

PORTLAND, OREGON, FEBRUARY 21. 1879.

VOL. XI.

Home Circle Department.

A Word for the Owls. Reader, did you ever watch the owl long

We are well aware of the fact that the value of the FARMER as a family paper is derived as much from a well-conducted Home lircle Department as from any other. Of I ste this department has been neglected, owing to the ill health of Mrs. Clarke, the editor, but we are glad to say that she is well signin, and will take renewed interest in her work, though it may be that for a few weeks to come, during which time she will be removing to Portiand to commence housekeeping there, she will hardly be able to devote a much time to it as she could wish. When we are fairly fixed and at headquarters with the whole family, every department of the paper shall have the attention its importance denands.

Poultry on a Large Scale.

Like everything else, poultry requires t have common sense used in its management. There is common sense in a few hens being 1 kept by any man living in a city and having In small yard at the back of his house, where perhaps he has a stable with a pair of horses; but there would be folly in his having great numbers. There is good common sense in having a fine lot of fowls running around every farm homestead, but none in keeping so many as to bring on disease. There would be common sense in placing 1,000 hens in families of 50 over 200 acres, giving them full liberty to range where they pleased, and having their roosts so constructed that a yoke of oxen or a pair of horses could be hitched to them and haul them to a new site when crops growing near required the absence of the oultry, or when a coop had been a good while in one place, and the surroundings were ning too much esturated with the manure On a large farm with springs and running streams of water, 10,000 might be kept by revering attention in moving when neces ary, and by plowing some ground all the while near by, and also by planting patches of rye in Septemb. to give them green food through the winter, which would be available enever the snow is not lying thereon. But it would be folly for 10,000 or only 1,000 to be kept confined upon a few acres, and expect anything but disaster. With ample range fowls will be healthy in small families, and equire little besides what they will find by foraging, at the same time they will lay eggs enough to make \$2 per hen. But confir them on a few acres, and they will eat double of purchased food, and lay not more than 75 cents' worth of eggs per head in proportion

Hydraulic Mining.

enough to learn its benefit to the farmer We have seen with painful regret boys clubbing the little benefactor while seeking its prey of mice about the barn. The little birds subsist entirely on mice and insects which seek their food by night. The owl is nocturnal, and therefore his habits are not so well understood by many people as birds which fly by day, though quite tame and often building its nest near the farmer's house or outbuildings, where it may be seen in the twilight perched on a tree near by, or in the barn, ready to pounce on the mouse that dare show his head after dark. It is superior to puss, for the reason that it can fly and overtake monsey before he can reach his hiding place after being caught nibbling the harness or the grain-sacks, which he does apparently

out of wanton mischief. Mrs. Owl is not only useful in the barn but will go to the meadow or the field of newly-sown wheat, where she is often seen perched on a fence or a tree, ready to make war and destruction on the nocturnal pest of the farmer.

A species similar to the snowy owl whose habits are both nocturnal and crepuscular, which feeds on rats, rabbits, squirrels, etc. This bird may be seen in cloudy weather, in the morning and in the twilight, busily flying over the meadow in search of its prey, for it is an industrious and vigilant hunter, and also generally keeps out of gunshot of the wandering lad who would fire on her for mere sport. This bird often, when not persecuted, rears its young in the hollow of a tree near the farm premises. It is an honest benefactor, and will not steal the little chicken and other young fowls from their mother, like the thieving rat is often known to do, but will often light upon him while engaged in his nocturnal depredations. No use, Mr. Rat, to squeal, for the owl knows perfectly well how to you and prevent biting. You must now pay for the young chickens, turkeys, ducks, and the old goose's goslings by a feast on your own carcase by owl and owlets.

We have the long-eared owl, which preys on the smaller quadrupeds and insects, is nocturnal and very shy, but sometimes becomes a notorious thief by committing nocturnal depredations on the domestic fowls of the farmer, and when that gentleman puts in an appearance with a shot-gun, the depredator departs in haste to a safe distance, to watch the landlord hunt in imagination the skunk or some moon-eyed celestial. Many times, after the farmer has returned to bed, his

slumbers are again disturbed by the cackling of some old hen announcing the return of the

The Map Bilk. PLEASANT GROVE FARM, Marion Co., Or., Feb. 13, 1879.

