

THE MICHIGAN FARMER.

A Weekly Agricultural, Horticultural, Family and News Journal.

NEW SERIES.

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THE MICHIGAN FARMER,

A Large Weekly Agricultural, Family and News Paper, designed to interest and entertain Farmers, Stock-Raisers, Fruit-Growers, Mechanics, and the Families of all classes.

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WM. M. DOTY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

E. F. JOHNSTONE, }
MRS. L. B. ADAMS, } Corresponding Editors.

Important Reduction in the terms of the Farmer.

TERMS.—One copy \$1.50; six copies \$8; ten copies \$12; fifteen copies \$17; twenty copies \$22; thirty copies \$32; forty copies \$42; fifty copies \$50 (only \$1 each!) payable strictly in advance.

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Whole Column.—\$100.00 pr. year; \$55 pr. half year; \$30 pr. fourth year; \$15 pr. month.

Read This.

All new subscribers for next year's paper will be furnished with the *Farmer* during the remainder of this year FREE, from the time their money is received. Those getting up clubs should bear this in mind, and forward the names and pay of new subscribers as soon as obtained, so they may have the benefit of this regulation.

New subscribers received during the present week have been credited accordingly, \$1.50 paying from the present time until *January 1st 1862*. We will forward a receipt in full for the *Farmer one-and-a-half years* for every two dollars sent us by persons not now in arrears, or who send enough in addition to pay up their arrearages.

Special Notice.

The time set for receiving arrearages at the advance price expired on Friday of last week; but payments received up to the middle of this week have been credited at that rate. Payments will hereafter be credited at the rate of \$1.75 per year until December 1st, and thereafter at the rate of \$2.00 a year; ~~but~~ but when payment for a year in advance is accompanied with payment for arrears, \$3.00 will pay for two years, if paid soon.

We want to do everything that is fair and honorable, but those who are in arrears should see to their payments immediately.—This paper cannot be afforded at \$1.50 a year, and wait a year or more for pay.—What farmer would sell his wheat, a bushel here and a bushel there, all over the state, at the market price, and wait a year or more

for his pay? He could not afford to do it.—Let all who find an *a* after their name send us three dollars immediately, and they shall be credited at the advance rate of \$1.50 a year, provided they are not more than one year in arrears.

Farmers' Clubs.

If rightly conducted, weekly club meetings, during the season of long evenings, can be made profitable to the neighborhood in general, and to nearly all, if not to every one, of the individual members of the club; for, although all *may not* learn something new to them, which will pay right down for the time required to attend the meetings, the meetings will prove to be a stimulus to each energetic member to accomplish something worth relating, and he will be led to observe and study more than he otherwise would.

We presume each member of a club would actually learn something of practical value that would well pay him for all his time and trouble, provided he be not one of those self-sufficient individuals that will not receive a suggestion from a neighbor because he believes that what *he* does not know isn't worth knowing; but in the former consideration alone, enough benefit would accrue to render the formation of clubs advisable. Furthermore, a club affords an opportunity to cultivate the social faculties, the employment and enjoyment of which afford the true gentleman great pleasure.

Although we do not doubt that those disposed to form a club are fully competent to plan and conduct them properly, it may not be amiss to suggest that the less formal they are the more likely will the members be to enter into and enjoy the discussions, relation of experiences, suggestions, etc. And to give more fully our idea of this matter, we will tell how it would please us to have it conducted, were we one of your number: We would like to be accompanied by our wife and children to neighbor B's, where, the neighbors all having congregated, the women will have their good social chat in one room, while in another we men will talk over our experiences; discuss any new idea about which we have read or heard; take it upon ourselves to try this experiment during the coming season, while neighbor B. engages to try that, neighbor C. another, and so on. We would have a secretary to note down anything of importance; and would go home as early as 9½ or 10 o'clock.

All having taken their usual supper at

home, there would be no need of shutting neighbor B's wife out in the kitchen to get us something good to eat; and she could therefore enjoy it as well as the rest. The next week we would want all the neighbors to come to our house; the next week after go to neighbor C's, and so on through the neighborhood. In a neighborhood where the neighbors are on cat and dog terms, of course this plan would not answer—in fact, in that case we do not know of one we would venture to recommend; but we trust that such neighborhoods are few in Michigan.

There is a club established in Plymouth, and our good friend, Mr. T. T. LYON, will probably tell our readers something about it soon, and may recommend a better plan than we have given.

