Downers Grove Acporter.

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

: ILLINOIS DOWNERS GROVE

Nothing is what it is cracked up to

Cecil Rhodes' profits from his diamond mines last year were \$2,500,000.

be except ice.

A Kansas man was whirled around so fast by a cyclone that he stepped on his own heels.

May was a month of disaster.. More than a thousand people were killed by | Why, gentlemen, a 'coon makes one of cyclones alone.

When Queen Victoria puts on her state robes she sometimes wears \$750,-000 worth of jewelry.

Capt. William L. Cash, a famous expert rifleman of Washington, died last week. It is hoped that he was ready cash.

"What will prevent women from pouring kerosene on fires?" asks the New London Telegraph. Well, death usually does it.

Jacob Oppenhelmer of Brooklyn, N. Y., is suing for a divorce because his wife joined a woman's lodge and stayed out late at night.

Many of the "instantaneous photographs of the St. Louis cyclone" produced in the New York papers are much more natural than life.

Thomas Cooper of Jamestown can afford the wind more amusement than any other man in Indiana. His whiskers are four and a half feet long.

People are still chatting about the lawsuit in Paw-Paw, Mich., which made a fifty-cent barrel of sand cost \$60. But there are lots of such cases.

A Denver minister predicts that this country will wade in blood within five years. We think that'll be all right if he will leave eigarettes alone for a while.

Mrne. Nordica married a Belgian tenor in Indianapolis the other day. The first Mr. Nordica went up in a balloon twelve years ago and hasn't come down yet.

If it is true that Gen. Weyler has forbidden the exportation of cigars from Cuba a slump among Cuban sympathizers in cabbage-growing districts may be looked for.

Weather Prophet Wiggins says he called the turn on the St. Louis cyclone. Wig never gets left-according to himself. But we have frequently noticed that he says nothing till after it is all over.

Rev. J. O. Gary, pastor of the M. E. church at Virginia, Minn., is in a peck of trouble over a whitecap notice he has received. But he doesn't propose to go, just the same. He had merely slopped a prize fight.

A very odd case of garnisheeing occurred in Marion, Ohio, last week. Last March C. E. Williams was married by Squire George McKinley, but failed to produce the \$2 for the ceremony. After sending numerous duns, to which Mr. Williams paid no attention, the squire decided to break all records and garnishee the man's wages for a wedding fee.

Dr. Lord Clarence Zeigler advertised in a Chicago Sunday paper for a rich wife. His address having thus been disclosed, he was pounced upon by a heartless tailor who had a bill against hira for a suit of clothes, and the lord was forced to pay. Up to that time the tailor was under the impression that Zeigler had "jumped" the town. Lord Clarence, however, is still in the market.

Charley Gauptlien, an incorrigible Cleveland boy, took a surgical case from the bicycle of Dr. George C. Farnsworth the other day and cut it open with a knife. In doing so he broke the cork from a bottle of chloroform. While peering into the case he inhaled the fumes and was rapidly being overcome when found in a semiconscious condition. He was revived with difficulty.

Briquettes made from coal dust ar likely to find a rival in localities where wood sawing is largely carried on. Good fuel is now being made from wood sawdust, and there is no reason why saw dust, if well agglomerated, should not make excellent briquettes. They ar said to be successfully manufactured in Germany, and in an exceedingly simple manner. When well heated the sawdust becomes sticky, owing to its resinons properties, and then it is compressed into suitable blocks in the usual way. One man with a machine driven by twohorse power can turn out about 9,000 briquettes per day. We should be inclined to doubt the cohesive properties of the sawdust itself. All woods are not alike as regards resin, and in most cases the addition of a small percentage of resin or some other inflammable ag-

The objection to bicycling on Memorial day is that it is not a day for sport. Any one who has seen the hump-backs, the muddy clothes and the dripping countenances of the young men who take part in the race will be willing to furnish affidavit that If there is any sport in that sort of thing it keeps pretty much in the dark.

glomerant might be advantageous.

Ye Tetlech, the tyee of the Hoonans, has been put in prison. Whatever other charges are against this man, that of carrying concealed weapons in | ter.-Rev. J. L. Smith his name should not be omitted.

BROKE UP THE DANCE. The Old Soldier's Pet 'Coon Distributes

His Lond of Bees. The old soldier with the honest blue eyes and the steel bowed spectacles resting on the tip of his nose drifted into the "Broken Shutter" once again last night and insinuated bimself into

the conversation of the sports and allnighters, says the Washington Post. "Say, any of you fellers ever have a 'coon fer a pet?" was the way he attracted attention to himself.

