

The Farm.

RESULT OF VICIOUS FARMING.—A few years ago the average grain product per acre in Minnesota was 22 bushels. This year the State has an average acreage planted of 1,100,000. The total product is 13,200,000 bushels; average, 12 bushels per acre. This great reduction in the average is chiefly due to the vicious system of farming pursued in that State, where for years they have cropped the same land in wheat, to the ruin of the soil. This State has nothing to boast of over Minnesota in the matter of farming. We have cropped our fields in wheat and barley for 15 years, without change or rest, and the result is that lands which in 1856 were good for 30 bushels per acre, will now hardly average 16 bushels, and that, too, in the richest districts. New England, a century since, produced all the wheat she consumed; she now produces not a hundredth part of it. Vermont grows no wheat or next to none. Ohio, once the Egypt of the new world, no longer grows her own bread; and Indiana will soon be fed by Nebraska and Dakota. The wheat crop moves more rapidly westward. How soon must we at this rate look for bread to the Pacific Coast.—*Ec.*

SOWING DIFFERENT GRAINS TOGETHER.—The *Toronto Globe* says, of late years the attention of several experimental English agriculturists (as well as some Canadian) has been turned towards the possibility of increasing the yield per acre of various cereals, when sown together in same field. There seems little doubt that a much larger yield can thus be obtained. Instances are quoted where peas, oats, barley and wheat, all sown together, have produced a large yield. This plan has especially been successful where various sorts of wheat alone have been sown together, or, as we should term it, a mixed sample of seed. One man mentions a yield of upwards of seventy bushels of this mixed seed (wheat) per acre, and this great crop was composed of four different sorts of wheat. The theory is that some sorts are subject to particular enemies, whether of season or insects; whilst others are not influenced by the same, at the same time, or escape altogether; so between the various chances which affect the different plants, a crop matures. Our improved fanning mills are now brought to such perfection that the separation of different grains is not difficult.

HIGH CULTIVATION.—The *Maine Farmer*, alluding to the subject of "high cultivation," so much talked of and written about, says that there is much more talk than improvement. A man looks over his farm, of many acres, and finds the whole needs aid, but not being able, at once, to render it to all portions, makes no particular effort to improve any part. The right way—right because alone practicable—is to commence with a few acres at a time. Get these in good heart the first year, and the increased product from them will aid in experimenting on another section the succeeding year. In this way the farm will soon become renovated, and, properly cared for, will not run down again as "long as grass grows and water runs."

HOW TO STRIP A HIDE.—Almost every farmer has occasion, at least once a year, to take the hide off either a beef or a mutton, and some farmers take hides off animals that are neither beef nor mutton, now and then. In any case there is a right way to do this which is worth knowing. A hide properly stripped off is nearly square, but otherwise is far from that shape. To strip a hide properly, lay the carcass on the back, run a sharp knife from the chin down along the belly in a straight line to the root of the tail.

The knife should have a sharp point and be inserted edge upwards beneath the skin, when it should be

run steadily along. Then commence at the split of the hoof on the fore foot, and run the knife down over knee in a straight line to the brisket where it meets the main cut. When the other fore leg has been completed, commence at the heel of the hind leg, go down over the cap of the hock joint, and down the back of the buttock to the split. When the hide is loose and spread out, it will be seen that there are no such irregularities in its contour as if the cuts had been made down the inside of the legs, as it is often done.

STEAM CULTIVATION IN EUROPE.

In the February report of the department of agriculture we find the following interesting statement in reference to the progress of steam cultivation in Europe. At an agricultural meeting lately held in Scotland, Mr. Grey, of Aberdeen, gave some account of the progress of steam cultivation since 1855, in which year the late John Fowler started his first steam-plow in Essex, which was a very successful attempt. He subsequently expended \$350,000 in experiments, but after a few years he had nothing to represent this amount of invested capital except a lot of old machinery. The solution of the question whether plowing could be done cheaper with steam than with horses was decided in 1858; its importance may be learned from the fact that there are works in the country employing twelve hundred men in nothing else than making steam-plows. One farmer in Egypt employs four hundred steam-plows; he is also lying down four hundred miles of railways on his farm, principally to carry sugar-cane to his mills, and has ordered thirty locomotive-engines, and \$3,000,000 worth of sugar machinery. This farm is the Pacha's. In Germany steam culture is making a revolution in agriculture. In England there are between 400 and 500 sets of tackle working for hire. These are held by companies as well as by private individuals; the investment has been found to be profitable.