Editor Willamette Farmer: I would like space in your columns to say lew words about this swindle, as I understand those same sharps are starting in on two other counties in this State, as they did in Linn and Marion last year. Now, Mr. Editor, not-Marion last year. Now, Mr. Editor, not-withstanding those men have been smart enough to corral all of our county and part of the State officers, and part of the editors in this State, we say they corraled them, for we do not know what suffer term to give it, for we see their names signed to articles stating that this map was a complete and cor-rect man, which we claim is incorrect. If stating that this map was a complete and cor-rect map, which we claim is incorrect, I would like to know what right those men have to blow on an article that is as big a swindle as this map, any more than we have to give an opinion, when we can substantiate all that we say in regard to it. In the first place they, or their agents, rep-resented that those maps should be well put together, and well bound. This is not the case, for I know of several that the leaves are falling out now. In the next place, they rep-resented that each man's land should be marked on the map correctly, showing the

resented that each man's land should be marked on the map correctly, showing the lines and the number of acres each man owned. This is not done. They have pre-tended to do so, but have failed in the at-tempt. I do not know how it is in other parts of the county, but I do know how it is in this. There is not one man's land in twenty that is marked correctly, nor his buildings located as they were to be. And yet one would suppose, from the puffs that I have seen in two or three newspapers, that this map is just what each man in those coun-ties should carry with him to keep from get-ting lost.

tices should carry with him to keep from get-ting lost. Now, one reason, I say, they must have corraled some of the newspapers. I know of some of them that have refused to publish ar-ticles exposing the swindle of those maps. I do not propose to understand the duties of newspapers or those that edit them, but be-lieve that it is the duty of all such men, when it was the back of the sound on a this sound on a file there in the standard of the such men, when lieve that it is the duty of all such men, when there is such a swindle as this going on, if they do not feel disposed to say anything about it themselves, they should allow others to speak through their papers, as each man is responsible for what he says, not the editor of the paper. I got some of this swindle: they brought one to my house and left it, J examined it and found that I was swindled. In a few days after they came back to my place and claimed that I owed them \$15.00. After giving him a piece of my mind, I gave him the fifteen dollars, and told him that I considered the map worthless; that he could take it for five dollars; he said he would, but did not, and I guess the reason why he did take it for five dollars; he said he would, but did not, and I guess the reason why he did not was, that he knew where he could get several for \$2.50. Now if those editors that have refused to publish articles exposing this swindle have not been supplied with those maps, they can get all they want in this neighborhood at their own price. JOHN DOWNING.

NOTE BY EDITOR .- No one has "corraled" us. We of course publish what people have would refuse to do so has not much claim to

Neglect of Young Chickens. While the farmer is busy during harvesting, and while his family in the stress of the

pressed into service, the growing chickens are sometimes forgotten, and perhaps a few hints may bring to mind their situation. A the hens leave the chicks, they feel lost at aight, and poke themselves into nasty come o, or into old boxes, coops or bar-rels, wher, they pile together, sometimes one on the other, crushing the weaker ones to death before this state of things is discovered. Often the fifth accumulates so thickly that they lie on a heap of it at night, and become infested with parasites. A very little care will remady this, and keep the birds in health. Sometimes, however, they are very stubborn a sout a place of their own choosing. They either run back to the same place, after being driven away, or they scatter in all direc-tions, thus running into greater danger.

Provide temporary houses or large boxes with low perches, and place them near the coops which were becupied by the hens and chicks. Gradually move the coops towards the temperary house a little every day. By this mean, the chicks will get near to the new roosting-places, and by moving away on coop at a time, they will settle into the temporary house. This, in turn, can be moved near the fowl-house which they are to occupy. This will save a great deal of annoyance, for what is more tantalizing than running down chickens night after night, while they are willing that you should repeat the operation

as often as you please. If they take to a place where you cannot get in, and they are persistent, you may sometimes drive down a few stakes and block the entrance with an old door or a few boards. If you have convenient trees for team to roost on, by all means let trees for a sm to roost on, by all means let them day seem during summer and early fall. Although t is some trouble, and requires a little good tamper to get them in their houses for the fit a time or two when cold weather comes, yet failt scalth, condition will repay your pains. Feed them with grain twice a day, even though they get much of their own living; for some grain is necessary for their health, and moreover, it lessens any inclina-tion of theirs to do mischief in the garden amongst the fruit.—Rural New Yorker.

How to Manage Foultry.

[CONTINUED.] The house being prepared and the number of fowls selected, and everything in order, to prove the matter fully, an account should be kept. First, the cost of your house and poultry fixtures, then the cost of your fowls The house is eight feet high, eight feet wide, to say on this subject, A newspaper that and twelve feet long, and the cost should not exceed \$20. Supposing the number of hens

Why They Wear Out Early.

