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THOMAS K. ROBSON.
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AT
EASTON, Md.

TERMS.

TWO DOLLARS, if paid within the year, o TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS at the end of the year. Clubs of ten, cash in advance $15

☞ No paper will be discontinued, except at the discretion of the editor, until all arrearages are paid. No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months.

☞ Books received free of postage will be promptly noticed under the editorial head.

☞ Single papers five cents.

The Easton Star.

A WEEKLY JOUNAL—DEVOTED TO NEWS, POLITICS LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, ADVERTISING, &C.

VOL. 16--NO. 2. EASTON MD., TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1857. WHOLE NO. 753

IF YOU WANT A GOOD PAPER
SUBSCRIBE FOR
'THE NATION,'

The most popular Weekly in America, which has immediately upon the issue, sprang into an IMMENSE CIRCULATION. This rapid success is unprecedented in the history of Journalism, and can only be accounted for by the fact that the Proprietors have employed, without regard to expense, the *STAR WRITERS OF AMERICA.*

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THE NATION
IS EDITED BY
S. M. BIGELOW,
—AND—
MRS. E. D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH,

who is well known as one of the most popular writers in America. In addition to the above we have engaged as contributors; Clara Moreton, Alice Cary, Mrs. A. F. Law, Mrs. E. F. Ellet, Park Benjamin, Henry W. Herbert, W. W. Fosdick, C. A. Dage, Ben. Casseday, W. P. Brannan, and numerous others.

TO THE FAIR SEX.

We particularly commend our sheet. Their department will be edited with the utmost care, and no expense or labor spared to render the columns devoted to their especial benefit, unusually brilliant, attractive, instructive and ornamental.

The Farmers' and Planters' corner will contain Practical Suggestions and Agricultural Hints, contributed and culled from sources the most reliable, and containing information which will prove to them in the course of a single year, of almost incalculable benefit.

The other departments of our paper will receive the attention they respectfully demand, each being especially and carefully prepared to meet the varied tastes of the several classes of its readers. Among these we may mention original stories and poems, editorial ramblings and sketchings, spicy city news, Washington Gossip, New York chit chat, the latest Paris fashions, practical receipts for the household and toilet, "The Little One's" department, Gems from Prose and Poetry, Reader's Guide, Historical sketches, Translations, &c.

The NATION is issued in Quarto Form, (eight pages,) and will contain at least two original engravings, thus furnishing our subscribers at the end of the year with a volume containing 416 large size, beautifully printed pages of unsurpassed Novelettes, Sketches, &c., together with over 100 original illustrations.

THE NATION is sent at the following remarkably low subscription and clubbing terms invariably in advance.

Single copier.	$2 00	per annum.
Two " to one address,	3 50	"
Three "	5 00	"
Six "	9 00	"
Ten "	15 00	"

☞ And one copy free to the getter up of the clubs.

☞ All those sending us subscriptions from the eastern Provinces, must enclose in addition to the subscription price, 25 cents for each subscriber, as we are compelled to prepay the United States postage.

All letters containing money should be registered, and directed plainly, and they will come at our risk, otherwise we ARE NOT responsible for them.

☞ Specimen copies will be sent free to Post Masters, Agents, and all who wish to get up a club—to all others, on receipt of 4 cents in stamps. The expense of registering is only 5 cents. Address

CROFUT & BIGELOW,
53 Dock St., Philadelphia, Pa.

☞ Among the hundreds of complimentary notices we have received from newspapers in every section of the country, we quote the following extract from:

"The Nation appears in clear large type on snow white paper, and is richly adorned with illustrations."—N. Y. Sun.

"It will attain a high position in the literary world."—Philadelphia Daily News.

"It is one of the best weeklies now published, and we take pleasure in bringing it to the notice of the reading public."—Harrisburg Pa. Herald.

"The talent and energy of the proprietors, its original and interesting contents, and the beauty of the typography cannot fail to secure for it a good circulation."—Williamsburg Va. In. Press.

"As a literary and family journal, we have no hesitation in pronouncing it the best among our exchanges. We advise the ladies to procure it without delay."—Fulton, Pa. Republican.

"We dislike puffing city emanations, but in this case we are bound to give way to merit.—Unlike many city cotemporaries, the Nation is composed of sound substantial and useful matter, and is not filled up with an overdose of flimsy, wishey-washy stuff from the hands of crack-brained authors."—Erie City Despatch.

