A Moment of Despondency.

O fearful gift of sympathy! O heart
Too finely strung, whose silken fibres rise
Or fall with gentlest airs that blow them! I
Have suffered undeserved tortures for
This fond solicitude for other souls.
Misplaced, it may be, hence the penalty;
But who shall tell the blossom when and where
It may diffuse its fragrance, that a sense
Appreciative only meet its breath?
It is *too late*, when song has gushed from birds,
To say no ear shall thrill with ecstacy
Receptive of its inspiration! And,
Too late when mountain cascades float in spray,
Deep hidden in primeval shade, to say
No sunbeams there disclose an iris wreath!
And so the free outpouring of the wealth
Of nature's warm untrammelled feelings, late,
Too late for calm philosophy to save
The sorrow disappointment brings.

COM.

OREGON CITY, Dec., 1866.

HOW TO MAKE GOOD BUTTER.—Leo, of Raymond, New Hampshire, writes to the *Rural New Yorker*: It is a well known fact that a good location and cleanliness are among the most essential points in making good butter. Every dairy should be so located that it may be cool and shady with a good draft of air circulating through it. A large dairy and well filled ought to be the motto of every farm house. As soon as the milk is brought in it should be scalded, as we get more cream and better by so doing. Butter comes better and is not so liable to be soft and sticky. As soon as taken from the churn it should be thoroughly worked, left until next morning and worked again. Next salt in the following way: Take two quarts of good salt, one ounce of sugar and one ounce of salt peter. Use one ounce of this composition for one pound of butter. It should be stamped and left to cool before putting in jars. Butter prepared in this way should not be used in two or three weeks. You will find that your butter will be very fine, as it will have no brittle or salty look or taste. By following this course your butter will keep year through, in warm as well as cold weather.

GOOD SUBSTITUE FOR PAINT.—For the benefit of our readers, both in the city and in the country, we publish the following receipt for making a wash for fences and out buildings, which is said to look almost as well at paint. We quote from the Chemical *Gazette*: "Take a clean water-tight barrel, or other suitable cask, and put into it a half bushel of lime. Slack it by pouring boiling water over it, and in sufficient quantity to cover five inches deep, stirring it briskly till thoroughly slacked. When slacking has been effected, dissolve in water, an add two pounds of sulphate of zinc and one of common salt. These will cause the wash to harden and prevent it cracking, which gives an unseemly appearance to the work. If desirable, a beautiful cream color may be communicated to the above wash, by adding three pounds of yellow ochre, or a good pearl or lead color by the addition of lamp vine or ivory black. For fawn collor, add four pounds of umber—Turkish or American—the latter is the cheaper, one pound of Indian red and one pound common lamp-black. This wash may be applied with a common whitewash brush, and will be found much superior, both in appearance and durability, to common whitewash."

DEODORIZERS.—The following articles are easily available for the suppression of noxious gasses, so fatal to health and life:

Two pounds of sulphate of iron (coperas) dissolved in a pailful of water, and poured into a vault, will prevent the formation of sulpeuretted hydrogen gas for some time, and will generally be sufficient to remove all nuisance.

A layer of charcoal dust will prevent the escape of all offensive odor from any decomposing substance.

One pound of nitrate of lead dissolved in a pailful of water, is excellent for sinks, sick drains and vaults.

If other things fail, chloride of lime is always effectual, and may be freely used upon vaults and other collections of filth.

These substances are not expensive, and will effectually destroy all the offensive smells. The quantity to be used will depend on the quantity of filth to be deodorized, and their permanency of effect upon local conditions in each case.

AN ingenious person in New Orleans has been engaged in making thread from the stalks of the cotton plant. It is very fine and strong, and looks very much like flax, being nearly as soft and pliable. He proposes to make this thread into cloth, which, he says, will be as strong and durable as that made from cotton itself. Forty pounds of thread can be made from one hundred and twenty pounds of stalk A new factory will soon be established for the manufacture of cloth from this substance. Should this prove successful, it will double the value of the cotton plantations at the South.

