SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1869. China a Democratic Nation. The Marysville Appeal, under the above heading, gives the following interesting statements in regard to China and her Government, which are gleaned from a series of articles written by Rev. William Speer, Corresponding Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education at Philadelphia. These statements are very interesting, containing much information in regard to the administration of Governmental affairs in China coming as they do from a gentleman who, by personal observation and experience, is well acquainted with his subject. Mr. Speer claims that the Chinese are the most democratic of nations, and that they have perhaps risen as high as possible in the two great objects of human government -security of life and property to the inches. governed and freedom of action under there are few nations of the world among | ican, 1760; a Turkish, 1626. whom the freedom of the people is more large, more squarely founded upon their intelligence, or more carefully guarded against despotism, than the Chinese. He takes up the three leading features of their Government-the theory of Imperial power, the principles on which the General Government is administered and the forms of local popular government which universally exist. He says that the theory of the Imperial power is that the people are not subjects, to be ruled by fear, but children, to be inspired and controlled by affection and gratitude toward a father, who with unceasing anxiety, watches over and cares for them all. To prove the comparative freedom preferment is planted upon education. He was at Canton upon the occasion of a great triennial examination of candidates for the second degree, which entitled to the best offices of the cities and districts of the province of twenty-one millions of people. Seventy-two were to be selected. The number of candidates amounted to between seven and eight thousand. Two Imperial Commissioners from Pekin presided. The contestants were all shut up in close rooms in a range of buildings provided for these occasions and could not come out until their essays on the five themes given were completed. The whole city and province were in a ferment of interest. Heralds were in waiting, who, by swift boats, horses and runing, conveyed tidings of the result to every part of the province, and in their native towns the successful ones were welcomed with banners and music and feasts of joy. It appears that no man is allowed to hold office in the General Government in the province of which he is a native. The officials are what our politicians call carpet-baggers. This is a office is limited to three years. A Board of Review at Pekin is appointed to revise all documents sent to the Court and inspect the conduct of the officers, from faithful. This remarkable feature of the Government has attracted the attention Another of the methods by which the than one coming in at three years old." welfare of the people is secured is the system of official reports to the six Boards or Departments of the Government, which reports virtually appeal to the popular sentiment of the nation for its support through the Pekin Gazette and other means of universal publication. This Gazette is distributed over the whole empire in a limited number of copies to leading points, which are there reprinted by various means so that the mass of the population are made acquainted with its contents. The officers of each province in turn publish their reports or subjects for popular information or consider-ation. Thus a thinking and intelligent possess great weight in estimating the true character of the political institutions

readers are too well acquainted with these companies to need any description of them. The writer says: There are three chief elements of danger in the immigration of Chinese to California-their paganisim, their ignorance of our language and laws, and their tempoary residence. He urges strongly the duty of affording all possible aid in the way of schools and other educational advantages. The defects of Chinese civilization are its want of sound general political principles, and of the influence of enlight usually compelled to wait. ened Christianity. These it is deemed the office of American democracy to sup-The opinions, though more favorable than generally entertained, are interesting as being those of a person well acquainted with his subject.

AGRICULTURAL.

FACTS AND FIGURES. A legal stone is fourteen pounds in

England, sixteen in Holland. A fathom, six feet is derived from the

hight of a full grown man.

An Irish mile is 2240 yards; a Scotch the individual restraints of law-that mile is 1984; a German, 1806; an Amer-

An acre is 10 square chains, or 660

A square mile, 1760 yards each way, contains 640 acres.

The human body consists of 240 bones, 9 kinds of articulations or joinings, 100 cartilages or ligaments, 400 museles or tendons, and 100 nerves, besides blood. arteries, veins, etc.

HOW TO JUDGE POULTRY.

A young turkey has a smooth leg and soft bill and the eyes bright, and the feet moist. Old turkeys have sealy, stiff Young fowls have a tender skin, smooth legs, and the breast-bone yields readily to the pressure of the finger. The best are those that have yellow legs. of the people he cites the fact that all The feet and legs of the old fowls look as if they had seen hard service in the

> Young ducks feel tender under the wings, and the web is transparent. The best are thick and hard on the breast.

> Young geese have yellow bills, and the feet are yellow and supple; the skin may be easily broken by the head of a pin; the breast is plump and the fat white. An old goose is unfit for the human stomach.

The Maine Farmer, in speaking of the potato mania and speculation, says "if part of the care and attention bestowed upon new and much lauded varieties were given to old and good but neglected sorts -we think farmers would be quite as off a huge bite of pigtail, by way of gainwell off as they are now to pay enormous sums for articles that are in a few years sure to be superseded and overlooked.

Potatoes planted below three feet do not vegetate; at one foot they grow thickest, and at two feet they are retarded two or three months.

AGE FOR HEIFFERS TO COME IN.

