

over every field, but no
so. We are living in
believing that a few more
days will bring us rain. Wheat
and grass are suffering for rain,
the writing of this we have
a good rain. Corn has been
in better condition than we
knew before, and is doing very
well.

Peaches are uninjured except
Beatrice and Hales, they are mostly
killed.

Pears are not injured, except the
Duchess on some farms. Bartlett,
Howell and Lawrence have set their
fruits well.

Grapes promise an abundant yield,
particularly the Hartford Prolific
which is the best growing variety in
this section.

Apples, quinces and small fruits
promise good crops.

Cherries have been injured and
will not yield more than the fourth
of a crop.

Gardens are rather backward owing
to the cold, dry weather, and vegetables will be ten days later
than usual. If farmers would pay
more attention to vegetables, much
less meat and bread would be consumed.

The flower yards around look
beautiful. There is nothing that
makes home so attractive as flowers
and trees. If we ever expect to enjoy
the Paradise above we should
make our homes attractive by cultivating
flowers—earth's greatest treasure.

Our minister, the Rev. J. B. Mer-
ritt, is universally beloved, his
preaching is plain and practical, and
far above the generality of pulpit
discourses of the present day.

The fishermen are still catching
shad in large quantities and would
be better if it was not for the "Bing"
fish which infests their nets. They
lead a laborious life during shad
fishing, being obliged to drift their
nets all night, but being fixed for
drifting we don't suppose they care
about going back to Stake Nets.—
Stake nets should not have been
broken up.

W. S. Busick, Esq., has recently
put up an Osborn Reaper and Bind-
er. The machine seems to be com-
plete, and no doubt will work well.

C. H. Price caught a turtle in
Loys Creek the other day that
weighed forty pounds. He captured
it by means of his hand and an
oar.

Business is brisk in the village,
particularly among our mechanics.
Several valuable horses have
recently died in the neighborhood of
Kennedyville,—we suppose from
eating to much wet corn. Salt
and ashes are good for stock when
they are out on pasture, and will no
doubt save many of their lives.

We were surprised to hear of the
return of Mr. J. E. Moffitt from Bal-
timore with his bride a few days
ago, and wish him much success.

For the amount of courting that
is going on here, we judge some
minister will be kept busy tying
matrimonial knots this year.

ALPHA.

Still Pond, May 17th, 1879.

Our Philadelphia Letter.

Philadelphia, May 16, 1879.

The heat of the weather for the
last few days has been the general
topic of conversation, every one
met puts the thermometer to 90°—Do
you ever see such weather in May?—
Milkmen and others that have neg-
lected to perfect the summer an-
ticipations are suffering consider-
able losses, and are ill natured ac-
cordingly. The retail dry goods
dealers, however, are quite jubilant
over the increase in business, and the
railway companies are reaping
quite an early harvest from the tide
of travel that has turned toward the
refreshing scenes and breezes of
Fairmount Park.

The Suffolk Park races are
usually well attended this season, at
least 2000 persons being present
yesterday. The Virginia horse
"Wild Air" won three out of five
horses in the first race, and took
three-fifths of the purse. The best
race made in the five heats was 2.30,
2.25, 2.25, 2.24 and 2.26.

Wednesday was the opening day
for the season of the flower mission,
where a number of Ladies of Leisure
meet daily, and distribute to the
hospitals and charitable homes—
Flowers that they receive grati-
tudiously from florists, and others
disposed to cheer the weary hours
of the suffering inmates by cheerful
surroundings. The society while in
session is in constant receipt of
many grateful acknowledgements by
the recipients.

A new branch of industry is to be
opened, or rather, an old one reviv-
ed at the Permanent Exhibition,
namely, a school to teach the cul-
ture of the silk worm, the destruc-
tion of the moth in the cocoons, and
the reeling of the silk from the lat-
ter, which process requires a consider-
able amount of skill. It is not ad-
vocated that rapid fortunes are to
be realized in the business, as, to
make a basket of silk from the
floating debt of the Church.

The Dover *Advertiser* says: "All
the basket factories in the State are
making extensive preparations for
a large trade this summer. The
berry basket machinery is in motion
and the large orders for the same
are being filled."

A Pittsburg paper has taken the
trouble to ascertain the preferences
of the basket factories in the State:
50 sets of Cast Steel Cultivator Teeth,
50 sets of men for President in 1880.—
The fourth of the Republicans
are enthusiastic for Grant, and the
Democrats for Tilden.

The Methodists of Milford are
making arrangements to have a
grand Festival and "Jug-Breaking"
on or about the 10th of June for the
purpose of raising funds to pay off
the floating debt of the Church.

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