A gentleman bought five hundred acres near London, that could not be rented at \$3 per acre. He took down all the fences, drained the land, bought a steam-plow, and put all in grain crops. Last year his clear profits were \$18,000 after allowing \$10 per acre for rent. The soil is a stiff clay that cannot be cultivated profitably by horse-power. Another farmer bought five thousand acres of what was considered worthless clay land, and by steam-power stirred it 3 feet deep, producing crops last year nearly 7 feet high.

In Scotland steam cultivation is becoming quite general, producing astonishing results. Many of the farmers there have invested from \$5,000 to \$10,000 in steam machinery, and find that it pays better than horse-power. Joint-stock companies are also in existence that invest in land and steam machinery, and secure large dividends.

POLLED OR HORNLESS CATTLE.—There seems to be some doubt among farmers whether hornless cattle belong to a distinct breed or not. The fact is, that for some centuries past a breed of hornless cattle has existed in a district of Scotland called Galloway, whence this breed has taken the name of Galloway cattle. Under this name they are well known in Great Britain, and in Canada there is one breeder at least who makes Galloway cattle a specialty. Their color is generally black, coat soft and silky, size medium. At three years old, steers may be made to weigh from 800 to 1,600 lbs. They possess excellent points for beef cattle, being light in the bone, with frame square and well filled in. The cows give rich milk, though not in great quantity. The writer once possessed a cow of this breed that yielded nine pounds of butter per week when in her prime. Their lack of horns, in the estimation of some people, is a desirable qualification. In constitution these cattle are very hardy, and probably in no respect are they infe-

rior to the Devons, while in regard to the matter of horns, or rather the want of them, we consider them superior.

Miscellaneous.

Journalism in the United States.

We have before us, says the *N. Y. Observer*, two very interesting tables in manuscript, made up in the Census bureau in Washington out of reports of the ninth census not yet published, and showing at a glance the number of newspapers and periodicals published in the United States, the number devoted to particular interests, and distribution according to frequency of publication. We gather the most suggestive facts presented by these tables and give them to our readers. The entire number of such publications in the country, is nearly six thousand—5,845. These are divided as follows:

Daily.....	574	Semi-monthly.....	93
Tri-weekly.....	107	Monthly.....	621
Bi-weekly.....	115	Bi-monthly.....	15
Weekly.....	4,220	Quarterly.....	49
Total.....	5,845		

Of this immense aggregate, 79 papers, ranging from weekly to quarterly, are published only for advertising purposes. Subtracting these as not fairly to be counted among the publications which illustrate the journalistic enterprise of the nation, we have 5,766 newspapers and periodicals in the country—an average of one to about 6,500 of the population. The whole number is distributed among various interests as follows:

Political.....	4,728
Agricultural and Horticultural.....	35
Religious and Sacred Societies.....	91
Commercial and Financial.....	122
Literary.....	502
Illustrated, Literary and Miscellaneous.....	502
Scientific.....	20
Technique and Professional.....	207
Religious.....	407
Sporting.....	6

Turning to the vital question of circulation, we find the facts of special interest, and can best exhibit them, perhaps, by the following table, in which we give the number of each class with the aggregate and average circulation:

	No.	Circulation.	Average.
Political.....	4,728	8,778,350	2,028
Agricultural.....	93	720,252	8,072
Societies.....	84	357,470	4,255
Financial.....	122	620,240	5,082
Literary.....	602	4,151,953	6,896
National.....	20	45,150	2,257
Scientific or Professional.....	207	744,530	3,596
Religious.....	407	4,764,528	11,706
Sporting.....	6	73,560	12,250

In aggregate circulation, as in number of publications, religion and politics take the lead, it will be seen, though the average circulation of the political papers is lower than that of other class. The latter fact is accounted for. The 3,560 weekly political papers consist mostly of small rural sheets which have little, if any, circulation outside of the counties in which they are published.

