The Semi-Weekly Times.

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SEMI-WEEKLY RECORD.

THE ASSASSINATION.

Our own paper is still largely occupied with details of the late terrible event, and the manifestation of the people thereupon. An attentive reading of a great number of newspapers coming from all sections of the loyal States, gives us but one view of the feeling of the people, and that is of intense horror and indignation. Here and there we find an unwilling mourner, one whose mole-eyed prejudices cannot see above the indescency of rehearsing offensive partizan sentiments; but the great heart of the nation is roused to such reprobation of the spirit of treason, which prompted the murder, that the exceptions we have noted become utterly insignificant. To the disgrace of our nature we also find here and there actual rejoicings over the event; but the stern punishment in almost every instance visited upon the offenders in a healthy sign that all is well. The remains of our noble martyr will soon be on the way to his old home in Illinois, and the whole people will come forward as one man to bid a tearful farewell to all that remains of the great heart that loved them so well and served them so faithfully.

Wednesday's celebration will long be remembered in this city as the most remarkable testimonial ever paid to any man on this continent. The day itself was one of the loveliest of Spring; the sky was clear, the sun moderately warm, and the wind just strong enough to float the ten thousand half-masted and muffled flags that gemmed the town. And after all the ingenious devices that educated taste and lavish expense could produce, there was not one equal in grand and mournful beauty to our national banner; the glorious stars and stripes, alike inspiring and appropriate, whether flaunting in pride in far off seas, leading the death-dealing charge on the battle-field, enshrouding the cold form of the fallen soldier, or, as Wednesday, dim with the tears of a nation. The whole tone of the people was in keeping with the occasion; all business, save eating and traveling, was suspended; the throngs that filled the streets were quiet, serious, and bore themselves in a manner entirely consonant with the hour; the church attendance was good; there were no brawls, no fires, no accidents, no scenes to mar the solemnity of the sadly peaceful day.

A dispatch was received Wednesday saying that the government had concluded to send the body of the late President directly on to Illinois by way of Philadelphia, Harrisburgh, Pittsburgh, &c. Last evening an official dispatch came saying that the original programme would be followed, and so the cortege will pass through Baltimore, Harrisburgh, Philadelphia, New-York, Albany, Buffalo, Cleveland, Columbus, Indianapolis and Chicago to Springfield.

Secretary SEWARD and his son continue to improve, and it is now confidently expected that both will recover.

A dispatch from Cincinnati, dated the 15th says: "JUNIUS BRUTUS BOOTH is in deep grief over the tragedy which involves his brother WILKES as an assassin. His engagement would have closed to-night, but he dared not appear. He informs me that J. WILKES BOOTH was to have been married soon to a daughter of Senator HALE. Mr. BOOTH has gone to the country to-night, to keep quiet until the excitement has passed. He paces his room and pulls his hair like a man deranged. He also states that, if the reports are true against WILKES, EDWIN and himself will be compelled to leave the stage."

GEORGE STONE was tarred and feathered at Swampscott, on Saturday, for cheering at the death of the President; and Major OTIS WRIGHT, of Lowell, Superintendent of the Middlesex Horse Railroad, narrowly escaped hanging for expressing joy at Mr. LINCOLN'S death. Fifteen minutes were finally given him in which to leave the city, never to return.

A Copperhead blacksmith at Brookfield expressed joy at the death of President LINCOLN, and on Monday morning he was given his choice of a coat of tar and feathers or immediate departure from the town, never to return again. He chose the latter.

It is said that Ex-President MILLARD FILLMORE'S house in Buffalo displayed no mourning, on Monday, in striking contrast with other houses in that vicinity. The people gathered a crowd and covered the front of the house with ink.

A Baptist clergyman from Bellingham, Mass., preached by exchange in Milford last Sabbath morning. Neither in prayer nor sermon did he recognize the great woe that was oppressing the heart of every hearer. The omission was so clearly intentional, that at the close of the first service a committee of the church waited upon the unfaithful preacher, and ordered him to leave town immediately, which he did.

