## FARM.

SEED TESTING.

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1. Object. - For some years past, especially in England, farmers have had their attention directed to the condition of the seed sown on the farm, and in many cases have found that seed is far from being pure, or suited for the purpose intended. It fails in being true to its label; other seeds are mixed with it, especially in the case of grass In some samples many seeds of weeds are found, and in not a few cases there is a lack of germinating power in the seed. These facts have led to the practice among prominent seedsmen of guaranteeing the purity, cleanness and vitality of seeds sold, and it has been observed that during the past two or three years a marked improvement has resulted. Leading Canadian and American seedsmen have also adopted this idea of testing their seeds before recommending them, and find that the expense is well repaid by securing the confidence of the people. With a view to calling the attention of our Canadian farmers to this question of testing seeds, this bulletin is written.

While all failures in germination cannot be attributed entirely to poor seed, there is no doubt that much seed is sown which has very little vitality, and in some cases, especially grass, several varieties spring up where only one is expected. The seeds of weeds, too, are not uncommon in seed a full feed of grain, then leading the grain, and thus at a period in Canadian farming where there is so much interchange of grain for seeding purposes as the present, it is not a matter of surprise that we find weeds on the increase, both in regard to number and variety. Having made some tests in the germinating of seeds at the College during the past year, the results are now published with a hope that they may prove interesting and instructive to the farmers of the Province.

2. Methods. -1. Place 100 seeds between sheets of blotting paper laid on sand, and keep the paper damp in a place where the temperature is about 78° to 85° F. The number of seeds germinated will indicate

the percentage good.
2. Place the seeds on a piece of flannel in a saucer, with sufficient water to moisten it thoroughly. After scattering the seeds (100) on the flannel, put a piece of damp blotting paper over the whole and place in a warm room. Keep it con'inually damp, and in a short time the seed will germinate; the number sprouting will be the percentage of

3. The following method is much more complicated than the preceding, and can only be adopted where the subject is made only be adopted where the subject is made a study. This is the apparatus used at the College. It consists of a hemispherical copper boiler one foot in diameter, fastened to the bottom of a galvanized iron pan, two feet wide, four feet long and five inches deep. The water passes from the copper bellevilge into the passes through four appellation. boiler into the pan, through four small holes, and is made to circulate over every part of it by guides three-fourths of an inch high. Another bottom, resting on the top of these, is firmly soldered around the edges; and under pun with water. After coming from the copper ve sel the heated water runs back and forth several times in the lower pan, and is finally conducted by a return tube lack to the copper boiler, entering near the bottom. Some sand (about two inches deep) is put in the upper part of the year, and on this rest, the boxes at the pare and on this rest, the boxes at the same and on this rest, the boxes at the pare and on this rest, the boxes at the same and on this rest, the boxes at the same and on this rest, the boxes at the same and on this rest, the boxes at the pare and on the same and on the s the pan, and on this rest the boxes, etc., containing the seeds to be tested. This tin box and boiler is set in something like an office desk, about four feet high, standing on four legs, and having a hinged glazed top. Heat is produced by a small coal oil stove placed below. This germinator is well adapted for testing many samples at the same time.

4. For examining seeds as to purity, scatter them on a piece of black cardboard, and the foreign grains are readily observed. If a good collection of seeds, true to their kind, is kept for comparison, the impurities can be easily identified.

## DEPTH OF SOIL FOR ORCHARDS.

soil will respect to its depth, a matter that | the eggs. seriously affecting the success of the orchard. A deep soil invites the roots downward, which, in favorable circumstances, pene trate to a great depth; while a shallow soil with an obstinate subsoil, forces the roots to take a lateral direction, running near the surface, and thus exposed to all the changes and severity of the weather; in an open winter the ground freezing to a depth beyond the roots, thus seriously hurting, if not killing, the trees. There is no doubt that many of the dead trees, and the more numerous dead branches, we meet with, have thus been affected. The plough here cannot be used without harming the roots; hence such an orchard should never be cultivated unless in a very shallow way, which can do but little good; while in deep, loose or leaky soil, the ground may be ploughed the normal depth without any harm, but whether with benefit is not certain, as the roots in the depth find sufficient moisture without the aid of a ground mulch at the

The best orchard I know is on ground of this character; the plough when used seeming to have little or no effect upon the trees, while good crops of beans and potatoes are There never was any manure applied, the ground being deep and rich. shallow soil manure is indispensable to suceess, and this furnished as top-dressing every year or two. Such soil should be kept in grass, which serves to a large extent as protection to the soil, sufficient man-ure being given to furnish plant food for both the grass and the trees. Manure cannot well be spent better than in this way, providing always that the trees receive the necessary attention.