"It has the most beautiful engraved head we ever saw, and its contents are deeply entertaining, truly delicious and soul-absorbing."—Williamsburg Va. Gazette.

"There is room for just such a paper, and it has secured two as true heads and hearts to control its columns as the literary and social world holds."—Wellsborough Pa. Agitator.

"It will soon become a leading paper at the fireside."—Boonville Mo. Observer.

"We seldom endorse northern papers, but in this instance we are forced to overcome our prejudice, and commend the "Nation" to our readers."—Troy, Ala. Bulletin. [dec9

A CARD.

DRS. J. R. ANDRE & L. C. COX having associated themselves together in the practice of Medicine, respectfully offer their professional services to the citizens of Talbot county. They can be found at all times (except when on professional duty) at the old stand of Dr. Andre, Chapel, Chapel District Md.

N. B.—All persons indebted to me will confer a favor by coming up and settling their accounts, as I wish to close up my old business. This I must do in justice to myself and from absolute necessity.

dec 9 6mo J. R. ANDRE, M. D.

Land and General Agency in Easton, Md.

THE subscriber has opened an Office in Easton for the sale or exchange of any Real Estate either in this or adjoining counties. Having an extensive acquaintance, and application frequent, he flatters himself that it will be to the interest of parties having Lands to dispose of to make use of his Agency.—Terms moderate.

Office in Basement of his residence on Washington street, Iron Railing in front.

R. THARP.

REFERENCES.

Gen. Tench Tilghman, Pres't. Md. Del. R. R. Co; Wm. H. Groome, Pres't. Easton Bank Rd. Thomas, Cashier; Gov. P. F. Causey, Milford Del., Ex-Gov, Tharp, do.; Judge S M. Harrington, Pres't. Del R. R; Hon. Jos. Comegys, U. S. Senator Del.; Charles Emory & Co., Brokers, Philadelphia; T. T. Martin & Bro., 72 South Calvert street, Baltimore; Wm. S. Pawson, 96 Smith's Dock, "
Aug 9—tf

HARPER'S WEEKLY:
A JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION.

ON SATURDAY, THE THIRD OF JANUARY, 1857, HARPER & BROTHERS, *Franklin Square, New York,* will issue the first number of a weekly newspaper, to be entitled,

HARPER'S WEEKLY—A JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION.

They will spare neither labor nor expense to make it the best Family Newspaper in the world—one whose cheerful and genial character will render it a welcome visiter to every household, while its constant devotion to the principles of right and justice shall win the approbation of the wise and the good. Its object will be to set forth sound views on Political, Social, and Moral questions; to diffuse useful information; and to cultivate the graces and amenities of life.

HARPER'S WEEKLY will contain a full and impartial Summary of Political, Social, Religious, Commercial, and Literary News of the day. It will chronicle the leading movements of the age, record the inventions of genius the discoveries of science, and the creations of art. It will in a word, aim to present an accurate and complete picture of the age in which we leave.

It will also give a due share of attention to the taste, the Imagination, and the feelings. Its regular contents will embrace Tales, Incidents of Travel and Adventure, Sketches of Character and Social Life, and Essays upon Art and Morals.

The Publishers have made arrangement with the best American writers, who will contribute to the various Department of the paper. The large space at their disposal will enable the Conductors to avail themselves of ample selections from the best and most healthful literature of the Old World. The first Number will contain the commencement of Mr. Thackeray's New Serial Tale, the publication of which from early sheets purchased of the Author will be continued from week to week until its conclusion. In addition to this they will keep a vigilant eye upon the issues of the English French, and German Periodical press, the best productions of which will be transferred to the paper under their charge.

HARPER'S WEEKLY is not intended in any way to supersede or take the place of Harper's New Monthly Magazine. Each Perlodical will confine itself to its own proper sphere; and no portion of the contents of the one will appear in the other.

HARPER'S WEEKLY will contain Sixteen pages of the *London Illustrated News,* each Number comprising as much matter as an ordinary dudodecimo volume. It will be printed in a form and upon paper suitable for binding; and as the pages will be electrotyped, the back Numbers can always be supplied, so that Subscribers will be able at any time to complete their files.—At the close of each volume, neat and appropriate Covers will be prepared for the convenience of those who wish to bind the paper.

