leagues and Granges will be represented by delegates at the Association. It is expected that a full delegation will be present and that the session will be of much interest. Subjects for discussion will be announced in good time. Full particulars of the session will be published by this paper, and farmers who have not subscribed for the MARITIME FARMER should do so in time to have the full reports. Only \$1.00 per year.

SULPHUR FOR SHEEP.—An exchange says: Mix a little sulphur with salt, and feed occasionally to sheep. It will effectually cure sheep of all ticks. The same remedy applied to cattle troubled with lice, will soon rid them of the vermin. The use of sulphur with salt, well repays the trouble of keeping a supply for cattle and sheep. If a mixture of one part of sulphur with seven of salt, be freely supplied, there will be no trouble with vermin. You can give horses the mixture with good effect.

A ROUGH COATED HORSE.—A rough, strong coat upon a horse is a symptom of ill-health. A change of food is often sufficient to restore the smoothness of the coat. Boiled oats or scalded bran, with a few handfuls of linseed meal mixed in, and fed cold, may be given along with some mild alterative or tonic medicine, such as castor oil or an ounce of sulphur or one dram of copperas daily in the food.

Over a ton of turkeys and chickens have been bought in the Fredericton market and sold to Boston dealers by Mr. Alex. I. Karney, one of the General Agents of Messrs. Johnston & VanMeter.

Why Large Flocks are Less Thrifty than Small Ones.

The reason why large flocks of sheep—and the principal applies to all farm stock—are less thrifty than a small number together, is answered very truly by Mr. B. F. Magee, in an address before the Indian Sheep Growers' Association, in speaking of pasturing:

"There is one thing about pasturing sheep that has been overlooked, viz: the damage done to the grasses by being run over by the flock. While I believe one acre of good grass would keep five or maybe eight sheep well, I do not believe one hundred acres would keep five hundred sheep. Five sheep would probably do but little damage to one acre, even though they were confined to it; they would put a few tracks over it in a day, and would easily find fresh grass each day. But suppose we put 500 sheep in a 100 acre lot; if each five sheep would confine themselves to their own particular acre they would probably do well in the summer. But they will not do this, and Right here is where theory and practice part company. Our five sheep start out to graze, and the 495 go along with them. Now, a sheep is a dainty creature, and likes clean food. So the hindmost part of the flock keeps pushing ahead, paying little or no attention to what has been run over, and being in each other's way, each would go over ten times as much ground before it is filled, as it ought. And having so much more work to get its food, it does not do so well as one that can satisfy itself with little or no exertion. Going over the trail too frequently and picking about dung and urine for grass, is doubtless what makes large flocks so liable to disease."

A Letter from Sunbury.

To the Editor of the Maritime Farmer:—Sir,—I notice in the last few copies of your valuable paper, which I am pleased to know is now edited by a practical and skilled farmer, which to my mind must add very much to its usefulness and influence as an agricultural journal, that some of the first-class farmers of Queen's County have had their well filled barns, granaries, and dairy rooms, as well as other articles creditably noticed in your paper, and, Mr. Editor, as I am well aware of the fact that it is impossible for you to visit all the Agricultural Societies, you may not take it amiss in one of the members of the Sunbury County Agricultural Society dropping you a few lines relative to the doings of said Society.

This Society has done away with the practice of holding public exhibitions, believing that the funds can be more profitably used in other ways, such as importing the improved breeds of stock, which we have been doing on quite a large scale for the past seven or eight years, and as a result, several of the farmers here have been able to supply a number of Agricultural Societies with the Chester White and Berkshire pigs, also Leicester Rams and Ayrshire Bulls, and in another year or so we will be able to place in the market some splendid heavy draft horses, which in point of size and quality are superior to anything we have ever had, these are the stock of the celebrated Percheron Horse "French Republic." We have also used during the last two years a large quantity of the Cumberland Superphosphate, and some reliable parties who have taken particular pains to test its value say that it is by far the cheapest and most valuable manure for worn out grass lands as well as other crops. We also purchased this season, a large quantity of Bradley's Superphosphate and Tobique and Lillsborough Plaster. The Tobique Plaster is considered very valuable for top-dressing grass land; and one and a half bushels being the amount required for an acre, and has been used very successfully by some of the farmers in this County. The Bradley Superphosphate is also considered an excellent fertilizer and has been used successfully by several of the farmers. In one instance thirty (30) bushels of buckwheat were raised on an acre by the use of two bushels Bradley's Superphosphate, while a strip alongside or rather a part of the field, which was sown at the same time and was not harvested, in fact was not harvested, thus showing conclusively the good properties of the Superphosphate.

