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VOLUME 2.

DARLINGTON, S. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 24, 1869.

NO. 6.

Selected Story.

THE WAY TO GET MARRIED.

One fine morning in autumn, Lival was taking a walk in the Tuilleries at Paris, and found an open billet containing the following lines: "If the person who finds this paper is disposed to do a benevolent action he is requested to inquire at No. 240 Rue Saintage, for Eugenie de Mirande. Such as may not feel inclined to assist an unfortunate mother are entreated, at least, not to hinder others, and to throw the billet again where they found it."

The young man was no less staggered than Julia had been, and received the same explanation. Affected by the story he offered assistance. "I am not rich," said he, "but a bachelor may, with a little frugality put up a little for the relief of the distressed."

look. The frankness and sincerity of his behaviour, inspire confidence; I like his candor, but does he like me? Perhaps his heart is already engaged. Oh, no! no! in that case he would not have eyed me with looks so significant that it is impossible to mistake their meaning."

Agricultural.

An Essay on Small Fruits.

Read before the Society Hill Pomological Farmer's Club, November, 3d 1869, by Dr. S. H. Presley. The subject assigned me is exceedingly pleasant and deserves far more attention than I have been able to bestow on it. The Raspberry, claims our attention first. For many years I cultivated the raspberry, planting in light sandy soil, on the south side of my garden. I found it necessary to remove the old plants and substitute new ones every fourth year on account of the old plants dwindling and dying out. Six years ago I moved the location, planting on the West side of the garden, and where clay reached within twelve inches of the surface. I dug a ditch two feet wide and of the same depth and filled it with surface earth from woods, mixed with the clay taken from the ditch, and the second year the change, both as to the size and quantity of the fruit astonished me. During the war, I occasionally sent some of my raspberries to a refugee who had formerly lived in the upper country, and he told me he had never seen as fine berries except in Pendleton. This leads us to the conclusion that the most suitable soil for the raspberry is a mixed clay soil, and the location, having a Northern and Eastern aspect, protected from the heat of the South Western sun. Our views of the necessity of a clay soil are strengthened by the fact that the raspberry flourishes most in the upper Districts of our State, where the soil is generally clay, and further by the fact that the efforts to cultivate the fruit in the lower country have proved almost a failure. I have cultivated only two kinds, one, the Antwerp, the other one of the purple varieties, for which I have no name. J. P. Berkman, of Augusta, speaks favorably of the Catawissa, which produces an abundance of fruit from June to November. He also recommends the Imperial red. I have cultivated neither of the above named varieties, but can confidently recommend them on his authority. As to the Strawberry, there is no other fruit so variable. Nearly each section of the country, has its best variety, which trial proves undesirable in any other section. The one best for our section, is the one best for the section to which it is adapted. We would choose a different variety from one who plant for the market, because the latter must have such as are carriage, and some varieties of high flavor and quite productive, and too tender and melting to be carried any considerable distance. No Strawberry has yet been introduced, having all the requisites needed, to make it perfectly satisfactory. These requisites are 1st, hardness, winter and summer. 2nd, productivity. 3rd, high flavor. 4th, good size and color. 5th, firmness. 6th, a strong, high fruit-stalk. Through all these requisites may be found distributed among several varieties, yet it may well be doubted whether the price of cross breeding will ever be entirely successful so as to unite all these qualities in one variety. Some persons even add to the above a seventh requisite, to wit: adaptation to every variety of soil and climate, and that is an impossibility. They do not presume to demand this much in plain terms, but rather cover their claim under the term "general cultivation," but if this does not mean "suitable to every soil and climate." What does it mean. Among the varieties for which this requisite is claimed, the Wilson Albany, by universal consent, heads the list, it is hardy and productive almost every where. Yet it has its defects which we will notice and list, in the hard soils of the South it blossoms and fruits too frequently during the winter—and these crops are invariably destroyed in freezing winter so that the cultivator here, gets only about one half of the real products of the Albany. 2nd, It is not of the highest flavor, and 3dly, it is quite firm when gathered, it does not keep well when carried a long distance to market, but with these defects it is all in all the best Strawberry for general cultivation yet introduced. Almost equal to it is the Triumph de Gand, large, more beautiful, higher flavored, a better fruit-stalk than the Albany, but not so hardy in Summer, nor so productive. It has the same defect of blossoming and fruiting in Winter, and though quite firm, it does not keep carriage. For an early berry, and for family use only, the Wardlaw Early Scarlet is unrivalled, as fragrant and high flavored as the wild berry, it unites good size and great beauty with productiveness, its chief merit for home use—melting pulp—makes it wholly unfit for market. The Fendley Seedling has been discarded from cultivation, yet it is of fine size, delightful flavor, has a strong fruit stalk, and bears carriage to market, better than any other berry. It was rejected because in many places it scarcely bears at all, and is badly killed by the Winter frosts. The new varieties claiming public favor have not done well in the Southern portion of our country, both the Agricultural and Pongoda have badly and burn up in Summer. The latter greatly lauded by horticulturists around Pittsburg, Pa., in the strong clay soil of that section, it is very large and beautiful, and also very productive, and it is possible that it might succeed with us could we provide it with the same kind of soil. The Charles Downing, lately introduced by the former cultivator, Seth Boyden, is regarded by Mr. Barkman, as quite promising. Its friends at the North, claim that it has nearly all the requisites of a perfect berry. They say it is of high flavor, firm in carriage, and as large and productive as the Albany. The testimony in its favor would warrant its trial by the members of the Club. Numerous Seedlings produced at Charleston, by John Numan, is a splendid berry, large, of high flavor and color, splendid foot stalk, and remarkably fitted for large carriage. It has, however, one defect of the Albany and the Triumph de Gand, blossoming so freely in early Winter, that the advanced portion of the crop is killed by frost. The best method of cultivation depends partly on the variety of berry. It is useless to plant in a stiff clay soil, the large varieties unless the ground be thoroughly pulverized to the depth of 15 or 18 inches, and well manured with clay mould or charcoal dust, a sandy soil does not require to be pulverized so deeply, but should be well supplied with leaf mould or muck, and have a top dressing of ashes or super-phosphate. To keep the berries clean and make them finer and more abundant in dry weather, the ground should be mulched two inches deep with spent tan bark, or with pine straw cut into inch lengths by being passed through a hay cutter. This may seem a great labor, but it is really less than any other method of cultivation. A good mulch keeps down all grass, and the few weeds that rise through it are easily pulled up by hand, and so all hoeing and raking is dispensed with after planting. When the mulch begins to decompose in after years so that the grass seeds sprout in it a portion should be removed and the remains forked in and more mulch should be added. If mulched in this way the Wilson, Albany, and other large varieties are best planted in rows thirty inches wide and 15 inches in the row. The smaller varieties may be afterwards planted to run over the mulch and not to be cut out.

