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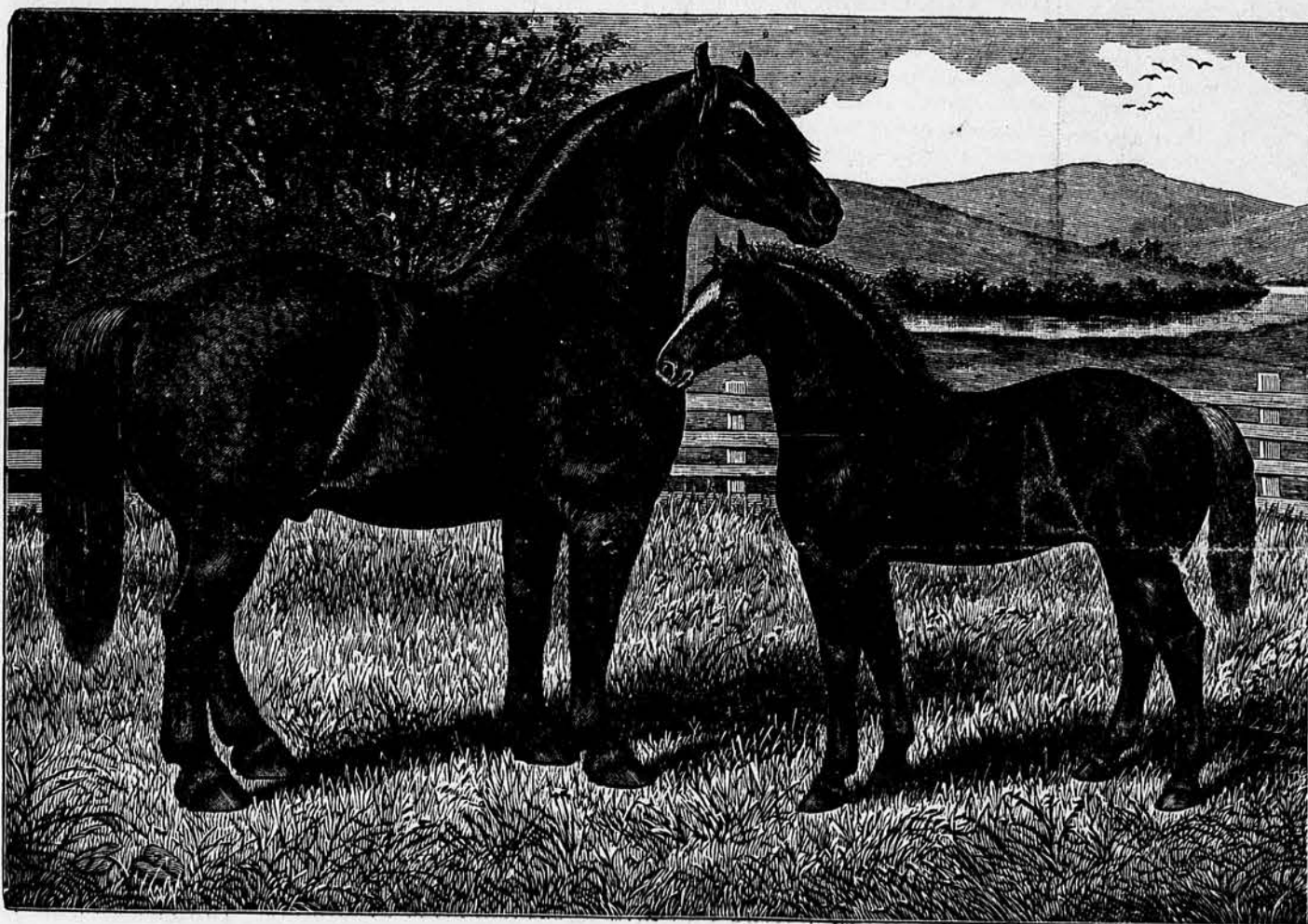
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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE 3—AGRICULTURAL MATTERS.—Manure from Different Animals.
PAGE 4—THE STOCK INTEREST.—Swine Breeding.
PAGE 5—THE STOCK INTEREST (continued).—A Chapter on Horses. Call to Swine Breeders. Kansas Swine Breeders' Association....
IN THE DAIRY.—Ice Houses for the Dairy. Good Ensilage in Cheap Silo. Suggestions Concerning Creameries.
PAGE 6—ALLIANCE DEPARTMENT.—To Organized Farmers, 1890. To the KANSAS FARMER.—Official Notice. Has "Struck a Boom." To Alliance Secretaries. Resolutions. Farmers' Federation. Organization Notes.
PAGE 7—Gossip About Stock. Our Illustration. Topeka Weather Report.
PAGE 8—THE HOME CIRCLE.—A Christmas Song. (poem). Tinklings. Newspaper File. Economy in an English Household. About the Babies.
PAGE 9—THE YOUNG FOLKS.—John G. Whittier. (poem). Mrs. Custer Tells of a Christmas on the Plains.
PAGE 10—EDITORIAL.—The Way Out—No. 2.
PAGE 11—EDITORIAL.—Clear the Deck. A Paternal Government. Disputed Quotations.
PAGE 12—HORTICULTURE.—When Are Our Fruits Ripe? Esthetics in Horticulture.
PAGE 13—THE POULTRY YARD.—The Poultry Blaze.
PAGE 14—CORRESPONDENCE.—"Relief for Mortgage Debtors." Coulter to Patterson. A Plea for the Merchant. Taxation and Manufactures. Cheap Rates to the Seaboard.
PAGE 15—Patents. The Markets.

Old subscribers have our thanks for renewing so promptly this season. It begins to look as though everybody would renew on time and induce their neighbors to join the long procession.

Agricultural Matters.

Manure From Different Animals.

We mix manure on the farm so that the average quality of the whole heap may be similar; but were this not done we should find a considerable difference in value between the excreta of the several farm animals—horses, cattle, swine and sheep. That there is a material difference in the value of the manure made from like kinds of food passed through horses and cattle there can be no doubt.

The horse, as every farmer knows, has a small sensitive stomach and requires highly nutritious food in small quantities and at short intervals. Where mastication is perfect and the food given in proper condition, the hard working horse assimilates a much larger proportion of it than would be the case were it passed through an ox, sheep or pig. On the other hand oxen, which have an extensive and complicated digestive apparatus, permanently retain but 8 per cent. of the dry weight of the food furnished them; the manure they leave is therefore very rich indeed compared with that from horses fed on like material; and of course vastly superior when oil cake and meals are fed, specially towards the end of the fattening period.

It is calculated that pigs permanently retain 20 per cent. and sheep 12 per cent. of the dry weight of their food. Yet the manure of pigs is more valuable in the long run, according to chemists, than that

of the oxen. For every 100 parts of nitrogen in the food given to an ox it may be approximately stated that 3.9 (according to Warrington) goes to increase; 22.6 is voided as solid excrement, and 73.5 as liquid excrement. For fattening pigs like figures would be 14.7, 22.0 and 63.3. While, as we have said, pigs lay up far more of their food as increase than cattle, and both their solid and liquid excreta is poorer relatively to the constituents of the food consumed, it must be remembered that a pig can consume far more in proportion to its weight than an ox can, and that being a non-ruminant its food must also be concentrated and easily digestible. A pig will consume 26 to 30 pounds of dry food daily for every 100 pounds live weight, while a steer will consume only 11 to 13 pounds of food per 100 pounds of live weight, and a sheep 14 to 16 pounds per 100 pounds of live weight. Sheep dung is, however, richer than that of swine, because pigs while fattening store up 7½ per cent, and sheep but 5 per cent. of the albuminous matter in food.

A working horse and a cow giving a full flow of milk cannot of course be expected to give as rich manure as fattening animals, therefore food passed through them leaves its profit not in the manure heap but in work and milk. But, after all, it is the urine that decides the chief difference in the value of manure from food passed through different animals, or should decide it if farmers were not in the habit of allowing the urine to go to waste. It will suffice for our purposes to estimate that a horse voids 4,380 pounds, a cow 20,000 pounds, a sheep 380 pounds and a pig 1,200 pounds of urine in a year. Now this

urine contains a large proportion of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, and is by all authorities on the subject considered the richest part of the excreta of farm animals, and therefore should be carefully conserved.

The quality of our farm-yard manure may be said to depend upon the kind of animal producing it, the age and condition of the animal, its food, its accommodation, the amount and quality of bedding supplied, its management during accumulation and its treatment thereafter. These circumstances differ so materially that manure is best made when the "hot" manure of horses is mixed with the "cold" manure of cattle and swine and then the urine from all kept in it or pumped upon it and on no account allowed to escape.

Sheep manure may be used separate better than that from the other farm animals and in that case is most valuable for top-dressing small grains, especially barley; but it may be mixed with the others to good advantage.—Exchange.

Within the next two or three months the summer's work should be outlined, and many preparations made for its convenient prosecution. If this is neglected and put off until spring opens up, it is almost sure to cramp the operations of the whole season, and many things may go undone which should receive prompt attention.

The most widely separated points between which it is possible to send a telegram is British Columbia and New Zealand, via America and Europe.

The Stock Interest.

SWINE BREEDING.

A paper read before the Southern Kansas Farmers' Association, by Colonel M. Stewart, President of the Kansas Swine Breeders' Association.

Among the earliest recollections of my life, which comes to mind as vividly as though it were an occurrence of last week or last year, is the scene of numerous processions of four-footed beasts, white, black, red, and spotted, moving eastward, ever eastward, over the turnpike road, until they reached tide water and met their final destiny.

Their advancing columns was heralded by a man mounted on a raw-boned steed, who might well be compared to the "knight of the sorrowful figure." He was the avast courier, whose province it was to sit sideways in his saddle, and give vent from time to time to the monotonous cry—swoo, swoo, an enticing call in hog latin, needing no interpretation to ears that greeted it with an appreciative grunt. The rear of these processions were much like the rear of an advancing army. There were stragglers by the score and foragers. There was the foot-sore and weary, and the ambulance loaded with the sick and broken down.

There was a constant fusillade of small arms, as it were, mingled with choice expletives applied with equal force and energy to two things in this world alone, viz., the hog and the mule.

Nor was this all. There was the usual witticism of the drover as of the soldier. What town or village did he pass through from Steubenville to Philadelphia, and failed to give vent in stentorian tones to the stereotyped cry, "40 cents a day and no dinner." S'bhoy! This was in the 40's, when Kansas was a howling wilderness, and in the region where I lived (Ohio) was away out west. In those days distinct breeds of hogs were but little known on this side of the water, save in a few favored localities. The hogs that were driven on foot hundreds of miles to market were of the O'Leary type, with the pedestrian muscular development that puts to shame the degenerate sons and daughters of the worthy sires that squealed and grunted their way through rather a prolonged life in the days of our daddies. The hog of Auld-Lang-Syne seldom matured under eighteen or twenty months. How could he? He was a rustler from away back, and when put on his mettle could outstrip a greyhound. When brought to that condition where "necessity knows no law" he could insinuate his snout under a "post-and-rider" fence, and root up potatoes on the other side from the fourth row. But when brought under closer domestication and properly cared for he was the hog to suit the times. His owner was not at the mercy of a railroad company short on cars. He but seldom, if ever, rode on wheels. He furnished the streak of fat and streak of lean so much in demand by connoisseurs. Great statesmen and embryo warriors flourished at this time, and if I were asked "upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed that he has grown so great," I should unhesitatingly answer, "on the pork and bacon of our daddies."

The refined pig of the present day has evolved in fifty years from the hog of our fathers until he has ceased to wear bristles, but gropes his way through a brief existence in a hirsute covering, and the heavy drooping ears with which he "used formerly" to fan off the flies, and which at his death were occasionally utilized for saddle

flaps and door mats, has been toned down seemingly to give the lie to the adage that you "cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear."

The snout that has furnished a model for the railway snow plow, and that once enabled the animal to dig down into the bowels of the earth for his medicine, has been so modified as to require a second look at the animal in order not to confuse one in giving an intelligent answer to the conundrum, "which is the butt end of a goat?"

The legs that nature meant should be strong and supple, enabling the possessor to clear a five-barred gate and carry its own avoirdupois to market without a break-down, has given way to an underpinning that frequently snaps like pipe-stems. For purposes of utility the legs might just as well be bred off and flippers substituted. They could be driven to slaughter like seals in Alaska and the list of "crips" would grow "small by degrees and beautifully less."

When I was a boy my father purchased a pig and turned him over to my tender care. Besides absorbing the milk and refuse of the kitchen, he absorbed a great deal of my spare time, and an unlimited share of my affections. In the course of time I was induced to show him at the county fair, and you can imagine how tall I suddenly grew, and the look of hauteur I carried in my demeanor, when I walked off with the blue ribbon and my order on the Treasurer for \$5 in wild-cat money.

When I settled down in life, a farmer brought to my place one day a large spotted sow, whose broad back, deep sides and heavy hams caught my fancy at a glance. I was somewhat inquisitive as to her breed and was informed that she was a full-blooded Magie or Poland-China, "imported" from Illinois. The term imported, which he rolled like a sweet morsel under his tongue, at once captivated me, and I instantly became victimized to the amount of \$25. That occurred nineteen years ago, and from that time to the present, with a few brief intervals, I have been a breeder of Poland-China swine. In nineteen years this breed has grown in popularity, but has undergone some material changes. That it is now a fixed breed, having all the characteristics of a thoroughbred, there is no question of doubt.

I shall not tax your patience with a description or history of this or any other breed of swine, but, as four-fifths of all the hogs raised in Kansas are either full-blooded or grade Poland-Chinas, I may be pardoned for giving them prominence in this paper. Nowadays no man pretends to be a breeder of thoroughbred swine without having his breeding herd registered in the volumes of some reliable record company. Every animal so recorded has its name, number, and description, as well as those of its ancestors for many generations back, and a careful, reliable breeder can furnish a correct pedigree of every pig that goes out from his yards. I know that many swine breeders sneer at this (not so many now as formerly) and look upon it merely as a scheme to add 100 per cent. to the price of a pig. I submit this axiom: "Not every boar with a pedigree is worthy to stand at the head of a herd of brood sows, no more is a boar that can not be pedigreed worthy to stand in the same relation."

Incestuous breeding is the primary cause of many of the ills to which swine flesh is heir. To obviate this in a great measure, and to register no unworthy animals, the record system was inaugurated, and in my judgment is ac-

complishing its object. The Berkshire breeders took the lead in this matter, and having but one record on the continent have had smooth sailing. With Poland-China breeders, until of recent years, there was a continual tempest in a teapot. First was the difficulty in fixing a standard. Some breeders of note claimed that the ideal Poland-China should be a large, spotted, heavy-boned, lop-eared animal, with rather a sluggish disposition and tendency towards early maturity. Others contended that the coarseness should be bred out, that he should have a smooth coat of hair, black with white points, a fine, silky, medium-sized, drooping ear, and legs of medium thickness and with a quiet disposition, but activity sufficient to keep out of the way of feeding cattle when enclosed in the same yard. Early maturity, with a good avoirdupois, was to be the crowning feature of this ideal. When taken into consideration the fact that the old Harkrader sow, the dam from which has sprung a large proportion of all prize-winning Poland-Chinas, was a white hog, and with the characteristics of the type first named, it may be a matter of surprise that a coarse-boned spotted Poland-China, when he makes his appearance, is not allowed to propagate his species. The five Poland-China record companies now in existence are a unit in their standard of excellence.

The novice is looking at a large herd of thoroughbreds, many of them as much alike as peas in a pod, will wonder how the breeder can select therefrom the pair of pigs not akin of your choice, and furnish correct pedigrees of the same. It is easily done, but there is only one man that can do it. It is he who brought about the coupling of the sire and dam, and straightway made an entry of the event in a book prepared for that purpose. In twenty or twenty-four days thereafter, if the dam showed no signs of being in heat, she was considered safe, and the entry in the breeding book was not disturbed. In sixteen weeks thereafter almost to a day the sow would produce her litter. Another entry then would be made in the book opposite her name, giving the date on which she farrowed, and the number of sows and boars in the litter. When the pigs would be four weeks old, or thereabouts, they would be caught up singly and each one of the litter nicked with a knife once, say in the lobe of the left ear. The second litter similarly nicked in the lobe of the right ear, another litter in the tip, and so on until twenty or thirty litters could be so designated by ear marks alone. A description of these marks or notches would then be entered in its proper place on the book. Only one thing now remains and your pig is ready for his pedigree. The litter must be weaned, and when they pass this ordeal, say at ten weeks old, you make your last entry—so many sows and so many boars raised. It is only necessary for the breeder to examine a pig's ear, so treated, and then refer to his book, and by the aid of a printed blank and his volumes of the record furnish a pedigree that he can swear by.

The breeder of thoroughbreds, if he is worthy of patronage, has made the hog a study. He has not arrived at proficiency as a breeder without committing many errors. As a beginner he has doubtless been victimized in the purchase of parent stock. He has spent piles and piles of money before he gets just what he wants. Every year or two he is compelled to buy a boar of a different strain; but one that might satisfy the average farmer falls far below

his own requirements, for if like is to produce like, if deterioration is to be avoided, if his motto is "Excelsior," he must have sires that approximate perfection. Probably the boar he wants cannot be found within a radius of 500 miles, but he manages to find him, or thinks he does, and when secured he has undoubtedly found a pearl of great price.

If he keeps abreast of the times he dare not be a niggard with printer's ink, and printer's ink, when laid on a sheet of white paper, illustrated with a cut of the noblest Roman of his herd, calls for shekels. Do you wonder, then, that the conscientious breeder of a pedigreed pig possessing the characteristics you desire should want double the price of one whose breeding and antecedents were at least doubtful? Better pay three prices for a well-bred pig, with a gilt-edged pedigree and of a popular family, than a scrub price for one of the "Jim Crow" order. I would say to farmers, in selecting a boar to do the honors of your seraglio, if you expect to use but one, choose him with an eye to correcting any faults that may exist in the form of the females of your herd. Remember that in breeding, the boar is just one-half the herd. If your sows have too large a development of snout, see to it that your boar is not similarly afflicted. If their ears are too large and coarse, or "stand every way for Sunday," discard a boar that shows the same characteristics. If they are deficient in jaw, fasten on to a boar that has them developed like a pair of stuffed saddlebags. If their legs are unshapely, too long, too thick, or too fine, strike the happy medium in your boar; but if they are down on their pastern joints, or walk on their dew-claws, then sell out and start again, avoiding the pitfalls already mentioned. If they are buffalo-shaped—sloping from shoulder to ham—be sure and get a Poland-China boar, for in no other breed of hogs, so far as my observation goes, are the hams so fully padded out. If they droop or crease behind the shoulders look well to your Poland-China boar, for this is one of the occasional defects of that breed. If they are razor-backed, most any thoroughbred will remedy that defect in the offspring. If they are narrow in the girth directly back of the shoulders, I would eliminate them from the herd. If your sows are long in the body good results will be obtained by using a short-coupled boar. Some breeders discard a chunky sow, but I have had surprising results from such. It is an undisputed fact, however, that the majority of losses from sows in parturition are of this class. To aid the sow in delivery the inventive genius of man has been exercised, and forceps that will very often deliver the pig alive without injury to the dam are now in the hands of most breeders. I have lost in my experience four valuable sows and their litter from this cause, and know of others who have had severe losses, and while a careful treatment of the sow when carrying her young, such as laxative feed and plenty of exercise, will tend to lessen the risk, my advice on the whole would be to discard chunky sows for breeders. In no event would I breed a chunky boar to a chunky sow unless I wanted pigs to mature quite young to be sold as light weights. Having secured a thoroughbred boar pig, exercise a little judgment in the care of him. If he costs you \$20 or \$25—the cost of a cow—he is worthy to occupy a shed by himself, with a good roof and floor, closed on all sides but the south, which should open into a yard, where he can exercise his rooting

penalties, and work the cramp out of legs. It is better that he should receive visits and brief ones from his pen, one at a time, and if it can be decided, not more than one a day during the breeding season, than to turn him to a herd of fifteen or twenty sows, a herd of which are probably on the far path at the same time. A voracious boar, if not misused when he is young, will be in his prime at four years old, and his get of pigs will be longer and healthier, other conditions being the same, than those got when he was eight or ten months old.

