

# THE SENTINEL.

Published April 11th, 1860.

Six: In your paper, of the 9th inst., is an article which, whether intended for the purpose or not, is calculated to do me much injury; in which you say, "We regret to learn that, in Medley's district, most of the grain seed with some patented fertilizer promises only a sad failure, the threatened loss estimated at thousands of dollars."

As I am the only person whose patent fertilizer has been used, to any extent, in this district, you must, of course, allude to me; and, inasmuch as the subject of fertilizers is one of great interest to the farmers in general, and, as I presume that you do not desire to do anything to injure me, in my character or business, without giving a fair chance to the public to hear what can be said on the other side, I would respectfully ask of you the publication of the following article:

The fertilizer, to which you have referred, is no secret nostrum, the ingredients of which are unknown to those who make use of it; but, as they themselves mix and make the compost, they are competent, as men of skill and judgment, to decide (as we have done) on the agricultural bureau of the Patent Office itself should have been whether these ingredients would be likely to prove injurious, instead of beneficial, to the land. Do you, Mr. Sentinel, pay much of a compliment to the judgment of that high tribunal, which calls for replies to so many agricultural questions from every quarter of the country, when you state that they give license, as a "useful" patent, to that which is found in reality to work so "sad a failure"? And let me ask you, if you really think that the License that Place, that I give, (see Tipton's Report, page 21) that I give, and a few other similar ingredients, which enter into the composition of my compost, will, indeed, have the effect of working so "sad a failure" in Medley's district? I am convinced, sir, that you being judge, the more general and free the use of such articles may become in the country at large, the better it will be; and the loss of "sad failure" will be likely to follow. Your article, by producing the impression that the use of these ingredients and others of a similar kind, have tended to destroy, instead of to improve, the crop, and to do me and my business so much wrong as to produce in my mind impressions of the most profound regret and sorrow, and which, if I were, indeed, born out by the facts, I much fear would weigh upon my spirits more heavily than the whole amount of interest involved would justify. But, sir, it will doubtless give you, and also your informant, if his heart is where it should be, pleasure to learn that the stubborn facts do not seem to bear out the bold assertions. It is an easy thing to make general assertions; but care should always be taken that they be borne out by particular facts. We appeal to the facts. You say that you learn that the crop promises a "sad failure." But, I would ask, has any body given to your informant a pre-eminence—knowledge of the divining of the future, or even a Witches skill, that he should be not only to prophesy "a failure," but also a threatened loss, "estimated at thousands"? I think that your informant, like the "son ready" witness, shoots a life beyond the mark.

But, what are the facts? Because the compost, at low cost and in small quantities, does not equal the guano, in large quantities, and at high cost, should it be called a "failure"? Freights, seven cents in compost, does not equal six dollars in guano, growing side by side, should it be called a "failure"? It only proposes to enable those whose means do not reach to so much expense, still to supply a good fertilizer. Should more be required of it than it professes? Neither is it claimed that the compost will give more than just straw in height as the guano, and yet is not that the standard by which most judges of it? The compost is expected to feed the grain, not the straw. Again, has it been applied in almost any case as early, or in a large quantity, or after having as much ripeness in its preparation, or made of such ingredients, as the author of the compost has prescribed? In fairness, should not all these things be taken into consideration? And again: The loss, you say, (as doubtless your informant would tell you by asserting) is "counted" at "thousands." In answer, I state that out of the twenty odd persons who have used the compost, many of them are now preparing additional quantities, and few of them would be without the article for its cost; and of all who have used it, we presume that not one will make the cost of the compost many times over, in the fields in which they used it, beyond those in which they use no fertilizer. Among those who have used it, few would be now willing to be without it, and if you doubt the fact, I will produce you the evidence under their own hand, or from other satisfactory sources. I then array those who have used it, and are contemplating further, to the result of the approaching harvest against the vague "promises" which he, a prophet of evil, fear, would be too ready to see fulfilled, both to the injury of the more enterprising farmers, and to the destruction of my long cherished hopes.

Yours &c.  
E. BLANCHARD.

**THE FOREIGN TOBACCO TRADE.**—It appears from the files of the State Department that nothing has been effected by our ministers abroad to remove the restrictions on the tobacco trade, and the latest communication on the subject is from our late minister to France, Mr. Mason, dated August, 1858, in which he says that the French government has no desire to surrender the monopoly in the sale of this article.

**Partly Experiment.**—If an score be suspended by a piece of thread within half an inch of the surface of some water contained in a glass, and so permitted to remain without being disturbed, it will, in a few months, burst, and throw a root down into the water, and shoot upwards its tapering stem with beautiful little green leaves. A young oak tree growing in this way on the quartz shell of a room is a very interesting object.

**The Disappearance at Rome.**—Among the wounded by the late capture in Rome was W. V. Hall, a young Unitarian clergyman, of Providence, R. I., and the brother-in-law of the new French minister to the United States. Mr. Glenworth, the American consul, narrowly escaped being wounded while getting into his carriage in front of his residence. Mr. Stockton, the American minister, has transmitted an official account of the affair to our government. The government of Rome has promised to investigate the whole matter, and to punish the guilty men and officers concerned in the outrage.

**DEATH OF A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.**—A young man named John Ludwig Snyder, one of the soldiers of the Revolution, died in Clearfield county Pa., the other day, in the 114th year of his age. The deceased was born in Michaelstadt, Germany, in 1746, and came to this country in 1759, being then 12 years of age. He resided in the town of Pottsville, Pa., until he entered the American service in 1755, and fought throughout the whole war. He was with Washington on Christmas night, 1776, in the battle of Red Bank, and on the 26th of December, and in the battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777, under Lafayette. He was transferred to the command of Gen. Wayne, and was in his defeat near Paoli, September 20, 1777. He was in the battle of Germantown, October 4, 1777. He was engaged with Washington at Valley Forge, December 19, 1777. He has said that the winter of that year was the coldest he ever experienced. One troop he has said, shot squirrels and drew their skins over their feet for shoes. He was in the battle of Monmouth, June 28, 1774, under Wayne, and was with Wayne at the taking of Stony Point, where the watchword was, "Remember, Paoli, brave boys." He was with Lafayette at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown on the 19th of October, 1781, and, in his own words, "in many more skirmishes that he could not remember the particulars of." This warrior lived down to the fourth generation, and to do me and my business so much wrong as to produce in my mind impressions of the most profound regret and sorrow, and which, if I were, indeed, born out by the facts, I much fear would weigh upon my spirits more heavily than the whole amount of interest involved would justify. But, sir, it will doubtless give you, and also your informant, if his heart is where it should be, pleasure to learn that the stubborn facts do not seem to bear out the bold assertions. It is an easy thing to make general assertions; but care should always be taken that they be borne out by particular facts. We appeal to the facts. You say that you learn that the crop promises a "sad failure." But, I would ask, has any body given to your informant a pre-eminence—knowledge of the divining of the future, or even a Witches skill, that he should be not only to prophesy "a failure," but also a threatened loss, "estimated at thousands"? I think that your informant, like the "son ready" witness, shoots a life beyond the mark.

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**167 ACRES, more or less.**

**TRUSTEE'S SALE.**

**REAL ESTATE.**

**73 ACRES, more or less.**

**A VALUABLE FARM, AT PRIVATE SALE.**

**180 ACRES of Land.**

**A YOUNG AND THRIFTY ORCHARD.**

**Small Farm for Sale.**

**50 ACRES OF LAND.**

**Small Farm for Sale.**

**FOR SALE.**

**A FARM, For Sale or Rent.**

**Four-Horse Wagon.**

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