## VARIATION IN THE YIELD OF MILK,

A cor. of the N. Y. Tribune gives the following bit of his experience: in seven minutes a cow giving nine quarts at one milking, she never varies. When I change cows, lest in my occasional absence the cow might resent the presence of a stranger, and the man takes fifteen minutes to milk her, the cow gives a quart or two less. The same happened when because of a badly bruised thumb I milked the cow more slowly than usual. A cow with short teats is milked by using the bent thumb and

quickly as another cow with the whole hand. When another milker strips the cow with the thumb and forefinger the milk always falls off. If, as is most probable, a good deal of the milk is secreted during the milking, the quicker milking should get the most milk, and the quantity should keep regularly up to the standard yield so long as the same quick method is practiced.

THE HORSE'S WATER AND FEED.

The horse should be watered before feeding; at least he should have given him nearly what he wants before feeding. There are several reasons for this. watered freely after being fed the food taken in may be, and usually is, washed out of the stomach before the process of digestion is fairly begun. This forces an undigested mass into the bowels, a char-acter of material the latter are not accustomed to receive, and colic may follow, The sudden taking of a large amount of cold water into the stomach so dilutes the gastric juice as to greatly weaken its effect upon the food. The stomach is also chilled, and digestion is retarded in this way. stomach will hold about sixteen quarts of water, and when thirsty he will rink about that amount. This, if taken before eating his grain, will pass, in part, by that rapid process called endosmose, and enter the system without hindrance to the digestion. One of the worst possible a full feed of grain, then leading the horse to the watering trough, permitting him to drink a pailful or more of cold water immediately upon finishing his feed. To feed and water in this manner is to insure a suspension, or disturbance of digestion, and great discomfort to the animal. A horse thus treated is rendered unfit for a drive on the road; in fact, a drive, except it be a very moderate one, will be under taken at no little hazard to the immediate safety of the animal. The horse should always have water before eating, in amount depending upon whether he is much fatigued or not. - National Live Stock Journal.

Experience teaches us that while irrigation increases the size and quantity of fruits; it, at the same time deteriorates quality and

Near Sprague, W. T., 15,000 pounds of onions were raised on a little more than an acre of ground; 1000 pounds sold for 2 cents per pound, the rest for 11 cents.

An over-reaching horse, one whose hind eet are frequently hitting the forward shoes, should wear heavier shoes forward and light ones behind. The theory is that the heavier hoof will be thrown a little farther ahead than the lighter one.

Four hundred varieties of grapes are grown in California. Twenty million gallons of wine are produced yearly, and grapes are shipped to almost every city and town in the Union, while California raisins are com-peting with the best European products in the markets of the world.

Warm water is an excellent thing for cows giving milk. It is as good as two or it to the oven long enough three quarts of meal a day; but if you mix acquire the desired firmness. of these, is firmly soldered around the content at one corner a tube passes through the bottom, for the purpose of filling the boiler meal and shorts with it, cows must be allowed and shorts with it, cows must be allowed and shorts with the flow of milk. The quantity to diminish the flow of milk. The quantity will vary with the character of feed and the cow. A little good judgment is a nice thing here, as everywhere else.

> The Supreme court of New Jersey has rendered a decision sustaining the theory that a person who puts a barbed wire fence between his land and his neighbor's land is liable for damages to his neighbor's stock by reason of the barbs. The case is one in which a colt was fatally injured. It is said that this is the first supreme court decision against the legality of barbed wire as a line fence.

