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KANSAS WHEAT CULTURE.

[A paper read before the Farmer's Institute, at Manhattan, January 17th, 1878, by Hon. T. C. Henry, of Abilene, Dickinson county, Kan.]

In all famous wheat soils, there is a very considerable proportion of sand. Now I do not apprehend that the abundance of silica makes a wheat soil *per se*. The fact is, no element of the wheat plant is less likely to be exhausted, for the reason that the main portion is always returned to the soil in the straw. But a sandy soil means a porous soil, and the influence of the air is more readily and directly exerted upon the elements in the soil which are in contact with the rootlets of the plants; as well as the plant itself. If a plant were placed in an air-tight vessel, though the body and leaves were freely exposed to the air, and though the vessel were filled with the most fertile and favorable soil, the plant would wither and die. This fact explains the necessity of securing a loose and lively soil for the plant. Close and compact clay soils fall naturally as a rule to produce good wheat. They are too nearly air-tight, and especially in a wet time the retention of water upon the surface and above the roots actually smothers the plant. If you can loosen these tenacious soils so as to give the air an influence, you have as a consequence the very best wheat lands. I have observed that the best grain fields in New York to-day are those which thirty years ago were generally rejected because possessing such stiff and unmanageable clay. Drainage, and deep and thorough culture, have given the atmosphere an opportunity to do its work, thus enabling the plant to appropriate the abundant alkaline salts naturally present in the soil. I conclude, therefore, that generally those lands which have a hard-pan close to the surface—gumbo and that sort; such lands as do not permit the rains to percolate to the subsoil and below to the roots; such lands as continue damp for an undue time after a rainfall; lands which are wet and sticky and glossy with moisture on the surface, in the spring while the frost is coming out of the ground; are all unsuited to wheat growth. Thorough and proper culture will of course modify them somewhat. Another class of lands which are objectionable, are the low, rich, alluvial bottoms. The extensive deposit of humus or vegetable mold makes an excessive growth of the plant, and the result is an herb and no fruit. As a rule, those soils which produce the shortest growth of stalk, grow the finest berry and are the most reliable wheat lands. The famous wheat districts I have mentioned grow a small plant, and I always aim to avoid a large and lengthy stalk. On the deep, alluvial soils, this can only be done by thick seeding. In that way the plants are crowded, hence stunted, and mature much earlier than they otherwise would.

QUANTITY OF SEED.

In regard to the quantity of seed required, I have nothing unusual to advance. I have often wondered, let me say, what becomes of all the grains which are usually sown. Certainly not one-half of them, if they all germinated, would be required. If two berries in a place were planted in spaces four inches apart each way over an acre field, less than a third of a bushel would be consumed. But in practice I have found that it is not best to do with much less than a bushel and one-fourth

of clean, good seed to the acre. I am aware that many instances can be shown where, by some accident, such as when by a partial winter-killing the stand had become reduced, and the crop under the influence of a favorable season stood surprisingly, an unusual yield was the result, greater, possibly, than in a field with no mishap to the stand. But to rely upon such a thin seeding would be, I am sure, precarious. Stooling always retards a plant—causes too great a vegetable growth; and if the rust does not overtake and ruin it utterly, an inferior grain is almost the certain result.

The methods of culture in Kansas are as yet nearly as various as the activities of the farmers who have introduced them. I cannot say that I think the best system, the system that will prevail in the future, has been evolved from our experience so far in wheat culture. Beginning with the prairie, I find scarcely any diversity of opinion as to the manner of operating the first year. Breaking should not begin earlier than the middle of May, and should be ended by June 25th. It is unnecessary to re-plow or stir the sod. A couple of thorough harrowings, completed by September, and then the drill followed by a third harrowing, is generally the best method of seeding. I mention the drill, not that it will cause a better crop on sod, but simply that the seed is more likely to be sown uniformly than by broadcasting. If I had no drill and could sow by hand reasonably well, I should lose no time nor go in debt to buy or borrow one. Here permit me to say that I deprecate most strongly the practice of getting in debt for agricultural implements and machinery,—a practice too common among the farmers of this state.

DON'T DO IT!!