TERMS

HARPER'S WEEKLY will appear every Saturday Morning; and will be sold at Five Cents a Copy. It will be mailed to Subscribers at the following rates, payment being invariably required in advance.

One copy for twenty weeks.	$1 00
One copy for one year	2 50
One copy for two years	4 00
Five copies for one year	9 00
Twelve copies for one year	20 00
Twenty-five copies for one year	40 00

New York, November 26, 1856

House, Sign & Ornamental Painting.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the public, that he continues to carry on the above business in Easton at the old stand of Robinson Stitchberry, corner of Goldsborough and Harrison streets, where he is prepared to execute all kinds of work in his line of business, with neatness and dispatch, and in the most approved manner. GRAINING done in the most fashionable style. He is prepared to take jobs anywhere in Talbot, Queen Annes, and Caroline counties, and execute them with promptness.

Work warranted to give satisfaction.

The public's ob't sv't.

ELY H. FURNISS.

Easton, Nov. 11th, 1856.—1y

NOW IS THE TIME
TO LAY IM YOUR STOCK OF
HARD AND FREE
BURNING COALS.

FAMILIES and consumers of Hard and Soft Coals, residing on the Eastern Shore, Md., will be supplied with the best White and Red Ash Coals, *prepared in sizes for Parlor Grates, Cooking Stoves and Ranges,* in gross TONS of 2240 lbs., at the *lowest* CASH prices. Address orders for Coal as below. Captains of packets receiving *orders* will be entitled to a commision, on delivering the same at our office. *Smith's* Coal and *Lehigh,* for Foundry purposes furnished in any quantity. R. M. JANNEY & CO.

CENTRAL COAL OFFICE.
S. W. cor. Baltimore & South streets.
Balt. Oct. 21—2m

TOILET and Shaving Soaps, colcgne, lavender, and verbena waters, extracts, hair oils, lip salve, tooth, nail hair and other brushes; combs, port monnaies, dentoifices, pearl powder, hair dyes, smelling salts, nursing bottles, cold cream of roses, razor strops, thermometers, apothecaries' scales, &c. Call at the drug and chemical store of

je3 LEVIN H. CAMPBELL.

SELLING off at cost, (not to close business) but to make room for more. I will sell my Summer Clothing which I have now on hand at cost, to make room for the great assortment which I expect soon. Call early and you will get a bargain: a whole suit for little money; and first rate at that. Don't come all at once now, to (jy29) L. NUSBAUM'S.

15.000 LBS. Washed and unwashed WOOL wanted, for which the highest market price will be now ed

sep 2 CRUMPTON & EMORY.

HALL'S Soothing Cordial,—No mother should be without this cordial for children teething—for sale by

aug5 L. H. CAMPBELL.

Poetry.

A POETICAL BOQUET.

We cull the following beautiful poetical boquet from the first number of the "new series" of the *Home Journal* for 1857.—It is rarely we meet with three as pretty original poems in a single paper, but the *Home Journal* excels all its cotemporaries in the beauty of its original poetry, as well as in the learning, variety and raciness which pervades its editorials. George P. Morris is the best lyric poet in America, and N. P. Willis is the finest paragraphist of the age, and it is no wonder that under the joint management of these literary chieftains, the *Home Journal* should vindicate its claims to be the best literary paper published in the United States. The *Home Journal* for 1857 will be the best series yet published, and we commend it to all who wish to take a first-rate paper:

From the Home Journal.

TO MY ABSENT DAUGHTER.

BY GEORGE P. MORRIS.

Georgie, come home!—Life's tendrils cling
about thee,
Where'er thou art, by wayward fancy led,
We miss thee, love!—Home is not home without thee—
The light and glory of the house have fled:
The autumn shiver of the linden-tree
Is like the pang that thrills my frame for thee!

Georgie, come home!—To parents, brother, sister,
Thy place is vacant in this lonely hall,
Where shines the river through the "Jeannie Vista,"
While twilight shadows lengthen on the wall:
Our spirits falter at the close of day,
And weary night moves tardily away.

Georgie, come home!—The winds and waves are singing
The mournful music of their parting song,
To soul and sense the sad foreboding bringing,
Some ill detains thee in the town so long:
Oh, that the morn may dissipate the fear,
And bring good tidings of my daughter dear!

Georgie, come home!—The forest leaves are falling,
And dreary visions in thy absence come;
The fountain on the hill in vain is calling
Thee, my beloved one, to thy woodland home.
And I imagine every passing breeze
Whispers thy name among the moaning trees!