In Beverly, Ill., there is a Club, and one of the members of it writes as follows to the *Prairie Farmer*:

"As the nights are getting long, and farmers will soon be looking for some way to spend their evenings, I will tell how we have spent some of ours during the last year.—Over a year ago we organized a Farmer's Club, to meet once a week, each night choosing a subject for the next. In this way we discussed the merits and management of all sorts of stock, of grain and fruit—in short, every thing of interest to the farmer. But we were not satisfied to stop here; we wanted agricultural papers. To get these a subscription was raised and quite an amount of money paid in. When one member subscribed enough for a whole paper, it was sent in his name, but small amounts were put together and sent for a paper in name of the Club. In this way nearly a dozen papers were received from almost as many different States. These papers, members were allowed to take home with them, though required to return them at the following meeting, and exchanges made for papers that they had not read before. Our file rapidly increased so that we soon had as many papers as we wished. When the busy time of year came on and the evenings were short, we met only to exchange papers and test some new fruit or vegetable, of which there were one or more varieties present at every meeting.

"Two weeks ago, we concluded the evenings were of sufficient length to renew discussions. The culture and keeping of the potato was chosen for the next meeting, each member being requested to bring samples.—Now this may seem a small matter to some, but many a man has farmed all his life and not seen as good a show of potatoes as we

Farmer Contributors.

1776 to 1861.

BY MRS. M. F. A. CROZIER.

"What's that my son?—did my ears hear aright?
Methought 'twas a bugle-note calling to battle!"
"Aye, father, the soldiers are leaving to-night;
Over the pavement the cavalry rattle."

"The soldiers! what soldiers? when I was a boy
I listed—I fought under Washington—say,
Is't the British again? why, George, tell me why
The bugle is calling the young men to-day!"

"Nay, father, no foreigners ravage the land;
Our country's betrayed by the children she cher-
ished!"

"Betrayed!—Base Arnold was traitor!—whose hand
Dares again threaten the shrine for which brave War-
ren perished?"

Betrayed, did you say? lift me up from my bed!
Have I lived but to die with the country I love?"

"Nay, father, her true sons defend her—your head!
Let it rest on my bosom!—and God rules above
As He ruled when you fought at old Yorktown! we trust
In the Arm of the Mighty, the Heart of the Just."

"Yes, that's right! that is right! trust in God and be
brave!

Betrayed! where's my flag? my eyes! my poor eyes!
I can look on its glory no more! Heaven save
From the dust the proud flag I have waved to the
skies!

"Where's my sword—my old sabre! my son, I bequeath
This relic of liberty's triumph to thee!
I have kept the blade bright! for our country unsheath
The old sword again!—the land must be free!

"And the flag—go my son! I can die here alone!

It is tattered—no matter, the stars are all there!
Go lift the old banner again—I have done
With things earthly—go fight for the flag of your
dread!

"I have thought to be wrapped in its folds when I died,
But I will not, I cannot withhold it to-day!
Take my blessing, my boy! linger not by my side!
Leave the dying old man in his chamber to pray."
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Noted People of the Bible.

BY SLOW JAMIE.—NUMBER FIFTY-SEVEN.

DANIEL.

The history of this prophet seems intend-
ed to show, that some men will be great and
good, in the most unfavorable circumstances.
He was born in a corrupt age. He was car-
ried off to a heathen land. He was raised up
a politician in a corrupt court. He was still
in the condition of a slave although advanced
to high office and power. And Solomon tells
us that the earth is disquieted for a servant
when he reigneth. But the wickedness of the
times did not corrupt his morals, slavery did
not degrade the elevation of his mind, honor
and power never made him proud, and the at-
traction of a pompous pagan worship never
induced him to forget his religion.

Some think he was but ten or twelve years
of age when carried to Babylon. He could
not have been more than seventeen or eight-
een, for he lived through the whole seventy
years of the captivity, and was still fit for bus-
iness, under the Persian dynasty. Why he
refused to partake of the generous fare, pro-
vided for the children in the royal palace,
does not appear. There may have been
swine's flesh used in the preparing of it, or
what is more likely, Daniel considered the
seventy years of captivity years of mourning,
and although his lot fell in a favored spot, yet

he considered it no time to indulge in royal
luxury, while his bretheran were in affliction.

