

CRUSH OUT THE PEST.

ADVICE TO FARMERS REGARDING THE RUSSIAN THISTLE.

Ugly Weed That Threatens to Choke the Grain Industry in the Northwest—It Rolls Like a Ball, Scattering Millions of Hardy Seeds.

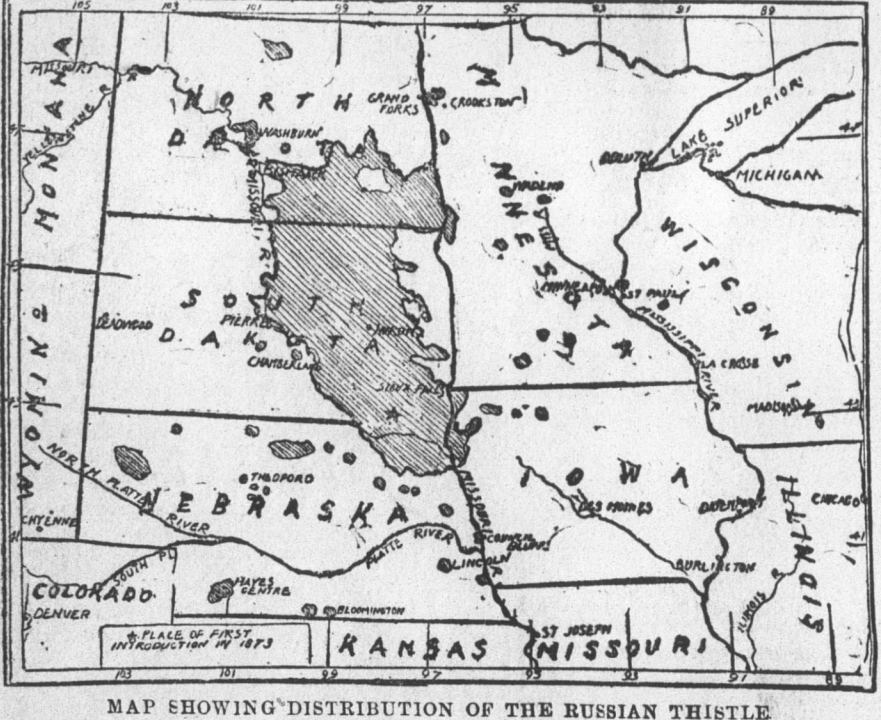
How to Exterminate It.

A party of Russian immigrants, twenty years ago, entered the welcoming door of Castle Garden, followed the trail of home-seekers half way across a continent, took possession of government land in Bonhomme county, South Dakota, and opening the Old World grain sacks, let loose a pest that now threatens the agricultural prosperity of the prairie region of the United States. They brought the Russian thistle. Its seed was mixed up with that of flax, from which they were unable to separate it. Bonhomme County is nearly in the center of the enormous agricultural territory em-



RUSSIAN THISTLE IN NORTH DAKOTA.

bracing the Dakotas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, and Eastern Colorado. It is one of the southern tier of counties, being separated from Nebraska by the Missouri River, and is the third tier west from the Big Sioux River, the boundary line between South Dakota and Minnesota. The land in this section is rather hilly; corn is the chief crop raised, consequently owing to the wooded ravines and standing corn stalks the thistle was at first somewhat slow in spreading. In five years it had taken root in the counties north, east, and west of Bonhomme; by 1888 it had infested the southern tier of counties in North Dakota, had entered Minnesota, and proceeded west to the Missouri River. In 1890 it jumped south across the wide stretch of the Missouri, and the following season traversed the fields of northeastern Nebraska, sowing disaster in its path. Since that time the weed has been steadily spreading until now all of the counties of South Dakota east of the Missouri River, twenty counties in North Dakota, two counties in Western



Minnesota, and four in northeastern Nebraska are thoroughly infested. Altogether this makes one almost continuous area of about 35,000 square miles more or less covered with the Russian thistle in the comparatively brief period of twenty years. In addition it has made its appearance in many isolated localities along the railroads as far west as Denver, Colo., south to Kansas and the southern border of Nebraska, east as far as Madison and Whitewater, Wis., Hammond, Ind., and at two points in Illinois, Iowa and St. Charles. The Secretary of Agriculture reports that the rapidity with which the Russian thistle has spread, both in infesting new territory and in thoroughly covering that already infested, far exceeds that of any other weed known in America. Few cultivated plants even, which are intentionally introduced and intentionally disseminated, have a record for rapidity of distribution equal to that of this weed. It already has caused damage to the estimated amount of several million dollars.