Georgie, come home!—Thy gentle look can banish
The gathering gloom round this once cheerful hearth;
In thy sweet presence all our care will vanish,
And sorrow soften into mellow mirth.
Return, my darling, never more to roam:
Heart of the Highlands! Georgie, dear, come home.

[November, 1856.

From the Home Journal.

WAKING DREAM IN SICKNESS.

BY N. P. WILLIS.

The night creeps wearily. I lift the lamp
To hide the brightness of that morning star
That mocks me with a sleeplessness like mine,
Coldly and glitteringly apart and lone!
How unlike life it is—this sickness-waking!
Conscious of life's enfeebled link no more
The soul feels death-released; and, as the star
Wakes not the colors of earth's slumbering flowers,
Nor warms the darkness of the mountain brow
From which so pathlessly it soars away,
So, with strange lift, unnaturally bright,
The sick man's thoughts soar tracklessly and far—
The pale cheek on the pillow, and the pulse
Of the sad silent heart, made deathlier only
By thought in which their faintness has no share!

Ferm the Home Journal.

THE MOORLAND.

BY T. B. ALDRICH.

"O the dreary, dreary moorland!"—LOCKSLEY HALL.

The moorland lies a dreary waste;
The night is dark with drizzling rain:
In yonder yawning cave of cloud
The snaky Lightning writhes with pain,
And the wind is wailing bitterly.

O sobbing rain, outside my door!
O wailing voices, make your moan!
Go through the night in blind despair—
Your shadowy lips have touched my own!
And the wind is wailing bitterly.

No more the robin breaks its heart
Of music in the pathless woods!
The ravens croak for such as I,
The plovers screech above their broods!
And the wind is wailing bitterly.

All mournful things are friends of mine—
That weary sound of falling leaves!
Ah, there is not a kindred soul
For me on earth, but moans and grieves!
And the wind is wailing bitterly.

I cannot sleep this Autumn night;
The ghostly rain goes by in haste,
And, further than the eye can reach,
The moorland lies a dreary waste!
And the wind is wailing bitterly.

INNOCENCE.—"My dear *Amelia,*" said a dandy, "I have long wished for this opportunity, but hardly dare speak now, for fear you will reject me; but I love you; say you will be mine. Your smiles would shed—" and then he came to a pause; "your smiles would shed—" and then he paused again. "Never mind the wood-shed," says *Amelia,* "go on with the pretty talk."

AN OPINION.—An English cockney at the Falls of Niagara, when asked how he liked the Falls, replied: "They're 'andsome—quite so; but they don't quite answer my hexpectations, besides, I got thoroughly vetted, and lost me 'at. I prefer to look at 'em in an hingraving in 'ot weather and in the 'ouse."

☞ How should a husband speak to a scolding wife? My dear, I love you STILL.

☞ If folly were pain, there would be groaning in every house.

From the N. Y. Evening Post.

HOOPS, SKIRTS AND CRINOLINES.

——"If I knew
What hoop would hold us staunch, from edge to edge
O' the world I would pursue it."

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA.

The grand ball to be given by the Republicans at the Academy of Music on Thursday evening, naturally suggests some reflections upon the leading topics of the day, the inordinate dimensions of ladies' skirts, an article which will enter largely into the Academy on that occasion.

Not three years ago, a hooped skirt was a novelty to the ladies of this country.—Inventions of divers kind—bustles, starch and numerous thicknesses of cloth—were employed to give that graceful expansion to the figure below the waist so much desired by the fair sex, but in vain. Bustles did not exactly answer the purpose, starch was a very unsatisfactory expedient, and the multitude of skirts was a positive evil, interfering with the freedom and grace of movement, and impearing the health of the wearer. Still something must be done. There is not one woman in ten thousand, who, like Rachel, shows to advantage in the simple limber drapery of the classic ages, and who can walk about apparently uncumbered by her flowing skirts. A happy accident brought relief. To the Empress of the French was it reserved to revive the hooped skirts—a fashion which had subsided for many years before the unceasing assaults of the wits and gallants who took a dislike to it.