On Sunday morning, the Congregational Church at South Dartmouth, being found destitute of mourning, the ladies quickly removed their black vails, and with them made festoons for the pulpit, having previously covered it with a Union flag.

CHARLES A. BOYD, E-q., of North Providence, R. I., desires to be one of one hundred persons who will offer an additional reward of one hundred thousand dollars for the arrest of the murderer of ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

ANDREW BAILEY and WILLIAM CROSBY were almost instantly killed yesterday in Williamsburgh by the premature discharge of a cannon, with which they were firing a salute, in memory of the President.

HARVEY FORD, an old man in New-Haven, was very much affected by the news of President LINCOLN'S decease, and after appearing much depressed all day, he dropped dead in the evening.

Several persons were arrested Tuesday for uttering disloyal language in connection with the death of President LINCOLN. Among those arrested were "Count" CHEESBROUGH, a wealthy resident of Stuyvesant-square, MARTIN BAKER, a German, THOS. J. ADAMS and WM. C. CARNLEY.

All the employes of the Police Department have been ordered to wear crape on the arm for thirty days, and all the station-houses are to be draped with mourning for a like period.

The Poughkeepsie *Eagle* says that on Saturday morning last, a woman named FRISBIE, residing in that city, after hearing of the assassination, expressed joy that the President was killed! This so incensed the people that a crowd immediately congregated about her residence, and the sheriff being sent for, her arrest was demanded and accomplished, together with a young man named DENTON, who was immediately throttled and handed over to the authorities. Two other men, who expressed similar sentiments, were summarily dealt with.

The government offers $100,000 reward for the capture of the President's and the other assassins; $50,000 for the man who killed Mr. LINCOLN, and $25,000 each for those who attempted to murder Mr. SEWARD and son.

It is creditable to the rebels to record the fact that 22,000 of them prisoners now in our hands at Point Lookout, upon hearing of the assassination of President LINCOLN, adopted resolutions expressing their abhorrence of the act and their sympathy with the afflicted family.

Two women, on the train from Skowhegan, Me., a day or two since, expressed themselves in an offensive manner, exulting over the murder of the President. On their arrival in Augusta they were quietly delivered over to Col. LITTLER, at the request of the conductor, and lodged in jail.

Miss LAURA KEENE, and Messrs. HAWK and DYOTT, of her compady, who were arrested at Harrisburgh on Monday, were discharged by an order from Washington on Tuesday, as soon as the Secretary of War heard of their detention.

The War Department has directed that officers engaged in tracing out the assassins of the President shall keep their doings secret for the present.

WAR NEWS SUMMARY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

The news of the capture of Mobile is confirmed by official dispatches printed in New Orleans. Spanish Fort was captured on the 9th, and 563 prisoners were taken. On the same day the town of Blakeley was taken, with 2,400 prisoners. It was on the 12th inst., at 10½ A. M., that the Stars and Stripes were hoisted on a church steeple in Mobile, Gen. GRANGER'S forces occupying the place. The rebels all got away on the night of the 11th.

It is reported in the Savannah *Herald* that Columbus, Ga., was captured on Thursday week, by THOMAS' cavalry, after a severe fight. Four or five hundred of FORREST'S men were captured by Gen. THOMAS. Eufala, Ala., was also captured, and Montgomery was also reported to have been taken.

We learn from Red River that rebel deserters continue to come into the Union lines. These men make use of anything which will float to reach the Mississippi by way of Red River.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Gen. STONEMAN captured Salisbury, N. C., on the 12th inst, securing 1,165 prisoners, 19 pieces of artillery, 1,000 small arms and eight stands of colors. The plunder found there was enormous, embracing 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition, 1,000 shells, 60,000 pounds of powder, 75,000 suits of clothing, 35,000 army blankets, with large quantities of bacon, salt, sugar, rice, wheat, and 7,000 bales of cotton. All that was not immediately available was destroyed. STONEMAN'S raid in East Tennessee and North Carolina has been one of the most important and destructive of the war. He has burned half a hundred important bridges, destroyed about 100 miles of railroad track, captured trains, burned depots and played the mischief generally with secesh property.