Known as a Cactus.

The plant is known in North Dakota as the Russian cactus. It is neither a thistle nor a cactus, and is not even closely related to either of these groups of plants. The technical name by which it is known to scientists of all countries is *Salsola kali* tragus. The popular title, Russian thistle, is known and accepted, however, by all who are familiar with the plant. When the first specimens were received by the United States Department of Agriculture they were supposed to be the common saltwort (*Salsola kali*), of the Atlantic coast, and were so described in several botanical publications. More careful examination soon showed this to be an error, as the *Salsola kali* has been known along the eastern coast of New Massachusetts to Georgia for nearly a century and has never developed into a troublesome weed. In May and June the seeds germinate, each sending up on a slender stem two narrow green leaves about an inch long and quite similar to shoots of grass. Between these seed-leaves a short stem appears bearing slender spine tipped leaves which later produce branches in their axils. These young shoots are tender, and juicy, and are accepted as food by all classes of farm cattle, hogs, in particular, eating them greedily. But after the plant becomes tough no animal will touch it. It blossoms in July or August, the seeds maturing in September and October.

An average specimen reaches a height of twenty inches or two feet. The width is much greater, being four or five feet across. The shape is that of a sphere more rounded on the upper and lower sides. It forms a dense, prickly mass usually capable of filling a space four or five feet square. The

thorn-covered branches are so dense that it is impossible to pass the hand to the center of the plant. It resembles the tumble weed in appearance, but is much larger and not as compactly knit together. The color is a dark green approaching blue, striped with red, giving the entire thistle a crimson tint. A single, small, green, stemless flower grows in a cup-shaped depression formed by the bases of the leaves. The leaves are small, but each of the numerous branches bears a multitude of them and each one of the multitude is pointed with a sharp, stinging barb. A single plant of average size and weighing two or three pounds at maturity, when dry, is estimated to bear from 20,000 to 30,000 seeds. Single plants have been found six feet in diameter, weighing about twenty pounds when thoroughly dry and estimated to bear 200,000 seeds. At maturity the heaviest and strongest parts of the plant are the seed-bearing bracts. The inner bracts receive little of the wear incident to tumbling about and are only sufficiently strong to hold the plant together.

With the first touches of autumn frost the plant, all except the seed, dies and breaks off from the root. Then the round mass of fiber, seed, and barb starts on a wild whirling, flying before the prairie winds, rolling, jumping and tumbling like a senseless and maddened creature, and unless held captive in some cornfield or fence-corner infests each rod of earth with which it comes in contact with its prolific germ. The seed is inclosed in a paper-like sheath, and together with this is loosely held in place with numerous twisted hairs, so that it is not readily shaken loose from the plant. The thistle may consequently roll about all winter and still retain some of its seed until the following spring. The railroads are one of the most prominent factors in the transportation of the seeds over long distances. The Government authorities claim there is every evidence that they are often carried to uninfested regions in the bedding or litter of stock cars. These cars are sent to the stock yards at Minneapolis, Chicago, Omaha or Sioux City, but after unloading they are seldom cleaned at these places. They are sent with the litter and seeds to various shipping points, where they are cleaned if the amount of the dirt or the nature of the cargo demands it. Rolling plants are sometimes blown into the trucks under the cars and into crevices, in machinery and are thus carried about the country.

Grows in Any Soil.

