

South-Jersey Republican

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ONLY A BOY.

Only a boy with his nose and fun,
The velvet tongs under the sun;
As gentle of mischief and wit and glee
As water a human frame can be.
And as hard to manage as—ah! ah! me!
The heart to tell,
Yet we love him well.

Only a boy, with his fearful friend,
Who cannot be driven, but must be led;
Who troubles the neighbors' dogs and cats,
And tears more clothes and spoils more hats,
Loses more tops and takes more baths,
That would stock a store
For a year or more.

Only a boy, with his wild, strange ways;
With his idle hours on busy days;
With his queer remarks and his odd replies,
Sometimes foolish, and sometimes wise,
Often brilliant for one of his size,
As a meteor hurled
From the pleasant world.

Only a boy who will be a man
If Nature goes on with her first great plan—
If water, or fire, or some fatal snare,
Conspire not to rob us of this rare,
Our blessing, our trouble, our rest, our care,
Our torment, our joy,
"Only a boy."

New York Correspondence.

New York, August 1, 1877.

THE CROP PROSPECT.

It is curious, but the mercantile reporters know more about the crops than do the men who grow them. Dun, Barlow & Co. report that the wheat crop in the west will make an average of twenty-five bushels to the acre, and that the other crops promise an equally large yield. If this be the case, and they know, the yield will be simply enormous, and there is no reason why the west should not be enormously rich, this season. And it will not be a big crop with no price to it. The grainies in this country are bare, and the Crimea, the great competitor of America in grain producing, is, this season, practically barred out. The Turkish war has shut that off, and America has, this year, to feed the world. Hence there cannot be that disinclination to price that otherwise would follow a crop so immense; we have our twenty-five bushels of the acre with the price the same as it would be were it only the average of nine or ten. The west will be made rich this year, and there cannot be but general prosperity.

THE LABOR TROUBLE.

is entirely over. The demagogues who attempted to excite the tramps and thieves to a riot, failed signally, and the city is as quiet as a mill-pond. The credit for this is due, entirely, to the mayor and the police. Twenty-six hundred men, thoroughly armed, were on duty all of last week as policemen, and all the militia regiments of the city were at their posts. At the first intimation of a riot the mob would have had this enormous force to meet, and every rifle and revolver was loaded with ball cartridge. The instructions were definite to shoot at the rioters first, and over their heads the second volley. There was to be killing if a riot was provoked. The communists understood this, and they were very careful to give no occasion for military interference. The communists are very shady now, and claim that they did not intend any trouble. But it is well known that they did intend to raise a riot and sack the city. They had their preparations all made. They expected the railroad people to strike, and then all the communists would join them, and the thieves and tramps falling in, there would be force enough to take possession of the city. Then buildings would have been fired, and the city would have been plundered. But no mob dare face an organized military force, and as soon as the conspirators knew that the authorities were prepared for them, it all died out. Mayor Ely is entitled to a great deal of credit for nipping in the bud what was intended to be a very dangerous affair.

POLITICAL.

The action of the Ohio State Convention in giving an honest and decent endorsement to the President meets with decided approval here. No one can know how much the money and business centre of the country is interested in the settlement of the troubles that have so long prostrated business. Hayes' policy, as it is called, has certainly given the South peace, and has restored confidence in the future of the South. Southern merchants are here buying goods, which is enough for the business man. He comes with a smiling face and a look of confidence that he has not worn since the war. Speak to him about his affairs and he says, "I know now what we are going to get," and he buys and trades accordingly. Hence the business men are all enthusiastic supporters of the President's policy, for they see in it an escape from the terrors of the past four years.

THE MOUNTAIN.

If you read the daily papers you will suppose that everybody is out of town during the summer months. Nominally everybody is—practically a great many are not. You shall see in the society papers a great many names reported as at Swampscott, the White Mountains, and all over the cool spots, who are safely unseasoned in their own houses. To keep up the impression that they have followed the fashion and gone to a summer resort, they keep their front blinds closed, and go in and out the back door. The fact is, the moderately wealthy have not the money to go away for three years, and many of them have discovered that the air is about as good in a well-appointed house in the city as it is anywhere. The summer resorts are all losing money this year. The farmers down on

Long Island who can set a fairly good table are making a great deal more money by taking summer boarders at \$7 a week, the same people who used to live at Long Branch and Saratoga at \$10 a day. The hard times have blighted the summer resorts.