A hen may be calculated to consume one bushel of corn yearly, and to lay ten dozen, or fifteen pounds of eggs. This is equivalent to saying that three and one-tenth pounds of corn will produce, when fed to a hen, five-sixths of a pound of eggs; but to make the same weight of pork it requires about five pounds of corn. Taking into account the nutriment in each, and the com-Writers treating of cultivation of orchard parative prices of the two, on an average, ground seldom consider the character of the pork is about three times as costly as

# One Way to "Get Along."

Down in the Maine woods half a dozen miles away from any other habitation, there is a cluster of three rather fertile farms. A down-country man, who for some reason wished to go to farming, was negotiating for the purchase of one of these farms, which lie all in a row; and he asked the people who were trying to sell to him what sort of neighbors he would have next

door.
"If I'm to live away out here," said he, "it's important to me to know what sort of

folks I'm going to live among."
"Well," said the other, "you can ask well, said the other, you can ask old Uncle Jerry Jones, who lives on the third farm, or beyond them, how he gets along. He's a an who never tells anything but the truth

The intending purchaser went over to Uncle Jerry, and asked him how he "got along with his next-door neighbors." "First rate," said he.

"Ever have any trouble with them?"

"Not any."

This was enough, and the down country man bought the farm.

He began to be friendly with his next neighbors, but found them very quarrel-some. Their boys got into trouble with his; they complained about his line-fence,

and set their dog on his hens. Whenever he went near them they began to abuse Finally he went to Uncle Jerry and

"See here, Mr. Jones, didn't you tell me that you got along well with these folks here between us?"

Wal, I do.' "How do you manage it?"
"Wal, I haint b'en nigh 'em for nine year !"

Is is stated that the Pope intends in special brief to express his satisfaction at Germany's efforts to establish good relations with the Holy See and the Vatican's inten-

tions to reciprocate. Statistics show that during the last decade the population of Great Britain has increased 12 per cent., wealth 22 per cent. trade 29 per cent., shipping 67 per cent. and the first two fingers, and is thus milked as instruction 68 per cent.

#### HOUSEHOLD.

COFFEE ROLLS. - Take one quart of bread dough and mix with it one half cup of sugar, one quarter cup of butter, two cups of dried currants; make into small rolls, dip into melted butter, place in tins and let rise and

Brough Oysters .- Dry the oysters in a napkin, season with pepper and salt, and broil on a wire-folding grid iron, turning frequently. Serve immediately in a hot dish, with butter.

CURRIED OYSTERS. - Put the liquor drain ed from the oysters in a saucepan, with half a cup of butter, two tablespoonfuls of flour, and one of curry powder; let boil; add the oysters and serve at will.

A rails for 200 miles of road.

Near Tacoma, W. T. M.

TOMATO SOUP,-To one pint of canned to matoes, or four large ones cut up fine, add soda; when it foams up add one pint of sweet milk, pepper and butter, or one cup of sweet cream instead of butter, a few care leaf for any large replied f crackers rolled fine, and serve.

BREAKING GLASS ANY REQUIRED SHAPE Make a small notch by means of a file on the edge of a piece of glass, then make the end of a tobacco pipe, or of a rod of iron of the same size, red hot in the fire; apply the hot iron to the notch and draw it slowly along the surface of the glass in any direct tion you please - a crack will follow the direction of the iron.

To Keep Lemons.—Lemons are a very cheap luxury for those living near cities, or having easy access to rapid transportation, and can be kept fresh for months by putting them into a clean tight jar or cask, and covering them with cold water. Keep in a cool place out of reach of sunlight, and change the water often, not less than every third day; every second day is better. Lemons are excellent for winter use, or if one is bilious or inclined to rheumatism.

Ivory may be cleaned by scrubbing with a new soft tooth-brush, soap and tepid water, then dry the ivory and brush well, dip the latter in alcohol and polish the ivory until it has regained its former sheen. If the water gives the ivory a yellowish tint dry the object in a heated place. If age has yellowed it, place the object under a bell-jar with a small vessel containing lime and muriatic acid, and set the whole in the sunshine.

APPLE PUDDING .- Cut good, tart cooking apples into slices, after they are peeled and cored, and lay them in a buttered baking dish, in alternate layers, with dry bread crumbs. Sprinkle each layer thickly with sugar and lightly with cinnamon, and let the top layer be bread crumbs. Melt an ounce of butter and pour over the pudding. Bake till the apples are done. This recipe may be varied by using apples for the top layer, and covering the pudding, just after taking from the oven, with a meringue made by beating the whites of three eggs to a froth, with two tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar and the juice of half a lemon. Return it to the oven long enough for the eggs to

How TO PRESS EMPROIDERY. - Ordinary flat embroidery may be pressed with a hot iron on the wrong side, laying the piece on a damp cloth; https://docs.this.treatment.would ruin raised work, like ribbon embroidery, arrasene work, etc., a better way is to lay a wet towel on the table or the carpet; spread over this the piece of work right side up, and tack tightly to the floor, taking care to draw it tight enough to remove all wrink-les, let it dry in this position. Some draw work of this kind into shape by holding it over boiling water and steaming it, and then tack out on the carpet as described.