The Russian thistle grows best on high, dry soil, but it does not despise a foothold in the earth of any character. It is seldom seen in sloughs or lowlands, but they grow on sand banks in the Missouri River, where the land is so often submerged that other weeds do not flourish. In fact, the character of the soil appears to be a matter of indifference to the thistle; it grows equally well in the alkali districts or in the soil free from alkali. It does not take root on the wild prairie, but the seed lies in ambush in the grass; when the farmer turns over the ground in his fall breaking the unsuspected enemy obtains a footing, the following spring it sprouts and an abundant crop of thistles crowds every thing else from the field.

The most serious damage done by the thistles is among the small grains, which grow up in enormous bunches and crowd out the wheat, oats, flax, or whatever has been sown. Patches of thistles ten feet square may be seen scattered all through a wheat field; in harvesting horses will not walk through these thickets unless their legs are protected in some manner. The thistle is particularly ruinous to crops planted late in the spring, or checked by early drought; the thistle, growing at its best in dry weather, crowds or starves out many of the weaker plants, and the greater of those that survive is seriously lowered. The crops of '93 in many flax fields and some wheat land was left standing as not worth harvesting. This year the injury is much more severe.

The smallest amount of damage is done to corn and potatoes for two reasons; one is that the thistles can be plowed up in cultivating these products, and the other that these plants are nearly mature before the thistles attain a large size. They cause great difficulty in running harvesting machinery. In many places binders cannot be operated at all, and even headers are used with extreme trouble. The large, rigid weeds interfere with plowing and continually clog harrows and cultivators.

It was hoped for some years by persons in authority that the Russian thistle might die out naturally, but the facts indicate no such possibility.

Many farmers of the Northwest believe the thistle cannot be exterminated. Some farms are entirely abandoned to it, the owners giving up in despair. But more conservative men maintain that it will be necessary to wage a continual battle with the plant, a vigilant and energetic farmer will

be able to control it, although they acknowledge it brings certain ruin to a careless one.

There is at present no organized effort to wipe the pest out of existence. Farmers who succeed in keeping them from their fields permit them to grow as will on the edges of plowed land and in the roads. They fill up the fresh breaking, the fence corners, and the fire-breaks. Along the railroad grades they are encroaching with a rapidity that implies full possession for the thistles and a neglect of the weed law by the railroad corporations. Both North and South Dakota have enacted laws to prevent the spread of the Russian thistle, but it appears to be long to the class of evils that cannot be legislated out of existence. When a landowner fails to destroy the weed on his property the overseer of highways is instructed to have the task performed and to levy a tax upon the land to reimburse the county. The only effective manner in which to oppose the thistle seems to be to hoe it down before it matures. To plow it under after the seeds ripen is worse than useless, as the farmer only perpetuates the curse in his own soil. If raked in a manner in which a reaper some seed will be left to continue the work. Even burning over the soil does not effect a complete eradication. Farmers, are advised to kill the pest on sight, and keep up the good work without ceasing.

HE HATES FOREIGNERS.

Chang Chitung, a Chinese Millionaire, Who Has Ideas of His Own.

Chang Chitung, Viceroy of Wu Chang, a city of nearly a million people, is one of the greatest men in China. He hates foreigners, and his building railroads because he wants to defend China against foreigners. He has already spent \$10,000,000 on his railroad experiment. It was his gun factory that was burned down a short time ago, and it may be that his immense blast furnaces will be turned to the making of instruments of war. These furnaces are 100 feet high, and they are of the latest European make. He has connected them with snops which cover forty or fifty acres, and there are twenty-five acres of machinery under one roof. About forty Belgian engineers are now on the property of the Viceroy, and if the government would assist, one of the greatest trunk lines of the world could be built. It would go for 1,500 miles through the most thickly populated parts of the Chinese empire.

Generally a Trying Client.