(To be concluded next week.)

A CHAPTER ON HORSES.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—There is always a demand for a good coach or road horse, and it is within reach of almost every farmer to breed one or more each year.

There is in Kansas to-day a greater number of trotting-bred stallions than any other State of equal age in the Union, and it is a fact that no better coach or carriage animal can be produced for American markets than the American trotter. I do not mean to say that every farmer can breed an *Artell* or *Sunol*, but he can raise a class of horses with size, style and a good gait, from the average farm mare by breeding to one of the many good trotting-bred sires, to be found in almost any county in the State.

Now is the time to look around and decide what horse you will patronize the coming season. Don't put it off until late in the spring, and then, because you haven't time to spare, breed to anything that is handy. Don't breed to a scrub under any circumstances. Better let the mares be barren, because you are not only losing money when you feed such a colt, but you are also injuring your neighbor and every other breeder who is making an effort to improve the stock of the State. Breed to pure-bred animal at all times, even if you have to go out of your way to do so, when your colt will be just as good as the grade you were thinking of breeding to. Breed to the best pure-bred stallion within reach, even if the service fee is a little higher than somebody else is charging, for the difference will be more than doubled when you go to sell your high-grade colt, to say nothing of the satisfaction there is in feeding a superior animal.

It is a mistaken idea that many farmers have in thinking that every light harness horse must be put in the hands of a trainer to have his speed developed before he is ready for market. To be sure they are usually worth more if nicely broken to harness, and there is no one more competent to give them their first lessons than the man who has been with them every day of their lives and has gained their confidence by kind and careful treatment before they are old enough to be hitched. They can be broken at two or three years of age, at two is preferable, and do the light driving for the farmer a year or so and be ready for market as well-broken coach or road horses and will bring just what they are worth, so far as I know, there is no combination or trust to control the price on horses.

A SERMON WITH A MORAL.

"The latest reports from the New York horse market are encouraging only to shippers of good draft teams and fine carriage animals. The prices for these remain satisfactory and the demand is above the supply. As is the case in Chicago and elsewhere, inferior animals are not wanted at any price." Do you get the full meaning of the above report of the horse market of

New York and elsewhere? Although it is short, and simply a statement of the condition of the horse trade at some of the leading markets, it may be an interesting article to you. Analyze it carefully, please. First, it says the markets are encouraging to shippers of good draft teams and fine carriage animals. That means if you have that kind of horses to sell buyers can afford to pay you good round prices for them. It also means that the horses which you have are wanted in the market. This fact alone is worth money to you. It places you in an independent position also. If you want to sell you can. In selling you can dictate prices. You need not hunt buyers; they will hunt you, for the markets are "encouraging," even in these dull times when very low prices prevail for all farm products.

This report also states that the demand is above the supply. There is more encouragement in this than in the first statement. It means that enough good horses cannot be procured in the country to supply the wants of those who use this grade of horses. Horse shippers are as keen and shrewd a set of business men as we have, and if there was any chance to fully supply this demand it would be done in short order. The last sentence needs but little comment. Those who raise and handle inferior horses know that it is too true. Those who handle the better kinds do not need to care whether it is true or not. A long sermon could be preached from this little extract. It is a good text, and we leave it for our readers everywhere to "take it home with them" and reflect upon it. The moral is: Breed and handle nothing but good horses.—*National Stockman*.

Burt Shank, who has been head trainer at Webster's Orchard Hill Farm, for the past two years, will have a public training stable at Emporia the coming season. He is an honest, careful and competent man, and it will be remembered he gave Evermond his record and drove Patsy Curtis to his yearling record of 2:51.

W. P. P., Jr.

Berryton, Shawnee Co., Kas.

Call to Swine Breeders.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—A call has been issued to the members of the Standard committee of the Kansas Swine Breeders' Association on expert judges to meet in Topeka, January 9, 1889, in particular, (and all other breeders in general), during the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture and stockmen's convention, for the purpose of organizing and getting the committee in working condition. A good grand turn-out should be the result as a good time is expected.

By order of the President.

O. B. STAUFFER, Secretary.

Alden, Rice Co., Kas.

Kansas Swine Breeders' Association.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—This association is not intended for a portion of our State only, but what its name implies—a Kansas swine breeders' association, and we hope all breeders that can possibly do so will enroll themselves as members of this association as soon as possible. All breeders are requested to forward \$1 as admission fee to the Secretary, who will by return mail send a receipt for the same and enroll all those as members who do so.

O. B. STAUFFER, Secretary.

Alden, Rice Co., Kas.

Do You Read the Cosmopolitan?

That bright, sparkling young magazine? The cheapest illustrated monthly in the world. Twenty-five cents a number, \$2.40 per year. Enlarged, October, 1889, to 128 pages. The *Cosmopolitan* is literally what the *New York Times* calls it, "At its price, the brightest, most varied and best edited of the magazines." Subscribe—an unusual opportunity, for new subscribers, for one year only: The *Cosmopolitan*, per year, \$2.40, and KANSAS FARMER \$1.00; price of the two publications, \$3.40; we will furnish both for only \$2.75. This offer is only to new subscribers to The *Cosmopolitan*, and only for one year. Address your orders to the KANSAS FARMER, Topeka.

In the Dairy.

Ice Houses for the Dairy.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—Every dairyman should now make preparations for providing a supply of ice for the coming season. Its use during the summer will increase the production easily one-third, because the entire cream content is regularly recovered.

Shallow setting in pans and crocks, as practiced in too many families, makes loads of work for the women, keeps the markets supplied with poor, low-priced goods, and reduces the profit of dairymen to the level of raising corn for 15 cents per bushel. Deep setting with use of ice secures all the cream, leaves the skim milk sweet (in which state its feeding value is greatest), enables you to hold the cream under perfect control, and insures a product at once uniform and first-class in quality, and a market at top prices. And aside from the dairy use, there are a thousand ways in which ice becomes both a necessity and a luxury in the household.

The building of an ice house involves no untoward expense, the main essentials being a tight roof, proper ventilation, walls the same as those of a common shed, and plenty of sawdust, cut straw, or even hay will answer nicely, for packing. If you propose to make butter, start right, and start right now. If better methods will double your income, why stick in the old rut?

M. M.

Topeka, Kas.

Good Ensilage in Cheap Silo.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—At the request of O. S. Holt, Esq., of this place, I send you a brief statement of my experience in preserving ensilage. While information is abundant on how to build expensive silos, and evidence conclusive that with a good silo and machinery to cut up in one-half inch lengths the fodder destined for ensilage, success was assured. But the questions of special interest to us were unanswered, viz.: (1) Can we preserve ensilage in a silo that can be built with the means at our disposal? (2) Can we get along without cutting machinery if necessity compels us so to do?

I dug a pit 12x39 feet and 9 feet deep; used three barrels of cement to cover the sides and ends with a hard coat to prevent the dirt from falling into the feed. Built a building over the pit six feet high, covered it with corrugated iron roofing. Commenced to cut up early corn—glazing and changing color rapidly—August 6, 1889, hauled it direct to the pit, placing stalks lengthwise in it. I put in nine tons daily for six days, filling the east and west ends on alternate days; followed this in like manner as above with thirty tons of young green sorghum to complete the filling of pit. For covering I used hay, filling to the roof. Finished putting in corn and sorghum August 17. Opened pit three months later. With the exception of two inches on top of sorghum, there was no waste (except at edges where water was allowed to run in or was not packed close, all of which can be easily remedied), and the ensilage was in excellent condition—bright and sweet, all of which is eaten up clean and with great relish by horses, cattle and hogs. The corn is soft and warm, easily masticated, cob and all.

After feeding silage for one month, I am free to say I have never used forage of any kind that will equal it in my estimation; there is no waste at the bottom of pit where the feed comes in contact with the ground, but is sweet and sound as in the center of silage. This experiment clearly answers the above questions in the affirmative. No one need hesitate to put up ensilage because they are not able or do not wish to invest in an expensive silo and cutting machinery.

A pit in the ground in western Kansas (without cement, if necessary), with a covering of prairie hay, will, I am confident, preserve green feed that will be far ahead of the ordinary feed used and can be put up cheaper, easier, with very much less waste, and with more safety than with the drying process. A canvas that might be used for several pits to guard against rain while filling or when feeding out, would be a safeguard against damage from snow or rain.

Silage can be fed in winter at any time in stables, and a large portion of the time out-of-doors in boxes, because, although moist, it is warm and would not freeze for some time.

FRANK B. SMITH.

Rush Center, Rush Co., Kas.

Suggestions Concerning Creameries.

A good many inquiries are made about advantages of creameries in Kansas. Here is something from an old, competent, successful and reliable dairyman. We copy from the *Live Stock Indicator*. The particular communication which called this letter forth need not be produced. This

letter was written and published some time ago, but it is as good now as it was then, and quite as applicable. Here it is:

Permit me to "hit a few heads" in your August 22 issue. Certainly that number was captured by creamerymen, and as your paper is no "2 for 5-er," I will contradict a few of the assertions. First—Mr. Pack grows enthusiastic over Jack and the other mule. Of course he can sell his butter from his Jersey cow at 30 cents to private parties. But when he gently glides along until the native cow brings her owner \$5 to \$6.50 a month at that new factory, that is too much for a Missouri farmer or a Kansas real estate agent. Let us see: Up to July the best creamery butter sold at 15 cents in Kansas City, making expenses 4 cents per pound, express, commission and cold storage 1½ cents more, making 5½ cents taken out. The best results of 100 pounds of milk from native cows for the time named would be four and a half pounds of butter to the 100 pounds of milk, at 67½ cents for the butter, less cost of making and selling, 5½ cents a pound. Now please tell me how much milk that cow must give to pay \$5 a month? A little over 1,200 pounds, while it takes a fair herd of native cows to give 600 pounds each in thirty days for the months of May, June and July. Of course we must take the market price for our butter, and 15 cents was the top for the time named, except a few fancy makes.

Now comes our Kansas man with his native cow giving twenty-seven pounds a day for six months, 4,860 pounds at 80 cents per 100 pounds, and asks, Do you get this? Why not? I say because your cow does not give it, and 80 cents per 100 pounds does not pan out. Again, twenty-five calves at \$7 each, \$175. The skim-milk calf is not selling at \$7 just now. Let us look at that eighty-acre farm keeping twenty-five cows; first fifty acres in pasture for the cows, leaves us thirty acres for hay, barnyard, house and garden. Well, let us take out five acres for that, and we have twenty-five acres for hay; yes, we want sixty-five tons of hay to winter twenty-five cows. Do you mow that much from twenty-five acres in Kansas? I think not.

Again, we need three horses on that small farm. How about their feed? Mr. Lewis, how about the grain ration for your cows? And about this never-failing water in Missouri and Kansas. Why, Mr. Editor, two years ago, in riding with an *Indicator* man, we saw farmers feeding their stock hay in July. I must say I think I see that eighty-acre farm growing tired with its load.

During the past month it begins to look as if the lightning-rod man had turned into other fields and pastures new. At least, if we believe one-fourth of the statistics we read in the print papers.

The creamery is all right if properly conducted. First, do you have 10,000 pounds of milk within a radius of six miles? How near is your factory to a river or a good pond for ice? Will the farmers keep up the milk supply during August and September to 6,000 pounds? Then can they supply milk during the winter? I cannot see why a cow should loaf around six months doing nothing after the statistics man is done with her, especially at the very time when her milk is worth 80 cents per 100 pounds. It is an easy matter to sign a contract for a factory, but it takes cash to pay for it. Just as easy to figure native cows giving forty to fifty pounds of milk daily when they won't do it. If you cannot get plenty of milk your factory will be as useful as a watermelon in January. The cow will pay, if you first have a dairy cow, and understand her keeping and handling, but if you have no liking for dairymen or think a cow is a *cow*, let it alone. Don't look for a fortune the first year. Don't expect 80 cents per 100 pounds for your milk when the butter market is overstocked with low-grade butter. But if butter is worth 16 to 20 cents, take out 5½ cents per pound for all expenses in summer, and you can tell the price of milk. Then don't contract for a high-priced factory and a separator that will handle 20,000 pounds of milk in 10 hours because it won't do it in summer. Why? Because the last of your milk will sour before the ten hours are up. Don't believe the sweet skim milk at 1 cent a gallon in summer. Why? Because it sours long before it reaches you. But if you have the milk and can raise the money, build a factory for making butter to cost, complete, not to exceed \$3,500 to \$4,000. Then put up plenty of ice. When you put your brand on a tub of butter, see that it is good and weighs sixteen ounces to the pound, then by the end of the first year you are on the road to success—not a fortune the first year. I should not ask for space on this subject, only I know the *Live Stock Indicator* has readers and the editors are workers, and so much gush may mislead some with its glitter. Let us have facts that will wash and not fade away.—T. C. Murphy, Thayer, Kas.

Consumption Surely Cured.

TO THE EDITOR:—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption, if they will send me their express and P. O. address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

Alliance Department.

NATIONAL DIRECTORY.

FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.
 President.....T. L. Polk, Washington, D. C.
 Vice President.....B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Kas.
 Secretary.....J. H. Turner, Washington, D. C.
NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE.
 President.....J. Burrows, Filley, Neb.
 Secretary.....August Post, Moulton, Iowa.
FARMERS' MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.
 President.....H. H. Moore, Mt. Erie, Wayne Co., Ill.
 Secretary, John P. Stelle, Mt. Vernon or Dahlgren, Ill.
NATIONAL GRANGE.
 Master.....J. H. Brigham, Delta, Ohio.
 Lecturer.....Mortimer Whitehead, Middlebush, N. J.
 Secretary.....John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

KANSAS DIRECTORY.

FARMERS' AND LABORERS' ALLIANCE OF KANSAS.
 President.....B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Cowley Co.
 Secretary.....J. B. French, Burton, Harvey Co.
 Assistant Sec'y.....T. J. McLain, Peabody, Marion Co.
ALLIANCE EXCHANGE OF KANSAS.
 G. H. Benson, President.....Haven, Reno Co.
 Edwin Snyder, Vice Pres't.....Oskaloosa, Jefferson Co.
 H. W. Sandusky, Secretary.....McCune, Crawford Co.
 A. W. Hays, Treasurer.....North Topeka, Shawnee Co.
Executive Committee—L. P. King, Tannehill, Cowley Co.; J. K. P. House, Cloverdale, Chautauqua Co.; F. L. Bailey, Calista, Kingman Co.
STATE GRANGE.
 Master.....William Sims, Topeka.
 Lecturer.....J. G. Otis, Topeka.
 Secretary.....George Black, Olathe.

Officers or members will favor us and our readers by forwarding reports of proceedings early, before they get old.

TO ORGANIZED FARMERS, 1890.

Kansas Farmer Greeting.

To the membership of the Grange, Mutual Benefit Union and the Alliance—both branches—and all bodies of organized farmers, the KANSAS FARMER offers friendly greeting.

Ever since the present management of the KANSAS FARMER took possession in 1881, it has taken a bold stand for farmers' interests and advocated organization. We quote from our issue of July 26, 1882, as follows:

Now, we are not alarmists, nor are our heads turned by any sudden display of villainy. We don't desire to excite public passion to the extent of rash or unreasonable acts. But we proclaim at the top of our voice to the people of Kansas—Organize! Organize! Organize for self-protection.

The results have been very satisfactory, because to-day we find that in nearly every part of the State organizations of the Grange, Alliance, or Mutual Benefit Union, and they are moving along the lines we have come. Our subscription list has meantime doubled and trebled, and to-day the KANSAS FARMER has the most extensive circulation among the farmers of the West of any paper published. While it is not the "official" paper of all these different organizations, it has either been named and used as their chief State paper, and the rank and file—the membership—have by their generous and cordial support made the KANSAS FARMER practically the unofficial organ of their respective orders. The Kansas State Farmers' Alliance, at their annual session at Peabody last October, adopted the following:

1. The Kansas State Farmers' Alliance shall select an agricultural paper and have therein a regular alliance department, and the KANSAS FARMER, published at Topeka, is hereby designated as such official State paper.
2. All job work or blank forms needed by the State Alliance shall be awarded to the KANSAS FARMER, unless more favorable terms can be secured elsewhere.
3. The alliance department of the State paper shall contain the current reports, monthly, quarterly and annual reports of the various officers and business institutions of the alliance in the State. Shall publish all general petitions and other propositions for uniform action by the alliance, publish the result of such uniform action and its public business statement.
4. Each Secretary of any sub-alliance shall thoroughly canvass his alliance and take subscriptions for the State paper, the KANSAS FARMER.
5. The alliance department of the State paper shall be open for a free discussion of all important subjects consistent with the principles of the alliance, but no questions shall be discussed as alliance matters merely for partisan purposes.
6. This State convention earnestly recommends that every sub-alliance subscribe at once for one copy of the KANSAS FARMER for the use of their Secretary, and the sum of \$1 be appropriated out of their treasury for that purpose.

Also, at a joint meeting of the State Executive committees of both branches of the alliance, held at Peabody, Kas., June 13, 1889, the KANSAS FARMER was recommended to the order for patronage.

These matters are called to your attention for the purpose of showing that the KANSAS FARMER is not a new thing; it is

an institution fixed, begun long ago, and has been steadily moving in the direction of agricultural progress, political purification, social advancement and government protection to the weak as against the strong.

Pray let us remind you that now more than ever before the farmers of Kansas need the services of a strong, steadfast, faithful, friendly journal to represent their interests, plead their cause and fight their battles. Let us bring our forces to bear in solid bodies as nearly as possible, not scattering under untried officers.

If you are not acquainted with the KANSAS FARMER, please examine this copy, which is a fair sample of fifty-two that we send out every year.

TO THE KANSAS FARMER—OFFICIAL NOTICE.

Proclamation.

Brothers and sisters of the subordinate alliances acting under the Kansas State Farmers' Alliance:

At the last annual meeting of the State Alliance it was ordered that in case there was a consolidation with the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America at the meeting of the National Farmers' Alliance and the said Farmers' and Laborers' Union, in the city of St. Louis, on the 3d day of December, 1889, that the Kansas State Farmers' Alliance would unite, by proclamation of its President, with the Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union of Kansas.