JAY GOULD FOUNDED.

The city was astonished, and delighted as well, on Thursday, by the intelligence that a stock-broker named Selover had beaten Jay Gould. It appeared that Gould was carrying a great deal more of Atlantic and Pacific telegraph stock than he wanted, and he did not have as much Western Union as he needed to control that gigantic concern. Selover, Keene, the Californian, and other operators were in a tight place with various stocks that they had, and they appealed to Jay Gould to help them. Gould agreed to do this, for he was short of the stocks they were overloaded with, and he joined the confederacy upon an agreement that they would let him have 70,000 shares of their stock, just enough to save him from loss. And that they should as a matter of safety unload their Western Union. They did so.—Gould's brokers bought every share of Western Union they put upon the market. By this smart operation he got stocks enough at a low price to cover what he needed, and got possession of Western Union. It was a wonderfully acute transaction, and he made a mint of money by it. Naturally they were indignant at this piece of sublimated rascality, and Keene tried to shoot him. Selover did not attempt to avenge himself with the pistol, but he went for Mr. Gould the first time he met him, and knocked him down on the ground, and pounded him till he was half killed. Selover says he did it to brand him as a liar, a thief, a scoundrel, and a man who is incapable of doing a fair or square thing. Gould is doubtless the most unscrupulous man living, as well as one of the most shrewd and daring. He knows no such thing as a friend, and to make a point in the market would sell out his grandmother. He was not true even to his old partner Fisk, and no man on the board—who has ever done business with him, has escaped, provided it was for his interest to play him false.

THE CHARTER OAK.

The turn of the tide in life insurance has come. The Insurance Companies of Hartford, and the prominent citizens, determined that the old Charter Oak, with its splendid record, should not go down, and they rallied to save it. Marshall Jewell, ex-Postmaster Gen'l, and one of the most eminent manufacturers of Hartford, has accepted the Presidency, and a board of men of similar capacity and character second him. The old company will go on, and pay dollar for dollar. It is well, for the ruin of the companies was making trouble everywhere. The unnumbered thousands who have the hopes of families based upon life insurance, want to have some assurance that their helpless heirs will get what they contracted for. The weak companies are all played out now, and those remaining, with perhaps one or two exceptions, may be considered sound.

BEER.

We have had no famine—food has been plenty during the railroad disturbances, but there has been a drouth in beer. The beer made in the city is very bad, and the better class of people get their supplies entirely from the West. It comes on in refrigerator cars, and there is never a large stock on hand. The railroad troubles interfered with transportation, and there has been a drouth. The beer drinkers go up and down aghast, and the mourn for their favorite beverages, and will not be comforted because they are not. There are fifty car-loads of beer a day, from Toledo, Milwaukee and Cincinnati, consumed in this city, and you can imagine the consternation when the thirsty soul is informed that it is out. The first car load since the strike came in yesterday, and it was made the occasion of a jubilee. The western brewers are building ice houses here now in which to store their supplies, so that this will not occur again.

THE WEATHER.

is cooler, and business has revived perceptibly. There is every indication of a good fall's business.

PINAO.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 6, 1877.

The Republican Ohio State Convention has been the political theme of most general discussion the past week. To those Democrats who cherished the hope that it would break up in a grand row, thus neutralizing the stupid nomination for Governor by the Bourbon assembly, the lively sense of satisfaction noticeable in Republican circles since more time has been allowed for a dispassionate view of the work of the delegates, the situation has changed much for the worse within the past few days, and there is a remarkable abatement from the bragging, boasting and bluster heard up to the time of Bishop's nomination. It is admitted that there is a wide difference of opinion among Ohio Republicans as to the wisdom of the course adopted by the Administration toward the South. Judge Taft's large vote in connection with that for other candidates, indicates it beyond cavil. The right to doubt without prejudice to party standing, was not questioned by a single dele-

gate, apparently. But the work of the convention seems to show that however much Ohio Republicans may differ in opinion as to particular measures of the Administration, there is the greatest unanimity of view regarding the President's personal integrity and patriotism, and as to their duty in presenting a united front to the common enemy. The resolutions endorsing President Hayes was sufficiently specific to prove entirely satisfactory to him and his warmest friends here, while no attempt was made to force those disapproving the Southern policy to violate their honest convictions. The nomination of Judge West who has neither condemned or approved that policy, but is willing to accord it a fair trial, is conclusive of the liberality that animated the convention and of the other fact that neither approved or disapproved it to be applied in Ohio as a test of Republicanism.

