

KANSAS FARMER

ESTABLISHED, 1863.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, APRIL, 28 1875.

VOL. XIII, NO. 17.

The Kansas Farmer.

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PRIZE ESSAY.

Written expressly for the KANSAS FARMER.

THE GRANGE. WHAT IS ITS VALUE TO THE FARMERS OF OUR COUNTRY.

BY J. K. TRUEBLOOD.

Time should not be pictured as he was by the Ancients, as wholly destructive in his effects; but while with one hand he sweeps the earth with his scythe, and leaves change and decay, and ruin, in his course, he should be represented with the other hand, building anew upon these ruins, and scattering abroad from a never-failing cornucopia, all the beauty, and wealth, and knowledge which make life pleasant and prosperous.

Not always, however, in his flight through the centuries of man's existence, has this beauty, wealth and knowledge, shown with equal power. It has not been a steady and continuous growth, but has advanced by successive eras. An interval of apparent and perhaps long continued rest, is brought to a close by the introduction of some new conception, which revolutionizes a department of thought, and opens new fields, for investigation, or leads to resources of incalculable wealth and prosperity. All these successive eras have been characterized by the deeds of men of superior achievements. Men who have each, in his own time, and manner, made a new departure from that of common minds, and like a passing meteor has made bright the darkness out of which he shone, and into which he sank again forever. These transient gleams of light have not been lost, but are photographed upon history, as land marks, by which man improves upon previous achievement. The first idea originating in some unknown brain, passes thence to others, and at last comes forth completely developed, after the lapse, it may be, of centuries. One starts the idea, another develops it, and so on progressively until it is elaborated and worked out in practice.

And the world, though tardy in bestowing flowers, nevertheless thanks the man who gives an improvement into its hands, whether it be, in art, science, literature, agriculture, or any other of all the subjects of development, whose law is progression.

In the origin growth and magnitude of the "Farmer's Movement," we recognize the dawning of one of these great eras in the science of agriculture. We avow a new declaration of independence; and enter at once into an improvement, based upon the necessity of forming a balance of interests, and industries, something like the balance of power of which we talk, in speaking of the affairs of Nations. The necessity for this balance consists in the wickedness, the ambition, and the violence of mankind. If people did not viciously desire to encroach upon each other, this balance would not be needed.

In a purer state of human virtue, the jealousies of the different branches of industry will not need to be balanced against each other; but until the period of this advanced state of human excellence shall arrive, it will be needful to oppose power, to restrain our class of interests, by the counteraction of others, and to promote quiet harmony, and justice to the whole, by preventing the encroachment of the separate parts.

The principle of progressive improvement as previously shown, has been working in the minds of the farmers of our country, at an ever increasing rate; a rate accelerated of recent years, by the encroachment of rings and monopolies in speculative trade, until it has at last culminated in the greatest event of the times. The Grange, having

or its ultimate object, mutual instruction and protection, and as men and women united in the string and faithful tie of agriculture to labor for the good of the order the country, and mankind." All great results have been accomplished by associated effort. In the Grange there is association, there is united and systematic effort; there is therein the very organization itself, the elements of success.

To the question, "has the grange benefited your community," propounded by the executive committee of the National Grange, and with others sent broad cast to the granges of the different states of the Union, there comes back from thirty-nine states and territories, affirmative answers, which I aver are conclusive proofs of success. And as further proof also, not only of its success, but of its value to the farmers of our country, I here present the answer to the above question, from the single state of Mississippi, as a fair summary answer of all the others from the various states." The Grange has united the farmers fraternally, improved them socially and educationally, benefited them in inducing a diversity of crops, cheapening transportation, practicing economy and in general co-operation, lack of cash capital has alone prevented further benefits.

From the above it will occur to every intelligent person, that the benefits accruing to the farmers, by the development of the grange in the agricultural communities of the United States, are real, tangible and various. It is valuable first and foremost, because it tends to make us better men and women. It teaches us what we knew before only in theory, that in unity there is strength.

United in the bond of agricultural brotherhood we are lifted up to a higher level, we begin to think and act for ourselves, and by mutually assisting each other in a common interest, and a common purpose, we grow strong in independent thought, and laudible effort.

It is valuable because it incites us to the improvement of our farms, and homes, to a higher culture of heart and mind, a purer, social and moral standard, a more sincere benevolence, a truer patriotism, a higher manhood, a nobler womanhood.

In learning these great lessons we are inspired by the thought that in elevating ourselves, we raise agriculture from the menial position it has ever occupied in the estimation of the Professions. We would not pull the professions down, but we would build ours up, so that it may speedily become apparent that farmers, have human desires, hopes, and ambitions; that they wish to share with others, the pleasures of life, that they wish to share with others, the profits of their own labor. Labor which has ever made the face of the earth a smiling garden, and which rests to day at the foundation of all permanent prosperity, and which shall yet triumph by bringing agriculture to that high station of regard, and attention, that its importance demands and should have received ages since.

The Grange is valuable to the farmers of our country in as much, as it promotes their prosperity; which is in proportion to the value of their productions. Hitherto as is well known, these values have not depended upon the cost of production, but have been regulated to a greater or less extent, by combinations of capitalists for the purpose of speculation, who have arranged their "corners" in St. Louis, Chicago, New York, and elsewhere, and have preyed upon the farmers, and impoverished them until the Grange guardian of their interests, has interposed her protection.

The National Grange can through agents know the approximate number of the wheat consuming population of the different nations of the earth, the average consumption per capita, the wheat in store, and the amount raised in the different nations.

Knowing this and knowing also the same facts through reports from every subordinate Grange in the United States, the National Grange, can calculate from positive

data, whether the actual demand will enable farmers to obtain a reasonable profit on the cost of production. If facts justify this conclusion, and this remunerative price can be obtained in no other way, then the National Grange can arrange to advance the money upon the crops of needy farmers, so that they will not be compelled to rush their wheat upon the market. This could be accomplished by loaning through the subordinate Granges, money, which the National Grange could obtain, either by effecting loans at reasonable rates, on wheat stored and insured, as security. Or by negotiating directly with European merchants, to advance money on our wheat with the right to have the same shipped to them whenever it reached a fixed price. Or at the end of a stipulated time. Or it could be raised by an assessment by the National Grange, on all the subordinate Granges of our country. A small sum from each would create in the aggregate an immense fund. In this way the National Grange can, by concerted action on the part of the subordinate Granges, destroy every wheat speculation in the world, by controlling the wheat market of the United States. I instance this as showing that "Patrons united in one common brotherhood and inspired with mutual and fraternal confidence, can bulk their purchases or sales, and under the seal of the Grange, become one single wholesale dealer," by this means, just in proportion to the decrease of expenses is the increase of profits. This manifest difference in favor of the order, adds in the aggregate immensely to the wealth of farmers. This wealth leads to prosperity, prosperity to happiness, the grand aim of mankind.

There is scarcely any limit to the possible usefulness of the Grange to the farmers of our country. It is valuable as a means for literary and social improvement. It is valuable because it tends to elevate farmers to their true position among mankind. It is valuable as a means of charity and benevolence.

It is valuable because it elevates woman to a level with man, thereby expanding our ideas and conceptions, advancing us another step further from the Savage state; in which man is a hero, woman a slave.

It is valuable because it tends to develop the resources of our country, establish manufacturing, and create new and varied industries.

It is valuable because it teaches us to forget our grievances, forgive our neighbors, and avoid litigation.

It is valuable as a sentinel, guarding our interests against the encroachments of rings and monopolies.

It teaches us that it is not all of life, to toil like a slave, cultivate broad acres, accumulate herds and lands, and gather to our coffers a few paltry dollars, by "coining them with our own life blood and stamping them with the sighs of disheartened wives and weary children," but that home should be our sanctuary, where cheerfulness and happiness reign supremely.

And lastly, it is valuable as a foundation on which we will build, improve, and elaborate a mighty organization, in the interest of agriculture and mankind.

Muscotah, Kansas, Feb. 30th, 1875.

The Ohio Farmer loudly applauds the action of the State Grange in consequence of condemning the higher degrees and the Texas Pacific Indorsement.

It says: "the opposition of the Grange to the fifth degree was most decided and emphatic. Our views on this question were given briefly in the report of last week. It is an attempt to follow Masonic regulations, the necessity for which does not exist in the Grange, where all stand on one platform of privileges, in perfect equality. This principle of equality is so firmly established, that the introduction of any measure for the creation of a privileged class will produce dissatisfaction, and is unwise for this reason alone, if for no other."

Agriculture.

For the Kansas Farmer.

ABOUT GRASSHOPPERS, ETC.

In 1868, '9 and '70, the grasshoppers were very bad in this part of Kansas and came near devouring every green thing in the land. At that time our Farmer's club investigated the grasshopper with and without committees. One report was published in 1869; our experience was a severe one, it was a dear school to us, and the lesson is well remembered. We found that their eggs will hatch under all circumstances, and that when hatched, the young grasshoppers can stand to be frozen stiff and hard, but when exposed to the heat of the sun will revive and live. We also found that they could live in moist earth for twenty, and in one instance, thirty days without food other than a clod of earth, and so we conclude, that once in life, they are bound to live, unless helped out of life by an adversary.

We also found the wingless grasshopper could be driven about in any direction, and that a couple of fence boards or a line of fence a foot or so high will turn them readily, not giving time to work over or under the obstruction. I have driven a flock or herd of them two hundred yards around the corner of a fence, into my hog lots, where they did no harm to the hogs.

To destroy the eggs, deep plowing is necessary, and be sure not to stir deep for a month or six weeks. I have had the eggs plowed up in May, after three weeks burial, and they would hatch in a few minutes.

To destroy the young ones in their wingless state, we would suggest it would be well to look over the farm every few days, and very often you will find them in the spring gathered together in great herds or droves, moving in one direction like an army in line; go a short distance in front of their line of march and dig a pit two feet deep and four by four superficial, run out a board on each side like wings to a Partridge net, and you can drive them into the pit. They cannot jump out. Fill up and move on to another place, and so on.

My opinion is, that many of the fruit trees have been injured by the grasshopper this last season. I have lost 200 and will likely lose some of even those which put out leaves this spring, as their vitality is very low, in fact there was not enough starch elaborated in many trees last fall to supply the demand of spring time. I lost some trees in 1869, after they had leaved out. A good heavy mulch, and liquid manure is the only thing that can save them when they begin to fail from this cause.

I see in your PRIZE ESSAY, "An orchard in Kansas," that the pear blight, is everywhere master of the situation; at one time it was thought the alkali land in some parts of Kansas would check its ravages, and taking a hint from that suggestion I used salt and ashes, leached and unleached, and lime, to form an alkali in the soil. I have used scraps of iron, etc., and all to no effect; the blight seemed to increase; I then used boiling lye and strong homemade soap on the diseased parts; this did some good, and at the time I felt as if I was master, but last season I lost nearly every tree. One thrifty young tree suddenly showed signs of this disease, in its leaves and branches, and I thought I would try coal oil. I sponged every leaf and twig, and in short the whole tree, thoroughly, in two or three days there was a change for the better, and in two weeks no one could tell it had ever been attacked; the leaves were bright and green, and the bark regained its wonted hue. True, the tree had had but a short spell of blight, and yet it bid fair to be a hard one, as every leaf had changed color in a few days. Well, the grasshoppers came early in August and stripped it of every leaf, and it has put out none since; the other trees leaved out again, and I gave this one up as lost, but I find it living this spring and seemingly all right. It had signs of blight on many limbs lately, and I gave it a good coating of coal oil again and it seems to be doing well. Some sprouts put out from the blighted tree's stumps, and I had no hopes of any of them last season, and so I neglected them; this spring they showed the blight. I

have used coal oil on them and they are improving.

I had made up my mind, never to plant another pear tree, but as I believe coal oil will cure them, I will try a few more, and test it more fully.

I have tried it on two rows of my apple trees and on those that have the blight. I have some badly blighted, and will report in due season.

I have also tried it on my grape vines and I think it is just the thing for the Grape-house and Taylor's Blight, (this is a worthless grape at best), and will try it on a few of each variety. Speaking of vines, I will say I have but few, but I am glad the Catawba has wintered so well, as it is a good grape. All of mine, some 50 or 60, are doing well.

Now sir, I have published this coal oil remedy, for blight, sooner than I intended, and I may find I am mistaken, so just say to every one who may try it, that I will not furnish the oil without compensation.

B. C. DRISCOLL,
Doniphan, Doniphan Co, Kansas.

GROWING CORN.

A good deal has been said about growing corn, and as the time for planting is close at hand, more may be said to advantage. Land, by all means, should be plowed good and deep. Tenants, however, cannot, as a rule, plow deep; for one or two crops would not pay them. If land owners would offer them better inducements for deep plowing, it would be greatly to their advantage. Harrow thoroughly before planting, and if the land has been long broke, before planting, which is best, go to work with the cultivator; first setting the shovels to throw the dirt from the rows, plow deep and close, as not to interfere with the corn. Then again before the corn comes up, take a good smoothing harrow and harrow well. If the corn is coming a little, it will not hurt it; by this mode much plowing and hoeing may be saved. I prefer the drill or planter, to hand planting, for several reasons: the corn will come up sooner and even, and an experienced corn grower can raise more and better corn with less labor, in drill than in hill; but if he is the least careless, unless he has clean land, he had not better undertake it. Be very careful in selecting seed, with the grain not too long or too short, then gage the planter to about three or four grains, it will save several days work in thinning and replanting. Do not depend too much on foreign seed; my experience is that it will not stand the wind and hot sun as well as the native. I think it best not to depend altogether on early varieties, as a rule they are of light yield.