At all events he wished to eat nothing but
pulse, or, as Gesenius has it, greens, and on
this light food he and his companions were
healthier and better, than those who used
richer fare. Perhaps his vigorous old age was
owing in part to the abstemiousness of his
youth. So great was the progress which Dan-
iel and his companions made in study, that
when the king examined all the young men
together, he found the young Jews by all
odds the best. Soon after this Daniel's inter-
pretation of the dream of Nebuchadnezzar
drew him into particular notice, so that he
and his companions were put in important
posts. Here they would have an opportuni-
ty, in many instances, of relieving the oppres-
sion which the poor groaned under, and thus
already were they beginning to be as dew
among the nations. By their faithfulness
they fulfilled Jeremiah's vision of the figs.—
When Daniel had been eight years in Babylon,
Jeremiah saw, in a vision, two baskets of figs.
The one basket had figs large, rich and juicy,
the others were small, tough and wilted. He
was told that this represented the two classes
of the Jews in captivity. When there was an
effort made long afterwards to bring them in-
to trouble about the worship of God, it re-
sulted in a miracle, which caused the name of
Jehovah to be heard of through the whole
empire.

During the reigns of Evil Merodach, Neb-
uchadnezzar's son, and Belshazzar his grand-
son, Daniel was neglected, so that there was
but one to think of him to interpret the hand-
writing on the wall. For this he was made
the third ruler in the kingdom. This was an
honor which he little desired from Belshazzar.
And indeed it was little worth. Already one
post was running to meet another to tell the
king of Babylon that his city was taken at
one end. "The men of war were affrighted."
Belshazzar was killed and the Medes and
Persians took the power.

Under Darius the Median, Daniel was again
called into public employment. Here his fa-
vor with the king excited envy among the ru-
lers, who prevailed on the weak-minded Dar-
ius to sign a decree that there should be no
prayer in the whole kingdom for thirty days.
Now Daniel might have prayed in secret du-
ring these thirty days, and no one would have
known anything about it. But like his com-
panions in the case of worshipping the image,
he took the bolder course, and prayed pub-
licly in his house three times a day, as former-
ly. The spies soon reported this to his ene-
mies, who accused him to the king. Gladly
would the king have spared him, but like many
a one since, he was driven by the foolish pride
of being consistent, to do what he disapproved
of.

By his order the innocent Daniel was put in-
to the den of lions. The next morning bright
and early the king was at the cave, and in-
quired, "O Daniel, servant of the living God,
is thy God whom thou servest continually

able to deliver thee from the lions?" In this
question we see a few beams of light glim-
mering through heathenish darkness. Great
was the joy of the king to find Daniel able to
answer, and to see him come out safe and
well.

Darius the Median reigned two years.—
When he died, Cyrus the Persian, his nephew
and son-in-law, came to the throne. Through
Daniel's influence that liberal minded prince
made a decree giving permission to the captive
Jews to return to their own land. He also re-
turned to them the precious vessels which the
Babylonians had taken from the temple and
gave all facilities for rebuilding Jerusalem.

Daniel did not see proper to return with
them. He lived three years after this, but
still he was now very old to undertake such
a journey; he had no family, and he would no
doubt be more useful to his countrymen by
staying at court to look after their interest
there. He closed his life in Babylon, and the
Bible tells us that he will stand in his lot at
the end of the days.

Home.

A homeless wanderer once sang "Home,
sweet home," and a thousand hearts have
caught up the music of his song, and felt its
vibrations thrilling their very being. The hu-
man soul was made to answer to that melody.
The glorious harp that always lies within our
bosoms, that harp so sensitive to the breath-
ing of the air around it, can but burst into
accord when that air is stirred by the
gushing song of home.

The sick child, absent from the paternal
roof, cries, "I want to go home!" Careless
youth, but a little while away, is often found
in tears for its associations. Young manhood
seeks a life companion, that it may enjoy the
blessing of a home. Maidenhood is very hap-
py with its thoughts of a cottage or a man-
sion where, not a long time in the future, the
girl shall be the wife, and have a resting-place
all her own. Maturity is but a dove upon a
waste of waters, if it have no ark wherein to
fold its wings; and age is blest when sleeping
by the fireside of some loving household, and
and dreaming of a home with the immortals.

Blessings, then, on those who build up
homes that are worthy of the affections of the
human heart! So is earth made more like
Heaven!

M. F. A. C.

From Ingham County.—That Bull!

VEVAY, Nov. 14th, '61.

Mr. Dorr:—Dear Sir, Enclosed I send the
amount which I paid last year for the *Farm-
er*. I have no good reason for not sending
in the amount sooner, except for the past week
or ten days preparing for winter, for Nov. has
kept me at home and I had no one dollar
bills. But the little notice on the first page
of the paper has had some effect on myself,
and I hope it will on others, for I like that
Michigan Farmer. I am taking the *Rural
New Yorker* the present year, besides three
other papers. Well, that is quite a number