There is also news from North Carolina that JOHNSTON is at his favorite work, retreating, while SHERMAN is trying to coax or force him into a fight. Raleigh was captured on the 13th, after a mere shadow of resistance, by the cavalry. Gov. VANCE was taken by our cavalry on the same day. It is said that he was deputed by JOHNSTON to surrender the State, but the power was afterward withdrawn. Another story is that JEFF. DAVIS had joined JOHNSTON at Hillsborough, and was still with him.

Gen. SHERMAN now has his supplies sent through the Dismal Swamp Canal to Roanoke Island.

THE SOUTHWEST.

A short time since a gang of guerrillas undermined the Little Rock and Memphis Railroad. The break was observed by the engineer, but not in time to save the train from running into it, when it was surrounded by thirty men, who demanded its surrender, but a volley from the guard drove them away. A few passengers who ran in the woods were robbed. The train was soon repaired and arrived at Little Rock.

Among the guerrillas recently captured or surrendered in Kentucky are Major Walker, Capt. Taylor, Capt. Rawley, and Marcen and Webster. Guerrilla warfare is pretty much done for in that State.

Gen. WASHBURN has issued an order at Memphis, officially recognizing the fact that the rebellion is ended, and revoking several of the most stringent orders previously in force for the government of affairs in West Tennessee.

Gen. WASHBURNE has tendered his resignation to Gen. THOMAS, to take effect the 1st of May. His reason is that the war is virtually over.

HOMER W. GILBERT, of Adams, N. Y., telegraph operator at Collierville, near Memphis, Tenn; was, with five or six other men, captured by guerrillas on the 10th inst. They were paroled the next day and returned safely to Memphis.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Gross injustice has been done to one of the most reliable and deserving officers of the regular service, by the statement, (which has been widely circulated,) that Brig.-Gen. WM. HAYS, (known and esteemed in this city as the late Acting Provost-Marshal of the Southern District of New-York,) had been relieved of the command of the Second Division, Second Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, for inefficiency and tardiness in obeying orders. Gen. HAYS was honorably relieved by his senior officer, Brevet Maj.-Gen. BARLOW, on his return to the field and his resumption of the command of the division. On being thus relieved, Gen. HAYS was restored to his original command in the Reserve Artillery of the Army of the Potomac.

A large number of paroled rebel officers arrived in Baltimore on Wednesday from Fortress Monroe They represent nearly every State in the South, and several are accompanied by their servants. One of them walked into Mr. JAMES GILMOUR'S hotel, and inquired if he was "the father of Major HARRY GILMOR." Mr. GILMOUR replied that he was not, and he thanked God he had not a relative in the rebel army, whereupon the officer and his servant retired in disgust.

There are now 2,600 men employed at the Portsmouth Navy-yard, and quite a fleet is getting ready for sea. The *Agamenticus*, double turreted monitor, is nearly ready for her trial trip, and it is expected she will soon be ordered to Europe.

Mr. LATHAM, of the Grand Trunk Railroad, who was rather roughly handled by a mob in Portland the other day, for removing a flag from a train, says he did it in compliance with the rules of the road, which permit no flags on a train except signal flags.

Libby Prison contained, on the 13th, upward of 3,000 Confederate prisoners, military, political and civil; but they were being released as fast as the papers necessary to their conditions of release can be made out.

Hon. ROSCOE CONKLIN, of Utica, has been appointed Special Judge Advocate for the Western Military Division of this State. This office is equivalent in courts-martial to that of prosecuting attorney in the civil courts.

A story is current at Havana that JEFF. DAVIS has on deposit in one of the banks in that city $100,000 in gold.

A private letter states that Maj. DICK TURNER, the inhuman jailer of Libby Prison, has been discovered among the rebel prisoners in Richmond.

Two small steamers were captured and burned by guerrillas a few days ago in Hatchie River.