"Get out!" three or four of them

cried. "What are you giving us?" "That's straight," continued the old man and his mild blue eyes twinkled merrily. "I mean a 'coon-a raccoon. the finest pets in the world. Of course its temper is a trifle uncertain and its teeth are sharp. My 'coon used to make raids on my neighbor's chicken coops, but for all that he was a good pet. He was as playful as a kitten and as mischievous as a monkey. I used to put a few marbles in a basin of water and the 'coon would amuse himself by the hour. And like sweets-well, you just ought to have seen him. Thought as much of candy as a girl and as for

miles to raid a bee hive. "I was living out in Missouri in those days and one night the folks at our house gave a shucking bee in the harn and after the corn shucking was finished they had a dance—a regular country affair. 'Balance to the right; partners all; birdie in the cage and all hands around,' you know, fellers; you've

boney-well, that raccoon would go

all been there." The old soldier was patting time now and as he gave out the dance calls in regular country style the boys were at a loss to know just what turn his story would take.

"All the boys and girls of the deestrick were there—girls in loose necked dresses and boys in flippity-flap trousers, wide at the bottoms and baggy at the knees.

"Well, my 'coon had ben out a-huntin' a bee hive and he found one. All the bees were to home and they just lit into Mr. 'Coon. He remembered. then, that he had business at home and back he come to our house, just a flyin and about a bushel of the busy bees a followin' him. He come right into the barn, where the dance was a goin' on. He jumped around, squallin' with pain and sheddin' about fifty bees a

"Well, that was when the fun commenced. The been made for the boys and girls; went down the girls' necks and up the boys' trousers. They got on the baid heads of the old folks and seemed to think the hands of the fiddiers were choice things to make into honey. The folks tried to get out of the door and they jammed it up. The men swore and the women screamed with pain and all the time the 'coon kept running around shedding bees. Well, it ended the dance and killed the 'coon. I guess, fellers, that was a leetle bit the liveliest shucking bee that there ever was in Missoury."

THE CAUSE OF AIR-HOLES Decaying Animal or Vegetable Matter and Its Gases.

Silas Jones is an ancient waterman living on the left bank of the Hudson, a little north of the city line, who makes a precarious livelihood from and on the river, and who possesses much lore gained from intimacy with nature, says the New York Herald.

"Air holes," said Stlas to me, as he pointed toward a large opening in the ice 200 feet from the shore, "are peculiar things. When a child I was taught that they were holes left by Providence that fish could get air. Afterward l was told the books said they were made by springs that were in the bottom of the lakes and rivers. Now, springs that have a flow of water warmer than that of the rivers may have something to do with it, but they are not the principal cause. It is more often air and gas fro cause. It is more often air and gas from decaying animal and vegetable matter in the bottom of the rivers. Matter that is rotting gives out much of warm air and gases and these floating to the surface will lodge in any depression they find on the under side of the ice. There they begin the work of melting, ceeds, as more and more gas collects. I have seen a little bubble beneath clear ice that in a few days worked its way through and finally formed a large air hole, that the continually rising gas kept open for months. I have known the sunken carcass of a horse or a cow to keep an air hole clear of ice all winter. Out in the river beyond the end of a run where waste matter carried by it finds lodgment you nearly always find an air hole and it takes very cold weather to freeze it, for the ice protects the surrounding water and keeps up its

temperature."

Great Moon Dogs in Canada. Persons who were abroad at an carry hour yesterday morning witnessed a beautiful lunar phenomenon. The moon herself was the center of a brilliant white cross, while on either side at a distance of about 16 degrees were what might not inaccurately be called great prismatic parlunions, or moon dogs. Beyond the radius of these and at opposite points of the lunar cross there were rainbow-colored crescents with their convex sides toward the moon, while all about the sky was "hazed" with ever-shifting swarms of ice particles shimmering in the moon rays,-Exchange.

Dancing.

Dancing is evil, because it takes the mind from the duties God has commanded us to perform. Even if it does no harm to some, it should not be practiced on account of the effect it has upon the weak, the unbalanced, and those of excessively emotional charac

IN WOMAN'S CORNER.

CURRENT READING FOR DAMES AND DAMSELS.

Picture of the Out-Door Woman-Brilliant Blue and Orange - Gowns Braided a la Militaire-Answers to Our Correspondents.