I think the writer on the "Management of Hedges," gives the most practical method I have seen for the management of hedge, but would differ with him in the plashing. He says leave stems about two or three feet apart; I say use stakes, anything will do that is straight and may be driven two or three feet apart according to the height of the stems. The plashes should reach three stakes. If the stems are left in place of stakes, they will not sprout at the bottom, but will put out a thick bunch at the top, which makes an uneven hedge, besides leaving big gaps at the bottom. Odd stems or branches should be woven in on the top, to hold the plashes down, and the work is complete.

H. F.
Rossville, Kansas.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I saw an article in an eastern paper, describing Robert Pells' fruit farm in Ulster county, New York, giving the size of same—his success in raising fruit every year, and treatment of trees. He says "he uses every season, salt, ashes and lime, (made out of oyster shells)" but does not mention the quantity of each. Cannot some one give me the proportions of each, to put around fruit trees, the time of year, etc; also the best remedy for borers in trees.

Yours truly,
CLEMENT.

Arkansas City, Kansas.

HINTS ON POTATO CULTURE.

Having made the growing of choice new varieties of Potatoes a specialty for several years past, and, as I am often asked to give my method of culture, harvesting, storing, &c. I thought that a few practical hints upon this branch of agriculture might not be amiss. I do not pretend to know more than some others, yet I am willing to contribute my mite, and, if possible, to stimulate some to a more practical mode of culture.

Having raised this vegetable on both prairie and timber soil, my experience proves that new timber soil is much the best adapted to growing potatoes. Forest leaves, and leaf-mould, the very best fertilizers for potatoes. Farmers residing near the timber can easily gather forest leaves, and make a compost which would be very valuable.

The manure of stock-yards should be scraped up with a scraper into round or long heaps, mixing in at the same time a few tons of leaves and leaf-mould, leaving a depression on the top of the pile, into which may be emptied all the wash-water and slops of the house; also, occasionally adding wood ashes, lime, and salt. Gentle rains, sufficient to dissolve the compound, would be of service to assist fermentation, and prepare the vegetable matter to absorb the ammonia. Do not allow it to get too wet, so as to suffer loss by leaching.

As a substitute for forest leaves, our prairie farmers can use straw and refuse hay, of which they have an abundance. Running it through a hay-cutting machine would better prepare it for the compost. It is an excellent plan, when early crops are grown to harvest them as soon as possible for the early market, and sow the ground immediately (without plowing) to buckwheat, millet, or oats, and plow it under just before freezing.

This will leave the soil light and if good productive varieties are planted and cared for, large crops may be expected. The ground being in good condition, mark check-rows for hills 8x8 or 8x2 ft. If for drills, mark 3 ft and plant one eye 10 to 20 inches apart according to variety. Those of dwarf top will do quite as well to be nearer together.

Select tubers, large to medium size, cut one eye in a piece, commencing at the butt, and turn the tuber as you would in sharpening a pencil, leaving the center portion for the top eyes.

HOW TO MAKE CHEESE.

I am a green hand at writing for the paper, but I think I understand making butter and cheese. I thought I should like to tell the young farmer's wife how I make cheese.

At night, when the milk is brought in, strain into the tub while warm, then put in the rennet. You must use your own judgment as to how much to put in, that will depend upon the strength of it. Then when it is come, cross it and let it set till morning, then dip it into the basket to drain, and strain the morning's milk into the same tub and get it ready to drain about 8 o'clock. Dip into the basket with the other, to drain, and about 10 o'clock it will be ready to scald. Then put it into the tub and pour on hot water—not boiling hot—and let it set about 10 minutes, then put back in the basket to drain, and cut it up quite often with a knife while draining. When it is cold, which will be about noon, (never put in press while warm.) I chop or grind it and salt it and then it is ready to press; or if I do not want to press till next day, put it in the cellar and cover tight, and when I get another curd ready, mix them together. Press 48 hours, turn the cheese and change the cloth twice a day while pressing. I am never troubled with my cheese leaking or cracking. Cheese made in this way are what might be called gilt-edged.—W. A. C., in *Mirror*, N. H.

Horticulture.

THE GRAPE PHYLLOXERA AND THE YELLOW IN PEACH TREES.

No one uneducated in it, has a higher appreciation of science than I have, and I yield to none in admiration of the men who have given their time to the minute investigations necessary in the study of Entomology, and who by their patient labor have been great benefactors to all engaged in agricultural pursuits. If our state Agricultural College had retained its Professor of entomology, his services might have been of more value to this fruit-growing section of our State, than ten times the endowment. I hope, therefore, I shall be pardoned for saying, that it would be better if in the publications intended for the general reader, Entomologists would not indulge in such profuse nomenclature, made up of high sounding derivatives enough to produce confusion among themselves, as it has already confounded the practical fruit-grower.

Prof. Riley says that Dr. Fitch first called public attention to this insect, in 1856; and that it was subsequently treated of by several American authors, but that they all referred to the leaf-louse, and never dreamed that the insect existed in another type on the roots, until the disease on the grape vine became serious in France. Then in 1868, Prof. Planchon announced that the disease was due to the puncture of a minute insect belonging to the plant-louse family (*Aphidæ*), and at once bestowed upon it the name of *Phylloxera*, and this, after having run the gauntlet of about a dozen others, is the name by which it is now generally known. Of the rapid spread of the disease produced by this insect, and its calamitous effect, wherever it appeared, the peach grower may have read much; but with this profuse nomenclature can it be a matter of wonder that he should fail to recognize in it the *Aphis*, which, if not identical the same insect that is destroying the grape vine, yet is one of the same family with identical the same habits.

The fact that the *Aphis* is parthenogenetic, and oviparous as well as viviparous, is a matter of interest to the intelligent fruit-grower, but not of such vital importance as the habit of the insect, and its food during its natural life. A correct knowledge of this will enable the practical man to enter into a contest with this insidious host, and accomplish its destruction. Gmelin enumerates seventy species of *Aphis*, and says "they infest an endless variety of plants, and that each species is particularly attached to one kind of plant only."

The observations of Mr. Curtis on the *Aphides*, in the sixth volume of the transactions of the Linnean Society, are chiefly intended to show that they are the principal cause of blight in plants and the sole cause of honey-dew. He says "they live entirely on vegetable; preferring the young shoots, on account of their tenderness; the loftiest tree is no less liable to their attacks than the most humble plant, and sometimes the root is the object of their attack; he has seen them in great numbers on the roots of lettuce and the whole crop rendered sickly and of no value."

Dr. Richardson, in a paper on the *Aphis*

published in Vol. 41 of the Philosophical Transactions, says, "the great variety of species which occurs in this insect, makes an inquiry into their particular nature not a little perplexing; but by reducing them, under their proper genus, the difficulty is considerably diminished. We may reasonably suppose all insects comprehended under any distinct genus, to partake of one general nature; and by diligently examining any particular species, we may thence gain some insight into the nature of all the rest." It is to the *Aphis*, as found on the peach tree, that my observations have been directed, and believing that the establishment of new facts will aid an enlightened comprehension of the habits of this insect, and lead to the adoption of measures for its extermination, is my reason for troubling you with this communication.

To me it seems wonderful that the first published account of this insect should have been made by Dr. Fitch, so late as 1856, when at that time nearly all of the peach orchards of New Jersey, had been destroyed by a disease known as the Yellow, which disease is now generally believed by peach-growers to have been caused by the *Aphis*, the trees being affected similarly to the grape vine when infested by them. Fifty thousand acres planted in peach trees, in two counties only of that State, had been destroyed by the Yellow prior to 1850. This is fact, not fancy. Mr. Isaac Pullen, of Hightstown, N. J., who was an experienced nurseryman, and fruit-grower, than whom no man in the State was better qualified, by his intelligence and close observations, to speak *ex cathedra* on this matter, showed me in June, 1858, an orchard that had been planted four years, and was then on its last legs, with millions of *Aphis* on the leaves, and billions more, of identically the same insect, upon the roots. Of all the trees we pulled up for examination, (and we pulled till tired) the small fibrous roots were dead, and in a state of decay whilst roots as large as my finger, over which the hordes of *Aphis* had just passed, to fresh fields of pasture, were entirely sapless. I was on a visit to Mr. Pullen, to learn something of the appearance of the Yellow, and to get his views of the cause, and was not surprised when he rose up from the examination of a tree, to hear him emphatically exclaim "this is the Yellow, and this the *prophane veret* that causes it." All this, within less than one hundred miles of Dr. Fitch, who did not know that he had so near him the grandest field ever explored by a naturalist; whilst the poor grower, ignorant of the habits of the insect that was destroying his orchard, and unable to combat with him, had quietly submitted. But thanks to Prof. Riley and M. Planchon, light begins to dawn, I am no scientist, and have only a superficial knowledge of the opinions of the learned, but the interest I have in this matter must be my excuse. My object is to establish facts, so as to form a base for operations, and this can best be done by the united effort of the practitioners and the scientists.

For the past twenty years I have been largely engaged in growing fruit, my principal crop being peaches. My attention being called to the *Aphis* in 1858 by Mr. Pullen I have made this insect a subject of careful observation, and will, in as few words as possible, state the manner and the results, with my conclusions. In 1856, I planted my first large orchard of peach trees—about two hundred acres—using trees of my own growing, except on about five acres at one corner of the field, on which I planted trees bought in New Jersey. The trees were all planted in good soil; were well attended to; grew finely, and presented such a healthy and handsome appearance, that I did not dream of disease, nor of *Aphides* on the roots, and did not look for them. In the month of May, 1860, four years after planting, I first saw the *Aphis* on the leaf; I then looked for and found them in great numbers on the roots, but confined to the New Jersey trees; none on the trees of my own raising, except those in close proximity to the Jersey trees. This induced me to believe, that the insect had been brought from New Jersey; and that there was a periodicity in this mutation of the insect; and that, like the Cicada, and the apple and peach borers, the *Aphis* leaves its home in the ground for generation only. Subsequent observation has confirmed this belief, and formed the groundwork for the following conclusions: That the insect first gets into an uninfested district by flying, or is carried by the winds, or whilst in the larva state, by the natural drainage of the soil, or by importation in the plants from infested districts; that immediately after the larva state, the insect goes into the ground, not to hibernate, my dear Professor, but to find and establish its home upon the rootlets of the trees, and there remain during nearly the whole of their natural lives, bringing forth their parthenogenetic young, in vast numbers and all alike to engage in the work of destruction, by feeding upon the sap of the small roots, thus literally taking the life blood of the tree at the fountain-head. They follow up the course of the roots, leaving death and decay behind them, until the period arrives when generation again becomes necessary for the perpetuation of their species. The *Aphis* then comes out of the ground and lays its eggs in the tender shoots and leaves, thus completing the cycle of their natural lives, leaving behind them a progeny so numerous that unless baffled by the skill of the scientist, or husbandman, the cultivation of our choicest fruit must be abandoned.

The insect on our peach tree if not the same is I think identical in habit with that on the grape vine. These conclusions are the result of practical observations only, and may or may not, be verified by scientific research; but I think they are in the main sustained by some of the experiments and investigations of entomologists. I shall not stop to quote in proof of this, but proceed to notice a few other matters. Prof. Riley says the insect thrives less, and is therefore less injurious, upon sandy soil. I have found the converse of this to be true, and have also found them more numerous upon clay soil, well cultivated, than upon the same soil half cultivated; and a still greater difference, when the soil was covered with a heavy sward; and have therefore concluded that in a friable soil, the insect's movements are unimpeded, which could not be the case in heavy sward or compact clay.

Now, may not this be the reason why, the insect was found at Mr. Meehan's, in the pruned Clinton upon cultivation, and not found upon the unpruned, growing in a sward? The Professor can hardly think that increased length of vine could keep the insect from the roots. Is not the difference produced by this insect on the leaves of the different plants which it infests, due more to the peculiar idiosyncrasy of the plants, than to any difference in the species of the insect? May not the same insect produce a gall on the Clinton grape,

and a curl on the peach leaf? If Prof. Riley will come to Riverside, and it would give me great pleasure to have him do so, I will show him that our insect is no unimportant animal; and, though he is disposed to treat him cavalierly, as not entitled to the respect of his high-named brother, the *Phylloxera*, yet the *Aphis Persica*, as he calls him, because he happens to dwell among peach trees, is no insignificant enemy to be disposed of by the Lady Bird; nor are our orchard interests so trifling, as to be committed to such inefficient protection. I think all the Lady Birds in the State of Missouri could have grown fat from the *Aphis* on a single row of trees, in some of our orchards, last season. If the Professor will come I will take him to Mr. Kerr's nursery, and let him see that the insects were not conquered by their enemies; and did not cease their injuries in June, or July, as he thought they would, but they are now on the roots, doing ten times more damage than they did when on the leaves last summer. He can also see here, in the numerous orchards, large colonies, now on the roots, including the mothers of many generations, the half grown, and the infants just brought to life, all engaged in the work of destruction.