Several of our leading doctors give it as their opinion that no man who takes his own life is in his right mind. It is also agreed that the style of living in New York and the style of doing business predisposes a man to that morbid condition that induces a man to take his life. The rush, the drive and excitement are almost continuous. Men who are good for anything, have their heads full. The brain is like a hot-box on a railroad train -only men hold up on the train, and they don't on the street. There's hardly a promi nent man doing business in the Stock Exchange who has not work enough for half a dozen men. As an illustration: The president of one of our leading banks has been under the doctor's care for over a year. He come down to the bank every morning at 10 o'clock and remains until 5 P. M. Besides the im nense business of his own institution, at !! o'clock he goes down to Wall street, where he is a silent partner in a steek house. At l o'clock he is bac's again at the bank. His private office is crowded with the prominent business men of New York. He has at least six institutions in which he is a manager, a director, or a president. These institution represent every variety of investment. Beides this, he is at the head of an immens denomination that gave last year \$50,000 to help the educational interests of his church out of a tight place. The different societies that he represents keep him without a mo ment's leisure through the day, and his even ings are all consumed in business. I heard him say last week that he never slept after 3 o'clock in the morning. How such a man lives with such a pressure upon him is man velous. He of course won't live out half his days. He is a specimen of New York business life. Our city is full of premature old men-older at 30 than their fathers are at 60; prematurely bald, limping around with canes, with their underpinning knocked out; unable to relish their food unless it is covered with the most pangent spice, or washed down with a deluge of liquor. One of our most eminent physicians said the other day: "Nineemment physicians said the other day: "Nine-tenths of our citizens who go to the insane asylum go there for want of sleep and want of nutritious food." Considering the style of our living and of our business, it is not at all a marvel that we have so many suicides.— Burleigh's Letter to Boston Journal.

Making Asparagus Beds.

The quickest way to obtain asparagus is to purchase plants, because by doing so the beds are fit for cutting one or two years earlier would be the case were they started from seeds. To commence with the beginning, however, obtain seed as early as possible in

Address to Santiam Grange, P. of H.

DELIVERED AT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, JAN, 22, 1879.

NO. 1.

This is the beginning of another year, which no doubt will be fraught with its cares, toils and disappointments, as preceding ones. But to the really thoughtful, they are only but to the reality thoughtful, they are only the means to test our abulty to overcome the greater trials of life and it us, by a school of practical knowledge, for the great duties of life which await us in the future. By over-coming difficulties, conquering each vicious thought or habit, places us one step higher on the scale of progression and improvement, and one degree nearer that state of being which was designed by the Supreme Ruler of the Universe.

the Universe. These trials, troubles and difficulties of life These trials, troubles and difficulties of life are interspersed with good, grand and noble thoughts, deeds and actions, and a happy con-sciousness of having striven to do our duty to our fellowmen, thereby having done our duty to God for our own benefit and improvement; to glorify God by fulfilling one of his greatest natural laws progression. Science teaches us that the world was not created in six lit-eral days of 24 hours each, but at six separate and distinct periods of time. That our beau-tiful world, with all its living millions of life, the millions of worlds in space, moving in eral days of 24 hours each, but at six separate and distinct periods of time. That our beau-tiful workl, with all its living millions of life, the millions of worlds in space, moving in-regular but unbeaten paths through space, drawing heat and light from the great centre, was not the work of 144 hours, but by the fixed laws of adhesion and cohesion matter was collected and held together as a molten mass, and by the proper equalizing of the great powers—the one pushing the globs out into space, the other attracting to the sun-our world assumed its regular pathway in the heavens. By the action of the atmosphere, the outside became cool and hard, consequent-ly a crust, which was entirely surrounded by water. Next was convulsions of the earth, which formed dry land; next, pulverized rock, which, by the action of the matural ele-ments, formed will, next, land alternately submerged and upheaved; next, vegetable; next, animal life, and last, man. Nor were all plants created at once, but the lower order first, which was sea-weed. Then, as the soil was improved, new and superior plants and trees sprang up to beautify the world and to render it more pleasant for the abode of the future man. Neither was all animal life cre-ated at one time, insects, fish and reptiles being before the larger and superior ones, and last of all was man the crowning effort of cre-ation, after which God rested and colled it the Sabbath, which I believe is now upon us, for in this period has no new thing been cre-ated, and in commenoration of that event the Sabbath day, and to keep it holy. But to return. We see in the order of cre-ation that nothing was bronght into existence until the world and its surroundings were prepared to receive each particular thing cre-ated. This exemplifies the law of gradual development, and man being possessed of reasoning power, was designed to utilise ev-erything which was created, for the purpose of improvement and progression, thereby each succeeding generation approaching a little nearer to that p