HE OUTDOOR woman is everywhere, and a might y pleasant picture she makes in her natty gown, appropriate for such wear. Of course, the "cycling" girl

tet forth. One of the triggest outfits seen is a tailor made suit of snuff brown Scotch mixture, with a three-quarters the foot and heavily stitched on the out- mar it.-Ex. side. The accompanying bloomers are attached to the skirt at the knees in such a manner that no impudent wind! can lift the skirts ever so little. This season for street wear is a part of the is a decided improvement on the usual bloomers and skirt arrangement, and ciety girl of New York. It is a brilliant must relieve the rider of much embarrassment. Over the hips the skirt is made up over the most brilliant of

at the top of the deep hem. It is lined throughout by way of color, with Persian silk in shades of violet and green. The bodice was drawn smoothly over the bust, and cut away at the waist line to display a waistcoat of green Persian silk. The jacket was short and rippled smartly at the sides and back. The entire front was covered with some of the braid set on diagonally, each one finished by a braid ornament. The collar of Persian silk had at the front a stiff bow of black mousseline de sole. Leg o' mutton sleeve, drooping, and finished at the wrists with braid to match the bodice, completed the gown. A strikingly handsome gown of pale tan homespun is elaborately decorated with braidings of hunter's green, interspersed with appliqued leaves of the green velvet. The is the rage, and for expense of these braided gowns is enorher the smartest of mous, but it is fortunately a mode of costumes are daily decorating very easily followed at home, and a handsome gown may thus be gotten up at a trifling cost, provided the gown proper be made by a tailor, length, and a broad hem turned up at | so there need be no home made look to

Brilliant Blue and Orange.

One of the smartest gowns of the wardrobe of Miss Grace Wilson, a sonavy blue serge, very light weight,



SWAGGER BRIDAL COSTUMES.

fitted snugly, and has strapped seams | Persian silk in gorgeous orange, al

held down by horn buttons. with a yoke and pleats reaching from It to the belt; these pleats have cord of the Persian silk at the foot. rounded tops turned over and orna- The bodice has a body of navy blue mented with buttons to simulate tluy pockets. There are leg o' mutton sleeves and a belt of stiffened cloth to match the costume, with a leather buckle. The rolling coat collar shows a glimpse of shirt front, linen collar and

Harvard red tie. There are leggings to match, reaching to the knee, fastened by buttons and straps in the snuggest sort of way There are two hats to go with this suit. One is an Alpine of goods like the gown, all heavily stiffened and stitched and trimmed with a band of ribbons .-Chicago Chronicle.

Gowns Braided a la Militaire. The effect militaire is much sought after in tailor-made gowns, as it has been all season in capes and coats. Perhaps it is but an excuse for the smart braid decoration so popular, or which goes faster and faster as it pro- it may be because the style is so usually becoming. The passion for braiding has even entered the realm of linen gowns, and we see many of the more costly models enriched by quantities of beautiful hand braiding and done in a variety of colors. Black braidings are in vogue on gowns of all



riched by braidings of black silk. The skirt of the serge is wide and flaring and finished with bows of narrow braid | might not of himself discover.

blurred over dull figures in oriental The blouse is in the Norfolk effect, colors. The moderately flaring skirt has no decoration, save a heavy round



closed at the back in the manner of all French gowns, under a mass of rich decorations. Odd pieces of the Persian silk almost cover the back, while at the top of the neck is a deep point of open patterned lace.

Persian silk is drawn across the front, full from the shoulders into a small space at the belt. An oddly shirred vest of Brussels net fits over the front and sets up about the throat in a stiff ruche, topped off by a full frill of silk. The sleeves are in the melon shape, not overlarge, and with the lower arm fitted snugly. The seams are intersected by thick cords covered with the silk to the elbow and finished at the hand by frills of silk and net, set inside the sleeve. The bodice is also trimmed throughout with this rich silk.—Ex.

Ladles' Society.