No intelligent orchardist, seeing this insect at work, and the work when done, can for a moment question, that the *Aphis* is the cause of the disease of peach trees; as it is beyond doubt, the cause of disease in the grape vine. The disease is not caused by fungus, or mildew, and there is no appearance of either, on the roots, other than that produced by the exudation of honey dew, from the insect. These exudations, when the insect is on the leaves, falling upon the new bright wood, produce spots like that left by burnt grains of powder. Our trees are now full of such soot-like spots, caused by the dropping of this honey dew, where the insect was so numerous on the leaves last season.

In New Jersey the peach belongs to the past! The same may be said of the upper part of the State of Delaware, and if this insect is to be left to its natural enemies, it will, not long before our entire peninsula the finest peach-growing region of the world, will be brought to the same deplorable condition. May we not hope, that some one with spade and chemicals, will come to the rescue, and that though the *Phylloxera vastatrix*, and the *Aphis Persica*, be not identically the same when under the microscope, they are so in habit, will what will serve for sauce for the goose, will serve for the gander? To this end I have made some experiments, which may possibly, at some time be made known to the public.—*Edw. Wilkins, in the American Farmer.*

Farm Stock.

VALUE OF A THOROUGH-BRED BOAR.

Every breeder's circular says that the "thoroughbred pig, in starting a herd, is chiefly valuable in breeding the common stock. By using a thoroughbred boar upon the common sows, you get a half-blood that does very well for feeding purposes, which can be further improved by selecting the best sow pigs, feeding them liberally, and again getting a thoroughbred boar and using on them, which, if practiced a few years will produce porkers equal to the pure blood. But graded or impure males should never be used, as the tendency is to run back to scrub. The thoroughbred, if purchased young can be had from \$25 to \$30 each. He can be used one season and sold or castrated and fed, when he will of himself almost or quite pay for his original cost.

At first thought, to many, the price for a pure blooded pig may seem high, but, really, it is better to pay the price than let your sows go to a scrub for nothing. Say you pay \$25 for a boar, and breed twenty sows. They will raise, say one hundred pigs, which is a low estimate. The pigs then cost you twenty-five cents a piece, and will make hogs that will weigh at fattening time from one hundred to two hundred and fifty pounds more than scrubs (which grade pigs will do on the same feed). You have, therefore, an increase of value, of \$300 to \$700 in one year, with the price of pork at \$8 per hundred, and you have your boar left. Can you invest your money at a larger per cent?—*American Swine and Poultry Journal.*

SCAB IN SHEEP.

We extract the following from the transactions of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland:

It is clearly ascertained by scientific men that the scab in sheep, like the itch in the human being, is connected with and propagated by certain minute insects belonging to the class of acral, which inhabit pimples or pustules. But the question naturally arises now came it first into existence? This problem is very difficult of solution and puzzles the most eminent physiologists. But, as I have already said, I have never known it to break out spontaneously among a flock of sheep, properly managed during thirty years' experience as a shepherd in pastoral districts. Various and conflicting opinions exist as to what extent the disease is infectious. Some affirm that it requires sheep to come in contact with the disease before it can be communicated, while others maintain that the disease is propagated by the mere travelling of the road, such as a public drive road, from large markets or fairs. I, however, do not think the disease is so catching as the latter advocates affirm. For example, I acted as shepherd for sixteen years, on various farms, where the drive road from Falkirk to the south, passes through the sheep pastures, and every year some of the lots of sheep were more or less affected with scab, and during all that period not a single sheep of which I had charge caught the disease.

The cure of scab lies in the destruction of the insect, but the important question is, what is the best composition or infusion for that purpose? The remedies that are commonly applied are numerous, but the most effectual, with the least danger of injuring the animal, that I have ever used applied, is the common spirits of tar; and, if properly applied, it will penetrate and destroy the insect concealed in the pustules, or buried beneath the skin. The quantity applied may vary according to the condition and age of the sheep, but for hill, or ordinary breeding stock, one bottle of the spirits of tar, mixed with twelve times the quantity of water, is sufficient for twelve sheep, or one common wine glass of the spirits of tar, mixed with twelve times the amount of water, is sufficient for one. If mixing for a hundred, six gallons of water with six pounds of common soda ought to be warmed to the boiling pitch, then add the spirits of tar.

THE MANAGEMENT OF BREEDING SWINE.

The management of swine is one which concerns and interests the general farmer, in the West, to a greater extent than almost any other department of farm industry; and as the time is drawing near when so many sows will be coming in, a brief statement of my mode of treatment, before and after farrowing, may not be devoid of interest.

It is of great importance that everything be made ready in advance of the time that the sows are expected to farrow. A few hours' time spent in making the sty comfortable will often save a valuable litter of pigs which might otherwise be lost. I am satisfied that a very large proportion of valuable stock is lost annually through carelessness in this particular. After the pigs have come in safely, the success of the farmer will depend in a great measure upon the after-treatment of the sow. She should be carefully fed and watched until the young pigs are at least a week old. I do not recommend high feeding before farrowing, neither the first week after; but should have a light succulent diet for the first week or ten days, with plenty to drink; after which her food should be gradually increased in strength until she becomes accustomed to it, the great object being to prevent her from becoming cloyed. A sow thus carefully fed until she can safely eat all she wants of a nutritious, succulent diet, will give a large quantity of nutritious milk.

If the sow has a large litter of pigs, they should be taught to eat as early as possible. They should have the very best of feed. Indian corn, ground and cooked, and mixed with skim milk and the waste from the kitchen, makes the best feed for young pigs. If it is not convenient to have the corn ground, it can be shelled and boiled until it bursts open, in which shape it is almost as good as when ground. When the weather is warm it will answer almost as well to soak corn until soft. Young pigs should have all they can eat and digest, and should occasionally have salt mingled with their food. A good supply of charcoal should always be within their reach, and in its absence ordinary bituminous coal should be provided. They should, if possible, in the proper season, have the run of a clover field, as I consider it the best hog pasture for either young or old. Where clover is not raised an ordinary grass lot is the next best thing.

If pigs are well formed, and of good, thrifty stock, having the run of the clover field or good grass lot, and carefully fed three times daily what they will eat of good, sound corn, they can be made to weigh from 250 to 300 lbs. gross, which is large enough for practical purposes at eight or nine months old. If farrowed, therefore, the last of March or early in April, they can be marketed the next December weighing as much as there is any use in having a hog weigh.

I would not, however, recommend the too early farrowing of pigs, as it is attended with too much risk from cold storms. I have usually managed to have my pigs farrowed about the 20th of April, and by the exercise of a little extra care have had them weigh 200 lbs. by the middle of September. I am satisfied that the largest returns for feed and time can be made by adopting a liberal system of feeding and management, and that whoever adopts this method of handling it will find its production a paying business. I have been engaged in the rearing of swine for a number of years, and my experience has taught me that a liberal treatment pays much better than the common practice. S. DRAGOO, in *National Stock Journal.*

In the case of heifers and cows which come in early in the season, there is less danger of inflammation from a too great flow of milk, than in those which come in when grass feed is more abundant; but the thing will bear watching at all seasons. If the bag is full before calving time, and is likely to become inflamed or caked, the first best thing to be done is to draw off a part of the milk before resorting to outward applications. If the milk cannot be drawn in consequence of the bag having become hard before it was attended to, it should be bathed in warm water in which a little salt has been dissolved; or in weak soap suds, warm. An ointment of cream, hog's lard or fresh butter, with camphor in may be rubbed on the bag and teats, with the hand. If everything seems to be going on right, it is best not to interfere with the regular process of nature, only to provide plenty of nutritious food, dry beds and shelter from storms.

Immediately after having dropped her calf, the cow should be treated to a good marm thin mush of mill-feed, which will assist her vitality to expel the afterbirth and go on with the motherly care of her calf. D. HARRIS.—*In American Patron.*

If our new beginners will select their cattle for utility they can obtain cattle at low rates which will give them good returns on the investment of their money. There are lots of cattle in the country which trace to the importation of 1837, others that trace to the Patton stock, others that trace to Buzzard and Pluto, others that have a slight dash of Longhorn and Hereford blood, others that trace to herds known to be pure, but of which no pedigrees were preserved in the early years, and still others that end in what is called the American woods—that is, no one knows where the last animal named in the pedigree came from. These have generally been crossed for a long series of years by bulls of acknowledged excellence, the number of crosses being such that if there was any imperfection in the foundation of the pedigree, it has been long since completely overcome and drawn out by the flood of good blood which has been poured in. In some cases, as that of the "seventeens," an imperfection of the pedigree is not even alleged by those who are prejudiced against it. These cattle all sell at low prices, and yet their quality and excellence is equal to that of other classes of Short-horn and in the hands of a man who is breeding for utility alone, they prove as valuable and useful, and are as reliable as breeders, no matter how much money he may spend.—*National Live Stock Journal.*

SAN FRANCISCO, April 16.—The Pacific Mail steamer Colorado, arrived last night; left Hong Kong March 25.

It is now known that government changes of considerable importance are impending. A modification of the present form of administration is expected. Great secrecy has thus far been maintained by officials, owing to the efforts of foreign ministers to interfere in the disposition of Japanese internal affairs.

During the last two weeks the Milkado has been ill, but is now recovering.

The rule requiring payment of two cents on newspapers arriving from America has been abolished by the Japanese post-office for public convenience.

Scientific Miscellany.

Vitality of Seeds.—Two years ago, a few peas, in a very dry and hard state, were found in a sarcophagus containing a mummy, in the course of certain excavations going on in Egypt. The idea was conceived of testing the vitality of these peas, buried as they had been for thousands of years. Three of them were planted, which grew and produced enough to cover, in the year following, a considerable field. Some of the stalks reached a height of more than six feet, and attained a size altogether extraordinary, and a strength which rendered them self-supporting, and of delicious freshness. The pods were grouped on either side of the stalk, in a sort of a circular zone toward the top, and not regularly distributed throughout the plant, as in the common pea. It is believed by those who have examined this ancient pea and tested its edible qualities, that it belongs to the family of the ordinary pea of our gardens, but that it is a special variety distinguished by the characteristics above mentioned in regard to the form of the stalk and disposition of pods.

In corroboration of the fact that seeds will retain their vitality for an indefinite period when imbedded deep in the earth, Prof. Von Heldreich, of Athens, Greece, states that on the removal of the mass of slag accumulated in working the Laurium silver mines, some fifteen hundred years ago, a quantity of a species of *glauicum*, or horn-poppy, has made its appearance; and, what is remarkable, it proves to be a new and undescribed species to which the name *glauicum serpiarii* has been given. Prof. Niven, of the Hull Botanic Garden, England, in further corroboration of the same fact, mentions several instances of extraordinary vitality of seeds, from his own observation, and remarks that, "Doubtless the absence of air, an equable and unvarying condition as regards moisture and temperature, and above all the complete neutralization of the physical influences of the sunlight, constitute the means by which nature exercises a preservative power in seeds as astounding as it is interesting."

To the above might be added the fact so well known to the farmers of Monmouth county, New Jersey, that the green sand and marl sown upon new lands almost sterile, "brings in white clover" (*Trifolium repens*) where it was not known before.

Insect-catching Plants.—Mr. William M. Canby communicates to the *American Naturalist* some observations on the *Drosera filiformis*, or thread-leaved sundew, which confirm and supplement the observations of other naturalists on the manner in which the leaves of that plant capture insects. At 7 A. M. he placed bits of the common horse-fly on sundry leaves of the *Drosera*, near their apices, and, twelve hours later, not only had the hairs around bent toward and touched the atoms of fly, but also in every case the leaves themselves had bent over them, the inflection being about 17°. There were other leaves in the vicinity which had themselves captured flies; many of these were much more bent, undoubtedly from having held the prey a longer time. In one case, the leaf had curled round the prey so as to completely encircle it.

Extirpation of the Thistle.—The Berlin correspondent of *Land and Water* publishes a piece of information that will be welcome to many a farmer. "Who ever knew," says he "of two plants being so inimical to one another as one to kill the other by a mere touch? This, however, seems to be the case when rape grows near the thistle. If a field is infested by thistles, give it a turn of rapeseed, and this plant will altogether starve, suffocate, and chill the thistle out of existence. A trial was being made by the different varieties of rapeseed in square plots, when it was found that the whole ground was full of thistles, and nobody believed in the rape having a fair run. But it had, and as it grew the thistle vanished, faded, turned gray, and dried up as soon as the rape leaves began to touch it. Other trials were then made in flower-pots and garden-beds, and the thistles always had to give in and was altogether annihilated, whether old and fully developed, or young and tender."

