

WILLIE-WEE'S GRACE

He was two years old, you see;
He couldn't utter well
A single word, this Willie-Wee,
Of whom I'm going to tell.

CREOSOTED TIMBER.

Mr. Edward H. Andrew, of Boston, has leased
a large tract of land from the Boston Wharf
Company in South Boston, for the purpose of
erecting thereon works for creosoting lumber.

THE SAW-MILL RAILROAD.

Among the many industrial contrivances to
which necessity has given rise, that represented
by the engraving is not the least noteworthy.

TRANSPORTATION OF FRUIT.

The Rural Press of recent date says:
We saw this week at the Central Pacific rail-
road depot, a refrigerator car belonging to the
Western Refrigerator Company, of San Fran-
cisco, which was designed to overcome the dif-
ficulties attending the shipment of fruit, and
is now being loaded with fruit for New York.

THE SUSQUEHANNA.

We give on this page a choice little piece of
scenery which may be found on the line of the
Pennsylvania railroad. It is a view of the
Susquehanna in the early morning. The Sus-
quehanna is one of the historic rivers of the



A SAW MILL RAILROAD.

TOBACCO AS A CHICKEN MEDICINE.

A writer in the Rural Press says: Have any
of your readers ever tried tobacco as a cure for
sick chickens? I tried it, having seen it recom-
mended in the poultry department of a book,
entitled "Pardon's Veterinary Hand Book."
It runs as follows:

"A correspondent to the Gardener's Chronicle,
February 10th, 1869, gave the following account
of his experience regarding the effects of tobacco
as a remedy for ailments in poultry. We may
mention that his statements as to the curative
effects of tobacco were subsequently corroborated
by other correspondents of that journal.
Speaking to the wife of a working bailiff, who
had been a successful raiser of fowls, I asked
what plan she adopted when they were sickly.
She quickly made answer: 'I give them a quid
of tobacco.' She further stated, 'I have
adopted the plan with success for 40 years.' I
then inquired why she gave it and the quantity
administered, to which she replied: 'I had
noticed that when my husband was moribund
and out of sorts, that if he took a large quid
of tobacco, he soon came round, and the thought
occurred to me that it might relieve my fowls,
which it always does; so, whenever I see any
of them out of sorts, I give them a piece of
tobacco as large as from the end of my thumb
to the first joint. You can judge my surprise
as a medical man, when I state that I have
seen a like quantity, destroy life in a human
being. Now for the sequel.' In the autumn of
last year I purchased some prize fowls, and one
of them a month since became sickly. I gave
the old woman's remedy—a piece of tobacco the
size of the first joint of my thumb (i. e., 30
grains). It had a most speedy and singular
effect upon it. In two minutes there was a
little staggering, accompanied by a peculiar
twitching of the tail, which gradually became
straight with the back and ultimately trailed
on the ground. In 20 minutes the fowl appeared
quite well and has continued so. This morn-
ing my man, as usual, let out the fowls and
I gave them some barley, but the cock bird
appeared very sickly and disinclined to eat.
He stood with his mouth slightly opened and
wings hanging down. He refused to eat bread
or anything. As this state had lasted three or
four hours, I looked down his throat, which
appeared healthy, and he had nothing in his
crop. I then gave him the 'quid' of tobacco
(i. e., 30 grains). In two or three minutes he
appeared weak and his tail began to drop
slightly. He then sat down under a tree and
remained quiet about five minutes. I then
walked to him, when he got up and in a few
minutes commenced pecking some corn, and in
a quarter of an hour from the first taking of the
tobacco, he appeared quite well and began to
crow most lustily, although he had not made
the slightest effort before during the morning,
which was very unusual, as he frequently
crows when well. To see him now, 24 hours
after the dose of tobacco, performing his accus-
tomed duties, no one would scarcely believe he
had taken so potent a remedy. I do not pro-
fess to give the modus operandi, but, as it acts
like a charm, it is worth knowing."

Having read the above, I resolved to try it
on the first opportunity offered. A young cock,
about six months old, fell ill. His head turned
black, his feathers all ruffled up and he appeared
blind and stupid, and seemed to wish to push
his beak along in front of him on the ground.
When I picked him up, he was under the
horse's feet and was in imminent danger of
being trodden on, but he did not seem to see
them or me. I gave him about as nearly as
possible the dose recommended, and then laid
him down, as it happened, but not intentionally,
near a water puddle. I went off and left him.
In about five minutes I passed that way again
and found him lying on his side and drinking
vigorously, but apparently he was still blind,
for if he did not happen to drop his head into
the water, he would suck at the damp ground
as if his beak were in water. About 10 minutes
later he got up and retired to the chicken
house, and I thought no more of it until I hap-
pened to meet him walking about about ten
hours later in perfect health and in company
with other fowls. In due course of time he
came to the table as fat and healthy a bird as
any of his mates. Let others try this and
report their experience.

A boy having been told that "a reptile is an
animal that creeps," on being asked to name
one, on examination day, promptly replied, "A
baby."

been thoroughly impregnated with creosote will
resist decay. The treatment with creosote was
attempted in Boston some years ago, but the
works were insufficient for the purpose, having
been put up for another use and altered over for
creosoting. Yet the timber creosoted at that
time, although imperfectly treated, has in most
cases, given satisfaction, and is to-day, after
five or six years' test, according to the Boston
Post, perfectly sound, as can be seen in a portion
of wooden pavement on Columbus avenue. At
the French exposition of 1867 sleepers were ex-
hibited which had been in wear on English
roads since 1838, and yet were perfectly sound.
The plant Mr. Andrew has ordered from the
Whittier Machine Company. The principal
tank or receiver in which the wood is to be
treated is to be of one-half inch iron, cylinder

country. Along its banks and across its waters
were enacted some of the stirring scenes of the
Revolution. The river has likewise become
immortal in the charming tales of Cooper. The
scenery along the river are full of beauty.
Throughout its whole length, from its rising in
New York through its course across the State
of Pennsylvania, its beauty is singular and
changing, and always commands the fullest
admiration of the tourist.