Our society has also expended during the last few years a large amount in purchasing improved implements, principally steel moldboard plows, which we consider better than cast iron moldboard plows, being far more easy on the team and less liable to clog. We also bought a reaper, which in the hands of a good man with a good team, after a little practice did splendid work, although some parties were a little prejudiced against it because it will not cut lodged better than standing grain.

This Society has also, on its own account, purchased at different times quite large quantities of wheat and barley, and I think I am not in error in saying this Society was the first that imported the much praised and valued "Lost Nation" wheat that is giving such bountiful returns to the farmers this season. We have also used a large amount of our funds in purchasing other kinds of seed, all of which has given good satisfaction. Our last experiment has been with the Amber Sugar Cane, and Sugar Beet. The first season has been unfavorable to the growth of the Amber Sugar Cane. The seed time was unusually wet and cold and the early frost in the Autumn destroyed that which did survive the hardships of the first of the season. My impressions are that in ordinary seasons it will grow to proper maturity.

Our Society, always anxious to keep up with the times, resolved to make a thorough test at once of our ability to produce the Sugar Beet, and in order to do that successfully, a resolution was passed by the Society, offering a premium to any member who would cultivate an eighth (1/8) of an acre, keeping an accurate account of the amount of labor the quality and quantity of manure used; also the mode of culture, together with the time of harvesting and quantity so raised. And as a result some thirty of the members tried the experiment, twenty of whom have handed in their reports. The yield varies from 20 to 42 barrels per 1/8 of an acre, weighing on an average, 151 lbs. per barrel, costing from 19 to 45 cts. per barrel. It is the intention to place those returns in the hands of the Secretary for Agriculture; and he having more space and time will be able to lay a more accurate statement before the public.

Good Dairy Stock.

A correspondent of the Boston Cultivator writes that he became acquainted with the "Guenon" method of judging the milking qualities of cows some ten years ago and has never known the signs to fail. He describes the signs as follows: "The mark or indication as laid down by M. Guenon which in a heifer gives promise of being a good milkier, and insures it in a cow, is the cow-like or downward growth of the hair—'scutechon,' as it is called—immediately under the tail, which in an extra milkier not only extends from the vulva passage downward to the bag, but spreads out over the inside of the thighs, and is correspondingly large. The larger and wider the mark, the greater the surety of the animal being an excellent milkier. According as it is long and wide or short and narrow, it is, moreover, indicative of a longer or shorter duration of the yield of milk. If the first, a cow will give milk in large quantities and close up to calving; if the last, she will, when the mark is very small, in a few months after calving, fall off rapidly in her milk, even when up to her knees in clover, as I know to have been the case in two instances in my own observation."

PLANTS IN SLEEPING ROOMS.

It seems to be well settled by physiologists that a few growing plants in a sleeping room are not unwholesome. It is as well settled that cut flowers in a sleeping room are unwholesome. They emit noxious gases.

"LAND AND HOME."

A cheap way to fight Jack Frost. I have a cellar 55 by 18 and 10 feet in depth. It has a cemented floor, the walls are pointed, and on three sides almost entirely below the surface. The building which stands on it is for seed-drying purposes, and hence is built with long shutters all up and down the sides, opening horizontally, such like the shutters used for drying glue. This structure, the exposed location of the building, and the fact that one side is mostly above the ground makes the cellar liable to freeze in extremely cold weather. The contents being principally seed, I desired to keep them as nearly as possible to the freezing point, and yet not freeze them. A stove would be likely to give more heat than is wanted, besides demanding much looking after, which, as the building stood some way from where work was going on, would call for quite an appreciable portion of a man's time. Noticing the great marked increase in temperature in my sitting-room after the lighting of the kerosene lamp, it occurred to me that a large lamp might give me all the heat needed to keep out Jack Frost. Accordingly, the next time in Boston, I called among the stove stores in Blackstone street and vicinity, until I was satisfied that I had found the biggest lamp—or rather kerosene stove, that the city could supply. It held two gallons of oil, and was one of the twin class, a sort of double stove, the two parts being connected by a kind of metallic ligament. It had six large burners, each about three inches across. I sent my stove to the farm, and when Jack Frost threatened to enter the fortress, and put his icy fingers on our vegetable treasures, we drew the match and lighted our defense. The success was complete. By studying two thermometers, kept one in the coldest and one in the warmest part of the cellar, we had come to the conclusion that if, in the extreme cold weather, we could add about five degrees to the natural temperature we could keep it above 32, the freezing point. After lighting our big lamp, the temperature soon began slowly to rise until it attained to 10 degrees. The success was complete—with a gain, both in saving of material, and softening of the temperature desired, over what would have been possible with any form of coal or wood stove. The cheapness and availability of kerosene for keeping frost from the rooms above ground or below ground, is a matter well worth the consideration of the public.

