

The Farm.

NOVEMBER.

WORK TO BE DONE.

FARM.—Lay up manures compost. Gather leaves from the woods and place them in hog-pens, composts, &c., &c. Recollect that the inorganic constituents of all growth are to be more plentifully found in their than leaves in any other part. If you desire to start hot-beds in the spring, save a large quantity of leaves under cover for that purpose. Do not attempt to winter more stock than you have abundant means of providing for. If young animals are badly fed, they never thrive well afterwards. Soild the season remain sufficiently open, ridge clayey soils, and thus let your land be storing up ammonia from the atmosphere for spring use, the frost will have an opportunity of destroying many insects, and a dressing of six bushels of refuse salt to the acre on these ridges, will do away with one-third the usual quantity of weeds, and nine-tenths of the insects. Ridged ground will be ready for tillage in early spring.

Cut wood to be burnt twelve months hence and if practicable, under-drain wet or heavy lands.

ORCHARD AND FRUIT GARDEN.—Read our article on the cultivation of Isabella and Catawba grapes, (vol. i. p. 12) and look to fall trimmings, saving of cuttings, &c. Manure fruit trees, spading in thoroughly. Manure strawberries; cover raspberries, as recommended by Mr. Patterson in a former number. Bank around trees, to prevent the attack of mice. Cover tender grapes. Remove grape layers from the parent vines. Grafts may be cut and preserved as formerly directed. Make wire fences, which may be used for trellises.

KITCHEN GARDEN.—Attend to cold frames, and see them properly protected. Do not let your late crops be frozen in the ground. Put away turnips, beets, celery, carrots, &c., &c. Cover spinage, shallots, young onions, outdoor lettuce and cabbage plants with cedar brush if you have it, and if not, salt hay, flag or straw. Protect cabbages as formerly directed. Dress and cover asparagus beds, salting them freely. Cover rhubarb. Dress globe artichokes as directed under that head. Dig up horse-radish and parsnips for winter use, and protect as directed.

Bean poles, pea sticks, &c., should be stowed away in a dry place to prevent their decay.

FLOWER GARDEN.—Take up dahlia roots on dry days; do not shake off the dirt, but remove it by hand, or the tubers will break at their necks. Cut the stems within a few inches of the ground, label them carefully, and put them away in a dry cellar, free from frost, or heat beyond 45°; bury the tubers in dry sand, the stems projecting above, and cover the whole with something to prevent the light from greening the tubers, and thus lessening their value. Read Buist's *American Flower Garden Directory*, p. 129 to 132 inclusive. Protect half-hardy outdoor plants; barrels with one head well pierced with holes, mats, brush, straw, &c., &c., may each be used according to the height of plants necessary for protection, &c. Herbaceous plants may be covered with tan, partially decayed leaves, &c., &c., all of which must be removed in early spring.

Cut down weeds, collect stakes, look to glazing frames, &c. Do not water plants while the ground is frozen about the roots.

HOT HOUSE.—Buist says, "the essential points to be attended to in the hot-house during this month are fire, air and water." The former must be applied according to the weather, observing not to allow the temperature to be under 50°, and it ought not to continue long at that degree, 52° being preferable. The shutters should be on every night when there is any appearance of frost, and taken off early in the morning. Admit air in small portions every day that the sun has any effect and the atmosphere mild, observing that the temperature of the house be above 60° previous to admission. Shut all close early in the afternoon, or when any sudden changes occur.

In watering, it is important in this department to have the water of the same temperature as the roots of the plants.

A cistern may be so arranged as to be warmed by the flue, and by having another outside, water may be drawn from the two mixed to a proper temperature. Do not water too liberally. Succulents may be watered twice per

month, unless over the flues, when they may require it oftener. Remove decaying leaves, and keep the house clean.

GREEN-HOUSE.—Air the house as often as practicable and safe, never keeping it entirely closed, even during frosts, if the sun is shining. Water sparingly. In no case leave the house entirely closed for more than thirty-six hours; rather give slight fire heat than to exclude all air.—[E.]

IMPORTANT FOR FARMERS.

We learn by the late annual report of the New York State Lunatic Asylum, that a large proportion of the inmates are farmers. This we have noticed in former reports also. The fact has so frequently attracted attention, that we will venture to suggest a solution. May not the excessive ratio of insanity among farmers arise from the comparatively secluded life of too many of them? The farmer need not necessarily be a hermit, but frequently they become, gradually, almost hermits, neglecting to visit their neighbours, thinking of their crops continually, and brooding perhaps, over imaginary losses. Man is a gregarious animal, and requires to have his social feelings gratified. If deprived of this pleasure, he becomes morose or eccentric. This may be verified by any person conversant with rural districts, for it is in such places that what are called "odd characters" are generally found. Now eccentricity is but one remove from insanity, and often terminates in it. If the view of the case is correct, the life of a farmer, however conducive to physical health, is not the most favorable for the harmonious play of the intellectual and moral qualities. There is an instinct in human nature which declares, even in the rudest minds, this great truth of companionship for a development of the man. Everybody, as it is well known, shrinks from a reserved sullen person. Everybody is pleased with frank and sociable manners. Thus the great law of nature, speaking in the common heart of humanity, proclaims that man was created to be the companion of his fellows. And thus in case of the violated law, nature avenges herself.—*New York Independent.*

WET LANDS.