Then, in view of the fact that Kansas, in the National body of the National Farmers' Alliance, did unite with the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America, that is now denominated the National Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union.

Now, therefore, I, I. M. Morris, President of the Kansas State Farmers' Alliance, do proclaim that this said body is hereby united with the Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union of Kansas.

In thus uniting the two farmer organizations of the State of Kansas, we cease to act as your President, and place Bro. B. H. Clover, of Cambridge, Kas., at the head of the united body; also, Bro. T. J. McLain will act as Assistant Secretary with Bro. J. B. French, to aid in perfecting the consolidation and advance the united body on the highway of progress.

Brothers and sisters: On this new field of united action we appeal to you to be prompt in your efforts and strike telling blows that will protect the interests of the farmers' homes on the soil of Kansas. Unity in action, unity in strength will plant the banner of victory for the farmers of our State over the frowning fortress of wrong.

The gleaming light of hope for our class is dawning upon the horizon of time through the unity of the toilers of the land. Be true to this unity, and you will protect the rights of a downtrodden class.

I. M. MORRIS,

Pres't Kansas State Farmers' Alliance.
 White City, Kas., December 25, 1889.

Papers of Kansas friendly to the interest of the farmer please copy.

Has "Struck a Boom."

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—The farmers' alliance move has struck a "boom" in this county, to use a Western phrase. About two months ago there were eleven sub-alliances in the county and now there are thirty-one, with an estimated membership of 1,500. Our sub-alliance was organized October 21, and we now have a membership of sixty-eight, and expect to reach a hundred. The Harper County Alliance Exchange has been chartered with a capital stock of \$200,000, and there has been enough stock taken to commence business with. On the 14th inst. the stockholders met at Anthony and elected A. C. Guinn, J. S. Holladay, H. Seibert, G. H. Coulson, A. C. Whitworth, M. D. Lee, J. M. Cockerel, W. M. Moore, S. P. Jones, H. Krider and G. T. Bailey as a Board of Directors, and it is expected that the Exchange will be in shape to commence business soon.

We are gratified over the position the KANSAS FARMER has taken upon the great questions before the people, especially in regard to the financial issue. We believe that if we had a just system of

finance there would be no debts, and that would dispose of the interest and usury questions.

GEO. T. BAILEY, Sec'y Star Alliance.
 Harper, Kas.

To Alliance Secretaries.

The KANSAS FARMER desires to acknowledge the kind efforts of alliance secretaries who have sent us several hundred subscribers, and are hereby tendered our thanks.

We now call your special attention to this first issue for 1890, and desire that you present it to your alliance for their inspection at the next meeting, strictly upon its merits as a farmer's journal in every sense of the word. We do not insist that your membership shall patronize it unless it is worthy of support. All that we ask is that your members compare the KANSAS FARMER with other papers and give us at once as large a list of subscribers for the new year as you can secure at our club rates of seven yearly subscriptions for \$6. The publishers guarantee value received many times over to each subscriber during the year.

Resolutions

Adopted by the members of Hall Liberty Alliance, No. 80:

WHEREAS, There is a growing belief that the farmers and other producers of the country do not obtain an equitable share of the wealth which they create, and WHEREAS, Exact knowledge on this subject is of great importance in the study of the social and economic questions of the day, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the next United States census should show what percentage of the people in this country occupy their own farms and homes and what proportion are tenants; what proportion have their property free from debt and of the farms and homes which are mortgaged; and further

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Alliance be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to Hon. John W. Noble, Washington, D. C., and a copy to the Congressman from this district, with a request that he use his influence to have these facts collected and printed.

Adopted by Hall Liberty Alliance, No. 80, which has seventy-three members.

H. W. LOOMIS, President.

VICTORIA RANDEL, Secretary.

Farmers' Federation.

We are in receipt of a communication from Dr. S. McLain, Meriden, Kas., regarding a meeting on December 21, as follows:

"At a meeting held here to-day of members of the County Alliance and Presidents of the sub-alliances of Jefferson county, a resolution was unanimously passed urging unity of action between all farmer organizations, and a telegram was sent to C. A. Tyler, business manager of the State Exchange, and to Walter N. Allen, President of the Farmers' Federation, urging them to unite in the appointment of George R. Barse & Co. as agents in the live stock department at Kansas City for the Farmers' Alliance and Federation."

This is a significant move, and a consolidation of these two business organizations, each of which are now well under way, would undoubtedly prove a decided advantage to both if properly conducted as well as concentrate their usefulness and influence. Let these two business institutions join hands in the interest of the producer. We quote the following from the Daily Capital regarding the Farmers' Federation:

Hon. Walter N. Allen, President of the Farmers' Federation of the Mississippi Valley, was in the city yesterday. Mr. Allen says that there is no longer any doubt as to the ultimate success of his movement. Everybody admits that the farmer is not getting the price for his grain and cattle that he ought to get. Mr. Allen undoubtedly has the right idea as to the best means of relief; he maintains that the question must be treated from a business standpoint, that the supply must be regulated and controlled by the farmers themselves, which will enable the farmers to fix the prices and not the speculators. Mr. Allen's latest move is in the line of bringing about if possible a consolidation of the business interests of the Farmers' Alliance and the Farmers' Federation. The Kansas City Journal of yesterday says:

"Hon. Walter N. Allen, President of the Farmers' Federation of the Mississippi Valley, and Mr. Tyler, the business man-

ager of the Farmers' Alliance of Kansas, were in consultation yesterday with R. Barse & Co., of this city, agents of the Farmers' Federation, looking to the consolidation of the two great farm associations in the matter of making consignments to the same houses at Kansas City, Chicago, St. Louis, and commercial points in the Mississippi valley. Heretofore all the farmers' organizations have been disposed to co-operate upon a political basis, but, as is known, the late convention at St. Louis overlooked the benefits to accrue from co-operation in matters of business. An arrangement sought to be brought about by Messrs. Allen and Tyler would bring the front the business interests of the farmers' organizations and subordinate political aims thereto. Mr. Allen remarks that a much more advantageous co-operation may thus be obtained than by the corporation of political theories, which unity is impossible."

Organization Notes.

A Happy New Year!

The State Assembly of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association will convene at Garden City, Kas., on Tuesday, January 21, 1890. This will be the first State meeting.

Our best wishes to all for 1890. See our issue for organized farmers in this department, also editorial on "Clear the Decks," which shows what may be expected from the KANSAS FARMER.

This paper has persistently urged the consolidation of both branches of the farmers' alliance, and in another column may be found an official proclamation of President I. M. Morris announcing this important event.

Capital Grange will install their new officers on Saturday, January 11, 1890, at Lincoln hall, Topeka. Convene at 11 o'clock a. m. at 12 m., installation at 1 o'clock p. m. Patrons cordially invited with their families well filled.

J. S. Lehman, of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, Humboldt, sends us \$1 for rent and says that the FARMER has the right to what financial matters and that the paper finds its way into their lodge room as an educator of its value cannot be measured.

The Secretary of Eureka Alliance, Nomet writes that they are heartily in sympathy with the stockmen's convention to be held in Topeka, January 8, 1890, and adds: "We desire profits to middlemen and more profits to producers and cheaper meats to the consumer. Corn is now 12 cents per bushel, and a price we can not feed it and get pay for it work."

Bert Nordstrom, Secretary Oakland Alliance No. 694, Lyons, Kas., writes: "Our alliance has been organized since July 18, and has a membership of eighty. We have been sending our coal all this fall and have made considerable money by so doing. As the nights are long, I think it is time that all should have literary exercises, and, most important of all, discuss the questions of the day."

Capital Grange, of Topeka, held their election on the 28th inst., and made a sweep of the old officers, with the exception of Chaplain. The officers elected are as follows: Daniel Thompson, Master; George Robb, Overseer; John G. Otis, Lecturer; W. W. Steward; J. J. Sims, Assistant Steward; Hutchinson, Chaplain; S. K. Robinson, Lecturer; H. R. Clark, Secretary; A. F. B. Gatekeeper; Mrs. M. E. Pratt, Ceres; Thompson, Pomona; Mrs. M. C. Clark, Miss Mary Robinson, Lady Assistant Steward.

Joseph Darling, Norton, Kas., writes: "Our county meeting on the 21st inst., was one of the best meetings that I ever took part in. There were men from all parts of the county met for the first time to do the business of the county alliance, and I want to say, either they worked as one, as a unit. The fall and, I will be sent as soon as ready. The farmers realize the need of unity of action, and farmers that realize the reform is that needed to bring relief will unite with the nomination to work to that end, and they will soon receive what they ask."

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.—The Alliance organ formerly published at McCune has been removed to Topeka and will hence be published at the capital city. Our office is in the Crawford building, corner of Fifth and Jackson streets, where we shall be glad to visit the city. We shall on the 23d of January issue a special edition of not less than 500 copies for general distribution. This will contain a clear exposition of the exchange system and other important special matter designed for the information of the members upon questions concerning which they require more light. It will also contain several able contributions from some of the best writers of the order upon important topics. Among these is one by W. S. Morgan, author of History of the Western Alliance and The Impending Revolution.

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to become a
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land that
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and politicians
fear. Then we
can accomplish
something. The
F. M. B. A. is
very strong in
Miami and
eastern
Franklin county."

Following resolutions were adopted by
Rock Alliance, No. 832, Towanda, Butler

REAS, Our lands, stock, produce and
have decreased from one-fourth to one-
value, and
REAS, It once took fifty bushels of corn
our taxes, it now takes from seventy-five
bushels; therefore

ed, That we petition our legislators to
the salaries of our State and county offi
as to bring our labors on the same basis
listed previous to the contraction of our

ed, That we will support no man for
ice who is not in sympathy with and in
of the above resolutions and will not ob
himself to work for the same.

that the alliance is consolidated in Kan
everybody go to work and make the
ss department, the exchange, a success.
insure individual success, subscribe for
KANSAS FARMER for 1890, and tell your
to do the same. You need this paper in
business and will find every number
the price of a year's subscription.

Good News for the Consumer.

Looking over the record of the past year,
and that some changes in our business
for needs are badly needed. Do you wish to
right to what it costs to keep men on the road to
er find the different lines of goods we handle?
tucator
ty thousand dollars is a large sum of
y, but it will barely cover this expense.

ce, No
ometimes, no matter how careful we may
merchant will fail, and we lose perhaps
and it may be \$1,500. Then you know you
been paying the bad debts which the retail
er gets on his books. We have concluded,
think you will agree with us, that this sys
of doing business is all wrong. How can
elp it? Listen: Beginning with the first
is year, we shall sell our goods directly to the
mer at wholesale prices for cash only. In
way we shall cut off all chance of loss in
ay of bad debts, and shall save the \$20,000
red to keep a force of traveling men on
oad and pay their expenses. This will en
us to sell goods that much cheaper than
re. Aside from this, those who buy of us
save the extra cost of handling goods, and
small dealer's profit. We realize that we shall
with the combined opposition of all those
are content to follow in the old ruts and
carry a stone in one end of the sack when
to mill. But we have marked out our
se, and shall hew to the line, letting the
s fall where they will.

have as complete a stock of staple gro
es and all that belongs to that line as can be
ward west of the Mississippi river. All orders
lson, receive careful attention, whether for a
F. B. amount or for a carload. We handle a
res; complete line of lumber, which we will deliver,
Clark, for lots only, at any station in the State.
Stew, sash, doors, blinds, mouldings, tar paper,
writes, in any quantity desired. Our stock of
inst, we embrace everything found in first-
r tools, wholesale houses of this kind. We have
arts of wheel, sectional wheel and vaneless wind-
the but, and pumps of every description. Barbed
to same, either two or four point, double or single
full and, painted or galvanized; fence staples,
The rd baling ties of any length or size desired.
harness, we have either single or double,
is that or heavy, good work at reasonable
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es as to style or price. Try one of our \$13

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we may be favored with your patronage, and
trusting that by adopting this method of doing
business the year 1890 may bring to the con
sumers of this State an era of good times and
prosperity which shall continue for years to
come. We are yours respectfully,
WESTERN SUPPLY CO., Lawrence, Kas.

MOST IMPORTANT

To Every Advertiser Who Wants to Reach
the Farmers.

A Matter of Great Interest to Alliance
Members.

The *Advocate*, the Alliance organ recently
published at Meriden, will publish on the 23d of
January a special edition of 60,000 copies for
general distribution amongst members of the
Alliance.

This issue will contain full information in re
gard to all Alliance matters and enable every
member to become thoroughly posted.

W. S. Morgan, W. V. Marshall, Secretary
Danna of the Deep Harbor Commission, and
other noted contributors will furnish most in
teresting original matter for this issue, which
will be widely read and preserved for its im
portant information and choice reading matter.

It is your chance to advertise to reach farm
ers. Rates will be given on application and
will be reasonable.

Special copies, exceeding the 60,000 issue, will
be furnished at—ten copies, 35 cents; twenty-
five, 60 cents; fifty or upward, at rate of \$2 per
hundred. Address ADVOCATE OFFICE,
Crawford Building, corner Fifth and Jackson
streets, Topeka, Kas.

Industrial Education.

Industrial training is claiming the at
tention of the best educators, and depart
ments have been opened of late years in
the most advanced institutions for indus
trial education of the youth of America.
The success that has attended the intro
duction of this department of instruction
at Cornell university and other institutions
of high standing has shown very forcibly
that to know is no longer the watchword,
but to know and to do.

The professions are crowded, but in the
industrial pursuits there is a constant de
mand, and this is increasing in a ratio
commensurate with this progressive and
active age.

Since the invention of the Morse alpha
bet and the practical application of elec
tricity for the transmission of thought, no
branch of human industry has made so
much advancement nor increased with
more rapidity than telegraphy. Every
year the lines have extended, every year
the number of employes has increased
until now they are numbered by the hun
dred thousands; but this great field of in
dustry is but beginning to be explored.
The people are asking for postal telegra
phy, and the lines now controlled by
private capital are meeting the demands
of the people for lower rates. Now, in
view of these facts, we are confronted with
the question—Where can young men and
young women prepare themselves to enter
this field of labor? The Topeka Railway
and Commercial Telegraph Institute has
opened and is in full and successful opera
tion in the Knox building, in this city,
under the superintendence of Mr. W. J.
Ross, a practical operator and train dis
patcher for several years in the service of
the A. T. & S. F. railroad. The latest
improved methods employed by the West
ern Union and Santa Fe companies are
taught and the instruments as nearly per
fect as modern skill can make them.
There are upwards of twenty-five already
enrolled and new pupils are entering every
day. A full corps of instructors are under
Mr. Ross, and every facility to the rapid
acquisition of the actual work of telegra
phy is afforded. The rooms are centrally
located, easy of access, comfortable, well
lighted and ventilated. The course em
braces both day and evening classes, and
the attendance may be both day and even
ing, or either, at the option of the pupil.

The writer has visited the institute and
given it personal inspection in all of its
departments, and confidently recommends
it to the patronage of the readers of the
KANSAS FARMER.

Subscriptions are pouring in as never
before, and we shall have secured sev
eral thousand new readers this year.

Gossip About Stock.

It is estimated that over 20,000 head of
cattle have been shipped in each of the
counties of Chase and Lyon for winter
feeding. They come from New Mexico
and the Kansas City market.

Kenyon Warren, Bazaar, Chase county,
has purchased of Sexton, Warren & Offord,
Maple Hill, the imported three-year-old
Red Polled bull, Kansas Davyson, to head
his dairy and beef herd of cattle.

Stewart & Cook, Wichita, report their
Poland-Chinas in good shape and sales
still numerous, in fact, all sold except a
few late summer and fall pigs. They are
breeding twenty sows for next season's
trade.

Send to H. W. McAfee, Topeka, for new
catalogue of stallions and filies of Pros
pect farm, just out. The stock are well-
bred and of great individual excellence
and just the class of stock to handle for
profit.

J. A. Grayson, Hutchinson, Kas., who
manufactures traps for moles and gophers,
offers to give each purchaser the KANSAS
FARMER as a premium. Mr. Allison, gen
eral manager of the National Coursing
Park, bought 100 of the traps to catch jack
rabbits with.

Our best wishes for the New Year to all
breeders of pure-bred stock. May your
missionary work for past years result in
financial prosperity during 1890. The pros
perity of our farmers depends largely upon
improved live stock. Life is too short and
the business too precarious to continue
raising scrub stock of any kind.

Nearly every breeder who advertised in
the KANSAS FARMER during 1889 reported
very satisfactory results, which fact we
are glad to know and announce now for
the encouragement of new breeders who
have not had this benefit. All reliable
breeders are cordially invited to use our
advertising columns during 1890.

We are pleased to announce that Bell
Bros., Wooster, Ohio, the well-known and
reliable importers and breeders of English
Shire, Percheron and Cleveland Bay
horses, have located an establishment at
Olathe, Kas., with A. F. Beechey as man
ager. Look up their advertisement, and
visit or write them at your first opportu
nity.

Henson & Rathbone, Council Grove,
Kas., the prominent breeders of Holstein-
Friesian cattle, are out with a neat adver
tisement this issue that our readers will
do well to consult, and if needing any good
dairy stock, which are the profitable class
of cattle, they will visit this establish
ment, where they can surely depend on
fair treatment and reasonable prices.

Messrs. Smiths, Powell & Lamb, of
Lakeside stock farm, are to be congrat
ulated not only on the marked success of
their own herd in the show ring, as well as
at the churn and pail, but because animals
from this herd, in the hands of others,
have won signal victories and have made
marvelous records both in the East and
the West. May Overton, which won both
the butter and milk prizes at the recent
Fat Stock and Dairy Show at Chicago,
now owned by Mr. Stevens, was formerly
a member of this herd, and was imported
by these gentlemen. Celeste 3d, the cow
that gave 107½ pounds of milk per day in
her three-year-old form, was sired by
Viking, a bull of the Aaggie family which
was bred at Lakeside, a son of Neptune,
and his dam was a member of this herd,
selected and imported by these gentlemen.

Shadeland Boon 4th, which in her two-
year-old form gave 107½ pounds in a day,
was a daughter of Netherland Conqueror,
bred at Lakeside, he being by Netherland
Prince and from Aegis 6th, a daughter of
Neptune and Old Aaggie. The herds of
W. H. Bent and Isaac Damon, which won
so many high honors in New England this
year, were nearly all from Lakeside. Rosa
Bonham and Coquette, winners of first
prizes at the Michigan State fair for 1888
and 1889, the latter also taking first butter
prize, were both from this herd. The bull
Aaggie Cornelia 5th's Clothilde, which has
attracted so much attention in Wisconsin,
and Clothilde Lincoln, which has been
very successful in Ohio, also the bull Artis

Peer, which has been very successful as a
two-year-old in the herd of Messrs. Rob
inson, were all bred at Lakeside. In
nearly every show ring in this country
could be seen representatives from Lake
side herd.

Our Illustration.

