

The Hammonton Item.

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Tired Mothers.

A little elbow lean upon your knee,
Your tired knee that has so much to bear;
A child's dear eyes are looking lovingly
From underneath a tangle of tangled hair.
Perhaps you do not heed the velvet touch,
Of warm, moist fingers holding yours so tight;
You do not prize this hushing overmuch;
You are almost too tired to play to-night.
But it is blossoming! A year ago
I did not see it as I do to-day—
We are so dull and thankful, and so slow
To catch the sunshine till it slips away.
And now it comes surprising strange to me
That, while I wore the badge of motherhood,
I did not know more of it and tenderness
The little child that brought me only good.
And if, come night, when you sit down to rest,
I put this elbow from your tired knee—
This restless, curly head from off your breast,
This lisping tongue that chatters constantly,
If from your own dimpled hands had slipped
And never would nestle in your palm again;
If the white feet into the grave had tripped,
I would not blame you for your heartache then.
I wonder so that mothers ever fret
At little children clinging to their gown;
Or that the footprints, when the days are wet,
Are ever black enough to make them frown.
If I could find a little muddy boot,
Or cap or jacket, on my chamber floor;
If I could kiss a rosy, restless foot,
And hear it patter in my home once more.
If I could mend a broken cart to-day,
To-morrow make a kite to reach the sky—
There is no woman in God's world could say
She was more literally content than I.
Oft, ah! the dainty pillow sent my own
In never ruffled by a shining head;
My singing birdling from its nest has flown;
The little boy I used to kiss is dead.

New York Correspondence.

New York, Mar. 22, 1877.

POLITICAL.

The new President is a surprise to both his friends and enemies. The Republicans are astonished to find him a much greater man than they had any idea of, and the Democracy are gawking their teeth at the splendid success that has attended his efforts to do what he promised in his letter of acceptance and inaugural address. The Republicans know that Gov. Hayes was a well-meaning man, who meant what he said, but at Grant had failed to make any reform in the line of civil service, they had no idea that it was possible to do it. The Democracy believed that all his talk was of the ante-election order, that nothing would come of it, and that they would have "broken promises" as electioneering capital. Both are disappointed. Hayes promised reform and he is carrying it out. The "easy-going, well-meaning man" has developed into an iron-headed, strong-willed, intelligent man, who knows what he wants and proposes to do it. In his hands civil-service reform is an accomplished fact. The office-seekers who did not believe that he was in earnest are coming back in droves, their carpet-bags lightened by the exact weight of the recommendations they took with them. They have all met with the same answer, "the incumbent is a good, capable man, and the good of the service does not demand a change." "But my services in the campaign!" "They go for nothing whatever. Every citizen did what he could to elect the man of his choice. We recognize nothing of the sort, and shall not. Good service is what we want. Good moralizing." And so the applicant who has made politics a business and is in politics for purely business reasons goes away sorrowing to his member of Congress. Up starts the Hon. Mr. Blaine, with blood in his eyes, and he demands the appointment of his friend. The same imperious politeness and the same roman firmness meets him. "There will be no changes made for party reasons. If the present incumbent is unfit for the place, show it, and we will put a better man in. Your recommendation will have its weight. But there will be no change except for cause." And the Congressmen storm and rave, but it all amounts to nothing. Cool, self-possessed, the President sits, paying no more heed to the storming and raving, than as though it was the softest whisper. Ah, ya, people, do you know why President Hayes is in position to do this? Learn and apply the same to your local politics, and get good government all around. This is the secret—he don't owe anybody any favor for his nomination or election. He never asked for the nomination, he never asked for the election, and he is complicated with nobody. Consequently he has no friends to reward or enemies to punish. He is President because the people wanted him to be. He has no one to thank, for he asked no one for his vote or influence. In short, the office sought him—not he the office. He can afford to do as he thinks best, for he is in no one's hands. There are no rings or cliques controlling him, and all the efforts to organize them have been failures. Rufus B. Hayes, not a clique using his name, is the President.