All wet lands should be ditched and under-drained, for it may truly be said to be throwing time, labour, money and manure away, to cultivate lands that are surcharged with water. To lime or manure such lands, is only a waste of time and means.—*Rural New Yorker.*

To the above may be added, that subsoiling lands which are wet, is never of any use. They should first be under-drained, then sub-soiled, and every load of manure afterwards applied, will give increased effects, as compared with similar applications on lands not so judiciously prepared.—*Working Farmer.*

A NEW WATER WEED.

A correspondent of the *Cambridge Chronicle* says, a remarkable plant has recently made its appearance in the rivers Ouse and Cam, and already abounds to such a degree as not only to impede navigation, but what is of far more importance in this fen country, threatens to injure our drainage, by holding up the water. It occurs in dense, tangled, submerged masses of considerable extent, and is so heavy that when cut (instead of rising to the surface and floating down to sea, like other water weeds) it sinks to the bottom. It is this property which is likely to make it injurious to drainage. The intruder is so unlike any other water plant, that it may be at once recognised by its leaves growing in three round a slender stringy stem. The watermen on the river have already dubbed it "water thyme," from a faint general resemblance which it bears to that plant. That it is new to our rivers is certain. Watermen and fishermen with one consent pronounce it to be (as I heard one of them call it the other day) a "foreigner." Who the stranger is, whence he came, and how he got here, are questions of considerable scientific interest; but by what means he is to be got rid of is the practical question.

Such plants are frequently found on the California coast, among the algae in the vicinity of San Francisco. They sometimes measure forty or fifty feet in length, and will wind round the wheels of a steamboat until tons are thus accumulated, and it becomes necessary to remove them, which is achieved with great difficulty.—[E.]

Scientist.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

The Paris correspondent of a St. Louis paper says:

"And now let me tell you of a most beautiful discovery, which has lately been made by a celebrated horticulturist, by the name of Herbert, I was persuaded to go to his rooms a few days since, and I assure you I had no reason to regret the long walk I had taken. Beneath a large cage, four or five feet in height, and as many in circumference, were placed pots of roses, japonicas, pinks, dahlias, chinas, &c., all in bud. By means of a certain gas invented by himself, and which is made to pass by a gutta percha tube to any pot required, Mr. Herbert causes the instantaneous blooming of flowers. The ladies in the room asked successively for roses, dahlias, and japonicas and saw them into full bloom in a second. It was really wonderful.

Mr. Herbert is now trying to improve on his discovery, and to make the gas more portable, and its application less visible. The secret is, of course his, and his rooms are crowded every day with the most delightful spectators. I wish I could send you the lovely camelia which, when asked for was tightly enveloped in the green leaves of the dalyx, that the colour of its flower could not even be guessed at; and yet the request was hardly out of my lips when the beautiful white camelia was in my hand. When he has made a little more progress, Mr. Herbert intends to get out a patent and deliver his discovery to his friends and the public."

The Buffalo Commercial relates a curious fact in Natural History lately developed at the American Hotel in that city. A family having rooms in that hotel, left town for a few weeks. On their return they found that a mouse was in the habit of constantly visiting the cage of a canary bird which had remained in the room during their absence, having taken the opportunity of forming the acquaintance during the unusual stillness of the apartment. To the surprise of the family, it was found that the mouse had been taking lessons in singing of its musical friend, and would constantly give forth notes in exact imitation of the canary's tone but low and sweet. The little creature now visits the cage nightly, eats of the seed, and endeavours by its singing to excite the attention and call forth the notes of the bird.

A NEW GATE.

A great many attempts have been made to construct a gate which could be opened and shut by the driver of a vehicle while on his seat, but none had been found to answer the purpose till recently. Wm. Van Housen, an ingenious mechanic, has constructed one, for which he has taken out a patent, that has the appearance of being just the article that has been long sought for. It is very simple, not liable to get out of order, and is operated with ease and certainty. It can be placed in any position without detriment to its usefulness, and can be made plain or ornamental.—*Poughkeepsie Journal.*

NEW INVENTION.

An ingenious mechanic of Nashua, N. H., has invented a new method of driving circular saws without an arbor. With a saw arranged as he has it, a four foot saw will cut a board three and one half feet wide, while as now arranged, a four foot saw will hardly cut one and one half feet. It is also arranged so that it will cut when the carriage is going either way, and will, at the same time, saw nearly twice as fast.