duated. If a candidate puts in half or at least two-thirds of his fee with his petition, he will at least acquire such financial interest in the Lodge that he will not willingly lose all the benefit for the small amount yet to pay. Chapters, Councils and Commanderies do not suffer at all from this evil, as we believe it is now the universal custom to pay the whole fee at once. It is on great advantage to man to be initiated merely, and being totally ignorant of the crowning point in the work, he is in about as much condition to judge of Masonry complete as a man would be of the magnificence of a house by merely looking at the foundation. Strange to say, however, some lectures tell the E. A. that he is a "perfect Mason" in the cellar. Some Grand Lodges have adopted the expedient of trying to force the E. A. to advance by punishing them with a trial or "dropping them from the roll." Such legislation we look upon with great distrust. In the first place you cannot drop a man from the roll when he was never on it; for E. A.'s, are not members, and secondly, you cannot try a man for something he knows nothing about, for an E. A. he knows nothing about the laws; and finally, you cannot drop a Mason without a trial—unless you violate the first principles of Masonic justice. Any E. A. who has to be forced to advance by the terrors of trial, &c., will not amount to much after he has advanced; but if he voluntarily progresses on account of the pecuniary interest he possesses, he will overcome the inertia of his own nature and will eventually triumph and appreciate it. We have come across E. A.'s whom we did not much blame for not having advanced and we have seen men initiated in such a manner that it has been a perfect wonder to us where they got curiosity enough to go any further. If the Grand Master had the right to go into some Lodges and with the sharp crack of a whip waken up and throw some life into the Master and officers, and make them stand up with some energy and do their work as though they and the candidates had souls in them, we would think more candidates learn their work and advance, but being in Turkey we must take the turkeys as we find them; hence if a candidate happens to be able to get through by accident, he will be able to teach the work himself; he sticks on the road, neither he nor his sticks will be any better off. The instructor this jurisdiction never received his degrees in such a way that after he was through, masonically, he did not know enough, masonically, he did not know enough to get out of a shower of rain; but being possessed of an iron will and great ambition for knowledge, he traveled in mid-winter many miles to a neighboring Lodge, and learned the work so thoroughly that his light shone as the meridian sun. If he had stopped as an E. A., Missouri might have yet been in the dark. No man can prophesy what a candidate will be till he is a Master Mason; that point is the keynote to his Masonic existence. The other degrees are the mere stepping-stones to a pedestal from which he is to dictate his career. It does seem to us that this evil is so palpable that it is needless to discuss it, yet, strange to say, we do not know of a Grand Lodge that has applied the proper remedy. Which will be the first to adopt it—viz: the plan used by Missouri Lodge No. 1? In 1864, when put on the committee of Niagara Lodge No. 1 (in this city), to revise the By-Laws of Historical Register, we found on the books nearly sixty E. A.'s, most of them having been years in that condition. We talked with many of them, to ascertain the true cause, and found in most instances that they were of the most trivial nature. In following the By-Laws we insisted on changing the whole scale of prices for the degrees, to meet the largest class of failures to advance. The change for the three degrees was \$60, and we proposed that the E. A., should be \$10, the F. C., \$10, and the M. M., \$10, but the project being a new one, it was opposed, and finally compromised at \$30, for the E. A., (since raised to \$40), and the others proportioned. What has been the result? Instead of adding about five or six E. A.'s, annually to our list of fifteen or twenty proposed we have not added one, except by actual rejection. Other city Lodges, seeing the result, adopted the same arrangements, and consequently St. Louis Lodges have scarcely a voluntary E. A. standing on their books during the five years. The Grand Lodge, in 1866, when adopting the revised Constitution, we urged the same measure there, but some of the members thought it would be arbitrary to the Lodges; and others could not see the necessity, and it failed. We still believe it would be proper, and that it is a necessity for G. L. to decide that a certain percentage of the aggregate fees for the three degrees shall be paid in with the petition. We say it is a necessity, because the increase of E. A.'s, who go no further, is an evil. It is an evil; for an E. A. is next to no Mason at all, and yet by the profane is recognized as one, and not having promised to obey any special law, and—technically—amenable to none of them, they rather add disgrace than credit to the fraternity. In every State but one, E. A.'s, are not members of any Lodge; they are merely students in the mysteries, and have not gra-

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