It is in dealing with her own lawyer that the daughter of Eve comes out in her most vivid colors, says the San Francisco Argonaut. When a woman has a lawsuit she, as a rule, mentally selects a lawyer to conduct her case. If, on applying to him, she finds, as she often does, that he is not hankering after female clients, and he observes that he is really so overwhelmed with work that he is taking no new cases, she becomes more convinced than ever that he is the only lawyer to whom she can confide her interests, and she half suspects that his reluctance to accept for her is part of a conspiracy against her rights. She insists, implores, beseeches, entreats, with tears and sobs, and, in the end, the lawyer yields, and takes the case. From that hour his peace of mind is at an end. She is at his office daily and hourly. She insists on confiding to him matters which have no bearing on the case. She puts hypothetical questions to him which drive him out of his wits. She overwhelms him with suggestions and objections to the course he proposes to pursue. She interferes with him in court and almost takes the case out of his hands. At last the case is tried and is either won or lost. If it is won she believes that it is won on its merits; if it is lost, in spite of his blundering. If it is lost it is lost through his mismanagement. Whenever happens, she is in no mind to pay him his fee. It is only by threatening her with legal proceedings that he can collect his cost and honorarium.

No Beans for Egyptians.

We can no longer wonder at the prohibition of these beans (Cyanus nemulbo) to the Egyptian priests and disciples of Pythagoras. A plant consecrated to religious veneration as an emblem of reproduction and fertility would be very improper for the food, or even the consideration, of persons dedicated to peculiar purity. The Egyptian priests were not even allowed to look upon it. Authors scarcely explain sufficiently whether Pythagoras avoided it from respect or abhorrence. However that may be, we need not, in order to ascertain his motives, have recourse to any of the five reasons supposed by Aristotle to the conjectures of Cicero.

Neither can there be any doubt that the prohibition given by Pythagoras was literal, and not merely allegorical, as forbidding his followers to eat this kind of pulse, because the magistrates in some places were chosen by a ballot with black and white beans, thereby giving them to understand that they should not meddle with public affairs. Such far-fetched explanations show the ingenuity of commentators rather than their knowledge. As the Pythagorean prohibitions are now obsolete, perhaps these beans, imported from India, might not be welcome at our tables.—Smith's Exotic Botany.

Remarkable Petrification.

A remarkable case of petrification was discovered when the body of Solomon Kreppes was exhumed in Taylor's Cemetery, near Brownsville, Pa., for removal to another graveyard. The grave was near the fence which separates the cemetery from the national park, and it is supposed that water percolating through the limestone road bed had kept the body covered with a calcareous solution. The clothing was found well preserved, although the burial took place eight years ago. The hair and beard were crisp and felt like threads of glass. The body was entirely turned to stone, and so hard that smart blows with a pick made no impression.

Over Two Miles.

The deepest place in the Mediterranean Sea is midway between Malta and Candia, where the soundings show a depth of 13,556 feet.

ANCIENT OAKS.

Trees that Date Back to the Earliest Period.

There is nothing in the vegetable world that excites more curiosity than grand old trees dating back to a time when man was in the infancy of civilization. And in forest annals no tree affords so many fond memories as the oak. Unfortunately the woodsman's ax has laid low many of these



THE GREAT SALICY OAK.

few stellar remnants of the past, but a noble still remain, venerable in their age and sublime in their growth.

The largest and one of the oldest trees in England, a country that possesses many historical trees, is the great Salicy oak near Northampton. Its circumference at its base, where there are no projecting spurs, is 46 feet 10 inches. One yard from the ground it is 39 feet 10 inches, and at three yards it is 35 feet. The trunk is hollow, and near the ground the circumference of the cavity is 29 feet. Naturalists believe the tree is 1,600 years old.

Near London is Fisher's oak, the trunk of which is over four fathoms in compass. When King James made a journey in that neighborhood, the schoolmaster and all his pupils came out of this tree and entertained the King with an oration. In Sherwood Forest and in other places are historical oak trees dating back to an early period in the life of England.