The Laws of the Tides.—The reports of the coast survey show that the tides of the United States are divisible into three distinct classes. Those on the Atlantic coast are of the ordinary type, ebbing and flowing twice in twenty-four hours, and having but moderate differences in height between too successive high or low waters, one occurring before and the other after noon. Those on the Pacific coast also ebb and flow twice in twenty-four hours, but the morning and the evening tides vary considerably in height. The intervals, also, between high and low waters, may be very unequal. The irregularities are due to the moon's declination, as, when the moon travels to the north of the equator, the vertex of the tide wave follows her, giving the highest point of the opposite tide in the southern hemisphere. Hence, when the moon is in the northern declination; the tide at any place in the northern hemisphere caused by her upper transit will be higher than that caused by her lower transit.

Variation in the Earth's Temperature.—M. Wellman after reducing the hourly observations made at Berne, Switzerland, for seven years and deducing therefrom the laws of diurnal change of temperature, has investigated the effect of cloudiness on the daily variation, especially at night. He finds that the radiating power of the earth's surface is everywhere and at all times the same. The temperature in the morning is, he states, five or six degrees higher in cloudy weather than when the weather was clear. Also, the simple atmosphere of the earth surrounds it like a protecting layer of clouds, and that without this the earth would experience daily an enormous variation in temperature. Even the clear sky, or the moisture present as an invisible vapor, protects the earth with an efficiency equal to about one-third of that exerted by a layer of clouds, against too strong a daily change of temperature.

All mountain streams are rising on account of the rapidly melting snow, and there will probably be difficulties from that cause at other points soon. There can be no time fixed for trains to commence running again, as that will depend on the weather, which is now quite warm, and there being an unusual amount of snow, the damage to the track will probably increase rather than diminish for the next week or ten days.

CINCINNATI, April 17.—The cold weather of the past two nights has materially damaged the fruit. Experienced fruit growers say that peaches, pears, and cherries are killed.

Patrons of Husbandry.

OFFICERS KANSAS STATE GRANGE.

The following is the list of officers of the Kansas State Grange, elected at the annual meeting held at Topeka commencing February 16th, last.

MASTER—M. E. HUDSON, Mapleton, Bourbon county.
OVERSEER—Wm. Sims, Topeka, Shawnee county.
LECTURER—W. S. HANNA, Ottawa, Franklin county.
STEWARDS—C. S. WYETH, Minneapolis, Ottawa county.
ASSISTANT STEWARD—JAMES COFFIN, Hill Spring, Morris county.
CHAPLAIN—E. J. NASON, Washington, Washington county.
TREASURER—JOHN BOYD, Independence, Montgomery county.
SECRETARY—P. B. MAXON, Emporia, Lyon county.
GATE KEEPER—W. P. PATTEN, Cottonwood Falls, Chase county.
CERES—MRS. BINA A. OTIS, Shawnee county.
POMONA—MRS. P. BATES, Marion county.
FLORA—MRS. A. C. PATTEN, Cottonwood Falls, Chase county.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1st DIST.—W. P. POPENOE, Topeka, Shawnee county.
2d DIST.—F. H. DUMBAULD, Chairman, Jacksonville, Neosho county.
3d DIST.—A. T. STEWART, Winfield, Cowley county.
4th DIST.—A. P. COLLINS, Solomon City, Saline county.
5th DIST.—W. H. FLETCHER, Republican City, Chase county.
S. H. DOWNS, Secretary Patrons Fire Insurance Association, Topeka.
Geo. Y. Johnson, Secretary and Treasurer Patrons Life Insurance Association, Lawrence.
John G. Otis, State Agent, Topeka, Kansas.

THE KANSAS FARMER GRANGE PLATFORM.

- I. The abolition of all degrees beyond the Fourth.
 - II. The making of all Fourth degree members eligible to any position in the Grange, from Gate-keeper to Master of the National Grange.
 - III. The removal of the National Grange Headquarters to St. Louis.
 - IV. The abolition of fifth degree Granges and substituting therefor the Business Council.
 - V. The reduction of the dispensation fee to one dollar, and reduction of dues to the simple cost of salaries and office expenses for National and State Grange Headquarters.
 - VI. The return of all accumulated funds in National Grange Treasury to subordinate Granges.
 - VII. The thorough organization of the business features of the Grange, by States and counties, as an absolute necessity for the perpetuity of the Order.
 - VIII. The County Council to constitute the business unit and the concentration of all surplus funds in the hands of the Council, where under the immediate supervision of those who contribute it, it may be applied to practical business enterprises.
- The above is the Grange platform of the KANSAS FARMER. Upon the important question involved, we invite free and independent discussion. We distinctly require of correspondents, that they treat, in their communications, with courtesy and consideration, those from whom they may differ in opinion.—EDITOR FARMER.

LIST OF DONATIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Commencing April 19th and ending April 24th, 1875, from the Relief Department of Patrons of Husbandry of Kansas.	
CASH ON HAND	\$ 421.14
RECEIPTS:	
April 19—Of Corinth Grange Johnson Co.	\$ 10.00
" " Of E. Chilson, freight on corn,	4.65
April 21—Of the State of Kansas on freight,	608.15
" " For corn	250.30
" " Of M. E. Hudson, from Indiana State Grange, Of Central Relief Committee,	560.00
" " " " " "	75.00
April 22—Of the State of Kansas, on freight,	550.16
April 23—Of W. P. Popenoe, balance on corn account,	27.05
Total,	\$2,401.45

DISBURSEMENTS,

April 19—Paid freight on car No. 1,042, C. & St. L.,	56.00
" " Paid freight on two cars from Topeka to Wichita,	34.00
" " Paid for postage,	.50
" " Paid for exchange on a Draft on Lawrence, per G. W. Goes,	50
April 20—Paid Frank Douglas, for car of corn and potatoes	268.00
" " Paid freight on car 1,234 C. B. & Q.,	80.55
" " Paid freight on cars No. 840 and 809, W. & W.,	201.00
" " Paid for sacks to ship corn and potatoes,	27.75
" " Paid Kansas State Agency for sacks,	5.30
" " Paid W. H. McGuire, for freight,	119.80
April 21—Paid freight on corn,	322.05
" " Paid freight on one box and bl.,	1.10
" " Paid for transfer of car 1,042,	8.00
" " Paid expressage on money,	2.75
" " Paid on order of M. E. Hudson's,	225.00
" " Paid for telegraphing,	1.50
April 22—Paid freight on car No. 1011 Q. M. & P., for Riley Co.,	99.10
" " Paid freight on car to Grasshopper Falls, and three bbls to E. M. Jones, Russell,	12.35
" " Paid W. H. Fletcher, on R. R. receipt,	116.08
" " Paid for telegraphing,	.60
" " Paid for J. C. Overly,	2.35
" " Paid for telegraphing,	.50
" " Paid for postage,	3.00
" " Paid Spenser Day, for	

for potatoes,	800.00
" " Paid drayage,	7.75
April 23—Paid for seeds,	5.00
" " Paid for telegraphing,	1.00
Total,	\$1,796.18
Balance on hand,	605.27

RELIEF GOODS RECEIVED SINCE APRIL 19 '75

April 20—One car of corn and potatoes,	
" " 25 sbs Early Rose Potatoes,	
" " 1 bl meat and 1 bl flour, for Almon Benton,	
April 22—1 bl seeds and one box of clothing for Osborne Co.,	
April 24—1 box of seeds for Wm Mattingly, Burlingame.	

RELIEF GOODS DISBURSED.

April 20—1 car of corn and potatoes to C. P. McAlexander, the corn for McPherson Co. and Potatoes between McPherson and Harvey.	
" " 5 sbs potatoes to Franklin Co.	
" " 5 sbs " Johnson Co.	
" " 5 sbs " Jackson Co.	
" " 5 sbs " Jefferson Co.	
" " 5 sbs " Miami Co.	
" " 1 bl meat and 1 bl flour, for Almon Benton.	
April 21—1 box seeds and 1 box clothing to W. H. Pratt, for Phillips Co.	
" " 1 box of H. Fitzpatrick, of Norton Co.	
April 22—2 bbl seeds and 1 box clothing to E. M. Jones, Russell Station.	
April 24—1 box seeds for Wm Mattingly Burlingame.	

JNO. G. OTIS,

Kansas State Agent, P. of H.

THE GRANGE AND AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS.

Whatever immediate advantages, moral, social and pecuniary, we may seek through the Grange, we should keep steadily before us the fact that the order has for its grand object agricultural progress, the improvement of the great farmer class of our country. The attainment of this object will be wrought in different ways, in different States and sections. And in some perhaps but little permanent good will be accomplished. There are so many people in the world who can not see anything beyond the present, that institutions like the Grange that have such far reaching capabilities, are hampered and turned hither and thither to serve personal ends and secure present advantages without regard to the ultimate results.

But how is the Grange going to advance the farming interests of the country? It can certainly accomplish but little if its members entertain only the narrow conception of its character, which will give the individual member opportunity to buy a pound of sugar or a cake of soap at a small discount. This is so much saved to the individual, but we can not hope to build a great institution on so narrow a foundation. We do expect to reduce to ourselves the cost of most of the articles needed by us. We expect to buy certain commodities cheaper, because we buy for cash, but others buy for cash and are therefore entitled to equal consideration. But again, organization gives us the farther advantage of buying at wholesale, and this is the great advantage which we have in the making of purchases, and it is one of the features which is not understood either by manufacturers and dealers or by patrons themselves as it should be.

In order to reap the full benefits of this system of purchasing we must abandon our slipshod management, we must use forethought, must perfect plans, and carry them out promptly. We must not wait till the seed begins to fall off our timothy before we hand in our order for a mow. We must not wait till plowing time before we purchase the plow. We must not wait till late in the spring to secure our supply of grass seed. If we hand in our orders for supplies in season by going through the proper channel they can be filled at wholesale rates. It is right that they should be. Manufacturers, the best and strongest in the land, are with us in this. They say, "come with a wholesale order and you shall be dealt with accordingly, it matters not to us whether you are a Granger or not." We need to abandon the idea that simply because we are patrons anyone is going to be anxious to retail machines to us at wholesale rates, but because we are patrons we have the means of buying at reduced rates, for we have the opportunities to make up wholesale orders, send and buy in quantity.

This is right and legitimate business, and if it saves the farmer those large commissions paid to the dealers through whose hands our supplies have had to pass, it will accomplish an important saving. For the mower the farmer has had to pay several times its actual cost, and double the price realized by the manufacturer. By the expensive agent system it has cost more to sell these implements than to make them.

But one thing in the way of a full realization of benefits in this direction is the well known prejudice of farmers, which is akin to their moon theories, etc. The less intelligent and educated the person, the more is he controlled by unreasonable prejudice. Only yesterday we listened to a man who was talking with great earnestness and apparent honesty and heard him make the assertion that no smart man was born in August. In fact he said a man born in any month in which there was no R could not expect to amount to much.

We often hear men who pass for intelligent men, claim that potatoes must be planted in just such a time of the moon, while perhaps their neighbors are as positive that some other time of the moon is the proper season. But the Grange is going to become a powerful educator of the farming class. It brings men and women together where they can talk over farm and social topics. The brightest and most thoughtful will exercise a great influence for good over the rest. Essays, discussions, the contact of mind with mind will wear away the rough edges, will break off the superstitions and make us more reasonable and intelligent men and women. And as these prejudices are worn off we will learn to think and decide for ourselves. We will not persist in believing that a certain implement is the only good one in the market simply because an interested agent has so informed us. We will examine the machines ourselves. We will look at their work, we will take the testimony of those who have used them and weigh it fairly, not believing all we hear in favor of a certain machine and refusing to believe the favorable opinions concerning others equally good. We mention machines as an illustration. There is a score or more of

mowing machines, all good, in fact it would be difficult for an unprejudiced person to make a choice. Some will claim that all except one are imperfect; other farmers will select another as the only reliable and durable machine. We want to open our eyes to the fact that there are many machines of equal merit; there are many drills equally good, etc.

What we want is to get out of our shell of prejudice and judge business matters on business principles. These are two steps toward agricultural progress concerning which we have only hinted. First, the actual saving in obtaining supplies, and the educating influence of the Grange. In what we have said upon these two points we do not pretend to have done more than to throw out thoughts for farmers to consider. To speak of all the ways in which the Grange is working toward the advancement of agriculture would be simply impossible. It has done good. It is destined to accomplish still more important results.—*The Husbandman*.

CO-OPERATION.—We have recently had to call attention to several new phases of the co-operative movement, which has done so much in many countries to induce the industrial classes to economize their means and invest their savings in mills, mines, factories and stores. One of the largest of such associations (which illustrates the principle admirably, though it can scarcely be considered as a workmen's movement) is the Civil Service Supply Association, of London, England. It was begun by a few government clerks, who united to purchase their own tea by the chest, and callicoes by the piece. In six months just ended, goods to the amount of nearly \$2,000,000 were purchased by the association; these goods were retailed at a gross profit of about 10 per cent., showing a net result of 2½ per cent. on the whole, after payment of expenses. But the remarkable feature about this association is that these large operations sprang from and were transacted on an original capital of \$10,890. The profit of 2½ per cent. on \$2,000,000 is \$50,000, equivalent to more than 500 per cent. on the original stock of the association. It would be difficult to find a better illustration of the value of small profits, quick returns, and prompt payment, than this.—*Scientific American*.