While the revelations made concerning the almost famishing condition of thousands of families of Pennsylvania coal mines does not abate one jot or tittle from the resentment felt toward the ruffian leaders of the late riot, nor from the demand for their condign punishment, it confirms the pretty general feeling of sympathy felt toward the mass of oppressed and starving employees of some of the great and wealthy railroad and other monopolies which appear to be wholly absorbed in adding to the wealth of a few rich stockholders and officials while the brains and muscles called upon for its production are left to perish from lack of food; and the number demanding government suspension is being augmented by many who needed just such an argument in its favor as is furnished by the New-York Times of the 4th inst. The many new problems precipitated by the late insurrections still occupy public attention to the exclusion of many current events that would ordinarily come up for criticism.

Southern politicians, as a class, and of both parties, have been brought into much disrepute and contempt with those familiar with the tactics of scoundrels of those who have remained in this city since last March, busy by every mean in intrigue and base resort to secure the dismissal of President Grant's appointees in the South, and to secure their own appointment to the vacancies thus made. The case of Col. Walter Russell of the Richmond District is a case in point. Old expelled charges have been revamped and filed here with a great show of anxiety for the purification of the public service, and upon re-examination they have been rejected as having no better foundation than that indicated above or personal spite and malice. These greedy fellows usually make their presence known by their loud wails over the decadence of public morality and virtue, winding up with the assurance that a clean sweep of federal officials is necessary to the institution of a thorough reform of the civil service.

President Hayes is said to have approved the plan of Mr. Maude to surmount the unfinished shaft of the Washington monument with a colossal statue of Washington, to be formed of hammered bronze, 85 feet in height, after the plan of the commission to secure the foundation by the "hoop-skirt" method, shall have been completed. I forbear giving the views of one who is not an art critic, but from what is heard here from those making pretensions in that direction, it is safe to say that the proposition will have to run the gauntlet of a terrible fusillade should there appear any prospect of its adoption.

Nothing specially new from Howard. Joseph at date of last dispatches was making a lively run for the buffalo country with Howard close on his heels with nearly 5,000 men, and Gov. Potts with his Montana volunteers, bearing down on his flank, hoping to strike his front and with Howard, bag the game.

It is felt here among military men that the late Russian reverses have postponed the capture of Constantinople for many weeks, if not months; and they have probably delayed the armed intervention by England in behalf of the Turk, which she had evidently determined upon had the latter proved unable to check the advance of Russia's legions.

MAX WELLS.

Rural Topics.

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

SCIENTIFIC FARMING.

Farmers are inclined to sneer at "scientific" agriculture, as something only taught in books, theoretical in a great degree; but that is not so, as science is nothing but knowledge, skilled knowledge. Now, farmers will, perhaps, be a little surprised when I tell them that every one of them, who is skilled in farming, can keep their farms in good condition, have good fences, plow and plant at the right time, cultivate well, etc., are all scientific farmers. But the men who study scientific agriculture in colleges, and graduate as Professors of this science, without practice of farming, are not scientific farmers, although they generally claim that title exclusively. No man can say that he knows that the application of certain fertilizers to certain crops is particularly beneficial, unless he has had a positive practical