IRON SHIP-BUILDING IN THE UNITED STATES.—
According to a statement recently placed at the
disposal of the New York Tribune by the Reg-
ister of the Treasury, there have been built in
the United States, since 1868, for American
owners, 251 iron vessels of all sizes, having a
total measurement of 197,500 tons. About 150



EARLY MORNING ON THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER.

100 feet long and six feet diameter, and war-
ranted to stand a working pressure of 200 lbs.
to the square inch. This receiver will hold
nearly 26,000 feet of lumber. The works will
be completed about August 1st.

DISCOVERY OF NATIVE MERCURY.—M. Ley-
merie, in the Chemical News, writes: In the
Domaine du Cros, situated in a glen opening
directly into the valley of the Herault, the de-
cayed roots of a mulberry tree were being dug
up. On breaking one of them through from
a wave of mercury. The country people are
of opinion that the death of certain mulberry
trees is due to the action of mercury. The soil
is of a schistous nature.

were vessels of good size. They rank as follows:
Less than 100 tons, 57; from 100 to 500 tons,
23; from 500 to 1,000 tons, 41; from 1,000 to
2,000 tons, 61; from 2,000 to 3,000 tons, 9;
from 3,000 to 4,000 tons, 5; over 5,000 tons, 2;
total 251.

A NEW PHYLLIXERA REMEDY.—Proto-
chloride of sulphur will convert an ordinary
drying oil into an elastic solid. A volatile
liquid added to the oil at the same time as the
protochloride, will be included in the resulting
solid, from which it can escape only very
slowly. Mr. Mercier has confined in this way
as much as 70% of bisulphide of carbon, and he
proposes to employ this ingenious device in
checking the ravages of the phyllixera.

Inside of the car and attached to the top is
properly secured an air-tight, V-shaped, galv-
vanized iron receptacle or trough, which holds
about one ton of ice. This receptacle, owing to
its gutter form, prevents the water from the
melting ice coming in contact with the sound
ice, and as it melts, the water being facilitated
by the gutter form of the lower part of the re-
ceptacle, passes out through an iron pipe ex-
tending through the bottom of the car, this cup
being trapped at the lower end to prevent the
admission of air.

THE GRAPEVINE BLACK-KNOT.

Prof. Hilgard, of the California State Uni-
versity, says through the columns of the
Pacific Rural Press I have for some time had
under examination and observation, some speci-
mens of "black-knot" from vineyards in lo-
calities where this disease, unusual on the
vine, is beginning to produce alarm.

The knot is a brownish, somewhat spongy,
light mass of, apparently, gelled woody tissue,
the curved and interlacing fibers being readily
observable with the naked eye. The mass is
quite brittle, so that it takes a sharp knife to
cut a section from a dry specimen without pul-
verizing the chips. On soaking in water it be-
comes rather soft and spongy. On dry sections,
or in those recently soaked, it is difficult to ob-
serve, even under the microscope, anything
more than the very peculiar ladder-shaped
tissue which forms the main mass. On the sur-
face of cracks in the interior, this abnormal
vine-tissue may sometimes be seen resolved
into its elements; viz: long spindle-shaped, and
usually somewhat spirally curved, vascular
cells, looking not unlike the "ladder-shaped
ducts" of ferns. Attached to these, and some-
times enveloping them, appear occasionally
long fungus fibrils. But the multitude of these
latter is not appreciated until, after a few min-
utes' soaking, they detach their ends from the
wool cells and finally project from the latter in
large numbers, forming short-jointed stems or
fibrils of nearly uniform diameter. From the
joints of the longer fibrils there project one or
two (inverted) flask-shaped bodies, apparently
the buds of new branches; and in a few cases I
saw them terminated by a yellowish head, evi-
dently a kind of "seed vessel."

When the soaking is continued for an hour or
so, the long projecting fibrils disappear, having
apparently resolved themselves into a multitude
of short, acutely egg-shaped cells, which pos-
sess a slight vibratile motion. The farther de-
velopment of these I have not as yet been able
to follow up, but cannot doubt that each one of
the many cells so formed, would continue the
species under appropriate conditions. It would
thus seem that the winter rains must carry the
infection with them all over the vine.

Now, as to the possible remedy, I conjecture
that in this, as in all other fungous diseases, a
more or less abnormal condition of the organ-
ism precedes the attack; although, when the
trouble has once gathered overwhelming head-
way, it may attack even healthy plants. I
would ask the vine growers in infested localities
to observe carefully all circumstances of soil,
location, drainage, etc., that may possibly in-
fluence the health of the vine; note the charac-
ter of exempt localities, and try a few experi-
ments in manuring (say with stable manure,
ashes and lime, each on a different plot of vine-
yard), undertraining, etc. As for the cure of the
vines already attacked, it will be necessary
to examine the depth to which the fungous fibrils
penetrate the tissues of the vine stem proper, to
determine whether all of the diseased part can
safely be cut out. I would suggest experiments
as to the effect of coal tar, both on the excres-
cence as a whole, then on the wound left after
breaking it off as close as may be, and finally
on the wound left after cutting out all appar-
ently diseased wood, if that can safely be done.