A letter in the *Grange Visitor*, of Springfield, Ohio, dated at Columbus, Ohio, contains the following incident at the meeting of the State Grange: "It was a proud day for our Agent—and indeed for all—when our business agent, Col. Hill, marched in a brigade of manufacturers, representing almost every variety of machinery and implements needed on the farm. We heard them not only agree to sell their wares to us at wholesale prices, but also state that they had been sustained by the Order; that their trade had largely increased, and that they placed entire confidence in the Order and had never lost a dollar by a Patron; and hearing this we realized the power of united action, and the fact that we had accomplished a bloodless revolution. We have succeeded in bringing the manufacturers and farmers face to face, to their mutual benefit, and have established not only business, but friendly relations between them."

The number of Granges is decreasing in Iowa, and possibly the membership very slightly; but the strength of the Order was never greater. The members generally, are settling down to business in dead earnest. The wheels of progress do not turn backward.—*Patrons Helper*.

The Arkansas Granges are wide awake and are doing all in their power to provoke or bribe each other to do good works. "Several of those in Drew county," says the *Ark. Weekly Grange*, "have taken steps to get up a competition, a generous rivalry to obtain the greatest amount, and the best quality of the productions of our soil. Premiums are to be given to the owner of the best conducted farm, not only with reference to field work, but having an eye to the house, yard, barn, orchard, water facilities, etc. Others to be given for the best lot of cotton, corn, wheat, oats, fruits, vegetables, etc., and farmers are taking advantage of this to encourage their hands, by offering a prize to that set of hands showing the best crops to the committee when passing around examining the crops." This is worthy of imitation in Iowa and every other State.

Letters from the Farm.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER.—I think very few are aware of the fact that under the Soldiers' and Sailors' Homestead Act of June 8, 1872, amended March 3, 1873, every soldier and sailor who made a homestead of less than 160 acres, is entitled to so much additional land as, when added to the quantity previously entered, shall not exceed 160 acres, to be selected and located out of any of the public lands of the United States. For instance,—if the soldiers' original claim was 80 acres, he is entitled to 80 acres more, if 40 acres, 120 acres more. In case the original claimant is dead, his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, his minor orphan children would be entitled to the above benefit.

The entry of additional land may be made by attorney, as well as by the party in person. Evidence of service in the army or navy, and of the original homestead entry, accompanied by the usual forms of application for land are all that are needed by the applicant. Land may be selected and entered directly by the party entitled, or he may sell and transfer his right to any person, and if the papers are regular, the purchaser can enter land there with. Such rights sell readily for cash.

A LETTER FROM CRAWFORD COUNTY.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER.—Allow me room to say a few words in regard to the many different methods of cultivating the soil of Kansas. We find men from almost every state in the Union, and all are trying to farm. A great many are not successful, some never fail. But it is hard to find five men who pursue the same course of planting and cultivating their crops. Our first observation of farming was made in the state of Kentucky; our next in Tennessee, our next in Virginia; these states are noted for the production of Corn, Tobacco and Cotton; also, some fine stock and fine stock and whiskey. We then visited

the state of Pennsylvania, where we saw but little farming, in this section of country the occupation is principally mining. From there we bent our course for Kansas, through Indiana and Illinois, where they used quite a different method for tilling the soil from that which we had been used to, although there is quite a difference in the soil. We then explored Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana, and found quite a difference in the produce raised, and different ways of raising it. We next visited Iowa, but did not learn much there, at last we hauled up in Kansas where we have been obliged to stay for the last four years and a half. In Kansas, we find a beautiful country to farm; the soil is rich, and productive almost anything will grow in Kansas, some of the finest vegetation I have ever seen, was produced by Kansas farmers, we believe the farmers are more to blame than the soil of Kansas. In south-western Kansas the settlements are new. People are leaving their homes in the East and have come to Kansas and spent their little all, improving land and trying to make comfortable homes for themselves. The two years of nearly a failure, have caused starvation to stare many in the face with glaring eyes.

We believe on our little experience that Kansas farmers do not study enough for the amount of work they do; others spend more money than they need to, in times like the present, people have none to spare.

Some farmers will try to farm without anything to farm with, but depend on their neighbors, and often if their crops do not get the work when needed, if at all. When harvest comes his neighbor has the best yield, and he blames Kansas, and is right off to his wife's papa.

We believe that farmers should study more the nature of their land, and the condition it is in and aim to produce that which pays the best. Don't plant your farm all in peas and beans, just because you have the seed, try to exchange with your neighbors, and try several kinds of produce, and when one misses the other hits, in doing so you will never experience a total failure.

T. H. BURNES,

Pleasant Valley, Crawford county, Kansas.

Educational.

EDITED BY PROF. J. B. HOLBROOK.

TEACHING AS AN OCCUPATION.

We wish to point out some of the attractive features of the teachers calling for the benefit of those, both in and out of the profession, who find delight in blending their unsympathetic words into such aphorisms as "better saw wood than teach;" "teaching breeds pedantry;" "teach long and grow short;" "the persistent effort of the pedagogue to reach the child's level, levels him with the child," and all these sayings which hold as much truth as the extract of sawdust does nutriment.

As a healthful occupation, teaching is unrivaled. Six hours a day of earnest, hard labor whether intellectual, physical, or mixed, are not injurious to a healthy constitution. When the hours are divided and subdivided by recesses, intermissions, and frequent changes, as necessarily requires in the school, a sense of weariness or fatigue is seldom experienced, and never caused by the labor of the school-room alone. Our teachers who leave their days work, tired of body, depressed in spirit, jaded in appearance, do not owe their miserable condition to the performed duties of the school-room; some extraneous causes are at work, and the nature of the contract between the people and the teacher were better understood by both parties, those causes would disappear, together with their effects. Whether people know it or not, the fact is they do not employ a teacher to teach six hours and study law six hours, or medicine, or to carry on a farm, raise stock or fruit, or to wash, iron, sew keep house, nurse, to edit papers, or preach or sell goods. The teacher is hired by the month, to give his whole time and energies to his work. Six hours, five days in the week, are designated as the time to be given to the schoolroom work proper. The remaining hours are to be devoted to such exercises as will fit him in the highest sense for that work as will make him a perfect mental and physical man, capable of the right performance of his whole duty. What right has a teacher to be languid, tired, and sleepy, impatient and cross, nervous and excitable, ignorant.

The terms of his contract set apart ten of the sixteen waking hours to keep him in prime condition; if he fails in this, he fails in the performance of his entire contract.

What a noble opportunity is this for cultivating the graces and perfections of mind and body! The salary of a competent teacher is sufficient to supply the comforts of a well ordered life; the doors of any society worth entering, are open to him; his mind is a storehouse whose walls grow to nature's intent; his intercourse with youth makes him clear and logical in discourse, simple and unaffected in manner, honorable in character and pure in morals. No laborer of earth can be more sure of an acquired heritage beyond, than he or she who has done well the duties of a teacher.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

HISTORY.

The language we speak is very complex. It is an agglomeration of portions of several languages more or less diverse; and the history of the island of Great Britain gives the history of the amalgamation of the diversities. Britain has been successively conquered by people of five different races,—Britons, Ro-

mans, Saxons, Danes, and Normans. The known history of these races in Britain, covers a period of two thousand years. The traditions and antiquarian relics of the first race, tell us of a much greater age. There were certainly two migrations of the first race into Britain, and we shall call them alike with their descendants, Kelts. They were akin in manners and language to the nations who two millenniums ago inhabited France and Spain. The old Celtic language or assemblage of dialects is represented to day by the Gaelic of Scotland, the Erse of the Irish and the Cymraeg of the Welsh, which may be heard in its purity in the Welsh colonies in Riley county and Coffey county, Kansas.

For four hundred years, at the commencement of the Christian era, the Romans were the dominant race in Britain, exacting tribute and military service from the British tribes, and teaching them arts, agriculture and civilization. The language of the Romans was Latin; and to the Latin writings of Cæsar, Tacitus and Suetonius, we are indebted for authentic history of Britain in those times. The Romans impressed the character, manners and land of the Kelts with their own strong stamp. The ruins of their temples yet remain, the roads they made are still used, and the pavements they laid are still regular and beautiful. They were not numerous enough to eradicate the language of the Britons, but they left marks in it that are traceable to-day.

From the beginning of the fifth to the middle of the sixth century, was a period of barbarism and anarchy in England, caused by the decline of the Roman power, and the withdrawal of the Roman legions from Britain, which left the native inhabitants, enfeebled by too much protection, a prey to the ravages of fierce tribes, who, under the names of Frisians, Jutes, Angles and Saxons, overran, conquered and settled all the champagne parts of the country, those natives who cared for independence being either destroyed in war or retreating to the mountainous parts of the West and North.

The two last of the names given to those tribes, eventually prevailed over nearly all England and the south of Scotland, and combining them—we speak of the Anglo Saxons. Though they appear to have had some system of alphabetic writing (Runic), yet all their literature grew up after they came to Britain. Their various invasions resulted in the formation of eight kingdoms, two of which being soon united—we speak of the Saxon Heptarchy. The kingdom of the West Saxons (Wessex), eventually absorbed the rest, and in the ninth century, we find a succession of Kings of England, so called from the words, Angle-land. Alfred the Great was the ablest of these Kings, and his descendants occupied the throne, with small exception, till the middle of the eleventh century.

Before the consolidation of the Heptarchy was completed, the Saxons began to be disturbed by invasion of fierce tribes of a race similar to their own, who came from Scandinavia and Denmark, and who, under the names of Northmen, Vikings and Danes, overran most of the northern and middle parts of England. The reigns of Alfred's father, his elder brother and himself were mostly occupied in warfare with these new intruders. The Danes became the predominant race in the parts of the country mentioned above, and at the beginning of the eleventh century, Danish Kings occupied the throne for nearly 30 years.

The language of the Saxon's supplanted that of the Romanized Britons, with some exceptions; but the Danish dialects were not vastly different from the Saxon, or easily assimilated to them, but were sufficiently diverse to mark ever after the language spoken by the people of the regions they conquered.

In 1066, the Anglo-Danes, of Britain, were defeated in the great battle of Hastings by the Normans, who were of the same race as the Northmen; but who, by a residence of more than a century in Northern France, had acquired a Latinized dialect, and something of the Roman power of government. After Hastings, the Norman leader became King of England, as William the Conqueror; and the fee simple of most of the land passed into the possession of his followers. Norman Kings reigned for a hundred years, and the Norman-French language became the language of the Court and the Law, but Saxon remained the speech of the common people, who were more numerous than their conquerors.

With the intermarriage of individuals of the two races in the twelfth century, and severance of the political connection with Normandy at the beginning of the thirteenth century, there came a change in the condition and the language of the people. Saxon modified considerably, and known as Semi-Saxon began to show some resemblances to modern English; and in the fourteenth century,—the age of Wycliffe, Piers Ploughman and Dan Chaucer,—the language was not more different from modern English, than are some of the dialects still spoken in England.

There have been changes since, and some other causes, besides those mentioned, contributed in the older ages to the changes that then took place, but the circumstances we have briefly narrated, need to be remembered to enable us to understand the complexities of our wonderfully pliable tongue.

If there has ever been a language of greater power than the English, it was the language of ancient Greece, and the subtle energy that lies in utterances of our noble mother tongue, is due to this mixture of races,—this crossing of breeds in stock-raising parlance,—where the best qualities of character and language have been preserved, and the weakest have gone to the wall. ROBERT HAY.

General News.

CHICAGO, April 17.—Dispatches from points in Michigan, Northern Illinois and Iowa, state that owing to the severe weather that has prevailed for the last 48 hours, the small fruits, apples and peaches are all killed in many localities, and in some cases the trees themselves. High winds have prevailed throughout the above mentioned section, and the thermometer has ranged from 8 to 20 degrees above zero for some time.

WILKESBARRE, PA., April 17.—The first open demonstration by the miners of this section took place to day. Early this afternoon a procession of 10,000, from Sugar Notch, Warrenstown and Ninticks, marched through the city. Their approach had not been heralded. They were a motley and savage looking crowd; their officers were mounted and the commander was dressed in the uniform worn by the militia of the State. They had a drum corps, two brass bands, carried the Stars and Stripes and a large number of banners. The following are some of the mottoes:

"If Union is Strength, Sugar Notch is a Samson."
"Our Cause is Just and We will Win."
"While we've a crust we'll not give in."
"Traitors should be branded with the mark of Cain."

"Bribers and betrayers are useless."
"Our union is noble and strong."
"No surrender till hell freezes over, and then we'll crawl out under the ice."

Two men carried a miniature scaffold with an effigy in a miner's garb bearing the inscription "A model betrayer and blackguard." One banner had the representation of a man being shot from behind, and above were the words: "A traitor's doom."