No one can have forgotten the censures which it provoked in the days of Addison. "I consider woman," says the great essayist, 'a beautiful romantic animal, that may be adorned with furs and feathers, pearls and diamonds, ores and silks. The lynx shall cast his skin at her feet to make her a tippet; the peacock, parrot and swan shall pay contributions to her muff; the sea shall be searched for shells and the rocks for gems; and every part of nature shall furnish out its share towards the embellishment of a creature that is the most consummate work of it. All this I shall indulge them in; but as for the petticoat I have been speaking of, I neither can nor will allow it."

There were other reasons, besides popular satire and ridicule, which contributed to the downfall of the monstrous hoops of former times. They were as heavy with cordage and buckram as the multiplicity of skirts which they supplanted. Their unwieldiness and expansiveness must also have helped to drive them from the fashion.

Fortunately, the inventive genius of our age has supplied the defects and removed most of the objections which were chargeable to the hooped skirts of an earlier pattern. The skirts which are manufactured by Messrs. Douglas & Sherwood of this city, combine lightness with strength and flexibility, to a degree which can hardly be exceeded. Not long since, a "skeleton skirt" was sent by mail from their establishment, folded up in a letter envelope, weighing only four ounces, and yet, on being taken out, it was found as good as new, bursting open and expanding its bell-shaped proportions like a fresh-blown morning-glory, and exhibiting the elastic tension of a well-spread umbrella. Such is the convenience of wearing them, that the first woman of this country thus emancipated from her swaddling clothes—a woman over 80 years of age—confessed that she never had enjoyed the free use of her limbs before.

The styles of skirts are quite numerous, varying in shape, size and cost. Not less than seventy-five kinds are sold at the establishment referred to, the wholesale prices of which range from $6 to seventy-five cents a dozen. There are, for example, the Skeleton skirt, several varieties of the Zephyr skirt, the La Grange skirt, the Congress, La Sylphide and the Union skirt. Silk, muslin, hair-cloth, cactus-cloth, and other materials, are employed in their manufacture, besides the tape, cord, bone and steel which are needed to give them set. In the matter of hoops, a general preference is expressed for the round whalebone, which, when boiled in oil, loses that brittleness which has been the main objection to its use. Some, however, prefer steel, and others insist upon cord, which, with crinoline, constitutes a sort of compromise fashion.

The most popular style of skirts at present appears to be the Union, the Skeleton and La Sylphide. The latter is a simple, tasteful article, bell-shaped, and in size a just medium between the ungraceful straight petticoat, with its folds collapsing round the hips and legs, and the full-blown ultra mode which is such annoyance to the wearers' companions in the theater or the omnibus. It has three bones, the length of which is fifty-six inches at the top, seventy-four in the middle, and ninety-five at the bottom. These are considered the proper proportions, though we have seen some skirts at Genin's, which, at the lower bone, measure no less than 115 inches in circumference. As for the number of hoops, tastes differ. Some ladies go as high as six, while few are content with less than two.

The skirts most universally worn last summer were the "skeleton skirts." They were first made of round whalebone hoops, held together by tape; but these were complained of as being apt to trip up the wearer. A deep border of muslin was then added, which rendered them all that could be desired. Their great merit consisted in their extrsme lightness. During the busy season, three thousand a day were made of this kind alone. Another style is called "the union skirt." It is made of white or dark cloth with the lower part quilted in large diamonds, finished round the bottom with jute cord. Above the quilting is a whalebone hoop, and about a quarter of a yard above that, another. The back is then finished by three small hoops of whalebone, which form skirts one above another, and extend over the hips. These are joined by tapes a quarter of a yard in length, which are suspended from the front of the binding and attached to the hoop in front of the skirt.

In regard to hoops, we are told that every day adds something to the novelties which are said to combine all the advantages, with none of the difficulties, of those which preceded them. The gutta-percha hoops, a late invention, have proved quite impracticable in wearing. They break immediately, and will not bear stretching twice in one place. Another strong objection is the fact, that on becoming warm, they emit an unpleasant odor, which soon renders them intolerable. The steel hoops, a still later production, are free from some of these objections, but are neither so elastic or flexible as the round whalebone boiled in oil, which is the best material for hoops we have seen. Made of very highly tempered steel, they are also very expensive, $6 each being the price asked for some, which were only of common materials. They are very apt to break, an example of which was afforded a few evenings since at one of Thalberg's concerts.—A lady's steel hoop broke and sprung into nearly an inch deep; the wound was very severe, and may make amputation necessary.