In the burial ground of Allonville, France, there is an oak tree measuring thirty-five feet in circumference near the base. The lower part of the hollow trunk has been transformed into a chapel six or seven feet in diameter, carefully wainscoted and paved, and with an iron gate to guard the humble sanctuary. Above and close to the chapel is a small chamber containing a bed, and leading to it there is a staircase, which twists round the trunk of the tree. At certain seasons of the year divine service is performed at this chapel. The summit has been broken off many years, but there is a surface at the top of the trunk of the diameter of a very large tree, and from it rises a pointed roof covered with slates, in the form of a steeple, which is surmounted by an iron cross that raises



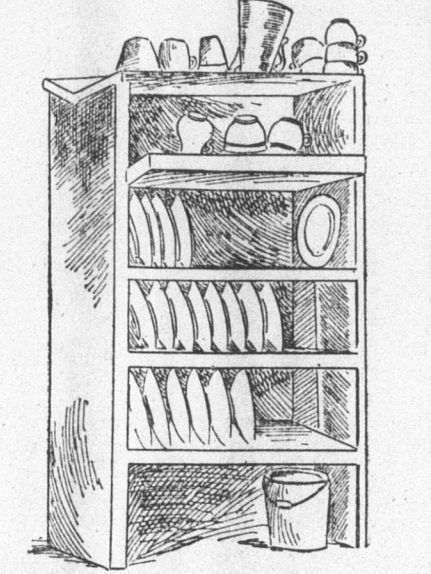
CHAPEL OAK AT ALLONVILLE, NORMANDY.

itself in a very picturesque manner from the middle of the leaves, like an antique hermitage, above the surrounding wood. The chapel was erected in 1696 by the Abbe du Deuil, cure of Allonville. The age of this tree is nearly 1,000 years.

GOOD NEWS FOR DISHWASHERS.

A New Idea That Is Claimed to Be Adaptable in Any Kitchen.

One of the newest ideas pertaining to the kitchen is a rack for drying crockery, as shown in the illustration. Wiping is entirely unnecessary. As a rule, only plates have been dried by merely draining, but this rack allows a complete tea or dinner set to be so dried. It is stated that over



DRYING RACK.

100 pieces can be dried on the rack standing on a floor space of one square foot. The device is so arranged that one piece cannot drip into another. The drainage is caught and carried to a receiver. Any carpenter can make it the required size. This ingenious invention will save the housewife quite a little work, which is not the most agreeable in the world.

But a Slender Thread.

Many a love affair which promised to go on smoothly to the end has been broken off by a mere trifle, said Mrs. Botherwell. An unbecoming gown may wreck a girl's hopes, a hasty word or act ruin a man's chances of success. You remember Fred Clark? He is a good fellow, though perhaps not the bravest in the world. Last summer I introduced him to one of my guests, and he took a great fancy to her. Of course I did everything in my power to throw them together, and they were setting along the back seat and were setting along flatterly. He had reached the point where he told her he could not live without her, when the road took an abrupt turn, and the whistle of an approaching train sounded. It seemed right upon us, though it really was on the other side of the hill. Well, he flew out on one side of the wagon and she out on the other, and when we turned around to look for them, they had disappeared. One of the boys jumped out and helped her back into the wagon, and some one rescued him, but she was so indignant to think that he had jumped without caring what became of her that she

hardly spoke to him again. So you see that match was spoiled. Then there was Maud Atherton. A young man who had been devoted to her for some months invited her to join a yachting party. She determined not to run the risk of being seasick, so as a preventive measure, took any amount of smelling salts, lemons and other things with her, and to crown all, wore several mustard plasters. She was not seasick, but presently she began to suffer agonies from the plasters, and though she smiled and tried to look natural she squirmed and twitched in a manner fearful to behold. Of course her companion noticed her apparent restlessness. He said nothing, but after that day she knew him no more. He afterwards declared that she was the most nervous girl he ever saw—just twitching all the time—and he had no intention of marrying a woman on the verge of nervous prostration. So you see what trifles will break young love's slender thread.

SLEEVES UNLIKE THE BODICE.

This Is the Latest French Frill to Reach New York.

Not long ago it was a new frill of fashion to wear a bodice of one color with a skirt of another. The more unlike the better the combination. Now the frill has extended, and not only are bodices and skirts different,



THE ZEBRA SLEEVE.

but the bodice itself is made with sleeves which look as though they had been designed for any other bodice than the one to which they are attached.