The procession was not halted in the city, and no riotous conduct was manifested. The demonstration was for the purpose of intimidating such as are tired of the strike and want to go to work.

KANSAS EDITORS.—The Missouri Valley Editorial Excursionists, after determining to remain in Galveston over Sunday and until the afternoon train Monday, were taken in hand by Mayor Fulton, members of the Board of Aldermen, and prominent citizens, and entertained after a style of hospitality that told most effectively on the ladies and gentlemen of the delegation.

Such of them as were inclined to attend church on Sunday were shown over the city, the beach, the fine gardens of citizens, the work going on at the east end of the island under supervision of a Federal officer, and such other places as were of interest to strangers.

The city authorities, seconded and assisted by citizens, determined Monday morning to treat their guests to an oyster roast. The grounds of Messrs. Gregory & Bartlett, near the race course, was placed at the disposal of the committee, and the ladies and gentlemen forming the excursion, accompanied by many citizens, repaired to the appointed place about 11 o'clock, where ample preparations had been made for their entertainment. The chowder and oysters were done to a nicety, and full justice was done to the dainty dishes by all in attendance.

An abundant supply of liquid comforts had been provided, and following the popping of champagne corks naturally came congratulatory speeches. Gov. Lubbock welcomed the guests in his best vein. Mr. Sumbola, of New Orleans; Gov. Crawford, Mr. Legate, Mr. Anthony, Mr. Martin, and other gentlemen from Kansas, responded most happily, and the affair terminated with everybody in the best possible humor.

Returning to the city, the cotton presses, steamship Antonio and the Morgan steamships were visited, and the large wholesale houses on the Strand inspected.

The time between dinner and the hour of departure for home was spent in the interchange of friendly greetings and mutual congratulations. When the hour for departure came, headed by the band which accompanied the party from Manhattan, the excursionists were driven in carriages to the depot, the band played "Dixie" and "Hail Columbia." The usual parting courtesies were exchanged, and the party started on their return, taking with them the kindest wishes of all who had the pleasure of their acquaintance.—*Galveston Mercury.*

EXTRACTS FROM THE MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW.

For March, 1875.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, DIVISION OF TELEGRAPH AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE.

The first storm-centre of the month passed rapidly during the morning of March 1st, from eastern Missouri to the middle of the Ohio valley; thence, during the afternoon and evening, to Pittsburgh; and between midnight of the 1st and the morning of 2d, it moved off the New England coast. This storm-centre was attended with heavy rains in the Southern and Gulf States and Tennessee, with high winds, sleet and snow on the middle and eastern Atlantic coasts, and with heavy snows in Lake region and the upper Mississippi valley and heavy rains in the Ohio valley. The Ohio and its tributaries rose considerably after the passage of the disturbance.

These Tornadoes, perhaps four in number, occurred with most disastrous results over the country between central Alabama and central South Carolina, about noon and in the afternoon of March 20th. One of these storms entered Harris county, Georgia, from Lee county, Alabama, about noon. A wind-storm was reported at Atlanta, early in the day, and followed by hail at 1 P. M. One of these tempests appears to have divided near Hancock county, Georgia, one part going east on a track more northerly than that of the other.

RAIN FALL.—The number of days on which rain fell during the month, in the several districts, averages as follows: In New England, 15 days; in the middle Atlantic states, 15; in the south Atlantic states, 14; the Gulf states, 12; the Lake region, 15; the Ohio valley and Tennessee, 15; and in the Northwest, 11 days.

HUMIDITY.—The average relative humidity for the various districts is as follows: For New England, 73 per cent.; Middle Atlantic States, 73; South Atlantic States, 72; the Eastern Gulf States, 71; Lower Lakes, 75; Upper Lakes, 73; Ohio valley and Tennessee, 67; Upper Mississippi valley, 78; the Lower Mississippi valley, 72; and Minnesota, 77.

THE BREAKING UP OF ICE

and reopening of Navigation has taken place as follows: At Rockford, Illinois, on the 31st; at Havana, Illinois, on the 26th; at Muscatine, Iowa, the Mississippi opened on the 31st, and at Fort Madison, Iowa, on the 29th; the Iowa river, at Iowa City, on the 14th; at Ellenwood, Kansas, on the 6th; at Lansing, Michigan, ice went out of Cedar river on the 31st; at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, ice broke on the Platt river on the 14, and in the Missouri river the 25th; at De Soto, Nebraska, the Missouri broke on the 29th; at Clear Creek, Nebraska, on the 30th; at Nichols, New York, the Susquehanna broke on the 16th; at Tioga, Pennsylvania, the Tioga river broke on the 16th; at Cleveland, Ohio, river broke on the 16th; at Davenport, Iowa, the river was partly opened on the 30th; at Keokuk, river broke on the 14th at Sandy Hook, the ice moved out on the 7th; at Toledo, on the 29th; at Leavenworth, river was cleared on the 17th; at Detroit, ice broke upon the 8th.

New Advertisements.

In answering an Advertisement found in these columns, you will confer a favor by stating you saw it in the KANSAS FARMER.

Short Announcement.

JOHN H. BEATTY, Nekomis, Ill., and J. F. SCOTT, Paris, Ky., will sell a valuable herd of

Short-Horn Cattle.

At Nekomis, Illinois, on Tuesday, June 15th, 1875.

Full particulars in due time.

O. BADDERS,

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,

6 FIRST PREMIUM VARIETIES OF CHOICE FOWLS.
Send for Descriptive and Illustrated Circulars, the best ever published. Also, Division Secretary of the Poultry Mutual Benefit Association, all information given on application. State where you saw this advertisement.

TOPEKA POULTRY, IMPORTING AND BREEDING COMPANY.

Will sell eggs from choice fowls that have taken prizes at great poultry shows. We pack eggs in the most approved manner and guarantee satisfaction. Send for prices of eggs and fowls. Address, G. H. HUGHES, Sec. Box 712, Topeka, Kan.

SWEET POTATO PLANTS.

We will have again this spring, all the leading varieties of Sweet Potato Plants, which we offer at the very lowest rates. Properly packed and promptly shipped. Address,

McCORMICK & CRAMP,

Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas.

ALEX CHARLES & CO.,

Gen'l Advertising Agents,

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Advertisements inserted at reduced rates in all the leading papers in America. Stock Breeders (particularly) will find it to their advantage to send for our List. Terms, etc. Our facilities excel those of any Agency west of New York City.

BYRON BREWER, Glenn, Johnson county, Kansas, Breeder of Poland-China Swine. Pigs, not a kin shipped by rail, add warranted first-class. Correspondence solicited.

M. GAYLORD, Paola, Kansas, Breeder of Bull and A. and Partridge Cochins, Dark and Light Brahmas and Louisiana Eggs, \$1.50 per dozen. Chickens for sale after Aug. 1.

HIGHLAND STOCK FARM.

BEECHER, WILL CO., ILL.,

On Chicago, Danville and Vincennes R. R., 40 miles south of Chicago; 1/4 mile from Station.

T. L. MILLER,

Importer and Breeder of Hereford Cattle and Gots-wold Sheep.

The Herefords are the best grazing cattle. They mature early and are hardy. Make the largest gain on a given amount of feed. Make large weights, and good quality. My Hereford Bull, Sir Charles, weighs 2,700 pounds. Hereford cows weigh from 1,300 to 1,800 pounds. The Gots-wold Sheep are hardy and will shear from 8 to 20 lbs. They weigh from 150 to 300 pounds and over.

STOCK FOR SALE.

Correspondence solicited.

MODERN WOMEN

It is a sad commentary upon our boasted civilization that the women of our times have degenerated in health and physique until they are literally a race of invalids—pale, nervous, feeble and ba k-achy, with only here and there a few noble exceptions in the persons of the robust, buxom ladies characteristic of the sex in days gone by. By a very large experience, covering a period of years, and embracing the treatment of many thousands of cases of those ailments peculiar to Women, Dr. Pierce, of the World's Dispensary, Buffalo, N. Y., has perfected, by the combination of certain vegetable extracts, a natural specific, which he does not extol as a cure-all, but one which admirably fulfills a singleness of purpose, being a most positive and reliable remedy for those weaknesses and complaints that afflict the women of the present day. This natural specific compound is called Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. The following are among those diseases in which this wonderful medicine has worked cures as if by magic and with a certainty never before attained by any medicines: Weak back, nervous and general debility, falling and other displacements of internal organs, resulting from debility and lack of strength in nature, supports, internal fever, congestion, inflammation and ulceration and very many other chronic diseases incident to women, not proper to mention here, in which, as well as in the cases that have been enumerated, the Favorite Prescription effects cures—the marvel of the world. It will not do harm in any state or condition of the system, and by adopting its use the invalid lady may avoid that severest of ordeals—the consulting of a family physician. Favorite Prescription is sold by dealers in medicines generally.

In Cowley county wheat and rye look well, and all other crops are in a promising condition.

In Cowley county wheat and rye look well, and all other crops are in a promising condition.

New Advertisements.

RAILWAY PITCHING APPARATUS.

Chapman's Best Fork and Conveyor in use. Unions and carries Hay, Grain, etc., over deep snow into sheds, barns, &c. Saves labor, time, money. Sent on trial. "Herald" sent. Agents wanted. G. B. Weeks & Co., Syracuse, N. Y.



PUBLIC SALE

SHORT-HORN CATTLE AND BERKSHIRE PIGS,

Indianapolis, Thursday, May 27th.

THE Subscriber will sell, at the STATE FAIR GROUNDS, INDIANAPOLIS, IND., on Thursday, May 27th, about 70 Head of Short-horn Cattle, containing about 300 yearling bulls, over 300 before that will average about one year old, and over 30 Breeding Cows. The stock will not be over 100 but will be of the best of the breed. The blood of such bulls as imp. DUKE OF KENT (1852), a pure Princess, imp. FANBY BOY 2d, bred by Mr. Thornton, Stapleton, England, mostly Princess, WARRIOR 10th (1857), bred by R. Scott, Warraby, England; BARON BOOTH OF LANCASTER 2d, mostly Booth, and imp. DUKE OF AIRDRIE (1858), enter largely into the top crosses of most of the herds in the country, and pedigree, send for Catalogue.

I will also sell at the same time and place, about

50 PURE BERKSHIRE PIGS,

the get of imp. Canadian Prince and Brother Isaac.

Terms—A credit of six months will be given on satisfactory notes, drawing interest at 6 per cent. from date, or 5 per cent. discount for cash in hand.

Col. J. W. JUDY, Auctioneer.

NOTE.—The Indiana Short-horn Breeders' Convention meets at Indianapolis the 25th and 26th, the two days previous to the sale.

MEREDITH'S SALE THE DAY AFTER:

Friday, May 28th, the day after our sale, S. Meredith & Son will sell at their farm adjoining Cambridge City, Ind., about 60 head of Short-horns.

Great Public Sale

SHORT-HORN CATTLE!

WE WILL SELL, without reserve or by bid, at our farm and residence, adjoining

Cambridge City, Indiana, FRIDAY, MAY 28th, 1875,

near 60 head of Short-horn cattle of various ages.

This is the oldest established herd in the State; the breeding and selection having been guided by an experience of 30 years. The class of stock now offered is such as we are proud to offer the farmer and breeders of the country—some of them being a part of our show herd, which has been so successful at many of the leading fairs, and will be successful at many of the leading fairs.

BRITISH BARON 13557,

one of the attractive features of the sale, a celebrated breeding bull and prize-winner, together with some prize cows of established reputation. There will be several females of choice blood, bred in Canada, also, representatives from the following popular families:

Manurka, Crags, Rod of Sharons, Victoria,

Gwynnes, Miss Margaret, Irene, Young

Mary, Zekas, Belinas, etc., etc.,

embracing an exceedingly choice and useful stock of desirable ages.

Cambridge City is easy of access by rail from all directions, having direct communication with Indianapolis, St. Marys, Chicago, Louisville, Ky., Columbia and Cincinnati, Ohio.

Terms.—Six months' credit, on approved paper, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. A discount for cash will be allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

Can be well sold at their farm adjoining Cambridge City, Ind., on Friday, May 28th, 1875.

Col. J. W. JUDY, Auctioneer.

The Indiana Short-horn Convention meets at Indianapolis, Ind., Tuesday and Wednesday, May 25 and 26.

LOWDER'S SALE THE DAY BEFORE:

Thursday, May 27th, the day preceding our sale, C. H. Lowder, of Plainfield, Hendricks Co., Ind., will sell about seventy-five head of Short-horn cattle, at the Fair Grounds, Indianapolis, Ind.

Col. J. W. JUDY, Auctioneer.

Offers for the spring trade of 1875 a full and complete assortment of general nursery stock, of unsurpassed quality, and at lowest cash rates.

My stock of Apple, Pear, Cherry, Plum and Quince together with a full and general assortment of small fruits is complete, and in quality fully equal to the standard of former years.

Parties desiring to buy for cash, will find it to their advantage to correspond with me, before purchasing.

C. H. TAYLOR,

Lawrence, Kansas.

GRANGERS, P. of H.