And so there is disappointment. The Republicans are jubilant and the Democracy are depressed. "Why blast it!" said one in my hearing yesterday, "if he keeps on this way, for a year I shall have to vote for him myself." "Yes," said another, "and when we have to vote for a Republican, what becomes of the

Democratic party?" That bothered them. I predict that Gen. Hayes will so run the administration that there will be no opposition to him, long before his four years are out. He is a honest man, and a man of will. What more can we want in a President? As it stands now there is no Democratic party in New York, except in gin-shops and gambling-hells. The respectable democracy are giving the administration a hearty support, for after all, business is of more importance than politics in a business community. The era of good-feeling is at hand.

THE VANDERBILT WILL.

The contest of the Vanderbilt will, has ended in smoke. All objections are withdrawn, and the will was duly probated, Tuesday. The friends of Wm. H., say that he made no room promise with the other children, but the friends of the other children say he did. It is rumored that he promised if they would let the will go through without opposition, that he would give them a million apiece, and that rather than wash the family linen in public, this was conceded to. This ends it. An estate of one hundred millions controlling the most important lines of railway in the country, passes into the hands of one man, preserving intact the most odious monopoly that exists. It is a pity, so far as the public is concerned, that the heirs did not wade in and break the whole thing. As William H. is bound, if he carried out his father's idea to place the hundred millions and its accumulations in the hands of one of his children, there will be a fortune of five hundred millions in the hands of his oldest son, in less than ten years. This is altogether too much money for one man to hold, in a republic. In fact, if he happens to be shrewd enough to handle it himself, he could control the country with it. But fortunately there comes in dissipation, disease and death to prevent such calamities. The only good there is in dissipation is it distributes estates when they get to be too large. Sin is made to work good in some cases.

THE LOTTERY-DEALERS.

Anthony Comstock, in the employ of the post-office department, has made a raid upon the lottery dealers, and has arrested thirty of them. The extent of this business is little understood. There are over a thousand firms in this city, whose business is selling policies in lotteries, of which the poor dupes who spend their money know as little as they do of Senegambia. With the exception of two or three, these frauds represent no drawing or simply pocket the money that is sent them. They advertise a drawing for the benefit of a school in Kentucky, or Nevada, or a hospital in Washington, in which capital prizes of \$250,000 and other prizes running down to \$100 are promised to the holders of the "lucky" tickets. Where it will pay they do send a few dollars, say fifty, just enough to inflame the poor dupes, and have him spread the fact that he drew a prize and got the money over a whole country. Thus twenty-five or fifty dollars, is the cheapest advertising they can have. Comstock found them in all sorts of places, but never one of them with the slightest pretext of having anything legitimate. The letters captured were curious reading. They were from all sorts of people and all sorts of professions. A clergyman in the state of New York, enclosed \$4.50, for a ticket in some mythical scheme, with the remark, "if you can arrange this so as to have me draw a prize, it will work to your advantage." This man was bidding to have a fraud perpetrated to his advantage, forgetting that if the dealers would swindle at all, they were as liable to swindle him as any one else. Laboring men, widows, seamstresses, all classes and sorts of people, showered their money upon these sharks, each hoping to draw the big prize that would make them comfortable for life. Except the little thrown out for half, none of them ever got a dollar—all that was sent them went down into the pockets of the swindlers, and enabled them to live in good style. But their little game is up. Comstock is after them, and he will make it lively for them. He had them all in the Police court, and every swindler of them will go up, except those who give bail. And police-men will be put to guard their premises, the post-office will stop their letters, and the people will be made virtuous whether they will or not. Money addressed to these fellows will, hereafter, be detained at the post-office and will be returned to those sending it. And this is for the benefit of those weak enough to send—hereafter there will be no secrecy in such matters. The letters will be opened, and in an unopened state will be sent to the post-master of the place from which they came. If you want to invest in a lottery you may be sure that the post-master in your own town will know that you have done so. From this time you do it at your risk.

is getting better, every day. Since Hayes has taken the helm there has been a lightening up, a revival, that is delightful. People are not only paying, but they are lavishing. Goods are selling, exchanges are being made, there is a life and vitality that the country has not had for years. And everything looks better. We are all going to do well from this time out.

Yours, F. H. R.

Rural Topics.

[Written for the South Jersey Republican by one of the most experienced farmers, gardeners and fruit-growers in the United States.]

SEEDING TO GRASS.