knowledge of the alleged fact. The reading that such application produces good results, even in the writings of a hundred men, is not proof that such is a fact. One may presume that it is proof, and that is as well as he can go, but, for instance, when a man applies potash to a certain crop for years, and sometimes omits to put it on a part of the field to show the result, and he finds that where no potash is applied the crop is much less than where it is applied, he knows that it is beneficial; and, consequently he is a scientific farmer so far as that application of potash to one, or more, crops is concerned. So, if he shall become an expert in every branch of farming, by obtaining knowledge from books, papers, or other wise, or what is supposed to be true or false by a practical test, he becomes a scientific farmer in full sense of meaning of the term. The idea is prevalent that a young man may be sent to an agricultural chemistry a year or two, and being taken out upon the farm occasionally to see crops growing, and the application of fertilizers that he becomes a scientific farmer! That is not so, because he lacks the thorough practical training—work with his own hands—to make a really scientific agriculturist; but what he learns at college in theory is a great advantage to him. My advice to such young men, if they desire to become farmers, is to hire out for a couple of years to a thorough, practical farmer, and work year-day to the title, "scientific farmer," which you will never justly have unless you obtain it by practice on a farm.

CLOVER AS A FERTILIZER.

When the world was made, its Maker foresaw certain conditions of things that the human mind could have never penetrated, one of which was that the soil could not forever continue to yield large paying crops without manure, or a fertilizer of some kind—the animal manure would not be abundant enough to keep lands in a good state of fertility, as the population became dense; and, consequently, clover was given to us as a cheap and valuable fertilizer, "without money and without price," which is literally true, because it pays for the seed sown and labor in the first crop of hay, and the second crop may be turned under, which will fertilize the land equal to \$15 or \$20 worth of stable dung to the acre. There is no mistake about this alleged fact in the least; and I am inclined to think that if stable dung did not exist, nor any kind of commercial fertilizers, farmers could continue their business profitably by using clover as a green manure. Of course the price of crops would be ruled by the supply; but in the end they would, probably, be as prosperous as they now are. Clover will flourish on poor soil, as it derives a large portion of its nutriment from the atmosphere; and when a farmer obtains a good "catch" he is sure of a good crop, which ought not to be pastured any the first season. The second season it should be cut for hay, that is, the first crop, and the second crop of that season may be turned under in the fall with good results as a fertilizer. For plowing under sow the large variety of clover. A bushel or two of plaster to the acre early in the spring will increase the crop considerably.

THE FENCE QUESTION.

Sooner or later the farmers in the United States must adopt hedges for fences, as the cost of all the fences in this country is estimated by good authorities to be about \$1,200,000,000, or \$45 a head for each inhabitant, old or young; and it costs \$100,000,000 annually to keep them in repair. Recently, Major Brisbane of the United States army compiled statistics in regard to the annual destruction of timber in the nation, from which it appears that the consumption requires about 5,500,000 acres every year. He puts the requirements for fencing purposes at about one-half of this vast amount, which we think is too high; but it is nevertheless immense, and notwithstanding the gradual increase of tree planting for future use, it is certain that a radical change in our fence system is absolutely necessary, or two generations hence the country will be practically without fences. The kinds of hedges most grown are the buckthorn and barberry for the North, and the Osage orange for the South. In regard to the barberry, the Wallingford Circular says: "We have a barberry hedge on our grounds 35 rods long, and nine years old, from seed. Two rows of plants were set, the rows one foot apart, and the plants one foot apart in the row; and set alternately, to break joints. This hedge has been clipped a little, two or three times, to keep it even, and is now six or seven feet high, with a firm, compact base, perfectly impervious to the smaller animals, and stout enough to turn ordinary farm stock, except for a short distance at one end where the soil is quite thin." A pound of barberry, or buckthorn seed, costing one dollar will produce plants enough for 100 rods of fence.

FAILURE OF GRAPES AT THE WEST.

A well-known horticulturist of Ohio writes: "In many parts of the West and Southwest there have been very discouraging failures of nearly all the desirable kinds of grapes the past two years. Even the Concord, that was thought to be everywhere reliable, has entirely failed in many localities. At a meeting of Montgomery County, O., Horticultural Society, Mr. R. Chas-