A new model for a dinner bodice illustrates this idea. It is made of white crepe de Chine, cut low and gathered slightly toward the waist line. The large revers, which fold back from the low-cut neck, are of white moire, outlined with two rows of the finest gilt braid. These revers are fastened to the corsage with small gilt buttons. The sleeves consist of a huge puff to the elbow. They are of black silk, striped with gay lines of geranium-pink. Gauntlet cuffs of the white moire, edged gilt braid, make a unique finish to these conspicuous sleeves. A narrow band of geranium-pink velvet outlines the waist of the bodice, and from a rosette at each side two loops of the velvet are caught.

Poultry Raising Mortgages.

A Maine woman tells how she lifted a \$500 mortgage from her home by gardening and poultry raising. She had common chickens, and sold eggs and market poultry. She had five \$100 notes to meet, paying off one note each year with interest. At the end of five years she had her home cleared and money in the bank. Besides she had made various improvements during this time, schooled and clothed her children, paid taxes and insurance, etc. She said she made up her mind to succeed, and she did, although her friends advised her at the start to "let her home go for what she could get for it," as she would never be able to pay off "that big mortgage." This is but one of many instances where a woman has proved herself mortgagee. Of course this woman had the advantage of a garden; besides, she did sewing and other work. But it goes to show that poultry culture, rightly understood and followed, is a great help in replenishing one's purse in time of need. What this woman did can be done by anybody who has the will.

Mostly a Native.

"Are you a native of this parish?" asked a Scotch Sheriff of a witness who was summoned to testify in a case of illicit distilling.

"Maistry, yer honor," was the reply.

"I mean were you born in the parish?"

"Na, I wasna born in this parish, but I'm maist a native for a' that."

"You came here when you were a child, I suppose you mean?" said the Sheriff.

"Na, sir, I'm here about sax years noo."

"Then how do you come to be nearly a native of the parish?"

"Weel, ye see, when I came here sax years sin' I jist weighed eight stane, an' I'm seventeen stane noo, sae ye see that about nine stane o' me belongs to this parish an' the ither eight comes from Camlockie."

No Hope for Them.

Dr. Paul Garnier, of Paris, has made a special study of those slum children that are the offspring of habitual drunkards. He says: "There is a flaw in the very nature of these young wretches that the psychologist sees clearly and notes with apprehension—the absence of affectionate emotions, and where they did not become lunatics they show insensibility and pitilessness."

Cocoa-nut Butter.

There are several factories in India and one, at least, in Europe, that at Mannheim, Germany, where butter is made from cocoanuts.

Who Made the Tent?

The Mohammedans teach that Adam and Eve once lived in a tent on what is now the site of the temple at Mecca.

CORN COB ARM.

Familiar Natural Freak Owned by a Gentleman in Kentucky.

The likeness of a human arm and hand presented in every detail upon a common corn cob is the freak of nature owned by C. B. Cundiff, of Somerset, Ky. Two years ago it was found growing upon its parent stalk in a field near that city, owned by William Anderson. When the ear was pulled it was thought to be one of those frequent bunches found in every field. It was husked and thrown into the crib until the following autumn. When it came to shelling time the curiosity was developed in all of its fullness.



CORN COB ARM.

Among the superstitious it created a feeling of alarm, just as did the alleged "handwriting of the Lord" some weeks since.

The "Corncob Arm," as this phenomenon of nature is known, is, however, a genuine article. After being shown about the county it was finally presented to the present owner, Mr. Cundiff. He has had it measured and photographed for future reference, and prizes it most highly.

The cob weighs 4½ ounces and is 8½ inches in length. From the butt to the palm of the hand is 5½ inches. Its thickness at the butt is 5½ inches and at the wrist 4 inches. The thumb is 1½ inches in length, the first finger 1½, the second 1½, the third 1½ and the fourth 1½. It will be seen by looking at the accompanying cut that the arm, so called, is symmetrical, resembling the gloved forearm of a woman extended as if in the act of reaching for something. A curious thing presented by the fingers is the mark, or crease, upon the inner surface usually made by the joint in the human hand.