It would be a great improvement, in regard to the hay and the pasture after the hay is cut, to seed down land to timothy and Kentucky blue grass, or June grass, as it is also called. The June grass makes a firm sward, which is not injured by pasturing cattle upon it in wet weather; and it makes excellent hay either alone or when grown with timothy. Clover had better not be sown with these two grasses, as it would be liable to crowd them out too much. I see no good reason for growing clover, with any other grass. It may be grown by itself quite as profitable to farmers as to grow it with timothy according to the old stereotyped custom. Then the old custom of seeding down land to grass with a grain crop is not now followed as closely as it used to be in year's past. The land now is often plowed early in the spring, and seeded down to grass with no other crop. Early in September is a better time to seed down lands, but it will do nearly as well in the spring if the seed is sown early. The seed of June grass is generally very chaffy, and a bushel of such seed, at least, should be sown with from four to six quarts of timothy seed per acre. Let the land be well harrowed, after being plowed, then sow the seed and cover it with a brush harrow, and then roll the land, which covers a good deal of seed that was not covered before, and presses the earth firmly upon it, which causes the seed to germinate sooner than it otherwise would, especially in dry weather. A fair crop of hay is often cut the first season when grass seed is thus sown, or good pasture is obtained by August. It has been found by numerous experiments that but very little grass seed of any kind germinates when covered two inches deep; therefore, ordinary harrows cover much of the seed too deep.

GROWING ONIONS.

Growing onions as a field crop is generally profitable, if rightly managed. They require a rich, mellow soil, and it must be highly fertilized every year with well-rotted stable manure; then they will grow luxuriously on the same land every season. In Wethersfield, Conn., onion-growing is the main business of the people, and the same land has been used for this crop a hundred years! The soil there is a rich dry sandy loam, just the soil that one would desire for a garden. Every spring the ground is covered with fine manure, plowed in but not deep; then the land is harrowed and rolled, and the seed is drilled in with a seed-sower, the rows from 12 to 15 inches apart. The profits are frequently enough from two or three acres to support a family comfortably; and here is what the labor of boys and girls "pays" in weeding the crop. Some onion growers plow the land in the fall, after the crop is removed; and in the spring spread the manure and ashes that they have, and harrow all in, and then with a hand rake clean the land ready for the drills 15 inches apart. Ten days before the seed is sown, it may be put into tepid water, and so keep it, as far as practicable, for eight days; then turn off the water, and mix plaster with the seed, leaving it a little moist; and in three days after being sown it will sprout, and it will soon be above ground, and ahead of the weeds. The seed, when thus managed, is generally sown by hand; but by adding a little more plaster, I see no reason why it may not be sown with a seed sower. This is an improvement on the Wethersfield system, and it is an improvement on their system, in regard to having less weeding to do, while the onions are quite small. But onion seed must be sown very early, and the ground, after sowing the seed, ought to be rolled with a hand roller, or otherwise made very compact over the drills. Probably, there is no better variety than the Wethersfield red. In regard to the onion grub, an English gardener says: "We used nitrate of soda pretty extensively for agricultural purposes, and I took to sowing it on the onion beds when I saw that the grub was at work, with the result that I found a perfect cure for this pest, as well as materially assisting in the growth of the onions. The proportion in which I used it would be about four cts. to the acre, and used it two or three times a season, never more. I have also used for the same purpose gas lime which will also prevent it. In using the nitrate of soda, it is necessary that the foliage of the onions be dry, as to let it drop on the plants when they are wet causes a burn, shriveled places where ever it touches them. It is a good plan to water after sowing it or to select a time when a shower may be expected soon."

SHAPING GRAPE VINES.