The prevalence of small pox in several of our principal cities during the present season gives importance to a theory recently advanced by a German physician. He argues that the cause of the disease is the presence of an excess of albuminous matter in the blood. Such excess he attributes to over-indulgence in sugar and other sweets, and he suggests common salt as the simplest corrective. Lemon juice is also recommended as efficacious and to the free use of those remedies he attributes the fact that for the past twelve years he has frequented the most pestilential small pox hospitals in Europe and South America without once incurring the disease.

PROTEST OF LONDON PHYSICIANS AGAINST ALCOHOL.—A considerable degree of stir has been produced in London by the circulation of a declaration from a large number of the most eminent physicians of that city, in regard to alcohol, in which they state that, believing the inconsiderate prescription of large quantities of alcoholic liquors by medical men to have given rise, in many instances, to the foundation of intemperate habits, they are of the opinion that no medical practitioner should prescribe them without a grave sense of responsibility. They believe that alcohol, in whatever form, should be prescribed with as much care as any powerful drug, and that the directions should be accompanied by the understanding that its use is not to be interpreted as a sanc-

tion of success, or for the continuance of its use when the occasion is past. They also state that many people immensely exaggerate the value of alcohol as an article of diet; and hold that every practitioner is bound to exert his utmost influence to inculcate great moderation in the use of alcoholic liquors. Being also convinced that the large amount of alcoholic drinking is one of the greatest evils of the day, they urge the utmost caution against doing anything, either in their character as physicians or citizens, to extend its use.

The Washington Treaty.

NEW YORK, April 20.—A Washington special says Gen. Banks called on Secretary Fish yesterday according to instructions from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to consult regarding the proposed action of the House on Peters' resolution advising the withdrawal of the claim for indirect damages. Secretary Fish said he was not in favor of modifying the case, and knew of no member of the Cabinet who was. He did not think it possible to make any modification, at the same time he is said to have admitted that he did not expect a favorable reward for indirect damages. At a Cabinet meeting which followed, Fish communicated the substance of the conference, which was unqualifiedly approved.

The *Times* has the following semi-official statement from Washington on the Alabama claims: It is now generally understood here that the Government insists on maintaining its original position for the sole purpose of securing arbitration. The principle involved and the magnitude of the questions, are great. The gain to be obtained by its decision has been overlooked in the decision of the case. A decision disallowing the claims would really be of more advantage to this Government for future emergencies than any award for damages, for the purpose of having this principle arbitrated and settled for all time to come, so that it might be a precedent for future complications. There is no doubt that this Government would consent to waive any payment of money damages which might be awarded, in case of a possible decision adverse to England.

A strong lobby, representing the owners of Alabama claims, has been in Washington the last few weeks endeavoring to influence the Administration and Congress to withdraw the objectionable portion of our case.

PERSPIRATION.—The amount of liquid matter which passes through the microscopical tubes of the skin in twenty-four hours, in an adult person of sound health, is about sixteen fluid ounces, or one pint. One ounce of the sixteen is the solid matter made up of organic and inorganic substances, which if allowed to remain in the system for a brief space of time would cause death. The rest is water. Besides the water and solid matter, a large amount of carbonic acid, a gaseous body, passes through the tubes; so we cannot fail to understand that they are active workers, and also we cannot fail to see the importance of keeping them in perfect working order, removing obstructions by frequent application of water or by some other means. Suppose we obstruct the functions of the skin perfectly by varnishing a person completely with a compound impervious to moisture. How long will he live? Not over six hours. The experiment was once tried in Florence. Pope Leo, the Tenth, on the occasion of his accession to the Papal chair, wished to have a living figure to represent the Golden Age and so he gilded a poor child all over with varnish and gold leaf. The child died in a few hours. If the fur of a rabbit or the skin of a pig be covered with a solution of India rubber in naphtha, the animal ceases to breathe in two hours.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

EARLY CAREER OF SENATOR WILSON.—In a recent speech at Great Falls, N. H., Senator Henry Wilson, referring to some experiences in his early life, said:

"I feel that I have the right to speak for toiling men and to toiling men. I was born here in your county of Stafford. I was born in poverty; want sat by my cradle. I know what it is to ask a mother for bread when she has none to give. I left my home at ten years of age and served an apprenticeship of eleven years, receiving a month's schooling each year, and at the end of eleven years' hard work, a yoke of oxen and six sheep, which brought me eighty-four dollars.