JAMES J. H. GREGORY,
Marblehead, Mass.

Corn for Horses.

Mr. John Harper of Kentucky, had a high opinion of the value of corn for horses. He attributed the success of Longfellow and his companions in fame, largely to the strenuous exercise—with a gain, both in saving of material, and softening of the temperature desired, over what would have been possible with any form of coal or wood stove. The cheapness and availability of kerosene for keeping frost from the rooms above ground or below ground, is a matter well worth the consideration of the public.

HOME INTERESTS.

Holiday Games.

The holidays are upon us, and in view of this fact we have selected a number of games which will add much to the enjoyment of the evenings during the season of festivity. One of the most amusing games we know is called "shadow buff." It is played by fastening a sheet over a doorway, or the recess formed by a bay window. One of the players is stationed behind this sheet as Buffy, and all the lights in the room extinguished but one, and that placed so that the shadow of any one passing in front of the sheet will fall directly upon it. Then the rest of the players take turns in passing before the sheet. Each one passes slowly three times, and if Buffy succeeds in guessing who he is, then he must take his place as Buffy behind the sheet, and the first one is released. Those who pass before the curtain may disguise themselves in any manner they please, and may limp, jump, grimace, or in any way contrive to distort their shadows on the curtain. The more fantastic the disguises the more amusing the game will be. A game called the "Lawyer" is good fun if properly played. All who are to take part in the game assemble and choose a lawyer. The chairs in the room are arranged in two rows facing one another. Then the ladies and gentlemen, having each chosen partners, sit down in these chairs, the partners opposite one another. The lawyer proceeds to ask such questions as he chooses, which must be answered, not by the person addressed, but by his or her partner. If any one makes a mistake, he or she must change places with the lawyer and ask the questions.

Recipes.

Chocolate Caramels.—One and a half cups of molasses, one and a half cups of sugar, one cup milk, one cup scraped chocolate, and a half teaspoon soda. Boil about half an hour. Flavor with vanilla if you like, and pour it into fat dishes to cool; mark it with a knife into little squares when cool enough.

Molasses Candy.—One quart good Molasses, a half cup of vinegar, one cup of sugar, butter size of an egg, one teaspoon of soda. Dissolve the sugar in the vinegar, mix with the molasses and boil, stirring frequently until it hardens when dropped from the spoon into cold water; then stir in the butter and soda, the latter dissolved in a little hot water. Flavor to your taste, give one hard final stir, and pour into buttered dishes. As it cools, cut into squares for "taffy," or while soft enough to handle, pull white into sticks, using only the buttered tips of your fingers for that purpose.

White Candy.—Two cups of sugar, one cup of vinegar. Boil without stirring until it crisps in cold water; then work until white and cut into sticks.

Poetry.

(For the MARITIME FARMER.)

Christmas Eve,

OR THE LIGHT IN THE WINDOW.

A bright little light in the window,
A beacon lit by a child,
In far away pioneer homestead,
Lone in a western wild.

—Our ancestor, the wind it is bitter!
List to the faint light;
May I put the lamp in the window,
To guide some wanderer right?"

The little log cabin looks cheery,
Pretty and bright and clean,
Festoons of green boughs from the rafters,
Bright red berries between.

'Tis Christmas Eve, and the window
Sheds its clear little glow
Far away thro' the deep, black darkness,
And blinding drift of snow.

Heart broken, painfully, spent with toil,
Lost on the drifted world,
A way-worn traveler toils along,
Fighting the fearful cold.

Starved, faint and drooping with hunger,
On one and the same heaven above,
A torpor o'ercoming his clean,
Torpor forboding death.

With falling step and tottering gait,
He staggers on to die,
When bright, the heaven-sent light streams
out:
Behold his refuge nigh.

The midnight chimes, joy bells, are pealing,
A thousand miles away,
And hearts of thankfulness are thronging
To hail HIS NATAL DAY.

The old-time holy chant is swelling,
"Peace on earth, to men good will,"
For Christ himself is love.

And he will surely spare a blessing
On that far cabin's glow,
A blessing on the little maiden,
And soul saved from the snow.

Merry Christmas.
BY LUCIA M. ALCOCK.