of improvement and progression, thereby each succeeding generation approaching a little nearer to that perfection which was destined for him from the beginning, we all hope to obtain when we shall the spring, and sow in wide drills, say five crossed over the river. Then let us each strive to lay aside some vicious habit or evil thought, thereby making us better men and women than we were last year, and rendering ourselves more happy, cheerful and contented—happy that we are rendering our fellow-beings more happy; cheerful from the consciousness within that at least some careworn and troubled mind has had its burden lightened, thereby blessing us as a means of brightening their lives, and making sunshine where all was darkness; contented, that we are filling the destinies for which we were designed from the beginning, and although it may cost us a great effort, yet we know that we shall receive our reward. Finally, brothers and sisterr, will we each rossed over the river. inches in width, and fifteen inches apart, Finally, brothers and sisters, will we each as individuals strive to be better, do better and think better than we have heretofore? and think better than we have heretofore? If we will, the Santiam Grange never was so useful or beneficial as it will be this year. Be diligent and fruitful in defending and main-taining the noble principles of our Order, which can be best accomplished by practice and example. Attend your Grange as regu-larly as possible, encouraging others " same, as when we do not en-as friends and " the configuration.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

to the close confinement.-Ex.

Had the old miner in the days of Sutter been told that there could be invented a process for mining placer mines, and that one operation alone would perform the labors of a hundred men in the same length of time, he would laugh at the idea; thinking, no doubt, that such a thing was impossible, and could never be done. Yet such has been done.

The hydraulic mining pipe, one of the grea inventions in the history of mining, does the work with case and perfection. How insignificant would seem the primitive and almost nodern method of mining when compared to the swift and more wonderful process now in

The modern miner, in his search for gold fackles even the boldest of mountains, and with the aid of the hydraulic giant, cuts and severs it in twain-sifts its very contents until the most tiny hidden treasure is brought o his view. Huge boulders are lifted from their resting-places and carried away with the debris of the mine on the flood of water to the valleys below, there to work a mighty change in the peaceful homes of many a quiet S. A. BORROUGH. settler. WILDERVILLE, Josephine Co., Or., Feb. 10.

Marion and Linn County Maps.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

Those maps of Edgar Williams & Co. are regarded by many of your subscribers here as a huge bilk; and whether they may be correct as to some localities, they are regarded as being so incorrect in many respects as to be utterly unreliable as a whole. Not only this, but in my copy, as well as in another belonging to one of my neighbors, some of the leaves dropped out, proving so far the binding not e. In some instances I can buy them now for \$5.00, one-third of the cost, and one

They are sharp. They seem to me to pro ed in this manner: first corral the county officers, Judge and all; then the county pars, as far as they can-(see Statesman and FARMER); and then proceed to catch the all fry at leisure. G. W. HUNT. SUBLIMITY, Feb. 8.

e to the hen-roost DAYTON, Or., Feb. 10, 1879.

Benefit of Laughing.

Dr. Greene, in his "Problem of Health," ays there is not the remotest corner or little inlet of the minute blood-vessels of the human body that does not feel some wavelet from the convulsion occasioned by good, hearty laughter. The life principle, or the central man, is shaken to its innermost depths, sending new tides of life and strength to the surface, thus materially tending to insure good health to the person who indulges therein. The blood moves more rapidly, and conveys a different impression to all the organs

of the body, as it visits them on that particular mystic journey when the man is laughing, from what it does at other times. For this reason every good, hearty laugh in which a person indulges tends to lengthen his life. conveying, as it does, new and distinct stimulus to the vital forces. Doubtless the time will come when physicians, conceding more importance than they now do to the influence of the mind upon the vital forces of the body, will make their prescriptions more with ref erence to the mind and less to drugs for the body, and will, in so doing, find the best and

most effective method of producing the required effects upon the patient.

Starting Tomate Plants in Paper Boxes.

A correspondent of the Iowa Homestead gives his method of starting tomato plants He makes a wooden box two feet long, six inches wide and six inches deep. In this he sets 36 paper boxes two inches square on top and six inches deep, without top or bottom. The boxes are made from pieces of strong paper ten inches long and six inches wide, folded so as to make five parts, each two told me he could buy twenty of them inches wide. Unfold these and pin the two for a dollar apiece. (How this may be I don't ends flatly together. Nearly fill these boxes

with fine, rich soil, and drop a half dozen seed in each. The large box can be put on a seed in each. The large box can be put on a window-sill, or wherever is convenient. When the plants are well started, cut down to one in each box, and when the weather will ad-mit, transplant to the open ground, wetting the soil in the boxes so they can be handled without dropping the soil. Leave the tops of the boxes an inch above the surface, to protect the young plants from cut-worms.