It is doubtful whether there is any special advantage in grafting grape vines now, when good two year old vines of nearly all varieties can be bought for 25 cents to \$1 each. In grafting such varieties as the Delaware on the Concord, to obtain the free growth of the latter, success has not been the result in my experience and observation, as the nature and habits of one variety cannot be imparted to another by grafting; yet many persons are inclined to experiment in this way. Nor is the fruit changed

as to size and quality in the least, being the same in that respect as in grafting apple, pear and other fruit trees. When one has a choice variety and also has an old, worthless vine, it may be advantageous to graft the poor variety to obtain fruit sooner than than can be done from cuttings propagated in the ordinary way, as the grafts will have the support of the entire roots of the old vine. Grafting should be done before the sap begins to flow, or after the main flow is over, in June up to July; but old vines ought to be cut off in the fall to be safe from excessive bleeding; and if grafted then, I think the chance of success would be greater than in the spring; but in no case should the stem or trunk of a vine be cut off in June or July, as it would be sure to bleed to death. The scions should be cut in the fall, without regard to the time when the grafting is to be done; yet the experiment may be made of cutting them in March, and keep them in moist sand (slightly moist) till used. A California grape grower states the method of stump grafting very closely as follows: "I cut my scions from last year's growth, long enough to include three or four buds, and keep them in a dormant state until the vines I graft in are well started to grow—say one or two inches long. I then remove the earth from the vines down to, or near the first root; then rub off all the old loose bark, and saw off from one to three inches above the first roots. With a saw, make one, two or three straight cuts down into the stump. If the stump is small I only make one cut in it, but

if the vines are large they will admit of two or more cuts. Each saw cut will admit of two scions, one on each side of the stump. With a sharp knife, trim the saw cuts in the proper shape for a wedge graft. Trim the scion to fit accurately, leaving a small shoulder on each side of the scion; then insert in the stump, being sure to push it down to the shoulder, and also make a connection with the bark of the old stock. Cut the scion down to two buds. When finished, fill up with fine dirt level with the top of the ground, leaving one bud of each scion uncovered." Vines may be grafted as soon as the frost is out of the ground, or in June, if some of the canes be taken that grow near the ground. Cut them square off, and graft them the same as you would an apple tree; and bend over the grafted cane a little below the level of the ground, and fasten it with stakes, with the end turned up, and then fill in around the graft with soil, up to the bud, pack it down firmly, and the job is done.

STRAWBERRY GROWING.

In field culture, strawberries should be set out in rows three or three and a half feet apart, and about 18 inches apart in the rows. Set them as soon as the ground becomes dry, not far from the first of May. Mark off the ground when well fertilized with fine stable dung and properly prepared, and drop the plants along rows as near 18 inches apart as possible, and set them nearly as soon as dropped, so that the roots will not be exposed to the sun, if the weather be clear. The roots should be spread out as set, and press down the soil upon them with your foot on both sides of the plants. A good way to mark off the rows is to have a stout line to reach across the ground to be planted, and to be set with stakes at each end. Then with a spade the holes for the plants can be made rapidly, by placing the back of it against the line, pressing it down with your foot, and by one operation throw out sufficient earth to give room for a plant. Or the marking may be done with a corn-marker, if you have one that marks not over three and a half feet apart; and the holes may be made with a spade, or a hoe, whichever way you can make them the most rapidly. The plants should be watered soon after being set, unless the weather be cloudy or the ground quite moist. When stable manure cannot be obtained superphosphate of lime may be used to advantage, if it be pure. Five hundred pounds per acre will suffice, spread broadcast and harrowed in; then sprinkle a little in each hole as the plants are set. Ashes are also a good fertilizer. Or in the place of ashes, muriate of potash will do as well. It contains 60 per cent. of pure potash, and is now quoted at \$3 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs., and less by the ton. The following formula is said to produce very large crops of strawberries: "One part nitrate of potash, one do. glauber salts, and one do. of sal soda," all to be dissolved in water, one barrel for three pounds of the mixture, which is enough for a bed 40 or 60 feet square, to be applied early in the season from a water-pot several times till the fruit sets. I have no doubt of this fertilizer being good, because potash is always valuable for any crop. The fruit of plants set this spring will be of no value till next season, when the largest crop may be expected that they will produce, not less than 100 bushels per acre, if the variety grown be good, and if the soil be rich and well cultivated. The Willson is still considered the best market berry by many; but the Charles Downing is beginning to take its place, it being nearly as prolific, and the quality of the fruit much better. One hundred dollars per acre is often cleared on this crop over all expenses.

PLANT GRAPE VINES.

