

sing redeeming grace and divine love through the wasteless ages of eternity. Her remains were removed from Washademoic Lake to Little River, and there interred beside the sleeping dust of her father and sister, to rest in silence till Gabriel's trumpet shall bid the sleeping millions rise.

R. R.

Wickham, April 5th, 1854.

Miscellaneous.

A few Hints to a Father.

Father, you have a son, a darling son. He has facilities for good and for evil, and they must act. Each capable of such intense action, that both can not act on a level; one must be in some measure subservient. Your son is now young; he has no habits, no principles, no character. These must be formed, and you have been appointed by Providence to superintend and assist in their formation. This you must do, whether you will or not. The nature of the relation existing between you and your son, render your non-participation in the formation of his character impossible.

Toward what course of life would you direct his innocent footsteps? What would you have him become; a man in form only; independent only of good, with feeble wavering energy; his self-respect a mere low, disgusting pride? You can easily train him for this as a thousand have been and are being trained, unless his mind is very far, very far above the commonality. Treat him as a machine, impress it upon him that he is a mere tool, and he will soon become such. Make him keenly feel his inferiority, check all his aspirations, and like a sapling bent to the ground, he will soon learn to grow downward. But if you would wish him to become a strong-minded, truth-loving, whole-souled man, treat him as a man that is to be as an equal. Draw out his better nature; strengthen all his aspirations for that which is high and good. Teach him to curb his strong-passions, and to attain that self-control which enables man to influence his fellow men. Let him feel that he has the germ of the man within him, which needs only a right cultivation to make it serviceable to himself and mankind. Teach him at all times to bring his actions and motives to the standard of right, and only right. Be sure that he feels confidence in you as a sympathizing friend in all cases. Never elevate yourself or depress him so that he can approach you only with an effort. He has his world of joys and sorrows, hopes and fears, which, although small to you, are all to him. Encourage him to action; place before him some desirable object which he may procure by self-denial and extra exertion. Man needs something for which to labour, why not he? Let him find by experience that there is something for him to gain by right, or lose by wrong, and an inducement to virtuous actions will be given him. Learn him to think correctly for himself, judge for himself, and act for himself, while young and under your care, and he will feel his own individual responsibility, and will not be so easily enticed and deceived when thrown upon his resources. But above all, early learn him to look upon God as his Father, and heaven as his home, and the chief object of his life here to do good. Early teach him by precept and example to love the Lord and keep his commandments, and it shall be well with thee and thy house to future generations.

My Mother's Prayers.

When I was quite a youth, the Rev. Joel T. Benedict, of blessed memory, related in my hearing the following narrative:

A mother with several children was left a widow. Feeling her responsibility as a parent, she gave diligence to train her household for Christ. That her instructions might be blessed and her children converted, she was unceasing in her supplications at the throne of mercy. She would arise at midnight, and in the chamber where her little ones were sleeping, would kneel and pray for them with wrestling importunity.

Her eldest son becoming restive of religious restraints, abandoned his mother and the home of his childhood. He bent his steps to a seaport, and enlisted as a sailor. He was absent several years, made a number of voyages, and under the influence of wicked companions became profligate.

At length he was induced to visit the place

of his nativity. His mother, who had heard nothing of him from the time of his departure was dead, and the residue of her family scattered. Of her death the sailor felt an interest to learn some particulars, and whether any members of the family were still living, or remained in the vicinity of his birth. But how was he to obtain the desired information? "A man's heart deviseth his way, but the Lord directeth his steps." It was a time of religious revival in the congregation where his mother had been accustomed to worship. He was told of a prayer-meeting in the neighbourhood; and knowing that his devout parent used to attend such meetings, he directed his course thither, thinking that he might there meet some of her old acquaintances.

When the sailor arrived at the place of worship, he found the meeting in progress. He entered and took a seat in an obscure corner, intending at the close of service, to ask for the information he was seeking. The assembly was one of awful stillness and solemnity, such as a genuine revival of religion usually produces. The mariner would not have been dismayed at the thunder of the storm upon the heaving ocean, but he could not brave the silent power of the prayer-meeting and religious conference. He could hear nothing, save the voice of one and another relating what God had done for their souls, or the suppressed sigh and stifled sob, which arose from different parts of the congregation. The "still small voice" of the Holy Spirit, who had conducted him thither, was speaking to his conscience. Unable to quench the fire within, or longer conceal his anguish, he exclaimed vehemently, "My mother's prayers haunt me like a ghost."