"OR ANY OTHER MAN"

We would advise you when coming to this city by groceries, to call on WHITTON & WEISS. Inquire prices and see the quality of their goods, before buying elsewhere.

Kansas Farmer Prize Essay.

Will be published in Pamphlet form. In obedience to demand expressed by many subscribers, the following essays will be published in cheap pamphlet and book form at the following rates:

1 Improvement in Live Stock 10cts per copy

2 Growing Vegetables for profit 10cts "

3 The Grange—Its value to the Farmers of the country. 10cts "

4 The Adorning of Farmer's Homes 10cts "

5 Breeding and Feeding Swine for profit, in Kansas. 10cts "

6 Fruit Growing in Kansas. 10cts "

7 Breeding and Management of Sheep 10cts "

8 Wheat Growing in Kansas. 10cts "

9 How to grow Orange-grape for hedge-row, Flax, 10cts "

10 Sweet Potatoes, 10cts "

11 Irish Potatoes. 10cts "

These essays will be furnished at \$1.00 per dozen.

The eight pamphlets neatly bound in cloth, will be sent to any address for ONE DOLLAR.

CONSTITUTION OF NATIONAL GRANGE

As amended, in pamphlet form, 1 copy 10 cts, 3 copy 25 cts.

PATRONS—HAND BOOK.

Will contain the new National and State Grange Constitution as amended for 1875. Price single copy 10 cts, bound in 30 cts. one dozen \$2.00

Address J. K. HUDSON

Topeka, Kansas.

New Advertisements.

PUBLIC SALE

OF HIGH-CLASS

"Highland Stock Farm Herd"

OF

SHORT-HORN CATTLE

Which will be sold, without reserve or by-bid, at

Dexter Park, Chicago,

Wednesday, May 19th, 1875.

ON account of press of other business, the subscriber announces the sale of the whole "Highland Stock Farm Herd." As my herd is not accessible from points East and South, and as my herd is composed largely of

PRINCESSES,

and other well-bred things, Dexter Park was selected as the most accessible point to sell such a herd. There will be sold some 30 Head of Cows and Heifers. All the cows are good and regular breeders, and will be in calf to my latest bull LORD WETHERBY 1287, on Monday, the 21st of May, 1875. The condition of the herd will be such as will be satisfactory to parties desiring cattle in good healthy and breeding condition. The bulls, in general, are Lord Wetherby, and all the other young bulls, are good animals, and all healthy and good feeders.

Terms.—Six months' credit will be given on all sales at 5 per cent. interest per annum, or 5 per cent. discount for cash.

Will be ready about April 15, and can be had on application to the subscriber.

L. W. TOWN, Hannibal, Mo.

Particular attention is called to the

SERIES OF SALES,

to be held at Dexter Park, Chicago, covering the entire third week of May, of which this sale is a part, comprising, on the whole, the most attractive series, and the largest list of Short-horns that has ever been dispersed at one time and place on the American continent. This series of sales will occur as follows:

Wednesday, May 13, L. W. Town, Short-horns, Dexter Park.

Thursday, " 20 J. F. Sanborn, " " "

Friday, " 21 J. F. Sanborn, " " "

Saturday, " 22 J. F. Sanborn, " " "

Public Sale

OF

SHORT-HORN CATTLE

AT

Dexter Park, Chicago,

Thursday, May 20th, 1875.

THE Subscriber will offer his entire herd of Short-horn cattle, numbering about 75 Head, at Public Sale, at Dexter Park (Union Stock Yards), Chicago, on Thursday, May 20th, 1875.

Breeders in search of animals to improve the character of their herds, will find here many of the best and most fashionable breeding.

Among the animals to be sold will be

Princesses, Gwynnes, Louans, Eoss of Sharons, Crags, Yarlows, Pansys,

and others of the most desirable and standard families of the day, in many cases deeply bred in Bates and other fashionable bloods.

The females to be sold are all regular breeders, and in good healthy breeding condition, and will be sold without any reserve whatever.

Among the bulls to be sold is the Bates bull

BARON BATES 5th 16903,

by M. Duke of Ouellet 1694, dam of the Bates Lady Red or Filbert tribe.

Catalogue ready about April 30th.

Terms.—A credit of six months will be given on satisfactory paper, drawing 7 per cent. interest from date. Five per cent. discount for cash.

For further particulars, apply to

J. F. SANBORN,

Port Huron, Mich.

Particular attention is directed to the following

SERIES OF SALES,

to be held at Dexter Park, Chicago, covering the entire third week of May, 1875, of which this sale is a part, comprising, on the whole, the most attractive series, and the largest list of Short-horns that has ever been dispersed at one time and place on the American continent. This series of sales will occur as follows:

Wednesday, May 13, L. W. Town, Short-horns, Dexter Park.

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Friday, " 21 J. F. Sanborn, " " "

Saturday, " 22 J. F. Sanborn, " " "

Public Sale

OF HIGH-CLASS

SHORT-HORN CATTLE

TO BE HELD AT

Dexter Park, Chicago,

FRIDAY, MAY 21st, 1875.

THE Subscribers ask the attention of American and Canadian breeders to the public sale of their entire herd of Short-horn cattle, which will be held at Dexter Park (Union Stock Yards), Chicago, on Friday, May 21, 1875.

The animals comprising the foundation of this herd were selected with great care, and regardless of expense, with a view to securing a herd first-class in respect to individual excellence, well bred, and the proprietors are confident their offerings are worthy of the attendance of all discriminating breeders. They will sell about seventy-five head, all regular breeders and in good breeding condition. Among them,

Ross of Sharons, Golden Drops, Miss Willys, Ferie, Crags, Gwynnes, Hopes, Princesses, Bright Eyes, Louans,

and representatives of other families of equal merit and popularity, together with SEVERAL IMPORTED COWS.

Stress of pure Bates or strong Bates breeding have been in use in this herd, and a very large proportion of the pedigree show a succession of Bates crosses. Among the bulls to be sold are as follows:

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three years old, last November with one exception, the only Duke bull offered for sale this season.

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Particular attention is directed to the following

SERIES OF SALES,

to be held at Dexter Park, Chicago, covering the entire third week of May, 1875, of which this sale is a part, comprising, on the whole, the most attractive series, and the largest list of Short-horns that has ever been dispersed at one time and place on the American continent. This series of sales will occur as follows:

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

OLD FASHIONED SHRUBS.

It was Thomas Hood who said: "spring has now set in with its usual severity;" and it lasts an unusually long time this spring, besides being colder than for many years previous, but it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and if our cold, late blasts kill the young grasshoppers, and give farmers an opportunity to replace some of the trees, that were killed last year, it may be called a very favorable season, and notwithstanding the fact that there is so much extra work to do this spring, we hope a little will be done in the way of beautifying every country homestead.

It costs so little to plant a few ornamental shrubs, and they add so much to the homelike appearance of any place, besides giving us flowers every year, that are just as handsome, just as sweet, and much more certain than seedlings, that everybody ought to plant them.

There are many new and beautiful shrubs which are well worth having, if one is able to get them, but there are some dear old ones that are almost indispensable to lovers of flowers, and that nearly everybody can get, if they try. Roses come first always, there is a great choice of variety, but all are sweet and preferable to none. Honey-suckles are hardy and easily grown from cuttings. Syringas, both the sweet-scented and the mock-orange are among the very loveliest of white flowers for cutting, and are profuse bloomers. Never forget the lilac, nothing is sweeter or hardier, and the old sort is prettier than any new variety we have ever seen.

The Snowball is rarely seen in modern grounds, though in old ones it is usually among the most prized treasures, as it well deserves to be. There are few objects more striking than a large bush of Snowballs in flower. It may be that the scarcity is owing to the difficulty often found in striking cuttings. Sometimes they grow, and sometimes not, just as they seem to take a notion to. Old plants can often be so divided as to make several dozen. A certain and sure way to raise Snowballs, is to lay down some of the branches. If these are given a gentle twist, so as to partially split the branch at the place where it is put under the ground, roots will come out at the split part, and in a year the rooted portion can be taken off as an independent plant.

The Snowball cannot be raised from seeds, because it never produces any. It is in fact a male form of the Guelder Rose Viburnum. The female form has very insignificant flowers.

There are some very pretty varieties of Spirea, but there are so many worthless kinds and nurserymen seem to have such an abundance of them and to be so fond of selling the worthless things to every body that wants shrubbery but does not know what kinds they want, that we advise all beginners to buy something else than Spirea, unless they have seen the bush in bloom and know it to be what they want.

The shrub commonly known as the Japan Quince is one of the earliest and most brilliant blossoms of the spring, and is a variety that should always be secured if possible.

Our favorite, of all spring blossoms, is the Crab Apple, why it is not often used as an ornamental tree, we cannot understand, unless it is because it can be had "without money and without price," for there is no flower more beautiful in form than a cluster of half opened Crab Apple buds hanging on their slender stems, none more exquisitely colored, and none more deliciously fragrant.

SPONGE CAKE.

We had some very good sponge cake the other day, and a friend asked how we made it; and we promised to tell her through the FARMER. We made that kind from a recipe in the *Kansas Home Cook Book*, called velvet sponge cake, four eggs, two coffee cups sugar, beat the eggs and sugar well together, two coffee cups flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, lemon flavor, two-thirds of a cup of boiling water; add water last. Another way we make it, when we want it quick and cheap is four of eggs, one cup of sugar, one cup of flour, the yolks and sugar beaten together, the whites beaten to a stiff froth and added with the flour; this kind is best if eaten about twenty-four hours after it is baked, and is very nice with an icing made of the whites of two eggs, a cup of sugar and two tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate.

Aunt Lydia's sponge cake, our company recipe, contains eleven eggs, with the yolks of three left out, three cups of sugar, four of flour, rose-water or lemon flavoring; beat the yolks and sugar to a cream, adding a little of the sugar at a time; add the frothed whites and flour very gently, and stir as little as possible afterwards. Mark in squares and break when sent to the table.

To KILL CANARY-BIRD MITES.—A correspondent of the London *Fanciers Gazette* writes that "a drop of linseed oil put on the ends of perches in the cage of canaries, where the red mites sometimes breed by thousands, will instantly kill them, and if applied occasionally, will keep them away. They can be easily kept out of the nests by dredging the box or basket with quick-lime inside, and then making a nice nest with clean moss."

TALE OF TWO WEDDINGS.

[New York Observer.]

I.

I was young then, for the first wedding I am about to describe, took place about forty-five years ago. I was the minister's wife, and my husband's parish was in the northern part of the State of New York, just verging upon the Adirondack region. Our people were mainly simple, home-spun Scotch folk, and our church belonged to what was known as the "Seceder" persuasion. Many of the people talked the Gaelic, and all of them retained the Covenanter prejudice against hymn singing and instrumental music in the house of God. On Sabbath the precursor stood in the little stall made for him beneath the pulpit, and, tuning book in hand, led off the psalm, reading every two lines. Though all the people had books, not all of them could read—and those who could would not have been willing to see the old-fashion ways forsaken, and the reading of the line abolished.

A little north of us was a colony of Dutch folk, who had no regular settled minister as yet, and were dependent on the missionaries sent out by the Dutch Reformed Church. These people came sometimes to our meeting, and usually counted on my husband to attend their burials, and perform the marriage ceremony at their weddings.

The winter of '29 was very cold, and the deep snow lay upon the ground from October until nearly the first of May. One bright, moonlight, but bitter cold evening, having finished my day's work of house-keeping, mending and writing letters, and my husband having finished his work at sermon writing and committing—oh! what a work it was to write a sermon an hour long every week, and then commit it to memory—for our good Scotch folk would not listen to a read sermon; and having brought in the wood for the night, and foddered the cow, we were sitting by the cheerful hickory fire, roasting apples and cracking nuts, and talking over our affairs, when out of the clear frosty air broke the cry: "Halloo! Halloo the house!" "A broken body for me," said my husband, and opening the door he answered, "Halloo, what do you want?" A team and a big open sleigh, or rather sled, for it had no sides, stood at the gate, and a voice from it answered, "Good evening, Dominie; I came down to get ye to 'tend a weddin' up in the 'clips' (cliffs). Jake Conall wants to jine Sally Ann Linkumiller that lives down to Squire Houghtaling's, and they want you to come and splice 'em—there's a couple of dollars in it, sure. Will ye come?" "Aye, aye!" responded my husband, "I'll be out in a few minutes." Coming in, his eyes twinkled with fun as he said, "I'll warrant that fellow is the Yankee that has come up from Albany to teach the school. He's an eye to the main chance, too. Did you hear him clinch the invitation to go out this cold night, with the prospect of a two dollar fee? Well, with a salary of only five hundred dollars, and the bairn to educate, every dollar helps." The bairn was our baby girl, about six months old, lying asleep in the cradle. "Oh, Malcolm," said I, "ask the man to come in while I change my dress and get ready. Do take me and the baby! I have never been to one of those Dutch weddings, and it is so lonely in this great old house without you!"

"But Susan, it is so cold, and the wee bairn, what'll you do with her?" "She isn't undressed yet, and her slip is clean; I'll wrap her up well, and tuck her in to my muff."