Few persons are aware of the extent to which the business of making hooped skirts—a business scarcely three years old—is now carried on in this city. Messrs. Douglas & Sherwood, No. 343, Broadway, besides their establishments in Connecticut and other places, occupy three floors of a building in Broadway, 200 feet deep and 30 wide, in the manufacture. In the busy season, 300 girls, (a charming congregation, by the way, to the admirers of female beauty) earning from $5½ to $10 each week, are employed in cutting out and sewing skirts, three thousand of which are turned out in a day. One hundred and fifty of Wheeler & Wilson's sewing machines, and a variety of ingenious labor saving inventions are constantly in play, so that a *single skirt is made in ten minutes.* We have known a husband enter the store, give an order for his wife's skirt, have it patterned and made, and receive it all done up and ready to be carried home before he had half smoked his cigar.

A ton of cord is consumed in a week in the manufacture, and not less than $6,000 worth of whalebone in a month; and then what acres of muslin and crinoline—what lengths of thread and tape—what enormous quantities of little brazen tubes to unite the hoops, will in process of time be consumed, it has not entered into the head of man to estimate. The imagination fairly breaks down in the contemplation.—Though the new fashion has not triumphed universally, it is irresistibly contagious.—Wherever it is seen it is admired and adopted. Perhaps it is not extravagant to conjecture that the day may yet come, when, secure in these moving towers of bone and steel, our invincible wives and daughters will laugh at the exploded theories of female frailty, and when every woman's petticoat will be her castle.

The impregnability of such a defence is thus illustrated by a Philadelphia poet:—

ALL ABOUT HOOPS.

BY MANY LAYERS.

"It cannot be—it cannot be:
Fain would I grant the claimed kiss;
But, dearest, you must surely see
It never can be done in *this!*"

She pointed to her bristling dress,
With flounced outworks branching off,
Proof against every fond caress—
A silk and velvet Malakoff!

Full fifteen paces round about,
And full five paces through and through,
Ah me, she looked so very stout,
The slender one that once I knew!

I paced my lady round and round,
(Which seem'd an endless task to do,)
In hope some loop hole might be found,
Which storming Love might struggle through.

In vain, in vain—'twas perfect all;
She stood, "the Fashion of the day,"
Whose ramparts, bastion, tower and wall
Might hold belaguering hosts at bay.

Cartained, and fringed, and fortified,
A whalebone "harness on her back,"
And tho' hemmed in on every side,
Intrenched securely from attack.

I compassed her about again,
Resolved to prove a firm adorer;
Found force and strategy in vain,
Laid seige to and sat down before her.

"Starving," I said, "won't make her thinner,
Sapping and mining must not be—
Alas, I've little hope to win her,
Unless she sallies out to me!"

So Ilium holds my Helen-kiss;
I, Greece, will ne'er retire without her,
But, battling daily for my bliss,
Will lie encamp'd ten years about her.

Finding, as fails each desperate cast,
That patience is the better force,
I trust to win the town at last,
The changing Modes by Wooden Horse!

There remains but one objection which can be advanced to the use of hooped skirts, and that is their inconvenience to gentlemen. This objection is by no means insurmountable, as several young gallants within our knowledge have acquired a knack of walking with a lady without experiencing the least trouble from her hoops. The way to do this must be learned mainly from practical experience, but we understand that Messrs. Douglas & Sherwood profess to be able to communicate the art to all who may desire instruction.

Our discussion of hooped skirts would not be complete without the publication of the following lines from the Philadelphia *Bulletin,* by "A. Cooper," which exhibit the subject in a professional point of view:

Hoops on barrels, kegs and pails,
Hoops on boxes, tubs and bales,
Are articles indispensable—
But hoops as they puff out woman's dress,
Making the *woman* seem so much less,
Are things most indefensible.

Hoops, when their sturdy clasp confines
In brown old casks the richest wines,
Are objects of admiration—
But hoops, as part of woman's baggage;
Are like the whoops of a painted savage—
A vile abomination.

Hoops make useful, pretty toys
For active little girls and boys;
But hoops on woman, gentle,
Are things to sneer at and to scoff,
And like the whoop of a whooping-cough,
Neither useful nor ornamental.

For while dear woman bones her skirts,
And with a skeleton flaunts and flirts,
She has so much to carry,
Man finds it hard with her to talk,
And harder still to sit or walk,
But hardest of all to marry.