stated that his Concord vineyard had failed entirely, two years in succession, and he did not feel like waiting for a third, but concluded to grub out the vines, and plant something more profitable in their place. He believed the Concord vines would do well while young, but as they grew old, they fail. At a previous meeting of the society, Mr. Kramer, who is the most extensive grape-grower in that region, stated that the grape crop, was almost an entire failure. From 12 acres of Catawba vines he did not have a ton of sound grapes. Most of the Concord vines were also ruined by the rot. He cut 2,500 pounds of Iowa Seedling from about 8 acres. Taylor's Bullit had done well growing among Catawbas that rotted. Norton's Virginia was also good—these are both wine grapes. He had tried quite a number of Rogers' Hybrids, but found them of no use except when grown against a wall or building. He has seen young vineyards of Concord doing well. I have had similar reports respecting the failures of Concord and other grapes, from correspondents in different parts of Central and Southern Ohio and Indiana. In regard to what causes the rot, this question has baffled horticulturists almost as much as that of the pear blight, and the theories respecting it are nearly as numerous and conflicting. We need more extended and careful observation of facts on which to base our conclusions. It has been noticed for many years that heavy rains in the month of June are quite sure to be followed by a visitation of grape rot in July and August. It is not clear, however, that excess of moisture at the roots is the cause of the disease of the fruit; and if this were the chief cause, it is difficult to see why it is that the disease should be more prevalent of late years than formerly, and worse on old vines than young. Some of our scientists are of the opinion that the rot is caused by a fungus, like the mildew—the spores of which are absorbed by the leaves or the roots of the vine, and carried by the sap into the fruit, where they develop their mischief.

FRUIT "BUTTER."

The sale of fruit "butter" in all large cities is very large. It is put up in wooden talls, with close-fitting covers, and pails, and butter is sold in tins. The "American Farmer" published in New York, says: "Fruit butter may be made in the country very easily, and cheaply. The same purpose that sugar subserved in the manufactories here may be accomplished there by the use of cider. When apples are ripe, make up three barrels of cider. Then boil down the three barrels of cider to one and a half, and set it convenient to the copper kettle, in which place the four bushels of apples. Pour on to the apples from the sides enough to answer the purpose, and stir up. As the cider boils away, add more and more, until it is all used up and the contents of the kettle are brought down to a proper consistency, of which one must be judge. A little practice will make one perfect in this process. This is for apples. It will apply equally well to any other kind of fruit from which it is practicable to obtain the juice as one would from apples."

"Sweet Forget Me Not."—This is the title of a new and magnificent song with a remarkably pretty waltz chorus, composed by "Boaz Newcomb," of musical fame. It is sung by Primrose and West, of Haverly's Minstrels; Delahanty and Hengler, of the "Topsy Troupe"; Adah Richmond, and other first-class artists, all over the country. This song will surely be admired by every body. Price, 40 cents per copy can be had from any music dealer or from the publisher, F. W. LAMARCK, 50 West 4th St, Cincinnati, O.

We have received the July number of the "Travelers Official Railway Guide," for the United States and Canada, which gives complete and full Railway Time schedules, connections and distances, together with ocean and inland steam navigation Routes, with maps of principal lines, and lists of general officers with all such miscellaneous information relative to railway improvements and progress as may be useful to the traveling public. W. F. Allen, Editor, Published by the National Railway publication Company, 223 E. 6th St., St. Louis, Philadelphia, at \$4 a year. To be had of News Agents, Book Dealers, on trains, and at the several Railroad Depots and ticket-offices in the United States and Canada. Any one travelling North, East, South or West, should procure a copy of this very valuable book, and make himself familiar with his route, and the geography of the country through which he is to pass, before starting. It will often save money and time—time is money—and much trouble.

Whitney's Musical Guest, for August, is at hand. The literary part consists of a well written article upon "The English Language as a language for music," the conclusion of a series of interesting chapters upon "The Rise of Opera" an editorial upon Publishers of Music Journals, requiring them to pre-pay postage on their journals to regular subscribers, by stamps, clearing them with third-class matter; Also various miscellaneous notices in the domain of Fashion and Music. The musical portion is a comic song entitled "The Queen old Bachelor," by Wm. T. Mayer, and is just published in sheet form, price 50 cts. It is a good one, also a choice selection from Crystal Gaze, the new Sunday School Singing Book, a fine Piano piece, "Warbling Birds," by Billeme, price 10 cts., in sheet form, and another piece entitled, "Fire Ball March." The Guest is a valuable journal for the sum of money it costs the subscriber. Regular subscription price \$1.10 a year. Single copies 25 cts. Address, W. W. WHITNEY, Publisher, Toledo, O.

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