EFFECT OF CLIMATE ON CONSUMPTION.

The Medical Faculty are beginning to question the opinion which has so long prevailed among medical men, that a change of climate is beneficial to persons suffering with the consumption. Sir James Clark of England, has assailed the doctrine with considerable force, and a French physician named Carriere, has written against it; but the most vigorous opponent of it is a Dr. Burgess, of whom a recent article in Chamber's Edinburgh Journal gives an account. Dr. Burgess contends that climate has little or nothing to do with the cure of consumption, and if it had the curative effects would be produced through the skin, and not the lungs. That a warm climate is not in itself beneficial, he shows from the fact that the disease exists in all latitudes. In India

and Africa, tropical climates, it is as frequent as in Europe or Northern America. All the curative resorts, now in fashion, are more productive of consumption than any locality of Great Britain. Naples, Florence, Nice, Genoa, Venice, all generate more consumption than London, Liverpool, Edinburgh and Manchester. Madeira, the chosen paradise of pulmonary patients, is more unfavourable to the disease than England. Aix and Montpellier are no better, if not worse. Pisa is worse than all; so that Italian climate for consumption cure is pronounced an arrant "humbug." Change of air in the same climate, in the sanative theory of Dr. Burgess, deduced from the most expansive observations and industrious experiments in "climatology." "Give me Italy, or I perish," "give us a warm climate," which is now the fashionable cry of rich parents, will soon be changed "to change of air at home," in the opinion of Dr Burgess, whose new theory will bring consolation, if not cure, to every poor person who labours under this afflictive malady and cannot take a voyage to Italy.

CHANGES OF TIME.

In Asia Minor we tread upon a soil of rich in interesting and splendid recollections, with existing population completely debased by ignorance and slavery. The glory of twenty different nations that once flourished here, has been extinguished; flocks wander the tomb of Achilles and of Hector; and the thrones of Aithridates and the Atiochuses have disappeared, as well the palaces of Priam, and Croesus. The merchants of Smyrna do not enquire whether Homer was born within their walls: the fine sky of Ionia no longer inspires neither painters nor poets; the same obscurity covers with its shades the banks of the Jordan and of the Euphrates. The republic of Moses is not to be found. The Harps of David and Isaiah are silent for ever; the wandering Arabian comes indifferent and unmoved, to rest the poles of his tent against the shattered columns of Palmyra; Babylon has also fallen beneath the stroke of an avenging destiny, and that city which reigned supreme, over oppressed Asia, has scarcely left behind it a trace that can show where the ramparts of S-miramis were raised, "I have seen," says a traveller, the accomplishment of that prophecy, "Tyre, the queen of nations, shall be made like the top of a rock, where fishermen shall spread their nets." *Maha Bruns.*

PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.—In the course of the recent proceedings of the British Scientific Association at Belfast, Dr. McCornie read a paper on the moral duty of guarding against disease from atmospheric impurity. In the course of his remarks the Doctor stated that every individual, whatever his station, should, for the preservation of his health, take a morning bath, pedestrian exercise, and breathe night and day a pure air. After showing how illness was produced or aggravated by atmospheric causes and want of cleanliness, and alluding to the want of sanitary arrangements in Belfast, he stated that the respiration of impure air was the sole cause of consumption, and that were a person to live night and day in the open air he could not become consumptive. To confine the consumptive in close heated apartments was but to increase and hasten the disease. They ought to be kept as much as possible in the open and pure air, an ounce of oxygen being worth a ton of fish oil. Owing to the perfumes and heavy hangings, the atmosphere of the houses of the rich was almost as impure as the houses of the poor, and the result showed that the rich were no more exempt from consumption than the poor. The learned Doctor then insisted on the necessity of all houses being regularly ventilated with large bodies of air—of good sewerage—and cleanliness, for the preservation of health.

THE REMAINS OF SPARTA.—A theatre of large size, a diminutive amphitheatre by the banks of the Eurotas, and numerous ruined walls of other edifices comprise the entire amount of the remains of Sparta, and as these, by their architecture, give evidence of having been constructed in those ages when Lacedaemon had sunk to be a small provincial town, it may be confidently said that little or nothing exist to remind us of the city of Pausanias and Leonidas. Of walls there are none, for the laws of Lycurgus prohibited them; of decorated buildings there are none, for the Dorians were early instructed to discard all love of the beautiful, with all that polishes and refines the human mind, and to reckon everything useless that did not pertain to the science of warfare, the only proper pursuit of a freeman. But the natural features of the plan of Lacedaemon have changed but little with the lapse of time, and yet it presents a lovely aspect, backed by the rough, snow-capped summit of Taygetus. In the sight of ancient Sparta a modern village has risen up, which has appropriated to itself that name, so long extinct.—*Letters from Athens.*

Virtue is a garment to honour, but wickedness a robe of shame.