Our title page this week is graced with
a correct likeness of Percheron horses,
representatives of the class to be found at
that well-known and creditable Kansas
establishment of the Republican Valley
Stock Farm, owned by Messrs. Avery &
Coleman, Wakefield, Clay county. This
farm is headquarters for Percheron and
French Coach horses, and since the year
1870 this establishment has been doing a
grand work in the way of the improve
ment of the horses of Kansas, as their
motto from the beginning has been, "The
best are not too good," and as a result
they have an extensive patronage, of
which any breeder or importer may well
be proud. This firm, as well as their
stock, is a credit to Kansas, as the
writer can cheerfully attest from a long
personal acquaintance. We advise any of
our readers interested in this class of
horses to visit this establishment or send
for catalogue.

Have you renewed for 1890? Ex
amine your label on this paper and if
after your name you find "t 52" or
"Jan. '90" it means that your time has
expired. Please renew so that you may
not miss a single number this year.

Topeka Weather Report.

For week ending Saturday, December 23, 1889.
Furnished by the United States Signal Service,
Sergeant T. B. Jennings, Observer.

Date.	Thermometer.		Rainfall.
	Max.	Min.	
December 22	52.5	19.0	..
" 23	61.0	36.0	..
" 24	68.0	52.0	..
" 25	67.0	41.0	..
" 26	56.5	34.5	..
" 27	65.8	25.4	..
" 28	65.6	41.1	Trace.

Every reader of this paper will have noticed
what has been said weekly about Shallen
berger's Antidote for Malaria. No statement has
ever been made which is not strictly true and
more than substantiated by experience. No
testimonial has ever been published which is
not genuine, and the original of which is not in
our possession. If you are the victim of Ma
laria, don't trifle with quinine, but get the An
tidote and enjoy health. If your druggist don't
keep it, send one dollar to Dr. A. T. Shallen
berger, Rochester, Penn., and get it by mail.

Competition in Ireland.

In Great Britain they get up prize competi
tions, to find out the largest sales of certain ar
ticles. As for instance, in Ireland the druggists
recently offered prizes, and the competition re
veals the fact that the articles named below
have in Ireland the largest sale in their respec
tive classes, as follows: Proprietary medicines
for external use, St. Jacob's Oil stands first,
thus—St. Jacob's Oil, 226; Squall's Indian Oil,
21; Holloway's Ointment, 18.

Farm Loans.

Loans on farms in eastern Kansas, at
moderate rate of interest, and no commis
sion. Where title is perfect and security
satisfactory no person has ever had to
wait a day for money. Special low rates
on large loans. Purchase money mortgages
bought. T. E. BOWMAN & Co.,
Jones Building, 116 West Sixth street,
Topeka, Kas.

McPherson County Farmers' Fire Relief Association.

Endorsed by the State Alliance as the Stat
Alliance Insurance Company of Kansas.
A. F. WAUGH, President.
FRED JACKSON, Sec'y, McPherson, Kas.
McPherson, Kas.

New Advertisements.

Ames Plow Co. Matthews' Seed Drill.
Allen & Co., S. L. Planet Jr.
Blymyer Iron Works Sorghum.
Bouk, Jas. W. Corn is King.
Burpee, W. Atlee Farm Annual.
Bell Bros. Draft Horses.
Carpenter & Gage Big Apples.
Chicago Scale Co. Down With High Prices.
Cheney, H. W. Breeder's card.
Delano Bros. Nebraska-Grown Seeds.
Demorest. Fashions.
Ferry & Co., D. M. "The Best Seeds."
Henson & Rathbone Holstein-Friesians.
Matts & Co., F. G. Dakota-Grown Seeds.
McCormick, J. M. Jacks.
Miller & Co., J. W. Northern-Grown Seeds.
Patterson, N. D. Traction engine for sale.
Rumsey Bros. To exchange for stock.
Sweeney, Martin. Horses for sale.
Torrington, J. S. For rent.
Thompson, R. A. Earache.
Vick, James. Seeds.
Vanbuskirk, Mrs. D. N. Light Brahmas.
World's Dispens. Med. Co. Golden Medical Discovery
Yost, Jacob. Economy Incubators.

The Home Circle.

To Correspondents.

The matter for the HOME CIRCLE is selected Wednesday of the week before the paper is printed. Manuscript received after that almost invariably goes over to the next week, unless it is very short and very good. Correspondents will govern themselves accordingly.

A Christmas Song.

BY PHOEBE FARMALÉE.

[This poem was intended for the last issue, but it did not reach us in time.—EDITOR.]

"Peace on earth," the church bells rang,
"Good will to men! Good will to men!"
"Peace on earth," the church choirs sang,
"Good will!" the bells chimed back again.

Peaceful lay the moon-lit snow;
Calmly the stars shone on the earth;
The hurrying footsteps to and fro
Told of a night of joy and mirth.

"No peace for me, I am but lost.
Who says 'Good will to men' to me?
Peace to the seaman tempest-tossed,
Good will—but I! It cannot be!"

One soul unblessed on Christmas night,
When other souls were glad and strong;
One form stepped backward from the light
And hid him from the hurrying throng.

The good Lord sees and pities all;
He guides the contrite erring one
Who notes the sparrow in its fall.
After dark night will come the sun.

A happy cottage home alight;
A sound of music and of mirth;
The forms of children—happy sight—
And they sang, also, "Peace on earth."

Nearer the wayfarer was drawn.
"Ah! this is heaven on earth," he sighed;
"Could but forgiveness on me dawn!
Could I come home and here abide!"

A hush fell on the happy band.
A gray-haired grandsire's voice was heard:
"My children, do you understand
That we alone receive the word

Of 'Peace on earth, good will to man'?
We'll read the evening lesson now,
About the good Samaritan—
How his good will was shown, and how

He saved the poor man in distress."
The old man read the story through,
Then knelt and prayed the Lord to bless
"Not only us, the happy few,"

But more especially he plead
For wanderers from God and home.
The weak voice trembled; tear-drops shed
Finished the prayer for those who roam.

A childish face peeped through the blind:
"Grandpa! The man you read about
Is here, right by the step. Let's mind
The Lord and bring him from without."

A wanderer returned at last,
A father's blessing on his son,
The days of storm and trouble past,
A life of peace and rest begun.

Tinklings.

As we wander through the streets of a large city we meet many people, and it is surprising to see so many young girls, just in their teens, with their board-like waists and stiff bustle. There are good health-reform waists on the market, and it is not necessary that girls should wear the stiff steeled corset. Think of them in the school-room, bending over their desks, all bound up, so they cannot breathe freely. What would a boy do or how would he feel harnessed so? Are not our girls as good as our boys? Mothers, see to it that your girls are as hygienically dressed as your boys. The girls are of good mettle or they would break down sooner than they do. I know of one mother who thinks she is doing the best thing she could do for her daughter, by keeping the whole house as hot as an oven whenever the daughter has a severe cold. Not a window down at top and up at bottom so that she could breathe some good air, and won't let her step out-of-doors during the time. The persons who are always afraid to step out-of-doors or go to town are the ones who are troubled with colds. We need more fresh air in our schools, our homes, etc. We want girls who can harness ponies, run foot-races, manage a sled; in fact, a thorough-going business girl, one who does not lean on any one but herself, whose eyes are bright, whose step is light, whose cheeks are rosy with the morning light. Some other time,

I'll tell of the girl who tries to be a young lady before her time comes, and the boy who acts too "dudish" for any use.

BELLE L. SPROUL.

Newspaper File.

Let me tell the readers of the FARMER how to bind their papers, thereby having a whole book which they will find very valuable. It is then ready to serve you in finding most anything which a Kansas farmer wants to know, from the care of the bee to the handling and care of the horse, and not alone with insects and animals, but everything the Kansas people want. Save your papers. If the editors would prepare an index, keeping each subject by itself, it would help to add to its value. Arrange the numbers in regular order, with the back, edges and one end as even as you can get them. With an awl make three holes about half or two-thirds of an inch from the back, one at the center, the other two about one and a half inches from either end, large enough to admit the passage of a darning-needle. Now with a darning-needle strong wrapping twine is passed down through the top hole, 1, across and up at middle, or 2, down at 3, up again at 2 and across to 1, after which it is tightly drawn and tied. If there are covers to put on, take a piece of stout cloth—as brown drilling—the length of the volume and wide enough to cover the back and come an inch or so on each side. If there are two covers, one may be pasted on the outside and one on the inside of the cloth, so that when pasted on the book the edges of the covers shall be about half an inch from the back corner. With good paste fasten the back thus prepared on the back edge of the volume. From some poster or advertisement cut the name of the paper and paste it on the side or back, and you have a book which you will value.

I will give a setting of Pearl guinea eggs to the lady or boy or girl who obtains the largest number of subscribers to the KANSAS FARMER up to June 1, 1890. To the second largest, a setting of Crystal strain of S. C. W. Leghorns, or a setting of Blue Jacket and Jayhawk strain of Plymouth Rocks.

VIOLA W. GRIBLIN.

Virgil, Kas.

Economy in an English Household.

Americans are extravagant. This seems to be an axiom among the English people, and I am inclined to believe that we must plead guilty. Certainly our methods of living at home are very expensive and, in too many cases, extravagant. When we came to live abroad, even in England, we were surprised to find how comparatively cheap living was. But after a time, when we got thoroughly well acquainted with the British matron and persuaded her to tell us confidentially how she managed, we found that we were obliged to admit that we were living extravagantly. Such was our experience after a residence of two years. We thought our servants' wages very reasonable. The cook has £20 (\$100) a year, the housemaid £14 (\$70) and the butler £40 (\$200). But we were told by friends that it was customary to give them beer or to allow them an additional sum as "beer money." We made no objection to this and adopted the former plan, but in course of time, though our beer cost a shilling (25 cents) a gallon (or rather less by the kilderkin), we were surprised to discover that our beer bills for four servants, two men and two women, amounted to £20 (\$100) a year. It seems that a considerable quantity of this beer was not consumed by our servants, for they were hospitably inclined, and, as no questions were asked, they were in the habit of offering beer to the coachman and footman when our neighbors called; beside this, being nearly four miles from the railway station and telegraph office, the messenger who brought a telegram always had a glass, and so did any casual errand boy. When this became known we thought it wise to discontinue the supply of beer and to give money instead (the only alternative, as we supposed). However, we had now become sufficiently intimate with our neighbors to feel at liberty to inquire into their household economies and to ask their advice.

We found it was not a universal custom to give either beer or beer money instead. Many ladies, we learned, when engaging a servant, told what wages they would give and said nothing about beer, and neither beer nor beer money was given. So here we learned wisdom. It also came to our knowledge that our coachman and footman were not always so well served as they had served others, for in some houses they were only offered tea and in others they were not even allowed to go into the kitchen and received neither tea nor beer.

Again we found there was a vast leakage in our larder. Our butcher's bills were enormous compared with those of our neighbors. We discovered, after a time, that this leakage was accounted for by the fact that our cook considered she had the perquisite of presenting a few pounds to a friend or selling the same. Needless to say, that cook was dismissed shortly after and a strict watch was kept at first on her successor. But vigilance relaxed, and number two got away with a larger quantity of meat, vegetables and fruit. In discovering this, number two was given a ticket-of-leave, and as yet her successor has not developed similar propensities; still we find our butcher's bills are very large, and a practical British matron has told us how she would reduce it, and has explained to us the management of her own commissariat department. She assures us that two pounds of meat a day is all that she finds necessary for the consumption of herself, her husband, six children, a governess, and two maid-servants. This did not surprise us so much when she went on to say that it was the custom for the master of the house to carve, giving a slice each to his wife, the governess, four children and himself, and to the two grown-up boys a slice and a half; then he leaves two cut slices on the dish for the servants, a custom that would never be tolerated in an American kitchen, surely. Of course, in addition to this meat they have soup and plenty of vegetables. She has meat only once a day for the children and servants. She holds that children should not have much meat; they would eat more than was good for them, she thinks, if they had a chance. I must admit that her children are remarkably healthy and strong-looking and are almost never ill. She assures me that £1 (\$5) a week covers her butcher's bill, and this did not seem so incredible when she told me that she not only gives them an allowance of meat but also buys an economical piece, i. e., the scrap of mutton or the shin of beef.—Good Housekeeping.

About the Babies.

"Daisy" wants some one to tell her why her baby does not sleep more. I do not think it is the fault of the whole milk, but if blame is to be laid upon the diet, certainly the beef and chicken should bear it. "Milk for babes, strong meat for men" is as true of diet as of doctrine, and the practice of giving solid food to children before they have teeth to properly masticate it, or the stomach is prepared to digest it, is productive of numberless infantile ills. Without knowing more of the temperament of "Daisy's" babe and its condition, I should hesitate to assign a cause for its wakefulness, but I would give no solid food to a nine-months-old child under any circumstances whatever. "But," says some tender-hearted mother, "the baby wants what it sees the rest of us eat, and cries for it." But baby will cry for the lamp, for the looking-glass, the fire, the mouse-trap, the scissors; we do not give it these harmful things, but if we should it would try them by the baby's infallible test, the mouth, which forms a very important factor in his self-acquired education. He reaches his little hands for many things—it is his way of learning. How does he know a potato is more edible than the dish till he is taught the difference?

I have seen a baby sucking a pickle-end—and pulling a wry face over it, too, and the unthoughtful woman who gave it wondered why he should have such dreadful attacks of colic. And I have seen meat chewed in the mother's mouth put into the baby's—received, I am glad to say, with a little protest of disapproval—the baby only just able to sit alone. Think of that mouthful of indigestible food saturated with saliva from a mouth filled with decaying teeth, tartar-covered, perhaps foul with the emanations from a disordered stomach, introduced into a sensitive stom-

WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO'S

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Butter Color.

EXCELS IN STRENGTH PURITY BRIGHTNESS

Always gives a bright natural color, never turns rancid. Will not color the Buttermilk. Used by thousands of the best Creameries and Dairies. Do not allow your dealer to convince you that some other kind is just as good. Tell him the BEST is what you want, and you must have Wells, Richardson & Co's IMPROVED BUTTER COLOR. For sale everywhere. Manufacturing, Burlington, Vt.

BABY PORTRAITS.

A Portfolio of beautiful baby pictures from life, printed on fine plate paper by patent photo process, sent free to Mother of any Baby born within a year. Every Mother wants these pictures; send at once. Give Baby's name and age. WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO. BURLINGTON, VT.

Each not yet prepared by nature to digest it! Our cemeteries are filled with little graves. At Woodmere I chanced one day upon a spot where a sunny slope was literally covered with the low green hillocks, rank on rank, marked with rude crosses or white wooden slabs, some with the little chair or the rocking-horse or the doll which was the child's cherished possession laid upon them. And I remembered that from July 9 to July 16 of the current year, 150 children under 5 years of age died in this city of cholera infantum, a disease superinduced by improper or vitiated food. I do not believe in these "infant's foods." Good wholesome cow's milk is much better. The patent foods lack some element of nutrition supplied by milk. The babies "Dill" told us about died of what the doctor called marasmus, which is a wasting away, usually due to lack of assimilation of food. The child should have the milk from one cow, and the cow should be healthy and well fed on good hay and grain, or grass, with pure water. Perfect cleanliness about all the utensils used in feeding the baby is also an important requisite.

Some children are more restless and sleepless than others. I would advise "Daisy" to see that the conditions are favorable for slumber, the room darkened, the air pure, the clothing loose and comfortable, the child not covered too warmly; then if not inclined to sleep, and still apparently healthy, I should not worry about it. I should avoid all excitement prior to the usual time for a nap. Coming into the city on the train not long since, I noticed a 6 or 8 months' old babe, in charge of its mother and some relative. The child was bright, excitable, full of play, and the trio had a great romp in which the little fellow was tossed and teased and tickled till it was easy to see he was becoming hysterical. Every time he had showed a disposition to relax in the play, he had been stirred up again, until at last the reaction came and he cried as hard as he had played. He was thoroughly tired out and exhausted. Such treatment of a child is worse than injudicious, it is cruel and heartless; none the less so because it is due to ignorance on the part of parents. Never play with a child until he is tired out. When you are wearied by excitement or unusual exercise you are nervous and irritable in consequence. So is the baby.

And do not, as you value the future health and strength of your children, impair their digestive powers and lay the foundation for chronic stomach troubles in the cradle. "Paste this in your hat." No solid food until baby has teeth to chew it. —Beatrice, in Michigan Farmer.

CATARRH,

Catarrhal Deafness -- Hay Fever -- A New Home Treatment.

Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes. Microscopic research, however, has proved this to be a fact, and the result of this discovery is that a simple remedy has been formulated whereby catarrh, catarrhal deafness and hay fever are permanently cured in from one to three simple applications made at home by the patient once in two weeks. N. B.—This treatment is not a snuff or an ointment; both have been discarded by reputable physicians as injurious. A pamphlet explaining this new treatment is sent on receipt of stamp by A. H. DIXON & SON, 337 and 339 West King Street, Toronto, Canada.—The Globe.

Sufferers from Catarrhal troubles should read the above carefully.

BRECKEN'S PILLS cure bilious and nervous ills.

The Young Folks.

John G. Whittier.

BIRTHDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1889.

"The wood-thrush of Essex,
Whose heart-throbs of verse through our mem-
ories thrill
Like a breath from the wood, like a breeze from
the hill."
—*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

Soft haze like Indian summer light drapes the
brown resting earth.
The light that shines with welcome rays upon
thy day of birth.
A loving friend her wild-wood notes sings on
this hallowed day—
A grateful song for precious life brightening
our earthly way.
Rich boon to many longing hearts have been
thy life's full years,
And brighter still the golden light, its harvest
time appears.

For many lives are happier made for what thy
hand hath done,
And many hearts are filled with song for kind-
ness thou hast shown.
Rich in the Lord's sweet gifts to thee of love, of
fame and friends,
Will thy immortal song impart the riches that
He sends.
Poet beloved, whose songs have blessed my life
with treasures sweet,
I lift my heart to-day in prayer and thy dear
name repeat.

We thank Thee, Father, for the gift of such a
life to earth,
A life of loving ministry that shows thy glory
forth.
The light has clearer, sweeter grown over the
lengthening day,
Life's sunset gold in radiance pure shines o'er
thy heavenly way,
Arched with the rainbow of God's love all trust-
ingly thou'lt go
Still on through peaceful, waiting days, when
streams of goodness flow.

Let blessings rest upon the year enriched by
such a birth,
An echo from the Angel Song, good will and
peace to earth.
The aureole of silver light, the years in passing
shed,
This day transmutes to crown of gold upon thy
honored head.
Golden, because its pure white light in God's
sweet home shall shine.

And so, dear friends who love thee well come
with the clasp of hand,
With prayers and blessings share thy joy within
the household band.
'Tis meet to come with joy to-day to count the
years with flowers,
For one who pours such wealth of song into
this world of ours,
Oh, wood-thrush sweet, whose liquid strain
caught its pure tone from heaven,
Sing on, until a sweeter song by the dear Lord
is given.
—*Good Housekeeping.*

MRS. CUSTER TELLS OF A CHRIST- MAS ON THE PLAINS.

[Written for the Sunday Capital.]