Robert, who is a young man of 17, asks if he is too young to go in ladies society. Answer: A young man of 17 is not too young to go in ladies' society. The acquaintance and society of refined young ladies would be the very best safeguard for a young man at that age. It would improve his manners colors and are an exceedingly effective | better than any book of etiquette that he could study, since their merry, good A novel gown in thin navy blue silk natured raillery at his defects would serge has the bodice beautifully en- help him early and easily to avoid those things that would render him awkward in company, and which he

AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Ytelds Thereof-Borticulture, Viticulture and Floricalture.

has now been tested here for severa



ULLETIN 56 of the Kansas Experiment Station says An experiment designed to test the value of the theory often advanced that the proper way to treat the corn crop is to give it frequent and shallow culture has been tried here.

years, and while these tests have not established just how often corn mus be cultivated, they prove beyond doubt that it is possible to cultivate it too much. The drawback to the experiment is that frequent cultivation, as for instance twice or three times a week necessitates the stirring of the soil at times when it is not in proper condition to be stirred. In the present case, when rains fell at such times that the ground would be too wet to cultivate on the assigned dates, the cultivation was Jostponed or omitted altogether. There were last year thirty plats devoted to the experiment. Each plat was a long narrow strip only four rows wide, and a guard row separated adjoining plats, so that the treatment of one plant could not affect its neighbor. The rows were 3.5 fect apart and the stalks sixteen inches apart in the row. In 1892, the plats cultivated once in two weeks gave exactly the same average as the plats cultivated twice a week. In 1893, the plats cultivated once a week gave the best yield, and there was a decrease by giving either more or less cultivation. The average for three years gives the best yield to plats cultivated once a week. We have averages for four years for cultivations of twice a week, once a week, and once in two weeks, the yields from the two latter treatments being the best and clmost alike.

Wide Tires for Wagons. . The introduction of broad tires upon all farm wagons and carts adapted for heavy draft purposes alone would do much to improve roads, since half the trouble seems to arise from heavy loads carting over country roads at seasons of the year when the ground is soft. At Tuxedo, where all draft wagons are prohibited an entry unless furnished with broad-tired wheels, the tremendous advantage over the ordinary tires has been plainly proved, for there, even when the roads are softest and at their worst, they never cut up through the constant carting of heavy loads of brick, stone or lumber over them; for the tires, by being so broad that they can not cut in and hence track in the same place, act somewhat like rollers in keeping the roads hard and smooth. So much might be accomplish in this way if every one living in the country, when buying a farm wagon or cart, would not only make a point of getting one with broad tires, but would at the same time exert his influence to that effect with his friends and neighbors. For could the merit of these tires as road-improvers once become known throughout the country, public spirit alone would cause their use to become general and much of the present trouble arising from the deep, rutty condition of the roads would cease as if by magic,-Gen. Roy Stone.

Forcing Plants by Electricity.

The professors in the department of hortfeulture at Cornell have just concluded important experiments in developing plants by electric light. Prof. Bailey said:

"We are highly gratified with the result. We have proved that by using electric light during the day time we can produce lilies fully two weeks before those that are grown under natural conditions. The effect is fully as marked in the case of lettuce, but we found that electricity is a positive detriment to peas.

"We will continue our investigation on different plants, and will ascertain the effects on vegetation of the Roentgen rays. We shall also experiment on plants by electrifying the atmosshere in which the plants are grove."

Insecticities and Fungicides.

The season for spraying our crchards and vineyards is at hand, and it should be attended to at once.

It is estimated that the apple crop

alone in Indiana, in an ordinary season

amounts to approximately 3,000,000 bushels, and it is also estimated that at least two thirds of these would be classed as "seconds" in the market, owing to the defects caused by insects and fungi. This means a direct loss to the farmers of the state from this one cause, of at least \$500,000 annually. This same may be said of all other kinds of fruit to a greater or less extent, so that a set of spraying machinery has come to be just as essential to successful fruit culture as the trees themselves; for it has been thoroughly demonstrated that from 80 to 90 per cent, of the fruit crop can be saved in perfect condition by an intelligent use of the spray pump; and at a cost of not more than 30 to 40 cents per tree. In the application of insecticides it should be remembered that there are hate to deal; one takes its food by eating the foliage, fruit, etc., while the second class sucks its nourishment from the interior of the stem, foliage or fruit. The Tent caterpillar, Canker worm and Currant worm are familiar examples of the first-class, and the plant lice, squash bug, etc., represent i ro age the bearing surface of the canes, the second class. Accordingly insecti- | -M. A. Thayer