Well, of course, he consented; and in ten minutes we were out on the sled, sitting down in the straw, and well-covered with bear skins and buffalo robes. The muffs we wore in those days were very large—they'd be a curiosity now—and the baby was very small; so, as I promised, I tucked her into it, and she slept all the seven miles.

When we arrived the guests were assembled; sitting room and great kitchen full. The house was an old fashioned one, with four rooms on the first floor, with the same above, and over all a great garret. The sitting-room was furnished with old style, plain mahogany furniture, straight-backed chairs, heavy tables and a great bureau nearly five feet high, ornamented with brass handles, and almost as black as ebony with age. Brass fire dogs, bright as rubbing could make them, reflected the objects around them; a bright fire glowed in the ample fire-place, and on the floor was a home-made rag carpet. The kitchen was an immense room, and had a fire place at each end of it, large enough to hold the biggest back log that might be cut in the primeval forest close at hand.

From the oaken rafters overhead hung strings of onions, festoons of dried apples, long garlands of pumpkins, slices of bacon and brown hams. In one corner stood lousies and beside them a great spinning wheel, and a "Jenny." The beds had been cleared away from one of the bed-rooms on the first floor, and in it were set the tables for the entertainment. Loaded with cold roast turkey and chicken, mince and pumpkin pies, "ole kokes," doughnuts, jumbles, pound cake, fruit cake, apples and nuts, they fairly groaned under the weight of their hospitality. Soon after our arrival there was a little stir and a clearing of the space about the door that separated the kitchen from the sitting room, and the bridal party came in. The bride was young, and had a bright rosy complexion so universal with the girls on those hills, living active useful lives of material of worsted and silk; sleeves, and four inch bodices were dashed with blue, and she wore a blue sash, and blue morocco shoes with high heels. The groom was a stalwart, broad shouldered young fellow, fine in homespun clothes and brass buttons. The Yankee school-master and the bridegroom's sister were groomsmen and bridesmaid. The marriage ceremony was short and simple. Then followed much kissing and many jokes, some not so remarkable for wit as a certain coarseness that passed for it. Supper followed, and great was the merriment when the bridesmaid drew the ring that had been put in the wedding cake! After supper the tables were cleared away by magic; the elders retired to the sitting room, and the hostess' bed-room, where on the high post bedstead, hung with blue checked curtains, slept my little baby, unconscious of all that was around her. The young people had gathered in the kitchen and supper room, and soon the sound of merriment came to us, for though I was not yet twenty-one years old, I was the minister's wife, and had to sit—much against my inclinations—with the staid old people.

"Hunt the Slipper," and kindred games were played with forfeits, and after a while there was a sort of lull, and then a scraping and twanging sounded, for the fiddles were being tuned for the dance; and sure enough my good husband at once arose and said gravely,

"Susan, I think we had better be going now." Soon we were wrapped up, and baby, who opened her blue eyes only a moment, and stared about as if unable to decide whether this was a part of her dream or not, and then shut them again, was tucked once more into the great muff, and we accepted the invitation of one of our own deacons, to ride home with him and his wife.

"Did you get the two dollars, Malcolm?" I asked, when we were again at our own hearthstone. "Yes indeed," he answered, "and another dollar beside, which the school-master told me was for making the ceremony so short." Old Dominie Van Horn of Johnstown who used to do the marrying, was wont to keep the poor creatures standing an hour and sometimes more. The Yankee "reckoned I had t'ed 'em just as fast in five minutes." And the dear fellow put into my hand three silver dollars, saying, "There Susan, there is so much towards educating the wee bairn."

II.

I shall take little space to tell of wedding number two. I am old now—sixty-five on Christmas Eve. Times have changed in forty-five years. A few weeks ago Malcolm—his hair is "like the snow" now,—and I came to the city to visit our daughter—the "wee bairn" whom I once carried in my muff. And last week we were invited to attend a wedding at one of the Collegiate churches in Fifth Avenue. The bride was the grand-daughter of the young woman who was married that night forty-five years ago, up in Montgomery county.

What a contrast there was in the wedding, and in the brides! This young girl, in her trailing satin dress white as sheeted snow, her point d'Alecon flounces, and wreath of real orange blossoms, was as pale as a lily, and her waist was so slender that I wondered how she had strength to carry the weight of her train. No roses save white ones bloomed on her cheeks. No wonder! She never had milked the sweet-breathed kine; she never carded wool and spun and wove, as her handsome grandmother did. The wedding was a very grand one. From the church door to the sidewalk there was an awning, and the pavement was carpeted. There were six bridesmaids and groomsmen, and the church was filled with gaily dressed people. The clergyman, who married them, wore a gown, and read the service from a book. Then at the house there was a great display of flowers and presents, and the bride and groom, surrounded by their attendants, stood in state for hours, and received their friends; and wines and ices, and wonderful confections were served; and after the guests had left, the bridal pair went in a special train on their wedding tour.

I suppose it is I who am wrong and that these changes are but necessary concomitants to the advance of wealth and culture, but it does seem to me that there was more heartiness, more realism in the old than the new.

Wouldn't our girls have more red roses in their cheeks, more vigor in their frames, if we could go back to the simpler life of forty-five years ago? Would not we all be better and happier?

THE NOM DE PLUME.

One of the most interesting of all the curiosities of literature is the difficulty, we might say the impossibility, of preserving a literary incognito. The experiment has been tried often and again, and continues to be tried daily; but all past experience has shown that this is a class of secrets that can not be kept. The gratified vanity of the successful author, the keen inquiry of the critics, the demand of an approving public; these and a dozen other circumstances combine to make the truth known and strip the writer of his protecting nom de plume. So literally true is this that we may find it impossible to discover in the whole range of English literature a single case in which the literary incognito remains buried in mystery.

Perhaps the Letters of Junius, written some thirty years ago, exhibit the best instance of the secrecy as to authorship long kept. In this case there was every reason why the audacious essayist should labor hard to shield his identity from the wrath of such powerful enemies as the King of England and his ministers, whose public errors and incapacity and whose private vices the celebrated "let us" so unsparringly lash. Indeed, the writer openly declares in one of them that his discovery would not only be the signal for public and private prosecution, attended with all the rigors of the law, but that assassination would certainly be attempted. The efforts that were made toward this discovery, were continued through the three years of the publication, and almost became a "hue and cry." More than a dozen of the foremost and ablest public men of the time were in turn under suspicion, and it may be that the question, "Who is Junius?" was so long mooted mainly because of the large number who it was thought might have written these letters. It is believed that the publisher, Woodfall, was the only one to whom the secret was directly confided, at least during the period when the anonymous author was regarded as a criminal and outlaw by the Ministry, and the firmness and good faith of Woodfall, no doubt, prevented the discovery of the secret on many occasions.

The real author of these letters never publicly avowed himself, but it is a convincing proof of the assertion that the public will not allow an author to remain concealed by a nom de plume, that dozens of pamphlets have been written within the last century, devoted to the solution of this particular mystery, and that it may now be regarded as definitely settled by the inquisitorial labors of these pamphleteers, some of them men of high literary reputation, that the Junius letters could have been written by nobody but Sir Phillip Francis, Lord Macaulay even declaring that if the evidence in the case were directed to an indictment for murder it would be sufficient to convict.

Another remarkable instance of literary incognito is that of the "Great Unknown," the author of the Waverley Novels. The first volume, "Waverley," was published in 1814, and the others "by the author of Waverley" rapidly followed. It was not until the year 1827, at a public dinner, that Sir Walter Scott publicly avowed himself the author; but long before this these works had been largely attributed to him, and his name was generally mentioned in connection with them. Sir Walter, in his after-dinner speech just referred to, spoke of the secret as one which, "considering that it was communicated to more than twenty people, had been remarkably well kept." In fact the name, "Great Unknown," as applied in this case, seems to be a misnomer.

The first two cantos of "Don Juan" appeared in 1819, originally, without the name of either author or publisher on the title page—a concession to the prejudices of the moral part of the public which the noble writer did not always see fit to make. The literary pub-

lications and the newspapers of the day were filled with criticisms on the new poem; and a very large number of them at once mentioned Byron as undoubtedly the author.

These examples will serve to illustrate the keenness of the public scent, in times past, after the literary whose names were not allowed to "come to the front."

In these palmy days of literature, we find that much the same spirit prevails. The people are not at all content to read and re-litish a good book; they demand, and sooner or later they will have the true name of the author. Very much in the same spirit we look on and are interested at the fantastic masquerade; but we are never quite satisfied unless we see the unmasking at the close, and thus learn who have been the authors of our diversion.

"George Sand," "George Elliot," and "Currer Bell" were all names well calculated to conceal the sex as well as the identity of their respective owners; but when the demand for the works of these authors became brisk, their personality was quickly discovered.

The real name of "Grace Greenwood," was known to the public when her earlier efforts appeared—I refrain from saying how long ago as there is a lady in this case.

"Minnie Myrtle," whose writings were quite popular with the young people of twenty years ago, has lately been recalled to public notice as the wife of Joaquin Miller.

"Marion Harland" was and is a very pretty name and with a less inquisitive reading public than the American, it might easily have passed for the genuine name. But the newspapers at a very early stage of this lady's career announced to her admirers who she was and where she lived; an announcement which it is entirely superfluous to repeat.

"Gail Hamilton" ingeniously compounded her rather taking pen-name from a part of her own baptismal name and that of the place of her residence. These facts probably aided the press in the discovery of her own proper designation. It has been given so often that I will forbear repeating it here.

The noble array of modern American humorists has been common property from the first; indeed, it would seem as if they had made no effort to keep their readers ignorant of their real names. "Doesticks," "Artemus Ward," and "Orpheus C. Kerr" did, and "Mark Twain," "Josh Billings," and the "Fat Contributor," do represent individuals whose true names are as well known to the majority of their readers as are these fictitious ones.

The first letter of "Private Miles O'Reilly," to President Lincoln and other celebrities, due to the war, were clever and amusing conceits which for a time imposed upon many readers the belief that the Private was an actual person. But long before the demand for them had ceased, he was well understood to be C. G. Halpine.

It may not be so well known that some charming "Poems, by the letter H," published years ago, were from the same prolific hand.

Who, that found delight and diversion in the blundering etymology of "Mrs. Partington," a quarter of a century since, did not know that this dear old lady and B. P. Shillaber were literally inseparable? And how many urchins of a dozen years old, to say nothing of their elders, knew perfectly well that charming "Peter Parley" was a myth born in the brain of S. G. Goodrich?

The truth that this article opened with is really so obvious to even the general reader, that there is no need to fortify it with the hundred examples that accumulate in the mind much faster than pen can indite them.

Should those well versed in current magazine literature think that some notice should be taken in these paragraphs of the question, "Who is Kate Holmes?" I will say that this is a question which time, and a short time withal, will fully answer.

The curious fact should also be remarked that our literature is not wanting in instances where the real name of the author, having a fictitious or poetical sound, has been at first taken by the public for a nom de plume. As witness the first appearance of Nathaniel Hawthorne and William Winter, in the world of letters.

It is another curious fact not widely known that there are several names appended to contributions to current literature, which have a sober matter of fact sound, but which are nevertheless mere pen-names. When any of them gains such distinction in letters, that public curiosity becomes awakened, then the truth as to that one will be known; before that time I shall certainly not volunteer to reveal my knowledge on the subject or the sources of it. That the occasion for general inquiry to be made as to each of them may soon come, is the cordial wish of one whose nom de plume (though he has one) is not

JANES FRANKLIN FITTS.

SELECTED RECIPES.

POTATO PUFF.

To two cups of cold mashed potatoes add two cups of sweet cream, two spoonfuls of melted butter, two well beaten eggs, and a little salt; mix thoroughly, turn into a basin, and bake in a quick oven.

An oaken color can be given to new pine floors and tables by washing them in a solution of copperas dissolved in a strong lye, a pound of the former to a gallon of the latter. When dry, this should be oiled, and it will look well for a year or two; then renew the oiling.

How Salt Fish should be Freshened. Many persons are in the habit of freshening mackerel or other salt fish, and never dream that there was a right and wrong way to do it. Any person who has seen the process of evaporating going on at the salt works, knows that the salt falls to the bottom. Just so it is in the pan where your mackerel or white fish lies soaking; and, as it lies with the skin side down, the salt will fall to the skin and there remain, when, it is laid flesh side down, the salt falls to the bottom of the pan, and the fish comes out freshened as it should be. In the other case it is nearly as salt as when put in.

On COOKING "GREENS."—Every housewife thinks she can cook "Greens." It is the simplest of all dishes; and yet, in most cases, they are not well served, for much depends on the way they are boiled. The water should be soft, and a tablespoonful of salt added to a large-sized pot of it, which should be boiling hot when the greens are thrown in, and then it should be kept on the boiling gallop, but, uncovered, until they are done, which can be told by their sinking to the bottom of the pot, and they should be skimmed off as quickly as possible into a colander, so that all the water will run out. Press with a small plate, then turn upon a platter, add a large piece of butter, and cut up fine. Serve while smoking hot.—(The London) Garden.

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