Sometimes I think our Christmas on the
frontier was a greater event to us than to
any one in the States, we all had to do so
much to make it a success. Our ingenuity
was taxed to the utmost, as we had no
tempting shop windows to point out to us
by their beguiling beauty what would be
"just the thing" for this or that one. "My
brain reels," said one of my pretty friends,
and she ran her fingers through her bangs
in a most reckless manner, furrowed her
brow, thus proving that the "reeling"
was going on, and I knew that the rapid
approach of December 25 was the cause.
"I have made John a smoking jacket,
slippers and all the stereotyped presents
for men, and last summer, while the
campaign was keeping our people in the
field, I made him a robe-de-nuit that he said
was so beruffled and befrilled he knew
he would mistake his identity, and that if
I clothed him in such purple and fine linen
—for I even put in lilac ribbon—he would
surely take himself for somebody else,
which meant me. Now what shall I make
this year?" This despair was brought to
an end by a happy thought. An old cap
was ripped, the visor, which had survived
the tooth of time, was rubbed and oiled
into freshness, and the "extra copy" we
all pronounced equal to the best work of
a military hatter.

The really difficult part of this work
was the insignia of the crossed sabres for
the cavalry, and the number seven, of our
regiment, underneath, worked in bullion.
The latter was obtained by rubbing up a
pair of tarnished shoulder straps, turning
the golden thread, which was still bright
on the under side, and using it for the new
work.

Whatever we did we were obliged to
concoct under very trying circumstances,
if we attempted secrecy, for our men were
always in and out of the house dozens of
times a day. We had no opportunities for
long, uninterrupted seasons of occupation,

as do women in the States, where the
husband goes to his avocation in the morn-
ing and does not appear until 6 at night.
The officers' day began at reveille, when
they went to roll-call, then came stables,
guard-mounting, inspecting the mess,
drill, perhaps court-martial duty and dress
parade, stables again, retreat and tattoo
roll-call. It will be easily seen that they
were flying in and out of their quarters
between these various duties all day long.

I watched for months a horse's head
being stitched into canvas for a sofa pil-
low. No real horse had a more active life.
When the sound of a clanking sabre and
the jingle of spurs announced the arrival
of the head of the house, the work was
rolled in a heap, thrust under a lounge, or
in a drawer, with a celerity that increased
with practice; for the quick movements
of an active cavalryman necessitated great
haste on the part of any one who vied
with him in speed.

A Seventh cavalry bride attempted with
great trepidation the manufacture of her
first masculine garment—a smoking
jacket. It was impossible to make a
success without innumerable tryings-on,
so she impressed the striker (soldier ser-
vant) into her service. He was a model of
neatness and respect, and as he was about
the size of his captain, and had little else
to do but stand and be fitted, the garment
was gradually smoothed into beautiful
shape. While scissors snipped and the
needle flew in the busy fingers, the striker
stood guard in the hall or on the porch.
If he saw his captain coming home across
the parade ground, he came to announce
the arrival, but should he appear un-
aware from another direction, a lively
little tune whistled in the corridor was
the warning that sent the jacket flying
into the depths of the closet, while the
little bride, with a conscious blush, met
her husband at the door, trying to look as
if holiday presents had never entered her
head.

The Christmas dinner was a feast that
required long and earnest search in gather-
ing the materials for its construction. If
we chanced to be near a little town—and
few forts on the frontier are without a
village just outside the very edge of a
government reservation—no one rode
through the place without throwing a
calculating glance into every yard, or
about the dooryards of the less pretentious
huts. A chicken, duck or a turkey was
quickly noted, and the owner was called
out to find a booted and spurred caval-
ryman at the door, who accosted him with
the usual frontier salutation, "I say,
stranger, can I engage my Christmas
dinner of you?"

Once we were thrown into a state of
envy by one of our officers, who surprised
us on the long-looked-for holiday by roast
pig. The apple that distended the jaws
of the toothsome little animal might well
stand for the apple of discord, until we
found how much he paid for the *piece de
resistance* of his dinner table. Naturally
he would have to pay well, for every one
out there in that country that was just
begun, was anxious to increase his stock.
That same dinner, we had as an ingre-
dient of the soup tiny birds that were
delicious. They reminded us forcibly of
the nursery rhyme, "Four and twenty
blackbirds baked in a pie." That winter
was extremely cold, and there was no sign
of insect or animal life on the plains except
these hardy little snow birds. The ground
about the stables where the horses were
fed and groomed was black with this
swarming bird life. They were very tame
and settled themselves all over the horses.
Sometimes an animal's back was com-
pletely outlined from the ears to the tail
with these tiny chattering creatures. But
no one had thought until this Christmas
feast of utilizing them.

Though one of the remote garrisons in
which we were stationed had enough
people within its limits to make a good
sized town, there were but three children
of officers. The row of houses occupied
by the laundresses had the usual orna-
ments to the front door and steps that is
common to the Irishman, but the three
youngsters in the garrison were all the
child-life we saw, and they were idols in

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their way. One mother gave up from the
start trying to celebrate with a Christmas
tree, but the other persisted. Notwith-
standing that even on a summer's day we
looked as far as the eye could see on the
sunburnt grass of the plains, without a
tree, or hardly a twig of green; still, the
fond mother somehow seemed to believe
that, should any one go far enough, they
would either find an evergreen, or else, by
some necromancer of the nineteenth cen-
tury, a withered tree would be made to put
forth foliage for her boy. The child's
"parental" sent a detail of men from his
company in every direction, but no signs
of green could be found in that desert
land. Then the commanding officer, now
deeply interested in the cause, sent
another detail of men for a radius of forty
miles around the post, but with no success.
The soldiers, tired of the tedium of their
confined winter life in garrison, without
drills, parades or scouts, undertook even
more than was required of them, but the
search was hopeless.

Still undaunted, the doting woman
thought out a way. Down the river the
skeleton of what had been a green cotton-
wood sapling in the summer was cut to
the proper height and fastened upright in
a box standard in the sitting-room. The
branches of this she covered with green
tissue paper, and cut leaves out for its
sparse foliage. Fortunately, there were
tapers at the sutler's, for these stores, of
which there is one at every post, are like
a village shop, where the merchant starts
out by buying "a little of everything,"
and as years advance the old time things
are shoved back on the shelves, or put out
of sight, for there can be no "clearing out"
sales on the borders of civilization.
Among this surplus stock, a box of the old
Noah's ark occupants was unearthed, and
a few of the wooden toys dating back to
the childhood of our oldest officer. The
stiff little trees, with their verdant tops of
curled shavings stained a vivid green,
were not more prim than the wooden
soldiers, with the wonderful chest develop-
ment, who grasped rigidly an old-time
gun; but the little king at this revelry
reached just as greedily for the ram-rod-
like soldier as he did for the colored glass
balls or the apples bristling with cloves
which swayed over his head.

If one only considers that we were hun-
dreds of miles from a railroad, that it was
the dead of winter, and that it was only
with the greatest difficulty, and even at
the risk of life, that our mail reached us,
it will be understood what obstacles were
surmounted to celebrate even a baby's
holiday.

One universal custom was for all of us
to spend all the time we could together.
All day long the officers were running in
and out of every door; the "Wish you
merry Christmas" rang out over the
parade ground after any man who was
crossing to attend to some duty and had
not shown up among us. We usually had a
sleigh ride, and every one sang and laughed

as we sped over the country, where there
were no neighbors to be disturbed by our
gayety. If it was warm enough there
poured out of garrison a cavalcade ve-
hemently talking, gesticulating, laughing,
or humming bars of Christmas carols re-
membered from childhood, or starting
some wild college or convivial chorus
where everybody announced that they
"wouldn't go home till morning," in notes
very emphatic if not musical.

The feast of the day over, we adjourned
from dinner to play some games of our
childhood, in order to make the States
and our homes seem a little nearer. Later
in the evening, when the music came up
from the band quarters, every one came
to the house of the commanding officer to
dance.

With a garrison full of perfectly health-
ful people with a determination to be merry,
notwithstanding the isolated life and
utterly dreary surroundings, the holidays
were made something to look forward to
the whole year round.—*Elizabeth Bacon
Custer*

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The Kansas Swine Breeders' Association will meet on January 9, as will be seen by announcement and call in another place.

The Kansas Butter and Cheese Manufacturers' Association meets at Junction City, January 8. There ought to be a good attendance. Kansas can be made a good dairy State.

Dr. D. E. Salmon, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C., will be in Topeka next week to attend the stockmen's convention and the annual session of the State Board of Agriculture.

The stockmen's convention will convene in Representative Hall on January 8, at 10 a. m. It promises to be a large and representative attendance of breeders and feeders of all classes of stock from over the State. Every stock grower and breeder is in sympathy with this meeting and will attend so far as practicable.

The nineteenth annual session of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture convenes at the State House, Topeka, at 4 p. m., January 8, 1890. It promises to be one of the most important and interesting meetings ever held. And clustering around this will be the stockmen's convention and the State Dairy-men's Association, during the same week. Special rates are made by all the railroads on the certificate plan. Parties who expect to attend any of these meetings must take receipts for fare paid coming in order to be returned at the reduced rates.

On Monday, January 6, at 2 p. m., the Kansas Dairy Association will convene at the State House. All members of the Kansas Dairy Association; all persons wishing to become members; all owners, managers and operators of dairies and creameries; all breeders of dairy stock and persons interested in the same; also, all manufacturers and agents of dairy implements and appliances, are earnestly requested to be at this meeting, as the dairy interests of Kansas are very important. Let this be the most important meeting of the Kansas Dairy Association yet held.

THE WAY OUT--No. 2.

Part One.

INTRODUCTION CONTINUED.

Continuing the same line of thought some interesting facts are disclosed. In the last thirty-eight years railroad interests in the United States have developed 1,580 per cent., banking 918 per cent., while agriculture has not gone beyond 252 per cent. There has been a general narrowing of profit margins in all departments of production. Net profit on units has become so small that combinations of capital and labor, operating large interests under one management, are necessary to maintain wages and insure remuneration in manufacturing industries. Mr. Hewitt offered to turn over his iron works to the workmen if they would guaranty him 6 per cent. profit on the investment. Those men, if working separately and on their own individual account, could not live at present prices for their products. The little shops and forges scattered over the country fifty years and more ago are gone—absorbed in great establishments where a thousand men are employed. The farmer only among workers retains his individuality. The nature of his calling renders his isolation necessary. Other industries concentrate agencies of production, while agriculture must be carried on by individual farmers, every man on a particular parcel of land. And while farming is the great industry, underlying all others, the farmer's profits have fallen off more in the aggregate than those of any other producer. Twenty per cent. is about the average reduction in prices of manufactured articles generally during the last sixteen years, but values of farm products have fallen at least 35 per cent. The average price of No. 2 wheat in Chicago during the five years ending 1883 was \$1.11 a bushel; in the next period of five years—ending 1888, the average price of the same grade of wheat in the same market was 81 cents a bushel, a drop of 28½ per cent., although the wheat consumption of the country had fallen off 2½ per cent. and the population had increased 15 per cent. in the same time. Corn and live stock, cotton and wool, are about 40 per cent. lower than they were ten years ago. The annual average production of wheat in the United States in the years from 1871 to 1881 inclusive—eleven years, was 342,224,776 bushels. The average for the eight years—1880 to 1887, was 448,150,757 bushels, an increase of 30 per cent., just about equal to the increase of population during the same time. The annual average export of wheat during the years 1871 to 1882 inclusive—twelve years, was 95,344,889 bushels; and during the years 1881 to 1887, seven years, the average was 135,500,076 bushels, an increase of 42 per cent. This shows that our consumption of wheat during all the years from 1871 to 1889, did not increase as fast as the population by about 3 per cent., and the market reports show that the average price of wheat during the years from 1871 to 1881 was \$1.05 a bushel, while the average since that time has been about 75 cents, a drop of 30 cents a bushel—28½ per cent. Here are some figures showing wheat values during the years named:

	1875.	1887.	Reduction.
Average export value.	\$1.124	\$0.89	\$0.234
Average farm value, United States.	1.00	.681	.319
No. 2, spring, Chicago.	99a1.04	75a.78½	.25
Average farm value, New York.	1.31	.82	.49
Average farm value, Ohio.	1.09	.75	.34
Average farm value, Illinois.	.91	.70	.21
Average farm value, Nebraska.	.64	.53	.11

The decline in average farm value has been very great since 1881, as follows, the average being that of all the States and Territories on the 1st of December of each year:

Years.	Prices.
1881.	\$1.193
1882.	.882
1883.	.91
1884.	.645
1885.	.771
1886.	.687
1887.	.681

Wheat was lower in the United States in 1885 than it had been in forty years, and lower in England in 1886 than it had been

in a hundred years. The average value of our wheat crops by the acre during the four years—1880 to 1883, was \$11.77, and during the next four years it was \$8.30½, a drop of 29½ per cent. Values of other grains and field products fell in about the same proportion during the same years.

While it is a little better with live stock, it is bad enough. During the four years—1880 to 1883, there were 6,446,637 head of cattle and calves, 24,992,328 hogs, 2,208,238 sheep, and 52,418 horses received at the stock yards in Chicago, valued at \$723,938,329 in the aggregate; during the next four years the numbers were 8,297,037 cattle and calves, 24,479,115 hogs, 4,174,880 sheep and 111,961 horses, valued at \$704,372,033. The average value, per animal, during the first period was \$20.98, and during the second period it was \$19. The increase in number was 7 per cent., decrease in value 10 per cent., though the population of the country had increased 24 per cent. during the eight years. These last percentages would be varied somewhat if the values of the different classes of animals were given separately, but the average drop in prices would be quite as much as these figures show.

And there is nothing in the signs of the times to indicate any considerable advance in future. India, Russia, the Australasian colonies, and the Argentine Republic are competing in the British markets with the United States in wheat, wool, hides and meat, and live cattle are shipped by our Canadian neighbors from the foot of the Rocky mountains direct to Glasgow on one bill of lading. The only reason why India wheat is not delivered in Great Britain at 50 cents a bushel now is that the India crop is not yet large enough to control the British market.

It requires more wheat, more corn, more cattle, more wool, more cotton, more tobacco, to pay interest on \$100 or \$1,000 of debt now than it did to pay the interest on a like sum at the same rate a dozen years ago. In that time population increased 35 per cent., manufactured products increased 40 per cent., the business of the country increased nearly 50 per cent., while the volume of money in circulation has increased little if any; and while the average reduction in prices of commodities in general have fallen at least 25 per cent., the nominal rates of interest have not dropped more than 10 per cent. If the average rate of interest to-day be 8 per cent. per annum, and if it were 9 per cent. in 1877, the difference may be all accounted for by conditions in the closing of an inflation period when speculation was rife. The truth is, that interest rates are, in effect, higher now than they ever were in the United States.

The interest burden is a heavy one. The ascertained indebtedness of the people is thus stated in latest tables: [See American Almanac for 1889 and Census Reports of 1880.]

State debts.	\$22,785,205
County debts.	121,285,096
Municipal—including township and school districts.	675,348,407
Total.	\$1,019,419,308

To this must be added \$25,032,060 of Territorial debts, making a total of \$1,045,112,268. The figures for counties and municipalities are taken from the census report of 1880, and probably show 25 per cent. less total than the returns for 1890 will. It is safe to put the present total at \$1,200,000,000, which is equal to 6 per cent. of the total property valuation of the country for taxation. To pay 8 per cent. interest on this requires a levy of eight-tenths of 1 per cent. on all the taxable property.

The private indebtedness of the people cannot be accurately ascertained, not even that of which records testify, for some of it is paid, partly or wholly, and no note made of it where the public can see it. For practical purposes, however, a reasonable estimate may be made. The following figures are given in Col. Morgan's "Impending Revolution," as showing the extent to which farms are mortgaged in the States named:

Ohio.	\$350,000,000
Indiana.	175,000,000
Illinois.	200,000,000
Wisconsin.	100,000,000
Michigan.	125,000,000

Minnesota.	70,000,000
Iowa.	100,000,000
Nebraska.	25,000,000
Kansas.	50,000,000
Missouri.	100,000,000
Total.	\$1,295,000,000

The correctness of these estimates is not vouched for, as Col. Morgan does not state his authority. But let us take Kansas as a representative State, assume that one-half the farms in this State are mortgaged for one-sixth of their value, or, which would be the same thing, one-fourth of the farms at one-third their value, and see where it will lead us. That does not appear unreasonable, in view of the fact that politicians have put the figures nearly seven times higher than this estimate will show. The last valuation of Kansas farms at their actual worth—that is, what their owners reported them to be worth, was published in 1886, and was \$431,405,347. The total number of acres in farms was 25,607,413. The number of farms is not given, but taking 154 acres as the average—that was the Kansas average in 1880—we have 166,000 farms of an average value of \$2,600 nearly. At this valuation, one-half the farms (133,000) mortgaged for one-sixth their value (\$433½ each) we have an aggregate farm indebtedness for the State of \$57,630,333, which is 40 per cent. of the assessed value of all the farms in the State for taxation. Whether this is above or below the actual fact, the reader must judge for himself. The figures are probably not very far wrong. Assuming their correctness, and assuming the average rate of interest on Kansas farm loans—what the borrower pays, including commissions and other expenses—to be 10 per cent., it would require a tax of a little more than 4 per cent. on the assessed valuation (\$142,657,058) of all the farms to pay the interest on the mortgage debt for one year. The average rate of taxation for all purposes in the State that year (and for several years past) was 3½ per cent. To this add 4 per cent. interest tax and the total is 7½ per cent. The interest tax, however, is chargeable only to one-half the farms, which would increase their tax to 11½ per cent., leaving the farms not mortgaged free from the mortgage burden. If there are 133,000 farmers in Kansas who must pay 11½ per cent. in taxes and interest every year, in addition to other expenses, with the average price of their oats 12 cents a bushel, corn 15 cents, wheat 50 cents, beef cattle \$2.50 per 100 pounds, and fat hogs \$3, the outlook is not cheering.

What is shown here in relation to Kansas farmers applies with equal force, let us assume, to farmers in all other States similarly situated. The aggregate debts—State, county, city, township and school district, of the States named below is—

Ohio.	\$48,753,954
Indiana.	18,353,737
Illinois.	45,180,922
Wisconsin.	11,875,992
Michigan.	8,803,144
Minnesota.	8,476,064
Iowa.	7,992,707
Nebraska.	7,425,767
Kansas.	16,005,853
Missouri.	57,431,322
Total.	\$230,278,512

One-half of that amount, or \$115,139,256 is chargeable against farms, because they constitute about one-half the value of all taxable property. Applying the Kansas ratio—40 per cent. of assessed farm values mortgaged—to the other States named, we have a total mortgage indebtedness in the ten States—\$1,026,118,952. Add the municipal debts, as above—\$115,000,000, and we have \$1,141,118,952, for which farms are liable.