A correspondent inquired of the eustom centuries old and its object is to | Ploughman as to the proper age for heifdetatch them from local influences, and, ers to bring their first calf-the object further to guard against the growth of being for dairy purposes. The editor such influences, the term of holding replies by saying, "we believe in bringing heifers in at two years old, for the reason that at that age the organs of secretion, like all parts of the body, are in a more pliant condition than they will be the humblest of them even to the Emp- at a later period, and they are conseeror upon the throne. Officers connect- quently more rerdily influenced. The ed with this department report in secretion of milk is well calculated to every part of the Empire acts of official develope them and to enlarge them to misconduct. The courage with which their utmost capacity. If the animal is this Board expose and rebuke even the to become a large milker when she armost wealthy and powerful and secure rives at maturity, she must have abundtheir punishment is often surprising and antroom to lay away large supplies of milk, worthy of admiration. They do not spare and the capacity for holding these supeven the Emperor when the welfare of plies must be created while her system his subjects seems to require his vices to is pliant, elastic and influenced. So far be sternly reproved; and some of them as our observation has gone, and the exhave suffered death in consequence. perience of the best dairymen will coin-The histories of the Empire hand down cide, a heifer coming in at two years old with language of praise the names and if properly fed, carefully milked, forced actions of those who have been most up, if you please, to her utmost capacity of production, and made to hold out almost until the new milk springs for a second of the monarchial Powers of the world. calf, will invariably make a better milker

SALT NOT GOOD FOR COWS. H. W. Herbet, of West Rummey, writes to the Rural American that "I keep eighteen cows, and have always salted them about once in ten days, or kept a sufficient quantity in the yard for their use, and I have noticed for the last two years that every time I salted them there was invariably a decrease in milk for a few days following, and if the salt was kept by them they would not give M. V. Brown, their usual mess until the supply was taken from them, which would very soon people keep public affairs incessantly under their own eye. These statements as to the theory of the Imperial power and dance with the generally accepted idea increase their milk nearly ten per cent." principles of the general administration that salt is good for cows, as well as all other kinds of stock. While we do not of China and evince an amount of popular intelligence, liberty and power which will bear comparison with that of the monarchical countries of Europe. The Chinese companies in San Francisco are also described at some length, but our on the subject.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

Domestic magazines-Wives who are always blowing up their husbands. "I'll take the responsibility," as Jenks

said when he held out his arm for the

Queen Victoria is unpretending enough now but no one can deny she has given herself heirs.

It is strange that time and tide wait for no man. Things that are tied are An editor out West boasts of having

had a talk with a woman and got the last word. The attempt to apply the force of cir-

cumstances as a motive power has proved

A lady advertises in a Glasgow paper that she wants a gentleman "for breakfast and tea." A wee bit of a boy having been

slightly chartised by his mother; sat very quietly in his chair for some minutes afterwards, no doubt thinking very profoundly. At last he speke out thus : A hand, in horse measure, is four "Muzzer, I wish dail would get anuzzer honsekeeper. I've got tired of seem'

Said a gentleman to another, on the street :

"Who is that ugly woman with whom you were walking?

"That's my sister." "No, no, I don't mean her," explained the unfortunate interrogator, "but that horrid, red haired creature walking by her side."

"That, sir, is my wife."

A clergyman once took for his text these words: "The world, the flesh and the devil," and commenced his sermon in this manner: "I shall pass over the Flesh, touch lightly upon the World, and hasten on as fast as I can to the Devil." Wonder what the sequel was?

The late Baron Rothehild was unceremonious with high and low alike. A great personage once penetrated into his study while the Baron was very busy. The Baron without looking up, said, with that slight German accent which gave character to his remarks, "Take a chair." ily, "you didn't hear the announcement of my name. I am the Count-"Very well," replied the Baron, without lifting his eyes from the sheet, "take two

An old fellow who never yielded the palm to any one in reeling a knotty y irn, was put on his trumps at hearing a traveler state that once he saw a brick house placed upon runners and drawn up a hill to a more favorable location, some half a mile distant.

"What do you think of that, uncle From one to two dollars per day according to the Ether?" said the bystanders. "Oh, fudge!" said the old man,

once saw a two story stone house down East drawn by oxen three miles." A dead silence ensued. The old man evidently had the worse end of it and saw it. Gathering his energies, he bit

ing time for thought. "They drew the stone house," said the old man, ejecting a quantity of tobacco juice towards the fire-place; "but that

wasn't the worst of the job-after they'd done that, they went back and drawed the cellar." The stranger caved in. Here are some new epitaphs. Professional epitaphs are sometimes clever and satirical. The lawyers have come in

for their share of biting epigrams from the time of Shakespeare down. Here is one from Moore's memoirs: "Here lies John Shaw,

Attorney-at-law; And when he died The devil cried, Give us your paw, John Shaw, Attorney-at-law."

In the literature of epitaphs, it is surprising how large a proportion belong to the class of the whimsical or the absurd. Here is one on a highland soldier:

"Here lies Alexander McPherson, He was a most superior person; He was six feet two, without a shoe, And he was slew at Waterloo."

The briefest epitaph of which we ever heard, and the best, was the following, ordered by a literary gentleman, lately deceased, to be engraven on his tomb-

"FINIS."

A lady in North Stonington (Conn.) suffers from an injured hand, caused by spanking her incorrigible child.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

BALL:

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WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY,

(February 22d, 1869.)

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PLOOR MANAGERS. Leo. Fox, P. C. Harper,

A general invitation is hereby extended. Tickets can be procured of any member of the Firemen are requested to appear in uniform. Albany, Jan. 23d, 1869.

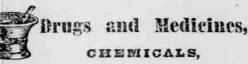
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S. H. CLAUGHTON, P. M. January 9, 1869-18ml

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