RESTORING PLUSH .-- It is customary to use ammonia for the purpose of neutralizing acids that have accidentally or otherwise destroyed the color of fabrics. This must colors, faded from exposure to light, will look as bright as ever after sponging with chloroform. The commercial chloroform will answer the purpose just as well. This chloroform will be found very useful, as chloroform, which is quite cheap, readily that have been be applied immediately or the color is usuthat have been consigned.

APPLE MERINGUE.-Prepare six large, tart apples for sauce. While hot put in a piece of butter the size of an egg When cold, add a cup of fine cracker crumbs, the yolks of three eggs well beaten, a cup of sweet milk or cream, a little salt, nutmeg and sugar to taste. Bake in a large plate, with an undercrust of rich paste and a rim of puff paste. When done, take the whites of the eggs, half a teacup of white sugar and a few drops of essence of lemon; beat to a stiff froth, pour over and put back into the oven to brown lightly.

To CLEAN KID GLOVES .-- Stains may be removed from even the most delicately colored kid gloves, without injury, by suspending them for a day in an atmosphere of ammonia. Provide a tall glass cylinder, in the bottom of which place strong aqua ammonia. Be careful to remove from the sides of the jars any ammonia that may be spattered upon them. Suspend the gloves to the stopper They must not come in contact with the liquid.

MINCE MEAT is now put up dry, in sealed packages. It is said to be of superior quality, and will keep any length of time, ter or summer, in any climate, and especially and peculiarly adapted for spring and summer use; no risk of spoiling in warm weather; always ready and handy for use.

To remove mildew, rub common yellow soap on the damaged article, and then salt and starch on that. Rub well and put out in the sunshine.

SUBSTITUTE FOR BREWERS' YEAST .- "Boil one pint of hops in two gallons of water (poured on boiling) for six minutes; strain and add one teacup of flour, one of brown sugar, one teaspoonful of salt; no yeast is required to raise; let it stand three days in a warm place, then add three pounds of boiled and finely-mashed potatoes; stir well; put it in a jug tightly corked; put now in a cool place. It should not be used for ten a cool place. It should not be used for ten a cool place. It should not be used for ten days, and will keep a long time, growing better all the time. When this is gone, make a new jug-full in the same way, and mit a grin on his face you doan' suspect dot he hadt a fight mit his wife only fife minutes or dot his furniture whas to be sold cupful is enough for six loaves of bread.

## HERE AND THERE.

HAPPY PEOPLE. Who builds the fire for his wife Much happiness will know in life. Who ashes on his sidewalk throws Will always have more friends than foes. Who doffs her bonnet at the play, Will meet with blessings every day. Who his wife's letters promptly mails, Needs not to tell fictitious tales.

The Queen attended a dramatic performance on Monday, for the first time since Prince Albert died.

The Hudson Bay Railroad, running from Winnipeg to Hudson Bay, will spend \$4,000,000 in construction this year. Three ships are being built at Newcastle-on-Tyne Bay navigation, beside 10 engines and

Near Tacoma, W. T., Monday, a large tree was blown down, falling into a camp where a number of Chinese labourers were mates, or four large ones cut up the said sleeping. Nine dead bodies have been retill done; then add nearly a teaspoonful of moved at last accounts, and a dozen or more

> There are enough unmarried ladies and gentlemen in Elora to make every clergy-man in the place rich—if they would pair off and get hitched. Not only would the clergymen be made happy, but the furniture men, the coal dealers, and the general merchants would all wear smiles of satisfaction.—New N. P. formulated by The Elora Express.

The Pope is pretty well fixed in a worldly point of view. He derives \$540,000 from capital left by Pius IX., and deposited in English banks; \$2,000,000 from rents, and \$3,000,000 from "Peter's pence," the gifts of Roman Catholics in all parts of the world. He has improved on the financial condition of Peter the fishermen, and comes into an estate more like that of "Dives."