Those who well remembered the praying mother, and had a slight recollection of the wayward boy, now became deeply interested in the distressed man. Such counsel was imparted as the circumstances and state of his feelings seemed to demand; but he writhed with keen conviction for several weeks. At length he found peace in hopeful reconciliation to God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in due time he became an exemplary and useful member of the same church with which his mother had been connected.

Who can doubt the answer to that mother's prayers? O, Christian mother, cease not to pray for your children.

"It shan't be said that praying breath
Was ever spent in vain." M. T.

The esteemed pastor who encloses the above says, "I send it to fill a small niche in the 'Messenger,' which I prize among the most valuable of religious periodicals. I shall do what I can to increase its circulation. The Rev. Joel T. Benedict had large experience in religious revivals, and was deeply imbued with the praying fervid spirit of his beloved cotemporary, Rev. Jeremiah Hallock, whose praise is still in the churches."—*Am. Mes.*

RICE AS AN ARTICLE OF FOOD.—Rice is remarkable chiefly for the comparatively small portion of gluten it contains. This does not exceed seven or eight per cent., less than half the quantity contained in oatmeal. In rice countries it has often been noticed, that the natives devour what to us appear enormous quantities of the grain, and this circumstance is ascribed to the small proportion it contains of the highly nutritive and necessary gluten. Rice contains also little fat, and hence it is less laxative than the other cereal grains, or rather it possesses something of a binding quality. It has recently been observed that, when substituted for potatoes in some of our work-houses, in consequence of the failure of the potato, this grain has, after a few months, produced scurvy. This may be owing as much to the effects of sudden change of diet as to an inherent evil property in the grain itself. Still it suggests, as many other facts do, the utility and wholesomeness of a mixed food.—*Johnston's Chemistry of Common Life.*

THE WEATHER IN GREAT BRITAIN.—The London correspondent of the *N. Y. Courier and Enquirer*, in his last letter says:

"One of the great counterpoises for the war is the weather; never before has there been such a February or such a March. One of the old traditions of the weather-wise is, that 'a peck of March dust is worth an Earl's ransom'—alluding to the time of the Crusades. But we have had pecks of February dust as well as March, and the husbandmen have had a glorious opportunity of working the soil. Every inch of land which could be made to carry wheat has been sown, and liberally 'guanoed'; so much has been sown on upland and lowland, that let the summer be wet or dry, there must be plenty in the kingdom. Notwithstanding the dry weather, the nights have been very cold, so that vegetation has been retarded, and the season is regarded as being 'backward.' This is exactly what was wanted; and when the warm

spring rains bring the now swelling buds into the fullness of leaf, we need not fear lest any frosts should kill the blossoms. If we can judge of the future harvest by the present appearances, we shall have next August, the most bountiful return for the labor of the husbandman, that the Almighty in His goodness ever blessed these islands with. This simple fact will, of itself, account for the downward tendency of the corn markets throughout this country."

The Farm.

Rearing Calves.

Herdsmen and others, says the *N. E. Farmer*, who have had some experience in raising young cattle, have expressed various opinions in relation to the most proper course or mode of treatment to be pursued, some contending with a good deal of stringency for the natural way as they term it—i. e., permitting them to enjoy the company of their dams till four, five, six or ten months of age, while others assert with equal pertinacity, that the better way is to separate them from the cows when a few days old, and raise them by "hand." Whether the one or the other is the most expensive, will depend wholly, or in a great measure, upon the circumstances of time and place. In very many localities, the butter and cheese a judicious and economical dairy man would be able to realize from the milk itself, without manufacturing it, would be worth more in ready cash, than the carcass of the calf, while in others, it would scarcely defray in the market the cost of manufacturing, while the calf would be valuable. A friend who has had much experience in dairying and rearing calves, has directed attention to the following able article on the subject in the *Genesee Farmer*. We present it from that sheet as conveying a most lucid and readily understandable synopsis of our own views of what, in a large majority of cases, would unquestionably be found the most judicious and economical course, for the farmer engaged in stock raising for the market, to pursue:

"The cost in both cases ought to be taken into consideration. In the first instance, the butter and cheese, which might be made from the milk would amount to more in four months, than the value of the calf at that age. In the latter the proceeds of the milk are nearly attained, independent of raising the calf. This can be established by unquestioned and unquestionable authority. Then there is a very great balance in favor of the latter.

That the calf that runs with the cow four months, will somewhat exceed in growth and proportion the one reared by hand, is readily granted. But after that period, it is taken from the cow, and has to graze to get its own living. There is a change of diet takes place, it shortly becomes stunted, its growth is checked, and this too at the very period when it ought to be in the most thriving condition. The one reared by hand becomes more and more accustomed to food, continues gradually to improve without receiving any check in its growth, and when winter arrives, is in far better condition than the others.