The assessed value of real estate for taxation in the years 1887-88 in the States named was—

Ohio.	\$1,185,010,625
Indiana.	566,521,981
Illinois.	576,584,907
Wisconsin.	455,342,066
Michigan.	710,633,545
Minnesota.	382,337,464
Iowa.	360,981,885
Nebraska.	243,977,400
Kansas.	552,946,000
Missouri.	552,946,000
Total.	\$8,130,594,762

One-half of that—\$4,065,297,381, is farm values. Now we have farm values in the ten States named, \$2,565,297,381, and indebtedness chargeable to farms \$1,141,118,952—the debt nearly one-half of the total assessed valuation of all the farms. Suppose these mortgage figures are too

large. Let us cut them down one-half and make the total \$513,059,476 instead of \$1,026,118,952, and leave out the municipal indebtedness, so that we shall have nothing before us but mortgage debts. Even that amounts to 20 per cent. of the total farm valuation, and would require an annual levy of 2 per cent. on the value of all the farm lands to pay 8 per cent. interest. Assuming that only one-fourth the farms are mortgaged the interest charge on them would equal 8 per cent. on their assessed value, adding 8 per cent. to the regular tax, which averages 3 per cent.; this puts a tax of 11 per cent. on the farm values of one-fourth the farmers in these ten States. That would be equal to 8 per cent. on all the property of every kind belonging to those particular farmers, and farms have not netted more than 2 per cent. annual profit in the last five years.

Farmers, if they were out of debt, could get along as well as other producers. But they are not out of debt; they are not even keeping up their interest payments as well as formerly, and with many of them it is all they can do to pay interest regularly. A gentleman connected with one of the most conservative agencies in the West, told the writer hereof recently that he had just footed up over-due semi-annual interest balances in their business, and the figures were nearly \$30,000. That was semi-annual interest; it represents \$60,000 annual interest, which, if the average rate on outstanding loans be 8 per cent., represents an indebtedness of \$750,000—three-quarters of a million dollars on which interest is past due, and this is only one company's business.

(To be continued next week.)

CLEAR THE DECKS.

The article entitled "The Farmers' Defensive Movement," prepared by the editor of the KANSAS FARMER and published in *The Forum* for December, is producing the effect desired—attracting public attention to what the farmers are doing in their own interests through their various organizations. A discussion of the objects and aims of the Alliance, Grange and Mutual Benefit Union, has already begun and may be expected to continue. The character of the discussion, its fairness and thoroughness, and the temper and ability with which the work is done will, of course, depend on the mental make-up and the prejudices and weights of the disputants. To a man who sees no good which does not spring from his own sect or party, the farmers' movement will appear revolutionary; to the man who always regards his denomination as representing all that is good in Christianity and who believes there are no good things in politics which are not found in his own party creed, the Farmers' Alliance and the Grange and Mutual Benefit Union appear to be no better than three great bodies of ignorant, vicious men bent on mischief—really full-blooded cousins to self-confessed anarchists. To reasonable, patriotic men, who can see beyond immediate surroundings, patient, generous men who do not believe that a million or so of farmers who were good citizens only last year have suddenly gone mad—to such men this movement among the rural people will be something to be studied and respected as it deserves. They see that something somewhere is out of joint, and they will gladly assist in righting it whenever their help can be made available. They listen, look and wait, and that is the right spirit.

The KANSAS FARMER gives notice that as far as in its power lies the farmers of Kansas at least shall have a fair hearing in its columns on all these new issues and their cause will be advocated with all the ability and energy at our command. We have cleared the decks for action. That means not anarchy, it means law; it means not

chaos but order; not lawlessness but government of the highest order; not rant but reason; not hatred or malice but earnestness in good will. It means, broadly stated, a comprehensive statement of farmers' grievances, a bold, manly, truthful, persistent presentation of their claims, and a candid, continuous discussion of the propositions they set forth in their demands upon legislation.

If in presenting and discussing new issues which these demands bring forward, our readers see some things in a new light, and if a full, free, clear presentation of an idea sets up new trains of thought, opening up new avenues of sight, let it be so. Truth lies along the line of facts; facts establish truth, and truth makes us free. We ask only that men will hear us before they strike, then follow where the truth would lead them.

You ask what about parties? What have we to do with parties? Let parties take care of themselves. What we aim at is truth, and justice with good will. The work before us is to educate the people along right lines, and the people will attend to the rest. It is better to be right than to belong to a party. The country is worth more than any party. No party embodies all that is good; none all that is bad. Let us first get right. Let us have free coinage of silver, let us have a much larger volume of circulating money, let all money which the government issues be issued to the people through government channels at cost, and not through banks or loan agencies, where it is loaded with 6 to 12 per cent. advance before the people for whose use it is intended can get hold of it; let Legislatures, State and National, make relentless war on all gamblers, whether in grain, meat, coffee, sugar, money, or any other article or scheme in which all the people are alike interested; let the government take such control of railroading as to insure absolute equality among passengers and shippers; let the public domain be gathered into recognizable shape at once and divided among settlers under the homestead law; let taxes be made equal and light; let sugar, salt, lumber and coal be put on the free list; let other duties be cut down to the lowest point consistent with reasonable protection, and let our government make special effort to so adjust our relations with the people of other countries that farming shall have protection equal with other industries. Briefly, let the government look after the interests of the people and protect them, leaving gamblers to take care of themselves. If there is any party in the country which cannot or will not endorse these doctrines, that party will go down, as it ought to do.

The year 1890 will be full of work for all of us. If the farmers of the State, more especially those of them who are associated with their neighbors in the Alliance and Grange, stand with us through this war—not neglecting their local and national organs—we expect that, together, by mutual encouragement and assistance, victory will come with healing in its wings. Political waters are moving even now, and the farmer's voice is being heard as it was never heard before. Let us work shoulder to shoulder faithfully to the end, concentrating our efforts in the most available means, not scattering but converging our fire, and success is as certain as that morning follows night. Clear the decks and keep them clear until all needed changes are wrought. The KANSAS FARMER has long looked and worked for this very time. Now that it has come, let us join forces and thus hasten the end.

A PATERNAL GOVERNMENT.

One of the objections urged against proposed governmental control of many matters of common concern is that it will establish a paternal government, the effect on citizens being bad, educating them to depend on the government for support. It is alleged that whenever men begin to ask the interference of the government they cease to rely upon themselves, practically abandoning their duties as citizens, leaning for support on the stronger arms of the law. Persons who urge this objection fail to comprehend the situation. The demand for governmental interference now being made by a very large number of the people of this country is not made by idlers, but by men who have done and expect to do about all the manual labor that is done, at any rate all the labor that has been performed in producing the wealth of which we boast. The demand is not made with the expectation of doing away with labor, but that burdens and benefits may be equalized. For example, farmers do not desire or expect to be relieved from performing any necessary part of farm work, but they want a fair chance in market. They do not want to be cheated out of their just profits or any part of them by gamblers, and there is no way to prevent it except by law—the government must interfere.

Among objectors none have yet appeared to oppose the particular suggestion last above stated—that grain gambling is wrong, and that it ought to be suppressed all agree. What worse is gambling in grain than gambling in money? Indeed, is not money gambling the worst species of gambling? Is it not the sum of all commercial villainies? Wheat is only one among several kinds of grain, therefore a corner in wheat affects only wheat. A corn corner, a lard corner, an oil corner, affects only corn, lard, or oil. And the same is true as to any one article of commerce—a corner in that particular article extends no farther, at all events, not necessarily so. But a corner in money affects all lines of trade, all classes of citizens; it wrecks fortunes in a day and pours millions of money into hands that do not produce a farthing worth of any useful thing. Think of any one money panic in this country or in any other country, and recall the losses. Black Friday cast its gloom over all the land, and its shadows lingered years. Who controls the people's money controls their business. That has been demonstrated so many times that everybody understands it. Is it asking too much, then, to insist that the people shall be protected in their common rights against the unbridled cupidity of men who own or control money? It is simply a measure of protection, and the chief object of government is protection.

We have paternal government in a hundred things—the postoffice, railways, courts, schools, and many other branches of the public service are examples. The time has come for class robbery to cease. Producers never corner anything. Farmers and mechanics were never known to pile up their products and sit down upon them until the price had been forced beyond reason. It is the trader, the middleman, the gambler that gets up corners. He trades in what other men produce and what other men consume. He is the bad man in all this infamous business. He is the man that must be throttled, and if it requires a paternal government to do the needed work, then let us have a paternal government.

The officers of the Kansas Short-horn Breeders' Association and the Kansas

Sheep Breeders' and Wool Growers' Association will be present at the stockmen's convention to recruit their respective organizations, and in all probability will hold a session if enough members are present, in which case notices will appear in Topeka daily papers.

DISPUTED QUOTATIONS.

Some time ago our attention was called to certain communications which had appeared in the KANSAS FARMER containing quoted matter alleged to have been written or spoken by certain persons named, when there was reason to believe the writers were mistaken. It seemed wise that no special attention be paid to the matter at the time for prudential reasons. It might have been, and we suppose it would have been charged that the KANSAS FARMER was tender-footed and could not stand the truth, so we let it pass, waiting for a more favorable opportunity to correct the mistakes—when it could be done without offense and when good use could be made of it.

The particular matters to which we refer will not be mentioned here, and it is not at all likely that they will ever be. But another case of alleged misquotation is now brought forward and it may as well be disposed of now as at any other time. Several times, within a year, and again quite recently the following appeared in communications to the KANSAS FARMER as having been written by President Lincoln—quoted by Mr. Geo. Leary, of Lawrence, Douglas county:

The prophetic eye of the lamented Lincoln took in the situation when, in his message to Congress in 1861, he said: "In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit raising a warning voice against the return of approaching despotism. There is one point to which I ask brief attention. It is the effort to place capital on an equal footing with, if not above, labor in the structure of government. Let them (the people) beware of surrendering a political power which they already have, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them till all of liberty shall be lost." And again, later, in a letter to a friend, he said: "Yes, the war has been indeed a trying hour for the republic; but I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people, until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic is destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of the war. God grant that my suspicion may prove groundless."

Mr. Leary was asked for his authority, and he replied in this letter:

LAWRENCE, KAS., December 16, 1889.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—Dear Sir:—Your favor concerning the quotation from President Lincoln's letter is received.

The quotation is from a letter in reply to a friend in Illinois, near the close of the war. A more extended quotation embodying the one in question may be found on page 81 of "Seven Financial Conspiracies," by Mrs. S. E. V. Emery, of Lansing, Mich.

On page 90 the authoress says: "I challenge contradiction of the truths set forth in this little book." As I never knew a reformer who felt pressed to depart from the truth in order to make a case I gave this one full credence. For the sake of perspicuity and brevity I began with the first words of the quotation, then passed to fourth sentence where I used the substantive "war" instead of its pronoun. This did no violence to the facts set forth. I have no further knowledge of the authenticity of the letter.

Thanking you for the inquiry, I subscribe myself, Yours truly,

GEO. LEARY.

At same time, Mr. S. G. Mead, editor of *McPherson Republican*, one of the best informed men in the State on such matters, was appealed to and this is his answer:

MCPHERSON, KAS., December 18, 1889.

FRIEND PEPPER:—Mr. Leary has been the victim of an imposition. The purported quotation from the message is garbled, as well as misquoted. The sentences are taken from different parts of the message; only one is correctly quoted and none had any reference to the matter discussed by Mr. Leary.

I cannot find in any quotation from Lincoln which I can verify anything like the other passage. I presume it is either a conglomerate like the first part or a pure forgery.

The years between 1870 and 1878 were prolific in forgeries of this sort, many of which have gained currency and go unchallenged. The only safe way is to "verify every reference." It is dull work, it is drudgery, but there is no escaping it.

S. G. MEAD.

Horticulture.

WHEN ARE OUR FRUITS RIPE?

Read before the Kansas State Horticultural Society, December 1, 1889, by Chas. W. Martfeldt, of Kirkwood, Mo.

Mr. President and fellow members of Kansas Horticultural Society:

The remarks which I shall offer on this occasion will be confined to apples and pears, especially the last named. There are certainly two distinct periods of ripeness—one, the proper time to gather the fruit, and the other when they are in perfection for use as dessert fruit. Of course, everybody of common sense knows that when the first stage of ripeness is reached, these fruits are quite fit and wholesome for all culinary purposes. It requires some careful experience and study also to know just when the different varieties of apples and pears are in perfect condition, taking location, latitude and exposure of orchard into consideration.

Of the early summer varieties of apples, viz.: Carolina Red June, Yellow June and Early Harvest, allow me to remark that the first named ripens its fruit consecutively, a few at a time, for a month or so, and is therefore very desirable as a family apple. When highly cultivated, as it always should be, and grown in large quantities, it is also a desirable market fruit, being of a beautiful color and of medium size. All three sorts first named are fit for use even before the seeds are brown, yet they are wholesome and of best flavor when fully ripe.

The autumn varieties of apples will keep some time after they are fully ripe; but when shipped to a distance they must be consumed soon after they reach their destination. And let me hint just here, that one or two partially decayed specimens in a package will soon spoil all the rest, hence only the most perfect fruit should be shipped.

Of winter varieties and the best time to gather them, I will offer only a single remark; it is this: Let them hang on the trees as long as possible and yet avoid a killing frost. Middle of October and November is about correct. No arbitrary dates can be given, because seasons vary as well as localities and varieties.

Mr. President, I am fully conscious that very little has been said but what every well-posted orchardist knows; but then every farmer is not a skillful orchardist. At the same time, every farmer worthy of the name ought to cultivate an orchard and ought earnestly and honestly try to become a practical and thorough horticulturist. He should know not only how to grow, to cultivate and dress an orchard so as to produce the best fruits, but also to make the best use of it when grown and secured. The object of this society is to teach this. Mr. President, allow me to give the very reason which prompted me to write this paper and present it at this time. As is well known, St. Louis county, and especially Kirkwood and vicinity, is well adapted for the cultivation of pears. They grow and bear profusely in every garden, orchard or yard; but for the want of a little information, hundreds of bushels of the very choicest sorts are annually allowed to decay or are being fed to cattle. Now, I think with you and all other good orchardists, that this is a great waste and ought to be stopped, not only in Kirkwood, but everywhere in and out of our State, because there are few, very few, people who do not relish and enjoy a perfectly ripened pear. Like a friend of mine, when offered a plate and knife to partake of a few Seckels, he said: "No, thank you; when I eat a pear there is nothing left but the stem."

Broadly speaking, it may be stated that no variety of pears ought to be allowed to fully ripen on the tree, except the Seckel. The authority that I am about to quote frequently adds—"will keep to November, December or January, as the case may be, when ripened in the house." As to the question, When, then, ought a pear to be gathered? I answered—As soon as the seeds are brown, and when by lifting it with the hand it readily becomes detached from the branch, the stem adhering to the fruit. What next? Gather carefully with-

out bruising and place in shallow drawers in a cool place; if possible, wrap carefully in papers, just like oranges are treated. You will be surprised to see how beautifully they will color up and ripen under this treatment. Never try to push your thumb into the fruit (any fruit), but use the whole hand moderately, and when you discover the fruit to yield a little to the pressure, your pear is in perfection. Then there will be no need of such a plaint as this: "I have some fine pears; my trees bear well and the pears are of good size, but they all rot at the core and do not keep at all. How must I treat them? Can the fault be in the soil?" Such questions are repeated every year, and thus far the losses continue also.

Should my humble effort find a place in your annual report, the data above given should furnish a partial guide to obviate the evil; and let me add, that every member of this society should know from the name of the variety when, all things being equal, it will be in season. Many sorts shipped from California to our markets ripen in transit; therefore, and just because of this, scarcely any fruit from that quarter reaches us in such perfection as do pears.

Let me promise, also, that in naming the season of leading sorts Mr. Chas. Downing, whom I now intend to quote, lived at Newburgh, on the Hudson, (his standpoint), and we must make allowance for his location, say fully two weeks later than most of Missouri and Kansas, and about equal to northern Illinois and Iowa. Now, with your permission, I will name the leading sorts and add briefly the position and Mr. Downing's judgment as to quality. I know of no higher authority. One other brief remark: The best Kansas and Missouri pears are frequently sold as coming from California. Our pears are certainly of superior flavor, and we ought to have the credit of producing them. Let every grower insist that his pears shall be called the product of his State, and let him label his packages with his own name and locality.

Bartlett, August and September, very good.

Beurre Bosc, September and October, best.

Beurre Clairgeau, October to January, good.

Beurre d'Anjou, October to November, very good.

Beurre Diel, September to December, very good.

Beurre Hardy, September and October, very good.

Beurre Superfine, all of October, very good to best.

Bloodgood, July and August, very good.

Buffum, September, very good.

Clapp's Favorite, August and September, very good.

Dearborn Seedling, August, very good.

Dix, October and November, very good to best.

Doyenne Boussock, September and October, very good.

Doyenne d'Alencon, December to April, very good.

Doyenne d'Ete, July, good to very good.

Doyenne Gray, October and many weeks, best.

Duchess d'Angouleme, October, very good.

Easter Beurre, January to March, very good.

Flemish Beauty, September, very good.

Glou Morceau, December, good to very good.

Goodale, October, very good.

Howell, September and October, very good.

Kirtland, August and September, very good to best.

Louise Bonne d'Jersey, September and October, good to very good.

Onandago or Swan's Orange, September to November, good to very good.

Osband's Summer, July and August, very good.

Seckel, August to October, (well known as the standard of excellence.—C. W. M.)

Sheldon, October, very good.

Stevens' Genesee, August and September, good to very good.

Summer Bon Cretien, August and September, tender, melting, juicy.

Tyson, August and September, very good to best.

Urbaniste, September and October, very good to best.

Vicar of Winkfield, November to January, juicy, with good, spicy flavor.

White Doyenne, October, flesh juicy and melting.

Winter Nelis, December and January, best.

Any one cultivating a greater variety or desiring a larger list, can at his own inclination consult the best authorities. I have had great honor as well as much



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in the direction of the nearest drug-store, is not too fast for a person to make who is troubled with any of the myriad forms of disease resulting from a torpid or deranged liver and its attendant impure blood, and is, therefore, in need of that world-famed and only guaranteed blood-purifier and liver invigorator known as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Every form of Scrofulous, Skin and Scalp Disease, Eczema, Erysipelas, Salt-rheum, Tetter, scaly, crusty, itching, burning and tormenting forms of skin disease, are cured by this wonderful remedy as if by magic. Sold by druggists, under a positive guarantee of benefit or cure, or money refunded. All Scrofulous affections, as Fever-sores, White Swellings, Hip-joint Disease, Old Sores and Ulcers, yield to its wonderful curative properties. It promptly conquers Indigestion and Dyspepsia. It is a concentrated vegetable fluid extract. Dose small and pleasant to taste. Contains no alcohol, don't inebriate or manufacture topers; is free from syrup or sugar, and, therefore, don't sour or ferment in the stomach, interfering with digestion; as peculiar in its wonderful curative effects as in its composition. There is no other medicine at all like it, either in composition or effect. Therefore, don't be fooled into accepting something instead, said to be "just as good." If substitutes are "just as good," why don't their vendors guarantee them to do what they are recommended to, or refund money paid for them, as we do with all who buy "Golden Medical Discovery?" For the very good reason that such a plan of sale would bankrupt the manufacturers of any but an extraordinary remedy like the "Discovery." To purify the blood, invigorate the liver, promote digestion, and build up both flesh and strength, it is unequalled, whether for adults or children. WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Proprietors, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.