cides may be divided into two classes, viz: (1) those which must be taken into the system before becoming active, and which contain more or less arsenic, such as Paris green, London purple and White arsenic, and which should be used at the rate of one pound to 200 gallons of water; (2) those which kill by contact; such as kerosene emulsion, pyrethum, bi-sulphide of carbon, etc. The only precantion necessary here is in the use of bi-sulphide of carbon, which is very explosive when brought near the fire. It is used in the destruction of all kinds of grain insects in bins. To these may be added a third class called repellants-those which by their offensive odors prevent egg laying-such as carbolic acid, soft soap, etc., which are applied to the bodies of trees as a prevention against the attacks of borers. The numerous fungous diseases, such as the black rot of grapes, apple scab, plum rot, etc., require a different class of remedies. The one in most general use is the Bordeaux mixture, which is made by dissolving six pounds of sulphate of copper and four pounds of quick lime and adding these to 45 or 50 gallons of water. The first application should be made before any sign of the disease has manifested itself, repeating at intervals of ten or fifteen days. After the fruit has set a combination of Paris green and Bordeaux mixture will be found to serve a double purpose in destroying both insects and fungi,-James Troop, Horticulturist Indiana Experiment Station.

Soil for Strawberries.

In choosing a place for a strawberry bed, much depends upon the intentions of the grower. The early and late berries bring the best prices. Now if it is desired to have an early crop, we should choose a warm sandy soil and a southern expose. On the other hand, if we want late berries we must choose a cooler, heavier soil and a northern slope. In general, we may say that a soil which will grow fine corn and potatoes will produce good strawberries. The best soil, perhaps, is a deep, strong, sandy loam, but no one kind of soil is equally well adapted to every variety. The soil must be moist but not too wet, and well drained. It must also be naturally rich er well fertilized. Old sed is not to be recommended on account of the presence of white grubs which attack the roots of the strawberry. Thorough preparation of the soil is the foundation of success. The strawberry is not particular as to the kind of manure applied, provided it is in sufficienty quantity. Well rotted stable manure is scarcely to be excelled. A compact of muck and manure is one of the best fertilizers for light soils, ashes are also valuable, especially on sand soils. Concentrated fertilizers are sometimes used with good results, but care must be taken in applying them not to injure the plants. Plow deep. It is well to plow in the fall and replow in the spring, so as to get the manure will mixed with the soil. Subsoiting is recommended but is not necessary. One acre well prepared and cultivated will produce mre fruit than three or four poorly prepared .- A. M. Ten Eyek.

Itlast on Clarer.

G. W. Waters, writing in Journal of Agriculture, says: As the clover is good this year we may expect a lot of bloat in cattle pastured upon it. Remember that it is dangerous to pasture green, sappy clover when it is wet, It is fairly safe to turn in when it is dry, especially if it is dry weather and the clover is a little wilted. If cattle are fed some dry feed-a few ears of corn, some hay or straw-every morning while running on clover, the danger is not so great. There are some remedies that if taken in time will cure. The simplest and best is to catch the animal, force its mouth wide open and keep it forced open. This may be done by using round billet of wood, say three inches in diameter, tied at each end and used in the mouth the same as a bridle bit in a horse's mouth. The animal will work the jaws and tongue and soon begin to belch, then the danger is over. We have used in connection with the stick of wood a drench of soda, but this is not necessary. Benton Gabbert, of Dearborn, says he has seen hundreds cured by the stick of wood in the mouth, and never knew it to fail. So it isn't necessary to use the trochar and cappula. Page - The same of

Cost of Wheat in England,-An exhaustive discussion has been going on for some time through the columns of the Cable, Lord Winchilsea's paper, as to whether or not wheat can be raised in England with profit at 40 shillings sterling per quarter, or about \$1.20 per bushel. The statements of cost per acre vary widely, as they do in this country, mainly owing to differences in estimates of incidental expenses, wear and interest on machinery and cost of manure. Rent and taxes are included in all. Taking four quarters or thirtytwo bushels as the yield per acre these statements give the cost of production at from about \$25 to \$35 per acre, or from about 80 cents to \$1.10 per bushel,

Hotbeds.-The use of hotbeds by farmers is on the increase, especially where summer boarders are kept, and where light sales are made at near-by village stores. The frames used are simple affairs, usually consisting of a cheap board one feet high at the front and eighteen inches at the rear, giving the sash a slope towards the rays of the sun, and at an angle that will give lesr of reflection to them than a flat surface Common sash are used generally on the two classes of insects with which we farm from some old building that has undergone repairs.—Ex.

Pinching Back Canes.-When new canes of the raspberries and blackberries are 15 or 18 inches high, pinch off the top about three inches. This will cause side branches to grow, making well formed bushes, and greatly in-