A dollar would cover every penny I spent from the time I was born until I was twenty-one years of age. I know what it is to travel weary miles and ask my fellowmen to give me leave to toil. I remember that in Sept. 1833 I walked into your village from my native town, and went through mills,

seeking employment. If anybody had offered me \$8 or \$9 a month, I should have accepted it gladly. I went down to Salmon Falls, I went to Dover, I went to Newmarket and tried to get work, without success, and I returned home weary but not discouraged, and I put my pack on my back and walked to the town where I now live and learned a mechanic's trade. I know the hard lot toiling men have to endure in the world, and every pulsation of my heart, every conviction of my judgment, puts me on the side of the toiling men of my country—aye, of all countries."

WE ARE ALL SINNERS.—There is no man that lives who does not sin. There is no man that lives who cannot be made to sin. All men could not be made to sin in the same way. Some men cannot be made to sin by meat and drink. Others can. And of those who cannot be made to sin by meat and drink, some can be made by temptation of money. There is many and many a man whose morals are pure enough, but whose avarice is as intense as a furnace of fire; and he might be made to sin there. He might not at one, two, or three degrees, but he might at twenty or thirty degrees. Some are twentily or a low temperature, like lead, and others require the compound blow-pipe to fuse them; but there is no man who cannot be fused at some points. Some may be warped by their sympathies and affections who could not be by their pride. But though one might not be toppled over by pride, he might by vanity. And though one might not be made to yield by vanity, he might be led into compliance by benevolence and gentleness and good will. Some men can be overcome in one way, and some in another. Somewhere or other there is a joint in the harness through which the arrow could go. The implication is that every man is temptable, and that on man, being tempted, has power to cure himself.—*H. W. Beecher.*

LITTLE can be done well to which the whole mind is not applied.

Useful Receipts.

THE FARMER'S OWN PUDDING.—Three pounds sifted corn meal, three quarters of a pound finely minced beef suet, one pound dried currants, (well washed and rubbed dry,) one-half teaspoonful of soda, (supercarbonate;) incorporate the whole, while dry, and add one and a half pint of molasses, a sufficient quantity of boiling water, stirring hard all the time until the mixture is of the consistency of common mush; stand over night in a moderately warm place; next morning tie it in a wide-mouthed bag, leaving it full space to swell; boil incessantly four or five hours (a plate placed in the bottom of the pot;) served with boiled or hard sauce, according to taste, the same as with pudding. By many, this pudding is considered even better when heated in the oven next day. The above recipe makes a quantity sufficient for twenty people.

COCONUT CAKE.—Four cups of flour, three cups of sugar, one cup of milk, five eggs beaten separately, one cup of butter, two spoonfuls of cream of tartar, one teaspoonful of soda, the half of a coconut, grated and put into the cake; the other half put with the whites of three eggs and half a cup of sugar, and put on the top to form an icing. Bake in two pans, two inches thick.

GOLD AND SILVER CAKE.—For silver cake take one coffee cup of sugar; one and a half cups of flour; the whites of four eggs; one for frosting; one half teaspoonful of milk one teaspoonful cream of tartar, and one-half teaspoonful of soda. For gold cakes use the same, substituting the yolks of the eggs for the whites.

BROWN BREAD.—Two-thirds corn meal one-third rye or unbolted wheat flour, one coffee cup full of molasses, to a pint of sour milk and three eggs, saleratus to sweeten the milk and ferment the molasses; the whole to be mixed, quite soft; bake immediately, three hours; it is all the better if left in all night.

EXCELLENT CRACKERS.—To fourteen cups of flour, add one cup of lard, two teaspoonfuls soda, four cream tartar. Rub the ingredients well into the flour, then add three cups of water, work thoroughly and bake quick.

WATER COOKIES.—Three cups of sugar, one of water, one egg, one cup of butter, half teaspoonful soda, half a nutmeg grated. These are best when three weeks old.

A LINIMENT.—One of the best liniments that was ever made for man or beast is composed of equal parts of laudanum, alcohol, and oil of wormwood. Its effect is almost magical.

LOAF CAKE.—Three cups buttermilk, three of sugar, one of butter, six of flour, one teaspoonful soda, two cream tartar, fruit if you choose.