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SYMPTOMS OF CATARRH.—Headache, obstruction of nose, discharges falling into throat, sometimes profuse, watery, and acrid, at others, thick, tenacious, mucous, purulent, bloody, putrid and offensive; eyes weak, ringing in ears, deafness; offensive breath; smell and taste impaired, and general debility. Only a few of these symptoms likely to be present at once. Dr. Sage's Remedy cures the worst cases. Only 50 cents. Sold by druggists, everywhere.

pleasure in personal acquaintance with Mr. Downing and being called by him "my friend." Have visited with him his experimental orchards after he had parted with the realty. At the earnest request of the purchasers he was induced to carry on his experiments and treat the orchards as his own, even as long as he lived. His knowledge of all fruits was phenomenal. He was especially fond of a fine pear. The man on whom his mantle has fallen has not yet been discovered.

Esthetics in Horticulture.

Paper read before the Missouri State Horticultural Society, at Lebanon, by G. W. Hopkins.

Had the above subject been assigned me several years ago, when the Oscar Wilde craze was sweeping over the country, and the "big sunflower" had reached the zenith of its glory, I might have received inspiration from the popular sentiment of the day to aid me in the preparation of the paper.

But in the absence of all this, I will place before me a Ben Davis apple, a big Duchess pear, and a Salway peach, and looking out o'er the landscape at the beautiful golden rod, as it nods its head to

the gentle breeze, will try and rouse up within me the esthetic muse.

In this paper I shall treat fruit and flowers as one. In horticulture they are inseparable—they go hand in hand; with out the flower there can be no fruit.

They were first planted in the Garden of Eden, and Adam and Eve ever gazed on beautiful flowers, and feasted on delicious fruits. They were God's first and most beautiful gift to man. And while long, weary centuries have passed away since that time, while countless kingdoms and empires have flourished, fell to pieces and are now only known in history, fruits and flowers in all their beauty and perfection are still with us, and likely to remain to the end of time.

Fruits and flowers are enjoyed alike by the millionaire and the beggar. The Goulds and the Vanderbilts have their large conservatories, in which are gathered the choice exotics of every clime, and where tropical fruits are blooming and ripening even in the dead of winter. They enjoy this as a rest from the weary cares and toils of a business life. So does the prisoner behind the bars appreciate a bunch of flowers or a basket of fruit.

It seems to touch some tender spot in

their memory, to recall the happy hours of childhood, when a fond mother endeavored to train their youthful minds in the path of rectitude and virtue.

There is nothing more instructive to the human mind, nothing more beautiful to contemplate, than to watch the progress of fruit and flowers in their various stages of development. In the autumn the frost comes, the beautiful flowers droop their heads and die, the leaves on the trees lose rich green color, and soon fall to the ground. The cold increases, the ground is frozen, the merciless hail pelts the denuded branches of the trees, and beats down the shrivelled stems of the dead flowers. The piercing shriek of the north wind is felt over hills and along the valleys, until it seems as if all life in the plant creation had departed, never to return again.

But by and by the warm sunshine and gentle showers of spring come. The crocus, tulip, the modest violet, and other plants soon rear their heads from out their wintry graves, and ere long are crowned with beautiful flowers. Soon the peach, the cherry, plum and apple follow each other in rapid succession. The strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, in fact everything in the whole realm of horticulture is loaded with bloom and embryo fruit.

In due course of time the strawberry, the earliest and most delicious of all berries, begins to ripen. How tempting and how nice it is to pluck the beautiful crimson fruit from beneath its covering of green leaves. And so on with the rest of the berries, the peaches, pears, and apples. They each in turn have their beauty in their ripe fruit, and health-giving properties so essential to the welfare of mankind. How beautiful is all this and how typical it is of life, death, and the resurrection. Without fruit and flowers earth would be shorn of many of its charms, and our pilgrimage along the rugged pathway of life would be like the lone traveler in his journey across the limitless desert. No man has ever reached so low a depth in crime, or woman so degraded and lost to every sense of virtue but what they will admire and appreciate these beautiful gifts of our Heavenly Father. Go with me in imagination down the southern slope of the Ozarks and some beautiful morning in early spring I will show you "aesthetics in horticulture." Fifty thousand peach trees in full bloom, with the various tinted hues of the different varieties, glistening in the morning sunlight, and later on the red-checked, the golden, full-ripe delicious fruit.

I don't believe the famous garden of "Hesperides," with its golden apples and other fruit, or the celebrated hanging gardens of Babylon (at that time one of the wonders of the world), would compare with this beautiful panorama as seen in our own south Missouri.

I have never seen an orange grove, but I imagine one of the most beautiful sights in the world. I am told the fruit can be seen on the trees in all its various stages of development, from the beautiful flowers which adorn our brides at the altar, to the full-ripe, luscious fruit. And so on through all the various tropical fruits, we can ever find new beauties in the land.

"Where feathery palm trees rise,
And dates grow ripe under sunny skies."
Let us continue to plant fruits and flowers. If we do not reap the full benefits from them those who come after us will. There is nothing which will afford more pleasure while we live, or come nearer giving us a glimpse of that land beyond the river, where fruit is ever blooming and flowers never die.

When using the wagon, says an exchange, to take a load to the field, throw in a shovel and bring back a load of loam from around stumps and logs, or woods dirt, and throw it into the compost heap. It will pay.

Look Here, Friend, Are You Sick?

Do you suffer from Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Liver Complaint, Nervousness, Lost Appetite, Bilioussness, Exhaustion or Tired Feeling, Pains in Chest or Lungs, Dry Cough, Night Sweats, or any form of Consumption? If so, send to Prof. Hart, 88 Warren St., New York, who will send you free, by mail, a bottle of *Floraplexion*, which is a sure cure. Send to-day.

The Poultry Yard.

The Poultry Blaze.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—The express rates on fine fowls are too high. More persons would buy thoroughbreds if rates were cheaper. The "special rate" people are hard for me to understand. I can't get special express rates on fine birds, and I am puzzled when I hear of others getting them. All should be treated alike in this express business. The expressage on pure-bred swine is cheaper than it used to be, and there should be a reduction on fine poultry. I would like for the leading poultrymen of Kansas to look into this matter and see what can be done about the rates on thoroughbred fowls. I shall get all the information that I can upon the subject and report through the KANSAS FARMER. Many poultry-raisers have written me: "Get the fowls billed as cheap as possible," and the only reply I could make was that there was no special rates on fine poultry. The expressage is so high some will ask you to get them billed as common fowls. We would not do such a thing. It is not right to do it even if the express company does charge exorbitant rates for transporting fowls. I would like to know if the President of the Kansas Poultry and Pet Stock Association gets special rates when he ships fine fowls. No difference if I shipped into the dozens I could not get special rates.

This is one of those bright warm December days and the fowl family are scratching and dusting themselves in the fine earth near the poultry house. The loud crowing of one of the prize-winners is heard in the distance, and he seems to say "I've taken gold medals; just look this way." How pretty a farm is to behold with pure-bred chickens scattered over it and well cared for. Of course the corn cribs and granaries must be kept closed and the fowls fed twice a day when they are out of doors all day. A fowl that is overfed will not do well, therefore poultry-raisers should be very careful about that. Small potatoes cooked and mixed with bran is a good breakfast for birds this time of the year. Apple parings raw or cooked they do enjoy, and sour or clabbered milk by the gallon. BELLE L. SPROUL.

Western Poultry Breeder--We Give It Away.

The *Western Poultry Breeder* is an illustrated 16-page monthly paper, published at Topeka, and is undoubtedly the cheapest journal in the country.

In it you will learn how to raise chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, etc. How to build poultry houses, chicken coops, etc., in short, how to make big money by raising poultry.

Remember this is not a trial offer of three or even six months, but a whole year's subscription for 25 cents.

For a limited time we will give this splendid poultry journal free to any one sending us one new subscriber to the KANSAS FARMER and \$1. Renew at once and send us one new subscriber besides and we will send the *Western Poultry Breeder* to any name and address desired. Address KANSAS FARMER Co., Topeka.

It is said that the market gardeners, who wish early vegetables, send to northern seedsmen for their seeds. These seeds do not require so long a season to make their growth and come to maturity, as seeds raised in the same latitude in which they are to be planted.

For worms in hogs' kidneys rub the back across the loins with spirits of turpentine every other day for a week, and if no better give a dose at the mouth on an empty stomach, one or two tablespoonfuls, according to size. Do this two or three times. Dilute the turpentine with milk.

When hogs are affected by worms in the kidneys they are sore across the loins and seem to have lost the use of their hind parts. When forced to do so they will get up and walk, but when the hinder parts are paralyzed they will not get up and can not walk. For the last trouble stimulate

the surface with washing and rubbing with hot water, and keep the bed clean and dry. Turn them over and be patient. They will generally get over it. They must have cooling and laxative foods.

Stephen Powers thinks that a tree which is generously fed and industriously worked, will generally have strength enough to defend itself against those classes of parasites which prey on the bark, leaves or limbs; but perhaps it may need the presence of stock or poultry under them to destroy the germs or otherwise prevent the ravages of the insects which prey on the fruit.



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I WAS GIVEN UP to die with consumption by a prominent physician. Was advised by friends to try Seth Arnold's Cough Killer, and much to the astonishment of all it cured me and I am now a well, hearty man. Thomas D. Paine, Jeweler, Woonsocket, R. I. 25c. 50c. and \$1 per bottle. ALL DEALERS SELL IT.

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Established in the county in 1869. For the coming fall and spring, we present a full line of nursery stock for the market. We have a large surplus of 1, 2 and 3-year apple trees; 25,000 1-year Concord grape vines—No. 1; 8,000 of other varieties, by the 100 or less—Elvira, Drucal, Amber, Catawba, Worden, Niagara, Ives, plant by the 1,000; 750,000 No. 1 hedge plants. Everything at hard-time prices. Send us your list and let us give you rates. Write for price and variety list. WM. PLASKET & SON, Lawrence, Kansas.

NEW STRAWBERRY "LADY RUSK"

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Correspondence.

"Relief For Mortgage Debtors."

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—In your issue of December 18, I see you do not agree with the Knights of Labor plan for the "Relief of Mortgage Debtors." In your remarks you say: "All this matter of debt-collecting and debt-paying is within the exclusive jurisdiction of the several States. Congress has nothing to do with it in any way." And further along you say: "That would be a direct interference with State affairs, declaring that a debt contracted in any State should not be collected according to the laws of the State. Congress has no such authority."

I am sorry that the good old KANSAS FARMER should have put itself on record in that shape. In reply I desire to say that clause four (4) of section eight (8), article one (1), of the constitution of the United States, gives Congress full discretionary power to interfere within the several States for the relief of distressed debtors. On three different occasions laws have been passed by Congress, so interfering; and, for the time being, setting aside and "suspending" State laws in connection with the class of cases mentioned in the laws of Congress. Under the operation of these United States laws, thousands of debts have been partly or wholly paid; or, the claims of creditors have been partly or wholly cancelled and confiscated, *in spite of State laws!*

The national laws are known as "The Act of 1800;" "The Act of 1841;" "The Act of 1867." The two first remained in force about two years each; the latter about eleven years. Under their operation, as already stated, thousands of distressed debtors were released from all monetary obligations, either by payment, part payment, or non-payment. And dozens of court decisions have declared these United States laws constitutional!

In confirmation of these statements I refer you to "Mansfield's Political Grammar of the United States," "Abbott's Digest of Decisions of Courts," and "Appleton's American Cyclopaedia."

The Knights of Labor plan does not quibble on words and phrases, but gives the form of a law "in effect, as follows," etc.: It aims at any lawful and just way to reach the end in view; and words and phrases should be used that will reach the end on the general plan proposed.

Now suppose we word the beginning of our law this way: "Be it enacted by the Congress of the United States," etc.: That whenever any person owning and occupying a mortgaged home; or owning and using mortgage premises which are necessary to the actual support of himself or family, shall receive notice of foreclosure, then such mortgage debtor shall be held and considered, for the purposes of this law, a bankrupt; and all proceedings against him under State laws shall be barred and suspended. "But the creditor holding the mortgage shall proceed," etc., as laid down in the Knights of Labor plan under discussion.

You inquire: "Who shall determine whether it [the estate] is worth the mortgage?" In reply it may be said that the law must define that and other details which are not mentioned in the general plan. However, common sense would dictate that the officers present in the court house acting in the case, viz: the Register of Deeds, the County Clerk and the County Treasurer, would be the proper parties, and that they be authorized to make up their decision from the papers used in making the loan; from the average value of the estate on the tax-roll, and from its usual selling price when transferred on the records. As a rule the holders of mortgages are satisfied when loaning money that the estate is worth at least twice the amount of money loaned. This is *prima facie* evidence to start with. If the records, fairly viewed, corroborate this evidence, the procedure should be allowed to consummate.

The Knights of Labor plan is intended to be lawful, just and practicable, and the details of the statute must be in agree-

ment with the end desired. One element of justice consists in the fact that the general government, through the contraction of the currency, is responsible for the existence and non-payment of the mortgages; and, hence, should be required to interfere for the relief of the oppressed mortgage debtors. Creditors should not complain, because under the usual laws of bankruptcy, creditors are often losers. Under this plan they get all their money immediately with less annoyance than under State laws. Debtors will not complain, because they will be able to save their homes; and through the increase of currency and rising prices, will be able to pay up everything without distress. The States should not complain, because this plan meets the emergency by legitimate and constitutional methods, which cannot be used through State laws.

JOHN DAVIS.

Junction City, Kas.

If, instead of the plan proposed, as published in the KANSAS FARMER, the Knights had proposed to work out the mortgage problem through a general bankrupt law, we should not have had a word to say about it in opposition. The cases are altogether different. There will, probably, soon be a bankrupt law enacted, when land owners as well as other persons, can avail themselves of its provisions.—EDITOR.

Coulter to Paterson.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—Please allow me a little space in which to reply to Mr. R. S. Paterson, who in criticising a former article of mine, accuses me of trying to deceive the farmers with my answers to your questions.

I tried to do nothing of the kind. I simply compared the prices of carts, bedsteads and stoves here and in England. I did not deny, nor do I deny, they have there a large, heavy cart, capable of bearing a large burden, and bedsteads made of iron that never get buggy, and grates entirely different from our stoves. But the gentleman is very careful in his criticism not to deny all these several articles are there, also of our make and at prices mostly in advance of the price in America. This he knows, if he knows anything about the matter at all, consequently it is not necessary for him to higgler further over the matter in showing how absurd my comparisons are. Mr. Paterson seems to be a mere casual reader, not giving much thought to what he reads. He evidently expected me in my answers to answer something I never was asked. Whenever the editor of the KANSAS FARMER deems it for the welfare of his paper to know all about the prices of merchandise at Russell Springs, and just how much \$10 will buy there, doubtless he will let me know, and then I will tell him. Mr. P. says: "The dealers and farmers in and around Russell Springs must have been surprised when they read in the FARMER how much they could buy for \$10." Not surprised at all, sir; they are intelligent and know all about it. Now, the question I was answering was No. 10, wherein the editor inquired whether or not \$10 would go as far in purchasing supplies in 1889, as it did thirty years ago. This was as a test to see whether or not we are better off to-day as far as the purchasing power of \$10 is concerned, than we were at that time. How could I take Russell Springs prices and make a comparison when that town did not exist at that time? How could I take any Kansas town? I was obliged to take some commercial center where prices are preserved. Had I taken the prices at a small town thirty years ago, and compared them with those of a large city of the present time, then Mr. P. might have accused me of unfairness; but I did nothing of the kind. I selected one place and made the comparison for the two periods. Mr. P. goes to his local dealer and gets his price list of several articles that I mentioned. What has that to do with the questions in this controversy? Nothing at all. When the editor asks me a question I answer it, and not something else. Mr. P. says: "He don't think any man in Logan county, not excepting Mr. C., believes the bill of goods

he presents can be bought for \$10, as Mr. C. tried to make them believe." I can go into the city of Chicago and buy that bill of goods for a \$10 bill; and if I can't, I will make Mr. P. a present of \$100. I know what I am talking about. Now to illustrate: I turn to H. R. Eagle & Co.'s catalogue and I find I can buy a D. H. shovel for 39 cents; also a good pair of boots for \$2. I also turn to Huff & Drach's catalogue and I find I can purchase of them one dozen of saws, 26-inch blade, extra quality steel, beech handle, three brass screws, for \$3.30. He also has a carpenter's combination saw, 26-inch blade, with 24-inch rule and square on back, extra strong handle, for \$4.05 per dozen. They also have carpenter's hatchets, extra large size, for \$1.25 per dozen. These two firms have everything on Mr. P.'s list except flour; and the figures above are samples of prices. The latter catalogue I got of my dealer, and was issued July 1, 1889; consequently, if he read my former article he was not much surprised at my quotations. The trouble with these gentlemen is, they are not posted concerning what is transpiring around them, consequently when one asserts a fact they think there is a trick in it, and won't believe a word of it; and the first thing they seem to think of, is to accuse the author of prevaricating or trying to deceive the people; or openly declare them to be the "garbled statements of politicians or money-lenders." If these gentlemen will take a little pains to post themselves concerning what is transpiring around them, they will have less inclination to criticise honest and fairly made statements produced by others. In conclusion I repeat again: "What the farmers want are the facts."

JNO. F. COULTER.

Russell Springs, Logan Co., Kas.

A Plea for the Merchant.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I have read with feelings of much interest, pleasure and regret the many letters written for and published in the KANSAS FARMER during the last summer and fall, about the condition of the farmers at the present time; but they all, or nearly all, carry the idea that the farmers are the only class of people that are suffering from the effect of the present low prices of all kinds of farm products. There is an inclination on the part of many of the writers to blame the merchants, or middlemen as they are pleased to call them; others lay the blame at the door of the national banks, national bonds, etc., for all the woe and trouble we as a human family are heir to. While I am in hearty sympathy with the present farmers' movement in organizing, I know by past experience as a merchant, that this is all wrong; the majority of the merchants have been and are to-day as hard up financially as the farmers are, and were it not for the aid rendered them by the banks in carrying the farmers for from six months to one year, as the custom may be in the neighborhood where the merchant is doing business, the majority would have to close up and quit business, and of course the most of them would fall back on the farm, thus adding many more to the number already too great, competing for the honest dollar of the producer. Mr. Editor, is it not a fact that there are some, and no small number either, that would hardly make a living in any calling, no matter how favorable a chance they may be given, while others succeed and make money in spite of circumstances? I am inclined to believe that some at least of your correspondents belong to the former class. My idea is (using an homely old saying) to give the devil his dues wherever you may find him. While the merchant, I will admit for the sake of argument, has not always done the best thing by the farmers, that time is long since past, in most localities at least. It is a fact that for the last few years competition has been so strong that the merchant has made no more than the farmer has with the same amount of capital invested. If there is so much money in the business why do not some of our prominent farmers engage in merchan-

dising? It is not for the want of either capital or brains, for it takes more of both; and especially the latter, to successfully run a farm. Why is it, then? It may be that they do not believe what they preach. They ought really to try it for a while in place of howling and doing the farmer a positive injury in the near future, as they surely will do if they persist in breaking down the country merchant. While I am in accord with the movement, outside of this it seems to me as though we had commenced to pull on the wrong end of the string. The practice of contracting with only one store in a town is bad policy, to say the least; if we contract at all why not give them all the same chance and contract with all that wish to contract, thus giving them all an equal chance, and the brethren a chance to trade where they think they can do the best? If, however, we could commence at the other end of the string and control the price of what we have to sell, it would be a great deal more benefit to all of us.