SOLVENT FOROLD PUTTY AND PAINT. Soft soap mixed with a solution of potash or caustic soda, or pearlash and slaked lime mixed with sufficient water to form a paste. Either may be laid on with a brush or rag, and when left for some hours will render its removal easy.—*Scientific American.*

FALL SOWING OF TIMOTHY.—Many acres of timothy are often lost in consequence of excessive drouth in some seasons; and even in ordinary seasons, Spring sowing more frequently proves a failure in whole or in part, than it proves successful. When sown in spring, it is almost uniformly sown with grain; the grain grows more rapidly than the timothy and often overshadows it, and extracts the moisture from the soil that the young timothy requires to insure a firm foothold to enable it to withstand the increased heart and drouth of Summer. If the Spring proves a wet one, and the timothy makes a good start, it is greatly retarded in its growth, and many of the young plants are entirely killed out by being overgrown with the grain, or trodden down and lost in the act of harvesting, and by the pasturage of stock upon the stubble of the grain, so that timothy, under the most favorable circumstances the following season, will not cover the ground so well as that which is sown in the Fall.

A through preparation of the ground is as necessary for a timothy meadow as for any other crop. Indeed, we consider it more important. The ground should not only be well broken up, but the surface should be well harrowed and rolled.

The use of mowing machines renders it necessary that all meadows that are to be cut with them, should be freed from all stones, stumps and grubs, and that the surface be as uniformly smooth as it can be made. This is not only demanded on account of the free, unobstructed use of the machine, but the success and profit of the crop will more than compensate for the extra labor in preparing the soil. For all crops this important requisite is too much overlooked. "Land well prepared, is half tilled," to say nothing of the increased yield from such preparation.

Not less than one bushel of seed should be applied to six acres. We are aware that one gallon to the acre is considered sufficient by some farmers, but twice that quantity is better than less.—*Rural World.*

WEEDING POTATOES WITH SHEEP. It may not be known to farmers in general that its a common practice, in some of the extensive potato-growing districts, to turn flocks of sheep into the potato fields for the purpose of eating down the weeds. The sheep will not touch a potato vine; they cannot be starved into eating them. This pasturing with sheep is very advantageous when the crop is a late planted one, so that the hoeing cannot be completed until after the haying or harvest is finished. At that growing season it is the planter's aim to keep down the grass and weeds, so that they may be covered with dirt by the cultivator and hoe, when these are used. Pasturing with sheep will attain this object. Early planted crops, the cultivation of which is completed in the first half the summer, frequently become grassy and weedy before the time of digging—when the size of the tops precludes cultivation. In this stage the sheep are economical weeders: It is hardly necessary to mention that the food thus given to the sheep makes a double profit while labor is said and weeds prevented from seeding in the crop.—*Rural.*

FILTERING WATER.—Le Genie *Industrie*, reports a new application of the law of capillary attractton, by Mons Amen Vigio, to the filteration of water on a large scale. His system is the ascensional power of water through porous bodies. By the law of capillarity, water will penetrate a porous body of a certain hight. If, when arrived at that point, it finds a siphon curve, it will follow that curve, and run off; and thus a regular and constant current may be obtained. The water elevated slowly by capillary attraction, is freed from all impurities held in suspension, and in the condition as if it had passed through a filter. Mons Vigio had caused to be made for his experiments filters of terracotta, very porous. This substance has the advantage of great durability, and it is inert and cannot alter the water. The filters placed in mud worked for a long time without their pores being chocked; the part immersed in the mud working as effectively as the other parts.

NAILS—WHY CALLED SIXPENNY, EIGHTPENNY, &c.—Geo. Barney, Swanton, Vt., says: "Fifty years ago or more my father made nails to sell the early settlers in these parts. They were cut from plate by a machine worked by hand, and each nail separately headed by hand. He has told me they sold nails those days by count, not by weight, and the small nails were less in price per 100 than large ones. So I conclude that in past generations in England that they sold 100 small nails for four pence, and these took the name of fourpenny nails, 100 eightpenny nails at 8d, 100 nails at 10d., &c."

HOW TO SAVE PUMPKIN-SEEDS.-Cut a circular hole in the top of a box, six or eight inches across. Divide your pumpkins strait across the center, and strike the halves down upon the board over the hole. The best of the seeds will fall through clean and ready to dry for use. You can save them faster in that way than in any other.

MRS. JENKINS complained in the evening that the turkey she had eaten at Thanksgiving did not set well. 'Probably," said Jenkins, "it was not a hen-turkey."