What was the primitive pair of skates? A pair of sheep shank bones. The Nor-wegians and the Icelanders used them, and wegians and the Icelanders used them, and perhaps the very poorest among them use them to this very day. An old English chronicler, of the twelfth century, describes how the cockneys of the period skimmed, "as swiftly as a bird flieth in the air," upon these mutton bones. John Bull had not yet discovered his iron mines and his coal six and a half miles above the burning well.

The cost of cremation at Gotha, accord ing to a report recently read before the Berlin Cremation Society, amounts to £21 10s, exclusive of church fees, singing, bell-ringing, mourning, coaches, and urn. An urn may be deposited free of expense in the columbarium for twenty years, at the expira-tion of which time the safekeeping is to be paid for or the urn will be properly interred unless otherwise disposed of by the relatives.

Ocean travellers do not know the terrible ordeal the stokers undergo. The steamer Umbria has seventy-two furnaces, which require 350 tons of coal per day, at a cost of \$20,000 per voyage. One hundred and four men are employed at the furnaces. One stoker tends to four furnaces, rushing from one to another, spending three min-utes at each. Then he dashes to the air utes at each. Then he dashes to the air pipe, takes a turn at cooling off, and waits for his call to go through the same opera-tion. Four hours of scorching and eight hours of sleep make up the routine of life.

The Sioux Indians on the Pine Ridge Agency have established a novel court for Agency have established a novel court for the punishment of petty crimes. The Chief Justice is the celebrated warrior, "Young-Man-Afraid-of-His-Horses," His associate rejoices in the title of "No Flesh." The court was established about two years ago, and is reported to have brought about the most excellent results. Recently, however, the members of the tribe discovered that the court has no legal jurisdiction, and now, when the Chief Justice solemnly sentences them to jail for the commission of some misdemeanor, they coolly snap their fingers at his Honor and walk out of the court.

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY. - With the first of December the Audubon Society for the protection of birds entered on its sevenextent, they are for the most part those of game and domestic birds, and we no lorger see hats trimmed with the heads and wings see hats trimmed with the heads and wings "Well," said Freddy, "we will." of half a dozen small song birds. There is no expense connected with membership in the Audubon Society, which is laboring solely to educate people to appreciate the value of our birds to the country at large. The society wants a local sceretary in every town in the land. Information as to its methods and plans may be had by addressing the Audubon Society, 40 Park Row, New-York City.

# EVERYDAY PHILOSOPHY.

Der poorhouse vhas full of peoples who pelief dot tomorrow vhill bring 'em luck. Der older I vhas der more I pelief dot young folks vhas pecoming wery foolish und

doan' appreciate sometings. No man can buy der constitutional rights of another, but maybe you can lick him und make him afraid to exercise 'em.

When a poy vhas whistling he can't fix oop some vhay to shteal my grapes or carry off my gate.

It whas awful good if you can forgif your enemies, but some mans haf a great deal more respect for you if you whas a hard kicker.

It has taken some men fifty years of hardt work to reach a position in which dey shall haf der abuse of der public for der remainder of deir days.

If somepoby vhas porn mit der feeling dot dis world vhas created for him he vhill shlip oop almost eafery day. No man takes oop more space as four cabbages.

If I like to get oop a quarrel between neighbors I doan' hint aboudt riches, or greatness, or intelligence. I shust make oudt dot one woman's bonnet cost der most,

Charity vhas a great and good thing, but hen we make oafercoats for der shildren of Africa and doan' buy some flannels for our own family maype we hadt better shtop a

pefore, or dot his furniture whas to be sold py shattel mortgage.

## YOUNG FOLKS.

Some Stationary Comets.

Often in the winter there may be seen in the gas region, far up in the sky at night, one or more faint white streaks, six or eight feet long. They look like comets, and the one first seen was quite generally mistaken for a comet. Each one of these is caused by a burning gas-well. The light of the well shines upon the small ice crystals which quite often are floating in the air, far above us, and is by them reflected, or thrown down again, so that we see it, though the gas-well may be many miles from us. Every well furnishes but one "comet,"—as we may call it, for want of a better name, which always appears in the same place. When the lower air also is filled with icecrystals, we see not the comets, but great, fiery streaks, the complete reflections, that reach from the points where the comets were, down across the sky to the horizon at the points where we see the glare of the distant gas-wells.