GENERAL NEWS.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

President JOHNSON Tuesday morning received a large delegation of citizens of Illinois, and afterward about fifty clergymen and others connected with the Christian Commission. He expressed his high appreciation of their confidence in him, and made to each party a brief speech.

President JOHNSON was called upon yesterday by several delegations of official and private citizens, among them the Secretary and officers of the Navy, Gov. PARKER and citizens of New-Jersey, Gov. ANDREW and citizens of Massachusetts, Gen. GILMAN and citizens of New-Hampshire, a delegation of the New-York Union Club, and the diplomatic corps in a body.

One of President LINCOLN'S last official acts was to appoint a Postmaster and a number of Custom-house officers for Baltimore. Ex-Congressman E. H. WEBSTER is Collector, and Gen. ANDREW E. DENNISON is Postmaster.

Regarding the omission of Ex-President FILLMORE to drape his house the *Commercial Advertiser*, of Buffalo, says; "We have ample reason to know that this omission was not for want of sincere respect for the deceased or of a heartfelt sorrow at his death. But private dwellings were not generally draped and no notice was given that they would be, and Mrs. FILLMORE being out of health, Mr. FILLMORE, as we are informed, did not leave his house after going to the Post-office in the morning, and therefore was not aware that any private dwellings were draped, and naturally thought that an ostentatious show of grief might be misunderstood. Expecting a meeting would be called, he had designed to attend it, and give expression to the just indignation which he felt for the awful crime which had been committed, and to the grief which he felt at the loss of a man whose life he deemed so valuable at this moment to our country. By some accident no notice of the meeting was given in the afternoon papers which he received. We understand that no drapery is to be had in the city this morning."

Should any accident happen, that President JOHNSON should be unable to fulfill the duties of his high office, his successor, until a new election could be held, would be LAFAYETTE S. FOSTER, of Connecticut, the President pro tem. of the Senate. He was born in Franklin, Conn., Nov 22, 1806, and is a descendant of MILES STANDISH. He graduated at Brown University; is a lawyer by profession, was a member of the General Assembly of Connecticut in 1833, 1840, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1854; Speaker of the House in 1847, 1848 and 1854; Mayor of the city of Norwich for two years. He was chosen United States Senator from March 4, 1855, for six years, and in 1860 was reelected for six years. The House of the new Congress is not yet organized and hence there is no Speaker to succeed Mr. FOSTER in the improbable contingency that such a case should happen.

It is strange indeed that those who have daily and hourly familiarity with fire arms, should so often be victims to mistakes or carelessness. On Tuesday Lieut. CANTWELL, of the Engineer Corps, stationed at Fort Richmond, Staten Island, was accidentally shot and killed in the careless use of a gun by himself and a friend. He was a fine young officer, a native of Utica, New-York. Graduated last year from West Point, and his death has added deeper gloom to that caused by our great national calamity.

The Postmaster of New-Orleans, J. P. ROGERS, states that he has been for some weeks sending New-Orleans mails overland, via Cairo, every day in each week up to Thursday, and the remainder of the week's mail by steamer of Saturday. In case of no steamer offering on Saturday, the mails are sent via Cairo every day in the week.

In a recent number of *Charivari*, John Bull is represented in an attitude of abject terror, leaning against a post inscribed "Canada," and staring in affright at a burly Yankee malefactor who is throttling a man on the ground. "When he is done with him, he'll come and rob me!" is the despairing cry of the helpless, fat and timid victim.

District Provost-Marshal MATLOCK, at St Louis, Mo., announces that, as the convention has placed the negroes on the same footing with the whites in the courts, he will not hereafter interfere in their behalf, but leave them to seek redress in the civil courts.

Mrs. MARY CONNER, of Franklin township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, died recently at the advanced age of one hundred and four years and twenty-five days, leaving three hundred and nineteen descendants, children, grandchildren, and great-grand-children.

At Simsbury, Mass., AMON ALLEN attempted to kill his mother, who is over 70 years of age, on Monday night, by striking her on the head with a club. She was rendered insensible, and continued so Tuesday. ALLEN afterward endeavored to put an end to his own life by stabbing himself.