Membership of State Grange.

OREGON STATE GRANGE, MASTER'S OFFICE, OSWEGO, Feb. 17th, 1879.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

Permit me through your paper to call the attention of the State Grange Deputies throughout the jurisdiction, to Article Second of the By-laws of the State Grange, which cads as follows:

ARTICLE II-MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. This Grange shall be composed representatives from each county in this risdiction, chosen by three delegates from surfaction, cnown by three delegates from each Grange thereof, upon the basis of one Master or Past Master, and one Matron, the wife of a Master or Past Master, for every six Granges, and one Master or Past Master, and one Matron the wife of a Master or Past Master, for every fraction thereof. Master, Past Masters, and their wives, who are Matrons, shall be honorary members, entitled to the fifth degree, and eligible to office, but not entitled to vote.

SEC. 2. And it shall be the duty of the delegates of each county to meet at the county seat of their respective counties on the first Saturday of April, or within ten days thereafter of each year, between the hours of 7 A. M. and 2 P. M., and elect representatives to the State Grange for the ensuing year, of which meetings four weeks notice shall be given by the Deputies for said county.

I trust the Deputies will not fail to give the notice required by the above article, and that the subordinate Granges will not fail to elect delegates to their county Grange. Conventions at the regular meetings A. R. SHIPLEY, March. Master Oregon State Grange.

Dogs and Sheep.

"For two years in succession dogs have killed our sheep. The tax on dogs annually collected in each town is set apart to pay the damages they cause. The damages so far excollected in each town is set apart to pay the damages they cause. The damages so far ex-ceed the awards that several years will elapse before the tax will pay off claims already audited. Any one who keeps a dog and does not give him three "square" meals a day, ought to be fined. If this were done there would be but very few sheep killed by dogs. Until this is done—or at all events until dogs are better fed—the starving cur will help himself to mutton. He really ought not to be blamed as much as the thoughtless or cruci owner." So speaks the genial Col. Curtis in the N. Y. Tribune.

per dozen, making the capital invested not over \$30. Begin your account on the first of the month, charge the amount of food you feed each day to the poultry, and give them credit for every egg they lay. Be careful not to cheat them either in the food or the num ber of eggs they turn over to you, for if you

manage them properly they will soon bring back the \$30 you have paid out on them, and a handsome profit besides. How to manage them to make them lay i

the question now. There are several ways to do this, principally by feed, although they must be kept free from lice. First of all things, be sure to keep fresh water so that they can have a drink as soon as they come off the roost. This I have learned by watching my fowls when turned out in the morn ing, when they will go direct to the creek if not detained, and take a drink before eating their breakfast. After they have had water, feed them about one gill of wheat to each

bird. Boil the wheat every few days. At night, or in the evening before going to roost, give them a good feed of bran mash mixed with the scraps and dish-water from the house. Also give them a small quantity fresh meat, which is better if it be cooked. Keep all diseases from them by using e

food. This article can be obtained from an poultry fancier, as they cannot do without it and it costs but a trifle. It will keep the plumage bright and the combs red, and help to make them lay.

Foultry-raising is a scientific and pleasant business, an ornament to any farm, and pays a good profit when thus managed.

WM. SHORT, Alder Grove Poultry Yards.

[To be continued.]

The Palouse Country.

North useful towns o Don't fa two bits.

about as peas are sown. Keep the soil mellow and the weeds destroyed, and in the autumn if the soil is good, you will have one-year-old plants to transplant. One-year-old plants are pretty small, and many prefer to keep them in the seed-bed until two years of age. An ounce of seed is sufficient for a drill about 25 feet in length. In making a bed for the plants, select a good, mellow soil, and make it deep and rich. An asparagus bed once made, will keep in good condition for half a century, so the work should be well done-The beds must be narrow, so as to permit of cutting to the centre without stepping apon them. Set the plants not less than 12 inches apart in the clear, spreading the roots out naturally, and not crowding them into a hole, and so deep that the crown or top of the plant will be about three inches below the surface. In removing the weeds have care not to injure the young shoots, and it is best to do this by hand as much as possible. Sale

is a good manure for asparague

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