I cannot too strongly urge farmers and others to grow all the grapes that their families

can consume, at last, and as many to sell as you please. What is the use of having land, and not making use of it to the best advantage. If every country family were to have all the grapes they could eat from August to January many of the physicians would be driven into the cities, as it is an admitted fact that grapes are a powerful curative of many diseases, when eaten freely as long as they can be kept fresh. If there be anything in this world to delight a family, as its members walk in their garden, it is the large, rich clusters of grapes that load down an extensive arbor. A neglected vine or two are of little value. What you need is an arbor from 50 to 100 feet long, over a walk, with vines eight feet apart on both sides, or you can have a trellis eight or nine feet high wherever you please. The posts should be twelve feet long and eight feet apart. Then have slats 18 feet long, about an inch and a half wide, nailed to the posts, beginning two feet from the ground, and then placing them 18 apart to the top of the posts, or you can use wire instead of slats. One or two year old Concord vines can be bought for 25 cents each and from some grape growers at a less price. If you propose to wait till you can grow some vines yourself from cuttings, go immediately to some neighbor who has good grapes and get some cuttings, if his vines were not closely pruned last fall. They should be about a foot long and each should contain two or more buds. Keep them in moist sand till wanted to plant, then set them a foot apart, with the upper buds near the surface of the ground. Set them at an angle, so that the earth can be pressed very hard around the lower buds. Place small stakes by the side of each cutting to show where they are, and as soon as grass has grown high enough to cut, spread some lightly over the cuttings to protect the buds from the sun when they begin to grow freely. The next season these vines may be transplanted where they are to grow. Cuttings clipped in November are best, but if cut now, before the sap flows, I think they will grow.

John Wanamaker's Great Dry Goods Opening 13th St. and New City Hall, Philadelphia—what the New York Tribune says:

PHILADELPHIA, March 12, 1877.—For the past ten days the expectations of the shopping community here have been considerably exercised over the promise of an event that was to mark a new era in mercantile circles in this city. These expectations were sharpened and kept burning from day to day by the appearance in our city newspapers of double-column advertisements, under the fac-simile signature of John Wanamaker, announcing that upon the 12th inst. his "Grand Depot," the largest clothing establishment in the world, would be converted into a mammoth dry goods emporium on 13th Street of your city. For some time past it has been obvious to even casual observers that Mr. Wanamaker, having reached the acme of his ambition in the clothing business, would not rest satisfied therewith, but yearning for new and more extended fields in which to exercise his administrative business tact, would surely drift into the general dry goods trade. To-day the general expectation has been abundantly realized by the inauguration of opening day, and it can be said to be quite satisfactory both to visitors and visitors. The immense size of the buildings occupying the whole square known as Centre square and covering an unbroken ground area of 350x375 feet, has enabled the proprietor and his able corps of assistants to design and arrange a dry goods store that is really marvellously well adapted for the purpose. The general idea seems to be taken from the spider's web. In the center of the building a circle of shelving and counters ninety feet in circumference is taken as the pivotal point from which range at proper intervals circles after circles of similar shelving and counters, dissected at proper distances by aisles leading from the centre to the outer circle. This it will be observed, is the very best plan that could be devised, inasmuch as it gives a most ready access from one point to another a matter of no slight importance in a building of such magnitude, and affords as well a very complete opportunity of dividing the establishment into appropriate departments. These departments are classified into sections under sub-sections. Some general idea of the magnitude of the concern may be had from the following data: There are 25 blocks of counters, numbering in all 120. In front of these there are, for the convenience of shoppers, 1,400 stools; length of main aisles, 194 feet; aggregate length of aisles, 14 miles; area of floor, over 90,000 square feet. In addition there are elegantly fitted rooms for children's goods, ladies' finished suits, and other special departments, besides parlors, retiring rooms, &c., for the comfort of customers. In the space enclosed by the central counter is an elegantly carpeted and finished dark room, lighted only by gas, used for showing silk goods for evening dress, but this is the only place in which gas is needed, inasmuch as the entire edifice is with daylight from the numerous skylights which cover the roof. The entire building in every department is filled with a new and extensive stock of goods. The store No. 1225 Chestnut Street has been purchased and entirely demolished in order to make of it a beautiful arcade leading from Chestnut Street into the great store. This arcade is highly ornamented in front and magnificently lighted with stained glass and elaborate chandeliers, filled with marble, and otherwise rendered attractive. Opening day was a great success.