GEORGE M. SELDEN, who lately died at Troy left $25,000 to fund the "Selden Institute," for educating and maintaining female nurses; $5,000 to the Troy Young Men's Association, for library purposes; and $5,000 to the Unitarian Society at Troy.

A London lamp manufacturer claims to have invented a lamp of magnesium wire. By burning a strip of zinc in conjunction with two strips of magnesium, he is able to reduce the cost of the light two-thirds. He predicts that in the course of time it will be possible to illuminate a street a mile long at the rate of a half penny an hour. We have often thought that some kind of cheap electrical or magnetic light would ere long supersede the usual methods. And why not heat also?

Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, the new British Minister, presented his credentials to President JOHNSON yesterday. The interview was merely formal, and was marked by kind expressions of respect on both sides.

Mrs. LORIN ANDREWS has been appointed Postmistress at Gambier, Ohio She is the widow of Col. LORIN ANDREWS, late President of Kenyon College, who lost his life in the service of his country.

THEODORE GAUL, a watchmaker at Yonkers, N. Y, committed suicide on Thursday of last week by putting the muzzle of a double barreled gun in his mouth and blowing his head to pieces. He leaves a wife and seven children.

Rev. F. A CONWELL, Captain of the late First Minnesota Regiment, is visiting the land districts in that State, and securing homesteads for soldiers and seamen. His entries so far include about 250,000 acres.

The small amount of work necessary to complete fully the Capitol dome at Washington is being vigorously executed, and in a little while that portion of the edifice will present the appearance of the original design.

A contract to furnish the government with 85,000 bushels of corn, to be delivered at Forts Kearny and Laramie, and other points on the Salt Lake route, was awarded to Messrs. WILLIS & CLAGGETT, of St. Joseph, Mo, one day last week.

The Summer term of Amherst College commences to-day. It is rumored that the heirs of the late Dr. WALKER will contest his will, and that the college is willing to compromise by abating $50,000 of the legacy.

At New-Haven, on Saturday, a party of soldiers marched over to Fairhaven, where a treason-talker lived, called him out, and made him give a formal bond of $3,000 to appear when wanted, and then returned to camp.

JAMES HUMPHREY, Jr., editor and proprietor for some time past of the Litchfield (Conn.) *Enquirer*, has ceased his connection with that paper and is succeeded by Messrs. WING & SHUMWAY, who will hereafter conduct it.

Three men and a woman have been arrested for willful defacement of the tombstones and gravestones in Woburn (Conn.) Cemetery. The pecuniary damage they have done is said to amount to $15,000.

The *Ploughman* says that CHARLES L. FLINT, Esq., has resigned his position as Secretary of the New England Agricultural Society. The labors of the office are heavy, and it is an unsalaried one.

Anniversary week in Boston is determined by the last Wednesday in May. This year, as the month goes out on Wednesday, the anniversary services will commence on Sunday evening, May 28.

The "old maid," one of the immense red wood trees in the famous grove in Calaveras County, California, fell down not long ago. It was 325 feet in length, and 35 in diameter at the foot.

Boring for oil is the rage in Dutches County, New-York. At Glenham, a boring machine is just put up, and in other places the speculators are prospecting with any quantity of hope.

BENNETT BENSON, of St. Paul, Minnesota, enlisted as a soldier two years ago, has been in twelve battles and wounded twice, yet is only 15 years old.

PETER H. VAN VLECK, for many years editor and proprietor of the Kinderhook (N. Y.) *Rough Notes*, died last week of consumption, from which disease he has long been a sufferer.

Four men were killed yesterday at the Charlestown Navy-yard, by the explosion of a shell, the fuse of which one of the men was trying to drill out.

The oil companies in Middletown, Orange County, have rented a room where they have established an exchange, and do things up in city style.

WILLARD S. EDDY, for six years editor of the Maquoketa *Excelsior*, has retired, leaving Col. J. J. WOODS and Lieut. W. F. MCCURRAN as his successors.