A. FRANKENFIELD.

Mapleton, Kas.

Taxation and Manufactures.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—While graduated or cumulative taxation operates to prevent the growth of industrial establishments to proportions measurably exceeding those of completeness or adequacy, it does not operate to prevent the growth of them up to the proportions of completeness or adequacy. Let us look into this matter and see why it is so.

I have in a prior article pointed out that the productiveness of over-grown and unwieldy establishments was, as compared with those which were just large enough and no larger, against them—that there existed a natural tendency, not strong enough of itself but still present, to keep industrial establishments down to the limits of completeness. Graduated taxation as a discourager of over-growth, therefore, does not come in contact with a colliding force that tends to limit or destroy its influence. On the contrary, the existing or natural influences combine with it and aid it in making it irresistible in that direction.

With incomplete industries, however, the natural influences are not in line with those of graduated taxation. They are opposed to it, and so much stronger than it as entirely to overcome it. That industry, say a flouring mill, shoe factory, saw mill, or what you please, which was wanting in material and was incomplete, would be taxed at a lower rate than a complete industry of like kind. The taxation would be lower because the industry would be of less worth. That lighter taxation would be a circumstance tending to prevent the addition of more capital to the industry and its further development toward completeness. But that tendency would be entirely outweighed by another one of superior force. The superior tendency to which I refer is the tendency found in all industries, without respect to kind, to work up or be worked up to the size of completeness. The saving, by virtue of reduced taxation, upon each sack of flour, or pair of shoes, or 100 feet of lumber, or other article turned out from any incomplete establishment, would be a mere bagatelle compared with what would be the loss occasioned by trying to operate with crude and imperfect facilities. Any one can demonstrate for his own satisfaction the truth of this assertion by selecting examples in some department of industry and figuring out results for himself. I have given calculations upon other occasions, and shall not take the time to do so here. We see, then, why graduated taxation will prohibit the growth of establishments beyond, to any great degree at least, the proportions of adequacy, while it will not act as a barrier to their reaching such proportions. Incomplete and imperfect institutions could not be operated in competition with perfect institutions if they were relieved entirely of taxation, and all taxes were placed upon the perfect concerns.

W. V. MARSHALL.

Cheap Rates to the Seaboard.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I notice that the Deep Water Harbor engineers are ready to report to Congress in favor of Galveston being the only place on the Texas coast that is reasonably susceptible of being made a first-class harbor, and this point with two others, namely, the Aransas Pass and Sabine Pass, are the

only ones along the Texas coast that are worth the outlay of money.

These improvements will be greatly advantageous to the agricultural interests of our State and the States north of us, also the States that may be in time formed south of us, provided we can get proper and reasonable transportation facilities for our products to the seaboard, and from thence to all the markets of the world, without having to carry it to St. Louis or other points in order to seek cheap water transportation.

But the question naturally arises, "How are we to get a fair and equitable rate of transit for our products amid the present greed of railroad monopolies?" The low price of corn and wheat to-day is not due alone to the large crop and supplied demand, but to excessive increase in railroad rates, i. e., to certain points of shipment I could name, the rate was changed last March from 24 cents to 30 cents per 100 pounds. This little change of 6 cents means a fortune to the railroads that cannot supply cars enough on a week's notice to answer the demand; but it also shows that it is a fraction over 3½ cents out of the farmer's pocket on every bushel of shelled corn he sells. This seemingly small advance of rates is good sauce for the gander, but bad for the goose that lays the golden egg.

The gamblers at Chicago seem to set the price of farm commodities for all the West. Now let any one for curiosity get the rate and commission to that great city for a car load of corn; then consult the average market report of any day excepting the ones when they are squeezing the "shorts," and it will be a matter of surprise if he would get anything out of it over the cost of shelling. Commodities of all kinds are at the same killing rates; high on everything we produce and correspondingly high on all we consume.

Where and when is this insatiable greed to stop? This State and the ones north of us are young in years but rapid in development. Double their age and advancement, giving them fair transit, and our minds can hardly conceive the vast amount of wealth they will pour into the lap of commerce.

The Mississippi flows from north to south, furnishing cheap transit for a large area of our country. Is it not feasible at this distance from that thoroughfare to construct a national railroad from north to south down the great Arkansas valley, through the Territory and Texas to some point on the coast, to be owned and controlled by the government, with rates amply sufficient to pay expenses but no dividends on watered stock? This would hold in check these exorbitant rates as effectually as a governor does the machine to which it is attached. JUNIUS.

Patents.

Higdon & Higdon, Patent Lawyers, solicitors for American and foreign patents, office rooms 55 and 56 Hall Building, Kansas City, Mo., and room 20 St. Cloud Building, opposite United States Patent Office, Washington, D. C., report the following inventions patented for week ending December 24, 1889. [By applying to them at either office a printed copy of any patent here named can be obtained for 25 cents. Send for book of instructions, free of charge]:

MISSOURI.
Veterinary curb compress—James S. Canham, St. Louis.
Nut-lock—Deering & Foster, Harwood, St. Louis.
Underground electric conduit—John Dell, St. Louis.
Steam-generator—Doc. W. Fletcher, St. Louis.
Automatic safety gas-burner—Nathan M. Garland, St. Louis.
Stop-cock—Julius Heltzle, St. Louis.
Applying detachable labels—Bernath Glick, Kansas City.
Combination halter-yoke and bridle—Peter J. Crater, St. Marys.
Cable sash-cord guide—George J. Kuhn, St. Louis.
Sprinkler—Thomas M. Murphy, St. Louis.
Tensile stone attachment—Sutton & Collins, Grinnell, Iowa.
Kansas City.
Car-mover—Gilham & Towson, Kansas City.
Copy-roller—Melville A. Hawley, St. Louis.
KANSAS.

Cable car brake—Bradbury & Griswold, Wyandotte, Mo.
Fruit corer and slicer—Corydon W. Black, Anthony.
Trolley—William M. Emmett, Wichita.
Music-indicator for teaching—James McMaster, Jr., Belleville.
Straw-burning stove—Martha A. Myers, Abilene.
Adding machine—Edward W. Taylor, McPherson.

THE MARKETS.

(DECEMBER 30.)

New York.	Chicago.	St. Louis.	Kansas City.	GRAIN.	
				Wheat—No. 2 red.	Corn—No. 2.
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30
85½@86	77½	77½	77½	39½@40	30

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We have made arrangements with that well-known book-binding establishment, the Hall & O'Donald Lithographing Co., of Topeka, to supply us with a limited number of Farm Records, a blank book nicely ruled, printed and classified with the following contents: Directions and Explanations, Introductory Diagram of Farm, Inventory of Live Stock, Inventory of Farm Implements, Inventory of Produce on Hand, Cash Received from all Sources, Cash Paid Out, Field Account, Live Stock Account, Produce Account, Hired Help per Month, Hired Help per Day, Household expense, Accounts with Neighbors, Dairy and Poultry, Fruit Account, Notes and Obligations Owning, Notes and Obligations Due You, Interest, Taxes, Insurance, Physician and Druggist Account, Miscellaneous Accounts, Improvement and Repairs, Weather Report, Recapitulated Annual Statement, Tables of Useful Information, etc., etc. This book contains 230 large pages 8x12½ inches in size and is sold regularly at \$2 and is well worth many times that price to any farmer who desires to keep run of his business. We will supply this "Farm Record" and the KANSAS FARMER one year for \$2, the book delivered by express or mail. Or we will send the Farm Record free to any one sending us a club of ten yearly subscriptions and ten dollars (\$10). Address KANSAS FARMER CO., Topeka, Kas.

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Have fairly won the name "Old Reliable" in the thirty long years they have been raising trees. Write for their catalogue and price list. You will not regret it! If you don't want 1,000 trees, send \$1 for 100 forest trees by mail postpaid, or \$1 for 100 strawberry plants by mail, or \$1 for 20 grape vines by mail, or send \$2.50 for all three packages. Agents wanted.

1889.

1889.

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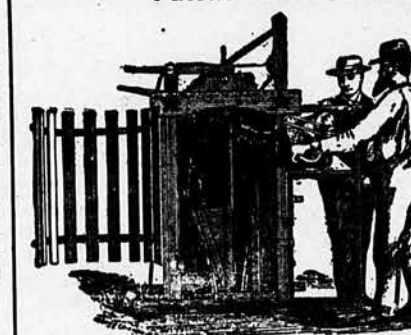
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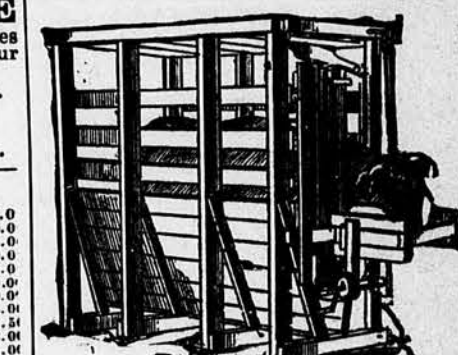
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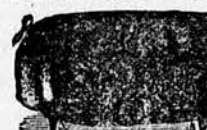
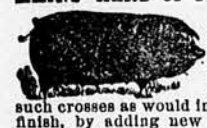
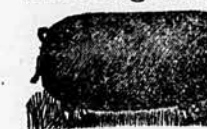
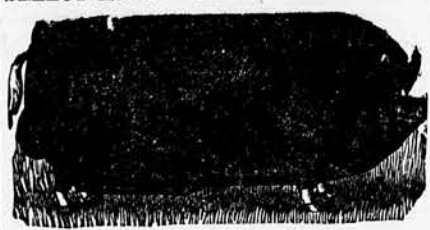
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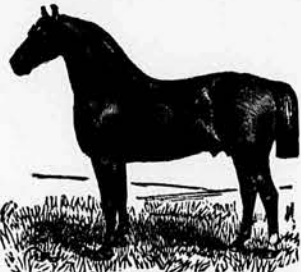
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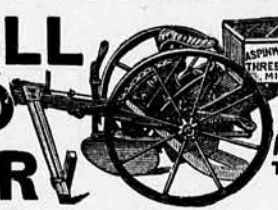
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UNDER FULL CONTROL OF FEEDER AT ALL TIMES BEST
Belt Press NO DANGER OF BREAKS
GET THE BEST

THE STRAY LIST.

FOR WEEK ENDING DEC'R 18, 1889.

Allen county—R. W. Duffy, clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by Ellis Deleplain, December 10, 1889, one sorrel horse, 15 hands high, blind in left eye, left hind foot white, collar marks on neck and back; valued at \$25.

MARE—By same, one black mare, a few white hairs in forehead, about 14 hands high; valued at \$40.

Wabunsee county—C. O. Kinne, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by John Spelcker, in Farmer tp., P. O. Alma, November 1, 1889, one bay pony mare, a few white hairs in forehead, 2 years old next spring; valued at \$10.

HEIFER—Taken up by J. H. Terrass, in Farmer tp., P. O. Alma, November 1, 1889, one red heifer, 2 years old, some white under belly; valued at \$12.

HORSE—Taken up by A. P. Pool, in Wabunsee tp., P. O. St. Marys, one dark bay horse, black legs from knee down, s'ar in forehead, brand supposed to be 6—hair has grown over brand and can only be traced by color of hair, 2 years old; valued at \$40.

PONY—By same, one dark bay pony mare, about 12 years old, branded on right hip, blind in right eye; valued at \$15.

Nemaha county—W. E. Young, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by W. M. Westlake, in New-chat-l tp., P. O. Neuchatel, November 8, 1889, one red steer, line-back, right ear slit; valued at \$16.

Reno county—S. J. Morris, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by W. E. Perry, in Haven tp., one 7-year-old light bay horse pony, white spot in forehead; valued at \$12.

Bourbon county—J. R. Smith, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by T. J. King, in Scott tp., one yearling steer, marked with swallow-fork in right ear, under-bit in left ear, branded S on left hip; valued at \$20.

STEER—Taken up by J. Henry Burkhardt, in Mar-mat-on tp., one pale red and white yearling steer, no marks or brands; valued at \$11.

Coffey county—H. B. Cheney, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by George Theobald, in Pleasant tp., one red 2-year-old heifer, white spot between fore legs, no marks or brands; valued at \$12.

Wilson county—D. N. Willits, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Charles Kalbe, in Verdigris tp., November 9, 1889, one sorrel pony mare, 10 or 11 years old, blaze face, right hind foot white, brand on right shoulder something similar to I with o attached to top.

PONY—By same, one dun pony mare, 6 years old, same marks and brand as above.

MULE—By same, one yearling dun mule, no marks or brands.

COLT—By same, one yearling dun colt, no marks or brands.

Linn county—Thos. D. Cottle, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by Reuben Cox, in Lincoln tp., November 14, 1889, one roan steer, 2 years old, stag head and horns, no other marks or brands; valued at \$18.

Lyon county—Roland Lakin, clerk.

COLT—Taken up by Thomas Gordon, in Reading tp., December 14, 1889, one black mare colt, 8 years old, small white spot on left hind foot, notch in right ear, barb wire scar on left fore foot; valued at \$30.

STEER—Taken up by Edwin C. Paine, in Ivy tp., December 6, 1889, one 3-year-old red and white steer, branded S on right hip and m on left hip; valued at \$25.

STEER—By same, one 3-year-old red steer, branded m on left hip and S on right hip, ear-tag in left ear with Tufts and Woodword's name on it; valued at \$25.

STEER—By same, one 3-year-old red steer, branded S on right hip, ear-tag as above; valued at \$25. The three above steers are marked with half-crop on under side right ear.

STEER—By same, one 3-year-old steer, red, white line-back, no marks or brands; valued at \$25.

Chase county—J. S. Stanley, clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Israel Allen, in Cedar tp., P. O. Cedar Point, November 28, 1889, one 3-year-old dapple-gray mare, white strip in face and three white feet, no brands; valued at \$50.

STEER—Taken up by H. R. Williams, in Cotton-wood tp., P. O. Cedar Point, November 30, 1889, one red yearling steer, crop off left ear and slit in right no brands visible; valued at \$12.

Shawnee county—D. N. Burdge, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by J. W. Miller, in Soldier tp., P. O. North Topeka, November 20, 1889, one red and white heifer, 2 years old, branded W on left side, hole in one ear; valued at \$24.

FOR WEEK ENDING DEC'R 25, 1889.

Elk county—W. H. Guy, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by W. F. McClintock, in Liberty tp., December 1, 1889, one red 1-year-old steer, mark in right ear; valued at \$12.50.

Douglas county—M. D. Greenlee, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by E. G. Woodward, in Clinton tp., December 1, 1889, one roan yearling heifer, no marks or brands; valued at \$10.

Anderson county—S. Durall, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by J. Graham, in Mound Valley tp., November 26, 1889, one roan yearling steer, both ears slit, dim brand on left hip; valued at \$12.

Labette county—W. J. Millikin, clerk.

MARE—Taken up by J. Graham, in Mound Valley tp., P. O. Mound Valley, December 3, 1889, one dark bay mare, 14½ hands high, about 12 years old, both fore feet and right hind foot white, knot on right front knee; valued at \$20.

HORSE—By same, one light bay horse, about 15 hands high, 5 years old, white strip in face; valued at \$40.

Greenwood county—J. W. Kenner, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by John Edwards, in Janesville tp., December 7, 1889, one 3-year-old roan Western steer, branded with a box-shaped brand on left horn, brand on left hip, under-bit in each ear; valued at \$25.

STEER—Taken up by W. B. Wafoord, in Janesville tp., December 2, 1889, one red and white yearling steer, branded D on right hip; valued at \$10.

MARE—Taken up by J. E. Morman, in Janesville tp., November 13, 1889, one 3-year-old iron-gray mare, about 15 hands high, no marks or brands.

HEIFER—Taken up by C. R. Day, in Madison tp., one 3-year-old red heifer, some white, no marks or brands visible; valued at \$12.

Chase county—J. S. Stanley, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by Thos. Upton, in Fair's tp., P. O. Cottonwood Falls, December 10, 1889, one red yearling steer, no marks or brands; valued at \$14.

STEER—Taken up by W. P. Albertson, in Fair's tp., P. O. Cottonwood Falls, December 7, 1889, one red and white yearling steer, unknown brand on left hip; valued at \$15.

FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 1, 1890.

Johnson county—W. M. Adams, clerk.

MULE—Taken up by A. J. Reynolds, in Shawnee tp., December 14, 1889, one bay mare mule, about 20 years old, 15 hands high, weight about 800 pounds, no marks or brands; valued at \$25.

MULE—By same, one black horse mule, 15 years

old, 15 hands high, weight 800 pounds, no marks or brands; valued at \$25.

Anderson county—S. Durall, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by John Demmeke, in Indian Creek tp., December 2, 1889, one 2-year-old steer, lightish color, branded M on left thigh; valued at \$20.

Cloud county—Chas. Proctor, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by C. as. Vignery, in Aurora tp., about October 1, 189, one brown steer, about 18 months old, line back, white under belly; valued at \$15.

Riley county—O. C. Barner, clerk.

FILLY—Taken up by D. K. Norton, P. O. Grant, one light bay, 2-year-old filly, a little white in forehead.

Nemaha county—W. E. Young, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by Fred Priblenow, in Harrison tp., P. O. Goffs, December 2, 1889, one 2-year-old red steer, white on body, head and tail, no marks or brands; valued at \$16.

Allen county—R. W. Duffy, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by E. C. Rhoades, December 24, 1889, one 3-year-old heifer, red and white pided, circle brand on left hip, horn broken off about center; valued at \$12.50.

Stanton county—W. F. Banbury, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by T. C. Dodd, in Stanton tp., P. O. Johnson City, October 24, 1889, one dapple gray horse pony, 12 hands high, branded I V on left hip.

PONY—By same, one bay horse pony, 12 hands high, branded H on left shoulder.

PONY—By same, one white horse pony, 12 hands high, brand cannot be distinguished; three above animals valued at \$90.

Lyon county—Roland Lakin, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by W. F. Eagles, in Pike tp., November 18, 1889, one red and white steer, 2 years old, branded H on top of left hip, no other marks or brands; valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by Frank Roberts, in Agnes City tp., December 13, 1889, one light red steer, star in forehead, both ears slit; valued at \$11.

Greenwood county—J. W. Kenner, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by A. E. Downard, in Fall River tp., one 3-year-old red and white steer, branded 10 on right shoulder; valued at \$25.

STEER—Taken up by James Bedigrew, in Pleasant Grove tp., one 2-year-old red steer, some white spots, dehorned, slight under-slope off left ear; valued at \$18.

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