It is known that the Indians set a great store by some of the gnarled and twisted ears that were discovered in their harvest. The peculiar formation of the ear is due to the production of double celled blossoms, such as occur in almost every form of plant life. Pumpkins and squashes have been known to take on the likeness of the human face, and the root of the mandrake assumes the form of a man with startling fidelity. This is the first time on record that a useful and nourishing corn plant ever tried anything in that direction.

AMILCARE CIPRIANI.

The Distinguished Italian Agitator Has Taken Refuge in England.

Owing to the stringency of the new French law, many anarchists have taken refuge in England. Probably the most distinguished of these is Amilcare Cipriani, the Italian agitator. He was born in Rimini, fifty years ago, of a family of good social position. At fifteen years of age he entered the army, but deserted twice in order to join Garibaldi. Banished from his advanced opinions, he proceeded to Greece and took part in the insurrection against King Otto. He then went on an exploring expedition to Egypt, where, in the streets of Alexandria, he was attacked by a secret society, of which he killed a member. He then fled to England. Later he went to France, took part in the Commune, side by side with Florents, for which he was sentenced to imprisonment for life, but was released in 1890. Since then he has spent several years in prison and been compelled to leave Italy and France.

Glucose.

In view of the fact that glucose enters largely into the adulteration of sweets, it is consoling to know the product is not harmful. Common molasses is glucose, mixed with a little cane sugar, which falls to the bottom of the cask after long standing. The part of the sugar derived from cane which will not crystallize is glucose. Its non-crystallizability is a characteristic of glucose. Commercial glucose is made from corn, but it may be made from almost any sort of vegetable stuff. It is obtained from cotton rags by mixing with the rags a small quantity of sulphuric acid. Ordinary blotting-paper is treated in the same way with field glucose. Cotton rags and blotting-paper are cellulose, and cellulose is the same thing chemically as sugar, save that it contains more water in each of its molecules. The sulphuric acid takes away the extra water, and the residue is glucose. Glucose is not quite so sweet as cane sugar, but it costs only three cents a pound. So it makes a very suitable adulterant, and for this purpose it is widely employed in the manufacture of candies, jellies and syrups. It is produced in enormous quantities from maize. Cheap jellies are as a rule purely artificial products, composed of glucose, gelatine, cochineal and flavoring extracts. Much of the liquid honey on the market is merely glucose flavored. Sometimes pieces of real honey-comb are placed in the jars of alleged liquid honey to give it a genuine look. It may usually be taken for granted that honey offered for sale in this shape is counterfeit. Samples of honey which claim to be of the greatest purity are most apt to be false. What an immense fraud this is may be judged when it is considered that honey costs twenty cents a pound and glucose three cents a pound.

Boarding House News.

In California there is a prune orchard of over 3,000 acres.

Thieves in Chicago are evidently early and active in planning for their winter campaign. They have stolen several iron lamp-posts in the Hinman street district, and now the police are wondering where the property and the miscreants have gone. Still, there have been graver and more audacious crimes in that town. Some thieves do not stop at street lamps. They steal the street.

Fashions are not made by fools, but for them.

HUMOR OF THE WEEK.

STORIES TOLD BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Many Odd, Curious, and Laughable Phases of Human Nature Graphically Portrayed by Eminent Word Artists of Our Own Day.—A Budget of Fun.

Sprinkles of Spice.

WHEN a man commits suicide by drowning can it be said that he liquidates the debt of nature?—Quips.

A TEXT for dress-reformers: "Woe to the women that sew pillows to all arm-holes."—Ezekiel, xlii. 18.—Truth.

THE trouble is that a girl in love never looks into the future any further than the next night he is coming.—Aitchison Globe.

THE donkey carries three-quarters of his own weight long distances. This proves beyond all doubt that he is a donkey.—Boston Transcript.

PROPHETIC.—Has she given you any encouragement? Oh, yes! She says she will get all of her father's money when he dies.—Life's Calendar.

It is quite natural that the actors in seashore companies should mistake for applause the noise made by people killing mosquitoes.—Philadelphia Record.