Maj.-Gen. BANKS and Mrs. BANKS were among the guests at the Lindell Hotel, in St. Louis last Thursday, April 13, and were to leave next day upon a downward bound boat for New Orleans.

The vote of the New-Hampshire soldiers adds 706 to the plurality of Gen. MARSTON, 548 to that of Mr. ROLLINS, and 592 to that of Mr. PATTERSON, for Congress.

A passenger train on the Boston and Worcester Railroad was fired into in Worcester on Monday, the bullet passing directly under a gentleman's chin, taking off some of his whiskers.

CHARLES GILBERT, who has been on trial at Hartford, for the murder of HENRY CALWELL, in New-Britain, a year ago last Winter, has been found guilty of murder in the second degree.

A movement has been started in California for a subscription to purchase a homestead for the family of JOHN BROWN, who are residing at Red Bluff.

Father AGAPIRES, the Russian priest who officiated at a Greek church service in New-York a few weeks ago, is now in New-Orleans.

The Ohio *Statesman* claims that the Democracy in that state have everywhere made immense gains at the late town and municipal elections.

The Postmaster at Huntington, Ind., was lately removed. Charges had been made against him that he robbed the mails.

Hon. S. S. COX has just returned to his home at Columbus, Ohio. He was welcomed by a great number of personal friends.

More than $3,000,000 of Seven-Thirties were taken up yesterday. There were 2,144 subscribers for small sums.

JACOB STRAWN, the great Illinois farmer, has made the Christian Commission a donation of $10,000.

Mr. THOMAS DURFEE fell dead in the street at Westport Point, Mass., on Saturday noon, while going home to dinner. His age was 72 years.

ANDREW JACKSON, Jr., the adopted son of President JACKSON, died at Nashville recently.

The Wilberforce University, in Green County Ohio, was destroyed by fire on Friday last.

The Legislature of Arkansas is still without a quorum.

LOCAL NEWS.

The result of the Coroner's inquest in the case of Mr. MAURICE BEANSEEOIN, a wealthy stock broker, who was found dead in the street on Sunday last, shows that Mr. B was killed by leaping from the window of a room in which he had been confined by his friends, on account of intemperance.

Yesterday was very generally observed in this city and Brooklyn as a day of mourning for our national bereavement, in accordance with the Governor's proclamation. The stores, with a few exceptions, were closed, and services were held in the churches of all denominations, with sermons appropriate to the occasion.

Messrs WEST, BRADLEY & CARY'S wireworks, in West Twenty-ninth-street, were damaged by fire to the amount of $5,000. The annealing department was destroyed. The loss is covered by insurance.

Five rebel officers, who were recently paroled by Gen. GRANT, lodged in the Twenty-ninth Precinct Police-station on Wednesday night, having been unable to secure lodgings at the Fifth avenue Hotel.

HENRY KEALY, of No. 122 East Fourth-street, a laborer, murdered his wife yesterday, cutting her left leg with a common pocket knife, and inflicting a gash three inches in depth and twelve in length.

Mr. CHARLES JOHNSON, of No. 187 East Forty-first-street, a respectable butcher, cut his throat with a razor while suffering under temporary insanity. He was 27 years of age.

FOREIGN.

By the steamers *Belgian*, at Portland, and *Persia* and *Pennsylvania* at this port, we have three days' later news from Europe. Mr. COLLINS, of the Inter-continental Telegraph, is a passenger. He has had entire success thus far, and now goes to Russian America to begin operations. The difficulty between America and Portugal has been amicably settled. The Governor of the Belem Fort, has been dismissed, and the fort was to salute the American flag, with twenty-one guns. The *Tallahassee* had arrived at Liverpool from Bermuda. The most interesting matter in the British Parliament was the debate upon the defences of Canada. Mr. COBDEN'S funeral was a grand testimonial to his honorable fame. The French Chambers were still debating the address with no prospect of closing. Count WALEWSKI had been seriously ill. The rumor of an expected outbreak in Venetia is contradicted. The question of the Duchies still occupies the Frankfort Diet. In Russia the plague engrosses attention; there had been 10,000 cases and 2,000 deaths in St. Petersburgh. There is much apprehension all over Europe lest this disease, which is thought to be the real old black plague, should spread all over the continent.