For when a smitten wretch is seen
Among the lost in crinoline,
The one his heart holds dearer,
Oh! what chill to ardent passion,
To feel that through this hollow fashion,
He never can be nearer.

That instead of timidly drawing near,
And pouring into the thrilling ear
The flood of his soul's devotion,
He must stand and hollow in thunder tones,
Across a half acre of skirts and bones,
As if hailing a ship on the ocean.

And if, by chance, the maid of his choice
Shall faintly hear her lover's voice,
And smile her condescension—
Why he captures a mass of hoops and rings,
Skeletons, bones, and other things
Too horrible to mention.

Thus lovely woman hoops to folly,
And drives poor man to melancholy,
By her great frigid zones;
Then let her hear a warning voice,
Between her hoops and hopes make choice,
And give the dogs her bones.

CHINESE SUGAR-CANE.

Report of Dr. Robert Battey, Practical Chemist, and Graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

D. Redmond, Esq., Editor of the Southern Cultivator, Augusta, Ga.—Dear Sir: I cherfully comply with your request for information on the subject of my observations and experiments upon the Chinese Sugar-Cane as a syrup-producing plant.

My attention was first called to the subject by the seed which you were kind enough to send me in the spring of 1855.—I planted them and raised—say 15 to 20 canes that year—from which I extracted a small quantity of juice for analysis. This juice, as you are already aware, yielded, during the winter, sugar and syrup, samples of which I sent to you for inspection. Impressed, as I was, with the probable importance of this plant to the agriculturists of the South, I did not deem it prudent to speak hastily of its merits—waiting rather, until a repetition of these experiments upon a larger scale should fully establish the opinions I had entertained of it.

The present year, I have cultivated a few more canes for my experiments, and upon the farm of Richard Peters, Esq., Gordon County Ga., I have witnessed the growth of the cane by the acre, and the production of the syrup by barrels. I have, in the mean time, read attentively the opinions of Governor Hammond, of South Carolina, and others in different sections of the Union, who have grown the plant and experimented with it, as also the valuable paper of M. Vilmorin, of France, who has given this subject much study and investigation. So that calmly viewing all the facts which I have been able to collect, I no longer entertain a doubt that this plant is well worthy of the attention and study of the farmers and planters of the South.

If the opinions I shall express should seem to some too wild and extravagant, I trust they will receive them as the honest and candid sentiments of one who has carefully examined the subject and be led to investigate and experiment for themselves. Should I thus be enabled to arouse the attention of Southern farmers to the importance of this plant, my object will have been accomplished, and my labor well expended.

The Chinese Sugar-Cane seems to adapt itself, to all the vicissitudes of our varied climate and soil, with a facility unsurpassed by corn or wheat. In Cherokee Georgia, it flourishes in a high degree of perfection upon soils high and low, rich and comparatively poor, producing heavy crops of stalk, leaf and seed. The experiments of Mr. Peters (which are already published in many of our agricultural papers) present an example of most successful culture. I have found it to grow with me, in all respects, as vigorously as corn with precisely similar treatment. In Allegany Co., Md., a correspondent writes for the May number of the *American Farmer;*—"I think it well adapted even to our mountainous country; and it promises to be more valuable than any other article we can grow for provender. I believe it will produce six or eight tons of dried provender to the acre." The present writer has met many intelligent and enterprising farmers of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, and New York in attendance at the late National Fair at Philadelphia. Many of them had witnessed its growth in their respective States with entire success. One gentleman of New Jersey had grown a half acre of the cane this season. It has been successfully grown in Illinois also, and one gallon of the juice is said to have yielded, by boiling, a quart of syrup of good quality. There is every reason to conclude that the cane may be easily and successfully grown in all parts of our country.

CULTURE.

While it remains in the hands of the few, and commands a price too high to permit a waste, it should be planted for one season with good distance, that the seed crop as well as the cane may attain their highest state of development. I would recommend that the rows should be three, or even four feet apart, and a distance of, say two seed in a place. Let the ground be well cultivated, as for corn and the shoots of suckers which spring up from the root be all permitted to grow. A small portion of the crop should be reserved for seed, and permitted to stand until fully matured and dry. It would be well to limit the canes in the seed patch to one. By all means permit no Broom-Corn, Dourah-Corn, or other plants of the same family to grow near your Cane. It readily intermixes with these varieties, and effectually ruins your seed for the production of syrup. For the same reason; great care should be observed in procuring reliable seed, as well as in keeping them so.

