

THE OREGON SENTINEL.

FARMER'S COLUMN.

THE FARMER'S PORTION.—Man seems to be a being unable to fully appreciate the advantages by which he is surrounded. Blind to the simple joys which spring up all along his pathway, he is eagerly pushing forth to utopian pleasures seldom to be realized, and if realized, scarcely to be enjoyed. It is particularly so with the farmer, who, possessing a right in fee simple to live upon and cultivate a portion of his mother earth, and being surrounded with the elements of rural happiness, would abandon them and seek pleasures, profit or renown, in commercial, professional or political pursuits.

HOW TO DETECT THE SEX IN DOMESTIC FOWLS' EGGS.

A person who has paid attention to the subject declares that he can tell the sex of eggs in the following manner. He adds: I began examining eggs, classing them according to the difference I found in the formation of each, marking each class and putting them under hens as soon as opportunity offered; when, in less than twelve months, I was fully convinced that I had either discovered a method or the method of foretelling the sex in the egg by ocular demonstration in the chickens produced. At the large end of the egg is a circular space or cavity containing air, which is commonly called the "crown" of the egg; its proper name I know not. When you examine the egg, hold it, the large end uppermost, before a candle or gaslight, and in looking through it you will discover a dark circular mark, something similar to the moon when partially eclipsed. This dark circular mark is the space filled with air, or the "crown" of the egg, and is to be found in all eggs, situated either in the center or on the side.

My method of examining the eggs is as follows: I make use of the thumb and forefinger of my left hand at two points, placing the small end of the egg on my thumb, my forefinger covering the large end of it, and as near the center of the end as possible. I then place the egg in this position steadily before the candle and gently turn it round; if the crown be in the center, it will be scarcely visible, the forefinger nearly covering it, and I am satisfied that the egg will produce a male chicken. On the contrary, if the crown be on the side, you will only see it on one side of the egg as you turn it round, and the product of such eggs will be females. Thus you may produce male or female chickens at your option.

There is a little contrivance called the microscope to detect bad eggs. The egg is placed in a hole of a box, and the light reflects on a mirror inside, and tells unerringly the true condition of the egg. A little practice enables one to discover whether eggs are fresh or not.

HOW QUEEN BEES FIGHT.—Look now, at the armies as they approach to face one another, and not to fight. Single combat between the sovereigns is the order of the day, and the assembled armies are merely interested spectators, with their fore legs drawn beneath the body. The rival sovereigns advance and fall upon each other with ungenerous fury. They seize each other with their jaws by the neck, head and legs. By rapid vibrations of their wings they endeavor to confound one another. They butt their heads together, they grasp firmly with their legs and neck, and strive to reach the vulnerable parts between the rings of the body, at the neck, or the constricted parts that connect the chest and the abdomen. This is a mortal duel—deadly sword play. Not a spectator puts forth his leg. A general hum attests the excitement, or, perhaps, a general stillness. At length the fatal thrust is given: the sword penetrates between the rings and enters the vital parts. It is now that the pierced one shrinks back, staggers and falls, and, after one or two convulsive throes, closes her eyes forever.

USE OF THE SEX-FLOWER.—The editor of the New Orleans Bulletin urges his readers to plant sunflowers in their gardens, for the purpose of preventing fevers. "Least, Mary's" conclusions and experiments have been tested by many planters, and we have frequently seen certificates from the latter to the surprising effects of this simple and beautiful method of warding off febrile complaints in the Spring and Summer from localities subject to them. We suggest, therefore, to all persons living in the outskirts of the city, and those having gardens residing within it, the propriety of planting abundantly the seeds of the sunflower. It has a showy kind of beauty, and is desirable in that respect, contrasting well, by its brilliant yellow crown, with roses and other flowers; add to this its power to absorb the noxious vapors which arise from the earth, and which are supposed to produce fevers, and its combined advantages are quite sufficient to cause it to be planted extensively in every garden.

CHERRY SYSTEM.—A beautiful girl stepped into a shop to buy a pair of mitts. "How much are they?" "Why," said the gallant, impudent clerk, "I'm gazing upon her sparkling eyes and ruby lips, 'you shall have them for a kiss.'" "Very well," said the lady, pocketing the mitts, while her eyes spoke daggers; "and as I see you give credit here, charge it on your book, and let me know when you collect it!" and hastily tripped out.

NOT THE ARTICLE.—We have a little friend by the name of Freddy, who is less than four years old. His sister, who is not quite a year old, was sitting in her father's lap, crying and fretting for her mother, who had gone out, when Freddy turned to her and said, in the most earnest manner possible: "There, Alice, you've cried enough, there's no use fretting any more; mother's gone away and father don't keep the article you want!"