There are different procedures in preparing the mess for the calf. Each one has a favorite plan. One mixes with a small portion of milk, a portion of boiled potatoes and fine bran. Another boils the milk, and lets it stand till it cools to the temperature of milk from the cow. The plan most generally adopted (and perhaps the best), is to let the milk stand twelve hours, at first, when it is skimmed, heated to the temperature of the cow and a handful of shorts and flour added to each calf's mess. Four or five quarts of milk is at first a proper quantity. This is to be gradually increased as judgment can best decide. After four or five weeks, whey, with a small quantity of shorts added, can be taken with equal success. Calves raised in this manner are more gentle and docile than when they run with the cows, and can be better managed through the winter, and most generally afterwards. Another very important consideration is, they soon forget their mother and the trouble of keeping them separate through the fall and winter is dispensed with."

Good Bye to March.

Good bye, old growler. You came in like a lamb and went out like forty thousand lions. About half of your days were very amiable, and you cosied up to us so bright, and calm, and warm, that we began to believe that you had really improved your character, and given up bellowing and blustering as you used to, but no sooner had you gained the confidence

of the people in your circuit, than you turned square about and outmarched yourself in boisterousness—not content with blowing the snows of the previous months into all manner of shapes, every twenty-four hours—you must send two good solid feet more, to load the earth, and bury her "forty fathom" deep. There hasn't a March done such a trick as that for half a century back. It is true that some of our predecessors have given us "six weeks sledding in March," but then it was sledding "as is" sledding. The ground was within soundings. But you have stopped all intercourse; even the mighty "bulgines" that come thundering over our railroads with fire and smoke, like so many young earthquakes, have had to knock under, and wait till they could dig a trench to slide in. Good bye to you, old growler, you are gone but you are one that "we read of."

If the old proverb is true, the sufferings you have caused ought to be remunerated in May, viz: "A windy March and showery April make a beautiful May." March has been windy enough in all conscience, now April, give us your tears, and a modicum of sunshine, and we will look out for the blossoms of May in good season.—*Ex. paper.*

GRAFTING TREES.

The season for grafting trees is at hand, and our farmers and horticulturists should be getting their scions ready. Those who possess old trees, which have for many years boasted a luxuriant growth of sour apples or choke pears, should prepare to trim down and graft the venerable branches, that in future years, instead of proving an encumbrance of the soil, and an exhauster of its fertility, they may become a source of real profit and enjoyment. Grafters of trees should be careful to obtain genuine scions; and with this object should procure them only of trustworthy persons. When they are obtained from pedlars or strangers, and from some kinds of friends, it is more than probable they will turn out badly—proving ultimately the scions of some ordinary or worthless fruit. An imposition of this kind, of course, cannot be detected for several years—not until the grafts bear fruit—and then the process of grafting must be repeated, causing the loss of several years' growth. Horticulturists cannot be too careful in procuring their grafts.—*Boston Journal.*

Heavy Sheep.

A London correspondent of the *National Intelligencer*, says he had heard much of the great weight to which sheep are sometimes fed in England, and his belief was really staggered by some of the reports; but he saw in one butcher's shop, four sheep, which had been raised and fed in Gloucestershire, whose weight when slaughtered and dressed for sale as mutton was 250, 245, 216, and 197 pounds respectively. A shoulder, cut fairly from the largest, weighed 42½ lbs. Two Lincolnshire sheep in the same shop weighed 216 and 201 pounds respectively.

CABBAGES.

A correspondent of the *Horticulturist* says:—"It may not be generally known that cabbages readily grow and are easily propagated by slips. A stump may be put out in the spring and the sprouts as they vegetate cut off, the cut allowed to dry, and then planted. When cabbages or cauliflowers throw off side shoots they may be used in the same way. Cabbages thus raised have short stalks, and are sure of being true to the parent. I have often pursued this method when short of seed."

DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

COLD SLAW.—Cut a hard white head of cabbage in two, shave one-half as finely as possible, and put it into a stewpan, with a bit of butter the size of an egg, one small teaspoonful of salt, and nearly as much pepper; add to it a wineglass of vinegar; cover the stewpan, and set it over a gentle heat for five minutes, shake the stewpan about; when heated through, turn it into a dish, and serve as salad.

CURE FOR A DRY COUGH.—Take of powdered gum-arabic, half an ounce; liquorice-juce, half an ounce. Dissolve the gum first in warm water, squeeze in the juice of a lemon, then add of paregoric two drachms; syrup of squills, one drachm. Cork all in a bottle and shake well. Take one tea spoonful when the cough is troublesome.