They stand out against the dark back-ground, like great, fiery rods, a central bright streak, or spine, running through them, which shades off into a beautiful glowing red on each side. They are regular in shape, apparently about twenty inches wide, the sides straight, the top slightly rounded, and the bottom fading away, as it

ranches the flame, in the glare of the well.

No description or pictures of these comets and fiery columns can give a true idea of their strange beauty, which does not become commonplace by reason of a regular, every day - or, rather, every night—appearance, as these phenomena are visible only under certain favorable conditions. Those still, chilly nights, when the sky has a hazy appearance, when a few scattering flakes of crisp, dry snow may be fluttering down, are the nights upon which the finest displays are seen; and several nights may intervene between these curious and beautiful exhi-

### . The Inquisitive Mouse.

A little mouse, unused to the ways of the world, once left its quiet home, and set out upon a journey, and was greatly charmed with many of the strange things that it saw, amongst which was a dear little house, the door of which stood wide open. As there was no one about, it ventured to look in, and saw a bit of cheese suspended from the celling. "That cheese smells very good," thought the mouse, and forthwith walked in, and began to nibble away at the tempt-

ing morsel.
Suddenly there was a sharp noise, which greatly frightened the mouse, but when it tried to run home again, it found the door

I need not tell you what followed—suffice it to say that it never saw its poor father and mother again!

There are traps for children, and very tenpting are the laits hung up to attract them; but remember—the best side of these traps is the outside.

"There is a way that seemeth right unte a man, but the end thereof are the ways of ceth."

## BEING TRUE.

She was four and he was six. She sat on the piano stool, and he stood beside her; and I behind the curtain, heard their talk.

"I picked out the biggest one there was, and brought it on purpose for you and me."
"But we mustn't eat it, because mamma

"But we mustn't eat it, because mamma wouldn't like it; you know she wouldn't like it; you know she wouldn't, Freddy."

"She wouldn't care if it didn't hurt us, and it wouldn't. Who ever heard of an apple hurting anybody? You just take a big bite and then I will."

"No, Freddy, I can't and you can't. Mamma said if they were hard, we musn't."

"That ain't so very had. Mamma is in

"That ain't so very hard. Mamma is in worry. Aunt Mag said it wouldn't hurt us; she said mamma worried at out things. If she doesn't know she can't worry. go behind the curtain and cat it then if mamma comes up, she won't see us."
"No, Freddy. God can see us behind

## New Style of Engagement.

It is said that in some fashionable, or would be fashionable, societies, young ladies and gentlemen have improved upon the old plan of "engagements," &c., with all their unpleasantnesses in case of change of mind, "you know." They come to a sort of tacis "understanding" without the formality of proposing and without either side being generating and without all propositions. proposing, and without either side being so bound either in honour or law as to make the break off a scandal or a law net. They the break-off a scandal or a law net. They in a certain quiet, silent way take possession of each other. They are more to each other than if they were merely what ordinary people call "keeping company" with each other. They flirt furiously. But there is something more even than that. There is, in short, "an understanding." Not a good plan, this we rather think either good plan this, we rather think, either for the one or the other concerned. much as if they were saying, "well, suppose it will come to something definite if nothing better turns up." Oh, no, they are merely better turns up." Oh, no, they are merely "very intimate friends." Still, all the same, when the outbreak comes, and it cames often, the pain is considerable notwithstanding all the protesting. Be persuaded, young ladies especially, have thing to do with those who make it a point never togo further than "an understanding. Such understandings generally lead to mis-Such understandings generally lead to mis-understandings and the less of them the bet-ter. These tacit understandings tell special-ly against the women. It is understood that this gentleman and that lady are on the high road to matrimony; that, in short, the whole thing is settled, though the engagement ring does not flourish on the finger. Others may naturally show off, and ten to one somebody is left very unpleasantly in the lurch. Fooling and philandering for years without getting beyond a silent "un-derstanding" is a very risky business, and something worse than risky, often absolute-ly criminal. The young men perhaps may like it, but the young women had better not like it, but the young women had better not frequent such a fool's paradisc.

Brantford has a young man crazed by love through objections to his suit offered by the young lady's parents.