"WHO GOES THERE?"—A gentleman from the troops at the Relay House says that the regiment have, in some instances, a pleasant way of making challenges. A fellow who had been drinking on the Palisade, and had secured a fine string of fish, was stopped by the usual question, "Who goes there?" "Fisherman," was the answer. "Advance, fisherman, and drop two shad," said the alert sentinel, looking out for his own commissariat.

ONE IN TWO THOUSAND.—It is said of Col. Ethan Allen that he once attended a church where a minister made an estimate, the result of which was that out of the whole human race not more than one in two thousand would be saved. On the announcement of this result, Allen took up his hat and walked out, saying as he went, "Gentlemen, if you want my chance, you are welcome to it; it is not worth staying for."

THROUGH BALTIMORE.

THE VOICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.

'Twas Friday morn, the train drew near The city and the shore; Far from the sunshine, soft and clear, We saw the dear old flag appear, And in our hearts arose a cheer For Baltimore.

Across the broad Patuxec's wave, Old Fort Melleny bore The stary banner of the brave, As when our fathers went to save, Or in the trenches flung a grave At Baltimore.

Before us, pillared in the sky, As brother's evermore, Of Washington, serene and high— Could traitors view that form, nor fly? Could patriots see, nor gladly die For Baltimore?

"Oh, city of our country's song, By that swift aid we bore When sorely pressed, receive the throng, Who go to shield our flag from wrong, And give us welcome, warm and strong, In Baltimore."

We had no arms; as friends we came, As brother's evermore, To rally round one sacred name, The charter of our power and fame; We never dreamed of guile and shame In Baltimore.

The coward mob upon us fell; Melleny's flag they tore; Beset down, borne backward by the swell, Strike down the dastard's who attack, And leave a red and fiery track Through Baltimore!

The street our soldier father's tread Blushed with their children's gore; We saw the craven ruler nod, And dip in blood the civic rod— Shall such things be, oh! righteous God! In Baltimore?

No, never! By that outrage black, A solemn oath we swore, To bring the Keystone's thousands back, Strike down the dastard's who attack, And leave a red and fiery track Through Baltimore!

Bow down in haste thy guilty head! God's wrath is swift and sore; Thy shield with gathering bolts is red— Cleanse from thy skirts the slaughter shed, Or make thyself an ashen bed— Oh, Baltimore!

[BAYARD TAYLOR.]

"TEMPERANCE," says Mrs. Partington, solemnly, with a rich emotion in her tone, "is like an after dinner speech" at the same time bringing her hand, containing the snuff she had just brought from the box, down upon her knee, while Lion, with a violent sneeze, walked away into the bosoms of families like any condor or Ally Gaiter, and destroys its peace and happiness forever. But thank Heaven! a new Erie has dawned upon the world, and soon the hydrant head-of-monster will be overturned! Isn't it strange that men will put enemies in their mouths to steal away their heads?"

"Don't you regard taking snuff as a vice?" we asked, innocently.

"If it is," she replied with the same old argument, "it's so small that Providence won't take no notice of it; and, besides, my oil factories would miss it!"

"Ah, kind old heart, it was a drunkard's argument."

"A SNECK ROUGHER THAN THE LOAF."—While walking through Church street, "the subscriber" came up with two negro boys, aged respectively ten and fifteen years. The younger carried an apple in his hand, and the older one was using all his eloquence to obtain "just one bite" of it. The larger one took the apple, opened a mouth that would have been creditable to a 150-pound catfish, and brought it down on the fruit, leaving but a very small portion on the other side. "Thunder, Jim!" said the little one, looking up at the operation with astonishment and dismay, "just you take the apple and give me the bite, won't you?"

LOST THE RACE.—A party challenged another who was notorious for his speed of foot to run a race of considerable distance with him, simply stipulating that the champion of the "foot course" should carry ten pounds weight of any article his challenger might see fit to select. In all the pride of well-trodden powers, the champion cried "done" to the bargain; when, lo! and behold! his opponent selected—not only for the effectual impediment, but the most grotesque adornment of his competitor—ten pounds weight of full-blown bladders!

THE following incident actually occurred at the State Department during Mr. Marcy's reign. An aspirant for a place in France implored the Secretary for a Consultship, and being questioned by the Premier as to his knowledge of the French language, coolly replied "I reckon, Governor, to be soon *en fait* (an fact) in that sort of thing, as I have been taking lessons on 'em for some time." Mr. Marcy, greatly amused told the applicant that he could not have the appointment, as he had already made a *faux pas* (false pass).

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