A letter from Guayamas, Mexico, says that Gov. PESQUIERA has made ample preparations to defeat any force the Imperialists can send against Sonora. He had ordered the illumination of Guayamas whenever Richmond was taken by the United States troops.

The Dominicans, although almost exhausted and impoverished by their long war with Spain, have lately raised a loan of $100,000 for their government with great promptness.

The French government has already spent $25,500,000 in the improvement of the French seaports, and it will require $17,400,000 more to complete the work.

AGRICULTURAL AND DOMESTIC.

The Flavor of Fruit Improved by Thinning.

In the *Journal of Horticulture* are the following very judicious remarks on the propriety of thinning fruit: "I am quite well aware that I need not tell such men as Mr. Weaver that the flavor of fruit, barring extreme sunless seasons, is entirely under the control of the gardener. A clever man can *command* flavor; a dull man, when he finds his fruit flavorless, make idle excuses, which should never be listened to. If a tree trained to a wall be allowed to ripen, say ten dozen of fruit, when five or six dozen only should have been left, they, although they may be of a fair size and color, suffer in flavor to an extent scarcely credible. How often has the gardener had occasion to complain of his pears not being good, although produced on fine trees trained against walls? He complains of the season; but it is in most cases owing to the trees being allowed to bear just double the number they ought to have done. The following ought to be inscribed on every wall, and in every fruit and orchard house: *By thinking you make indifferent fruit good. By crowding you make good fruit bad.* If very fine and high-flavored fruit is wished for, a tree capable of bearing three dozen of medium-sized peaches should be allowed to bear only twelve or fifteen. This thinning is terrible work for the amateur. It is like drawing a tooth, and every fruit that falls to the ground creates a pang; but it must be done. A small, sharp penknife is the best implement to employ, and is much better than tearing off the fruit with the finger and thumb. A well-formed peach or nectarine tree, be it bush or pyramid, with its fruit properly thinned and nearly ripe, is one of the most beautiful objects the skill of the cultivator can produce. No camelia, or orchid, or rose tree can be more so. Yet this is an object for which some gardeners feel contempt."

How to Set Gate Posts.

Take equal quantities of water lime and quick lime, and mix with sand as usual, put two or three inches of mortar and coarse gravel in the bottom of the hole, so the end of the post will not come to the ground; then set your posts in, top end down, fill in several inches of the mortar, then several inches of coarse gravel, pound it down, then more mortar and more gravel, and so on until the cement is raised above the ground several inches around the post. Slant it away from the post in every direction, so as to turn off the water; then take coal tar and a brush, paint around the bottom of the post, and fill the interstice between the post and the cement with the coal tar. [N. B.—Only mix enough mortar for one hole at a time.] Your post will be as solid as if set in stone. It don't heave out with the frost, and sag around and pull the boards off, as the water and air cannot set to it.

The Depth of Drains.

On this subject the *Irish Farmer's Gazette* gives the result of experiments on one of the largest estates in Ireland:

"The case we allude to is the draining of Mount Stewart demesne, in the County of Down, Mr. Andrews, Lord Londonderry's agent, having found drains thirty to thirty two inches deep, and twenty feet apart, most effective in draining the stiff soils of his own farms near Comber, even after a period of thirty years had elapsed since those drains were made, resisted the board's regulations regarding the depth and distance apart. The result was a compromise between the views entertained by Mr. Andrews and those held by the board, ending in the drains at Mount Stewart being cut 36 inches deep and 21 feet apart, filled with nine inches of stones, the largest of which do not exceed 2½ inches, over which is laid a sod, having the grassy side under. That drainage is perfectly effective."