different, if only for appearance sake. Therefore, when on specimens of a particular species only should be left untouched, and the shoots made last season should be pruned close in, say to within an inch or so to the base. The protruding stems, which bearing buds, are the most difficult shoots on some branches, should be the object aimed at in pruning, and it should be borne in mind that hard or close pruning is not favorable in this process, consequently the pruning should be done on the horizontal leaders, which may be nailed in their entire length if well ripened. Standard plant trees also require to be well thinned out if good growth is to be obtained. The trees on walls, which are generally trained in Cordon shape, must be treated pretty much the same as pear trees. In this case, too, the flowers are borne on the leafless shoots.

[illegible]

utilized by its use. Probably no article has been so universally popular with *Johnston's Anodyne Liniment*, which contains antimony, quinine, and opium, should be avoided, as severe griping would be the only result. "Painful" and best pills are *Parsons' Purgative*, *Anti-Bilious Pills*.

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State—Extra.....	6 75 04
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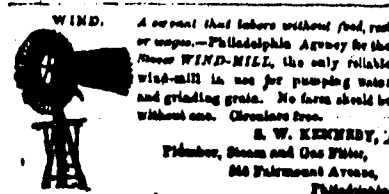


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DOWN TRAINS

LEAVE	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Vine St. Wharf.....	7 30	8 00	4 00	4 30
Cooper's Point.....	7 40	8 15	4 15	4 45
Kaigha's Siding.....	7 50	8 25	4 25	4 55
Haddonfield.....	8 00	8 35	4 35	5 05
Ashland.....	8 10	8 45	4 45	5 15
Kirkwood.....	8 20	8 55	4 55	5 25
Berlin.....	8 30	9 05	5 05	5 35
Atco.....	8 40	9 15	5 15	5 45
Waterford.....	8 50	9 25	5 25	5 55
Atco.....	9 00	9 35	5 35	6 05
Winslow.....	9 10	9 45	5 45	6 15
Winslow Junction.....	9 20	9 55	5 55	6 25
Hammonton.....	9 30	10 05	6 05	6 35
DeCosta.....	9 40	10 15	6 15	6 45
Elwood.....	9 50	10 25	6 25	6 55
Atco.....	10 00	10 35	6 35	7 05
Winslow.....	10 10	10 45	6 45	7 15
Winslow Junction.....	10 20	10 55	6 55	7 25
Hammonton.....	10 30	11 05	7 05	7 35
DeCosta.....	10 40	11 15	7 15	7 45
Elwood.....	10 50	11 25	7 25	7 55
Atco.....	11 00	11 35	7 35	8 05
Winslow.....	11 10	11 45	7 45	8 15
Winslow Junction.....	11 20	11 55	7 55	8 25
Hammonton.....	11 30	12 05	8 05	8 35
DeCosta.....	11 40	12 15	8 15	8 45
Elwood.....	11 50	12 25	8 25	8 55
Atco.....	12 00	12 35	8 35	9 05
Winslow.....	12 10	12 45	8 45	9 15
Winslow Junction.....	12 20	12 55	8 55	9 25
Hammonton.....	12 30	1 00	9 05	9 35
DeCosta.....	12 40	1 10	9 15	9 45
Elwood.....	12 50	1 20	9 25	9 55
Atco.....	1 00	1 30	9 35	10 05
Winslow.....	1 10	1 40	9 45	10 15
Winslow Junction.....	1 20	1 50	9 55	10 25
Hammonton.....	1 30	2 00	10 05	10 35
DeCosta.....	1 40	2 10	10 15	10 45
Elwood.....	1 50	2 20	10 25	10 55
Atco.....	2 00	2 30	10 35	11 05
Winslow.....	2 10	2 40	10 45	11 15
Winslow Junction.....	2 20	2 50	10 55	11 25
Hammonton.....	2 30	3 00	11 05	11 35
DeCosta.....	2 40	3 10	11 15	11 45
Elwood.....	2 50	3 20	11 25	11 55
Atco.....	3 00	3 30	11 35	12 05
Winslow.....	3 10	3 40	11 45	12 15