"How'd it come that such an all-around rascal as Lusherly took the pledge?" "Er—I suppose no one happened to be looking."—Buffalo Courier.

RADBURN.—I hear Olcott has been discharged from the police force. Do you know what for? Chesney.—Yes. Refusing to accept a bribe.—Brooklyn Life.

THE Georgia rattlesnake is out in all his glory, and the snake liars are sewing on the buttons and rattling away at a great rate.—Atlanta Constitution.

WE imagine that a woman who studies to be a doctor would have to be examined as to how quick she could get up at night and dress.—Aitchison Globe.

"A bad boy seldom gets his badness from his father," says the Manayunk philosopher. "The old man usually hangs on to all he has."—Philadelphia Record.

THE bicycle girls who wear bloomers are better riders than their skirted sisters, for it is apparent to every one that they get on better.—Philadelphia Record.

NEVER DRINK—"My wife calls me Ducky because I take to water." Old Soak—"My wife calls me Camel because I can go so long without it."—Philadelphia Record.

"GEORGE, father has failed." "That's just like him! I told you all along, darling, that he was going to do all he could to keep us from marrying."—Life's Calendar.

THE Biddle family at Newport (they bathe at Easton's beach): Mr. Biddle—"ay, Emaline, these bathin' suits haint no protection; I'm wet clear through!"—Harper's Bazar.

SHE—They thought the world of each other. He reigned in her heart and she reigned in his. He—And they didn't know enough to go in when it reigned.—Boston Transcript.

SEASHORE MORALITY.—Dan—What's the matter, old man? Can't you find your bathing suit? Van—Gad! I'm not trying to. I'm looking for a better one.—Kate Field's Washington.

CHEER UP, people! Cane-grinding is getting mighty close to us, and candy-pulling time is not more than six blocks away. There'll be life in the old land yet!—Atlanta Constitution.

MR. KILBRIDGE (a visiting Englishman)—By the way, Boston is within a few hours of New York, isn't it? Miss Vinton (of New York)—Oh, dear, no; it isn't within twenty years of it.—Vogue.

AN artist, being asked, "Is sculpture difficult?" answered: "Why, bless you, no! You have only to take a block of marble and a chisel, and knock off all the marble you don't want."—Tit-Bits.

PHYSICIAN—"You must avoid all excitement; avoid beer or wine entirely, and drink only water." "But, doctor, the idea of drinking water excites me more than anything else."—Flegende Blaetter.

MRS. DE STYLE—Have you noticed the quiet dignity and repose of our new footman? Bachelor Brother (a traveler)—Y-e-s, I think he must have been a waiter in a railroad restaurant.—New York Weekly.

JIMMY—"What is this moral courage that the Sunday school teacher was tellin' us about?" Tommy—"As near as I kin guess it, it's the kind of courage that kids has that's afraid to fight."—Indianapolis Journal.

MAMMA (engaged in correcting Johnny)—"You know I hate to do it, Johnny. I sympathize with you, but—" Johnny—"Haven't there been enough sympathetic strikes without your beginning?"—Boston Transcript.

WHAT's all dis kickin' 'bout arbitration?" asked one man of another on the train that was headed for the race track. "Well, ye see, it's a kick for decisions, see? Dey think dat if de gov'ment goes in an' umpires de game dey won't be so many strikes called."—Washington Star.

IDLE IKE—"Walk right by dat teller sellin' shoestrings widout noticin' 'im." Lazy Luke—"Why?" Idle Ike—"Cuz he ain't recognized by our set no more." Lazy Luke—"How's dat?" Idle Ike—"Dis is de third time dat man's been caught tryin' ter earn his livin'."—Brooklyn Life.

IT costs the United States a good many hundreds of dollars to rescue Gen. Ezetas and his officers from the successful Salvadoran revolutionists, and it is going to cost a good many hundreds more to return them to their enemies that they may be shot after the approved Central American fashion. All of which teaches us that it is very good policy for this country to keep its fingers out of the domestic differences of its peppery little southern neighbors.

FASHIONS are not made by fools, but for them.