Salting Hay.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* says he abandoned the old practice of putting salt on hay, as it adds to its moisture instead of lessening. This opinion is backed with a will, by a writer for the Boston *Cultivator*, who lays down the law, as he understands it, in the following unequivocal manner: "It is time this absurd custom was done away. It is beyond conception how so transparent a humbug ever got so wide spread. Every particle of salt used on hay is a positive injury to it. The practice of salting hay ought to be almost as much discountenanced and discouraged as though it were actual poison. Men will make almost superhuman exertions to get their hay up dry, and then immediately *wet it with salt.*"

Macaroons.

These little cakes are much admired, and are a very agreeable addition to the dessert. The following is a recipe for preparing them: To a quarter of a pound of sweet almonds, take four teaspoonfuls of orange-flower water, the whites of six eggs, and one pound of sifted white sugar. Blanch the almonds (remove the brown skin) and pound them with the orange-flower water, or some of the white of an egg; then whisk the whites of the eggs, and add them gently to the almonds. It is important that these two ingredients should be carefully added, or they will "oil," or separate. Sift the sugar into the mixture until the whole forms a paste, not too stiff to drop upon white paper, which should be placed in a tin, or on a plate, and the whole baked in a slow oven till done.

Curing Bad Habits in Horses.

I have heard that there is no remedy for a runaway horse so effective as a flogging. He must needs gallop; well, my friends, then gallop. I have a good pair of spurs on—in they go. I have a whip, hard, pliant, heavy—lay on thick. Here is a nice, steep hill—up we go. Here is a deep-plowed field—oh, yes, keep up your pace, and how do you like it? I remember a horse-dealer who always cured a fault by indulging it. He had once a brute sent him which occasionally stood still. Farmer Waistcoat had flogged him, and he would not move for an hour. Well, this man took the beast, put him in his break, and drove off. In ten minutes he came to a dead stand. Breaker said nothing, did nothing. Horse didn't quite know how to reply, tried to look back with his ears, waited half an hour, and then began to move on. No, my friend, said the breaker, you stay here all day. The farmers passed him going to market with uncomplimentary greetings. What, can't you make him move? Breaker doesn't look put out, though. Farmers drive on, show their samples, dine at the ordinary, and jog home a trifle merrier, late in the afternoon. Breaker still there master of the position. The horse never stopped again.

How to Cook Salsify.

Salsify may be boiled, cut or sliced, and stewed a few minutes in milk, with salt and butter, or they may be jammed up and mixed with a flour batter, salt, eggs and milk, and dropped in spoonfuls into hot fat and fried till brown. A very small quantity of dry codfish, picked fine and mixed in, increases the oyster flavor.

Manures.

Several letters on the manure question have appeared recently in the Paris *Journal d' Agriculture Pratique*, which sums them up by observing that its management seeks truth, and that it is adverse to any monopoly founded on a pretended superiority. Phospho-guano gives the agriculturist phosphate in a soluble form—an advantage which, it is argued, is not enjoyed by other manures employed in France. The question to be determined is, whether this particular form has any real effect. If the effect produced is considerable, agriculturists will do well to employ this substance, subject to the well-understood condition of reëstablishing the balance of their cultures by adding to the soil at the desired moment the elements received in excess by crops. Farm-yard manure has the advantage of comprising all the elements of crops, and therefore it seems sound advice to say to the farmers, not only of France, but probably of all countries: "Employ commercial manures, but especially increase your farm-yard manure or muck." An experiment was made, March 6, at Coatançon, in the Seine-et-Marne, on the farm of M. Pepin Lehalleur, which had reference to the watering farm-yard manure with one-half per cent. of its weight of double phosphatic acid of magnesia and iron, containing about one-third of its weight in phosphoric acid. There seems to be reason to attach great efficacy to this means of treating farm-yard manures, so as to preserve them from all waste, and at the same time to enrich them with a precious element.

French Potatoes.

The exports of potatoes from France in January amounted to 7,657,727 kilogrammes, as compared with 2,975,950 kilogrammes in January, 1864, and 16,005,117 kilogrammes in January, 1863. The figures were thus in the first month of this year considerably below the level of January, 1863.