In the rush of early morning,
When the red burns through the grey,
And the wintry world lies waiting
For the glory of the day,
Then we hear a faint rustling,
Just without upon the stair,
See two small white phantoms coming,
Catch the gleam of sunny hair.

Are they Christmas fairies stealing
Rows of little socks to fill?
Are they angels floating lightly
With their message of good will?
What sweet spell are these elves weaving
As like larks they chirp and sing?
Are these pulses of peace from heaven
That these lovely spirits bring?

Roar feet upon the threshold,
Eager faces peeping through,
With the first red ray of sunshine,
Chanting choruses come in view.
Mistletoe and gleaming holly,
Symbols of a blessed day,
In their clubby hands they carry,
Streaming all along the way.

Well we know them, never weary
Of this innocent surprise;
Waiting, watching, listening always,
With full heart and tender eyes,
While our little household angels,
White and golden in the sun,
Greet us with the sweet old welcome,
"Merry Christmas, every one!"

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Holiday Games.
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will be disposed of in the usual manner. Each player takes his turn in trying to hit the bag.

"Consequences," is a quiet game, and at the same time one of the most amusing ones which can be played. All the players assemble round a table, each with a half sheet of writing paper and a pencil. Each writes an adjective expressing a good or bad quality in a man's character or person. Each one turns over and creases down the place written upon, and all change papers. Each one writes a gentleman's name and turns it down, and change papers again. Then another word of quality, applicable to a lady, is written, and all the papers are turned down and changed as before. Then a lady's name is written; then a place where they met; then what he wore; then what she wore; what he gave her; what she gave him; what he said to her; what she said to him; the "consequences;" and, finally, what Mrs. Grundy said. The papers must be turned down and changed, and no one must read what the others have written. When all the papers are finished, some person collects and reads them. Some are absurd, of course, while others will fit together most comically. "Twenty Questions" used to be a favorite game in distinguished circles in England; Canning, the celebrated minister, was very fond of it; and it really requires some knowledge and skill in the lawyer like craft of cross-examination, to play it well—so have your wits about you, you young people, for the more ready you are the better you will like it. One person thinks of a thing, and by a skillful question on the part of one, two, or the whole party, as you prefer it, your thought can almost always be found out. Twenty questions and three guesses are allowed. "Proverbs" is a good old game, and is played as follows: While one is absent from the circle, all fix upon some well known old proverb; the absentee then returns and asks a question of every individual, to which an answer must be returned, embracing some one word of the sentence, care being taken not to emphasize it. It is necessary, of course, to find a proverb with words to suit the number of persons playing, taking them by turn. The questioner will very surely find out the saying by some one of the party, and that one then takes his turn to absent himself, while another proverb is being arranged.

A game called "Truth," is very amusing. One person absents himself from the room. All the rest are called upon to express their opinion of the absent party, and one considered to be the spokesman gathers the information. The absent one is recalled and is then told what is thought of him, giving him three guesses for each separate idea. If he happens to fix upon the right party giving an opinion, that one takes his turn in retiring.

An instructive game of "Words" may be played by young and old, by a number of persons or a few. Every one person may amuse himself very instructively for a long time by taking a word—a rather long one, with a few repetitions of the same letter as possible, and try to see how many other perfect words one can make out of it by transposing the letters in every possible manner. Such words as intelligencer, comprehension, intercolonial, etc., may be transposed into hundreds of other words, both long and short. When played as a game, each player must be provided with pencil and paper, and within a certain number of minutes, see which one can give the greatest and most correct number of words. For children this game is a wonderful aid in the art of spelling, and we have seen a whole family become deeply interested in it for two or three hours of an evening.

Chocolate Caramels.—One and a half cups of molasses, one and a half cups of sugar, one cup milk, one cup scraped chocolate, and a half teaspoon soda. Boil about half an hour. Flavor with vanilla if you like, and pour it into fat dishes to cool; mark it with a knife into little squares when cool enough.

Molasses Candy.—One quart good Molasses, a half cup of vinegar, one cup of sugar, butter size of an egg, one teaspoon of soda. Dissolve the sugar in the vinegar, mix with the molasses and boil, stirring frequently until it hardens when dropped from the spoon into cold water; then stir in the butter and soda, the latter dissolved in a little hot water. Flavor to your taste, give one hard final stir, and pour into buttered dishes. As it cools, cut into squares for "taffy," or while soft enough to handle, pull white into sticks, using only the buttered tips of your fingers for that purpose.

White Candy.—Two cups of sugar, one cup of vinegar. Boil without stirring until it crisps in cold water; then work until white and cut into sticks.