After the first season, when a full supply of seed shall have been secured, a better-paying syrup crop may be grown, by closer planting. The space between the rows may well be narrowed down to three feet, and the seed put in, say two or three every six inches. When well up, the stoutest and healthiest plants should alone be allowed to stand. The cane, when very young, presents so much the appearance of grass, that an advantage may perhaps be gained by dropping some other seed with the cane, that the latter may be more readily distinguished. This of course should be drawn out with the superfluent cane plants. When of sufficient size the plants should be suckered down to one cane for each root. In other respects, the successful grower of corn will not be at a loss in the cultivation of this plant. I have found a suitable time for planting to be immediately after the corn crop, although excellent results have been obtained by planting as planting as late as the 15th of May, Cherokee Georgia. It will doubtless be desirable to make several successive plantings, that they may mature gradually, and so give more time for harvesting the crop. The land, in my opinion, should be prepared in all respects as for corn.

HARVESTING.

When the stalk shall have attained its full size, and the seed have passed from the dough stage to a harder texture, the cane may be considered sufficiently mature.

Prior to the harvesting; a set of proper rollers and kettles should be provided and well set up, ready for service. The mill made use of by Mr. Peters, and which was gotten up under his direction for the purpose, is! in my opinion, of very unexceptionable quality for a small apparatus, and works admirably. It is of a suitable size for a small crop, and no farmer should undertake to supply its place by wooden rollers for a crop of even two acres. The loss of juice will more than counterbalance the difference in expense. It is worked by two mules. Three kettles of from 60 to 100 gallons capacity, will be required to keep peace fully with the mill. It is desirable that these should be broad and shallow, that they may present a large evaporating surface, and substantially set in brick for security and convenience.—They should not be distant from the press and, if upon ground lower than the latter, an advantage is gained in running the expressed juice directly into them, and thus saving the labor of transfer.

PRESSING.

The canes, located conviently at hand, are one by one doubled in the middle and forced between the rollers, which are kept in as close proximity as the strength of the mill and the power of the mules will warrant.

BOILING DOWN.

One of the first things done in commencing operations should be to start the fires under the kettels, that they may be well warmed by the time the juice is ready for them. In regard to the precise amount of concentration to which the syrup should be brought, it is exceedingly difficult to lay down any precise and simple rule which shall meet every case.

Mr. Peters states the yield of his best 8th acre in syrup at 52½ gallons—that of the poorest eighth at 43 1-4 gallons. Taking the average, we have, as the yield of the entire acre, 407 grllons, assuming the yield of juice to correspond with the average results obtained by experiment, say 50 per cent of the entire weight, with proper machinery, expressing 70 per cent. we have a yield of 570 gallons per acre.

The general introduction of the cane must, for years to come, limit the production of cotton and greatly enhance its price, adding a considerable increase to the value of our exports, and counterbalance, in a measure at least, the shipment of bullion from our shores, to restore the balance of trade. This change in our productions, and the increased remuneration for labor consequent upon it, pre-supposes also an enchanced value of the soil which grows it. It is to be hoped, moreover, that the practical working out of this problem may so engage the attention of our people as to withdraw them for a time from the arena of angry strife and contention, and tend to cement more closely the tie which bind us to our prosperous and happy Union. ROBERT BATTEY.

ROME, GA., October, 1856.

PRINTERS' QUIRKS.—During the Mexican War, one of the Newspapers hurriedly announced as an important item of news from Mexico, that General Pillow and thirty-seven of his men had been lost in a *bottle.*

Some other paper gravely informed the public not, long ago, "That a man in a brown surtout, was yesterday brought before the police-court on a charge of having stolen a small ox from a ladys work-bag. The stolen property was found in his waistcoat pocket."

"*A rat,*" says another paper, descending the river, came in contact with a steamboat; and so serious was the injury to the boat, that great exertions were necessary to save is."

An English paper once stated, "that the Russian general Rackinoffkowsky was found dead with a long *word* in his mouth."

It was perhaps, the same paper, that in giving a description in a battle between the Poles and Russians, said that "the conflict was dreadful; and the enemy was repulsed with great *laughter.*"

Again: "a gentleman was yesterday brought up to answer a charge of having eaten a stage driver, demanding more than his fare."

Terms of Advertising.

THE STAR has the largest circulation of any paper published on the Eastern shore, and therefore is the best means of advertising.

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