Talk about bonds, land payments, the currency, low prices, or grasshoppers,—none of them, nor all of them have dragged our people so into debt as "improved" farm machinery sold on time. Why, I remember when a mere boy how many times my father, though owning a good farm in western New York and in comfortable circumstances, went to the shire-town of the county to examine a certain pattern of wheel cultivator; how long he hesitated, how carefully he made his estimates of its value to him, the family councils on the subject before he finally ventured to make the purchase. And what do you imagine was the expense of that wonderful implement?—twenty-six dollars. Again, some years later, with a much larger farm and ampler resources, the question of purchasing a reaper was considered. The advantages were clearly seen, the necessity was apparent, but two hundred dollars was a sum too important to be hastily disbursed or promised. I was enthusiastic and wanted the machine; but two hundred dollars, I was assured, were not made every day, and so my judgment was overruled. The immediate consequence was that in the summer of 1858 my father, unaided, cradled twenty-four acres of wheat, and I, a stripling of sixteen, raked and bound every bundle of it. Within three years, I have known of a farmer in Kansas twenty miles from a railroad, upon an eighty acre homestead, living in a "dug-out" with a family of six children, mortgage his only team to make a "down" payment on a Kirby combined machine with all the latest appliances, to harvest a ten acre wheat field and four acres of oats. The horses were saved, but the machine was sold under chattel mortgage the next year.

To resume, the second year I favor stirring the ground, but not more than a couple of inches deeper than the first depth of the breaking. If much deeper, there is brought to the surface soil which is wild and unsubdued, and which is filled with woody fiber not yet fully decomposed. The stirring should be done as early after harvest as possible. And if weeds are likely to grow so as to embarrass seeding, harrow the ground as often as necessary to subdue them. I prefer the drill with which to seed. First, because the seed is more uniformly distributed; second, and mainly, because if the fall is dry and a resulting small plant, the drill marks afford protection from the severity of the winter winds. If I could secure careful broadcast sowing, and was insured a vigorous growth by winter, I should prefer it. It is a mistaken idea that deep seeding insures a firmer hold for the plant. If wheat be plowed in, a very considerable percentage of the vital force of the plant is expended in the effort to reach light and air, and a puny plant is the result at the very outset. The roots which support the perma-

nent growth are put forth just underneath and very near to the surface of the ground. In a short time, all the growth below decays and is abandoned. In other words, it matters not how deep the seed may have been deposited, the main supporting roots are always put forth within an inch of the surface. That plant is always most vigorous which sprouts from the seed at the very surface of the ground—if it but get a start sufficient to maintain itself. Gather about the plant a few inches of dirt, and notice how quickly you check its growth. Potatoes are planted deep in the ground—that is, when you find the harvest. Nature's broadcaster is the wind.

On old ground, I think deep plowing should be practiced. But the work should be done some weeks prior to seed-time, so that the ground may become settled and compact as possible. Our fields, especially if followed by a dry autumn, are apt to be too loose, and the dry atmosphere, penetrating the soil freely, robs the young plant of its requisite moisture. I do not believe that deep plowing need be practiced for every crop. Every second or third crop is sufficient. Upon a barley field, for instance, which was prepared by deep plowing in the spring previous, if free from weeds and litter, I should not hesitate to drill in wheat without plowing. Nor should I hesitate to seed after corn in the fall, among the standing stalks. Of course I have reference to natural wheat soils, such as I have described before.

I shall not undertake to consider the matter of fertilization. A proper consideration of that subject would form material for a complete essay in itself. Nor shall I consider the subject of rotation of crops, for the same reason. I will, however, take occasion to say that I have been unable as yet to find a worn out, exhausted wheat field in Kansas that refused to produce well when a deep plowing of eight or ten inches, followed by a corn crop, had preceded it. I am confident that a genuine, thorough, Yankee summer-fallow would gratify and astonish its owner by the return it would give him.

I have no ideas concerning the harvesting of wheat worthy your consideration, or beyond what is ordinarily known. I believe that the header will be used for a long time to harvest the larger wheat fields of western Kansas. Much grain is lost, however, in stacking, though not necessarily if care be used. But for all purposes, and everything considered, the self-binder, I believe, is the implement that will finally prove best adapted to the wants of the average Kansas farmer. I have observed that the practice which prevails in the eastern states, viz., of cutting the grain several days before it is really ripe, does not answer as well here. The grain must be fully matured, otherwise the hot sun dries the stalk at once, and a light shrunken berry is the result—just as if you were to shell out the grain and expose it to the sun before it was sound and hard. The character of the season with reference to moisture will modify somewhat the above conclusion.

CAUSES OF FAILURE.

The dangers which threaten Kansas wheat are to be considered. Many of them well known to you need not be considered. I shall not attempt even to enumerate them. Some are providential and thus clearly beyond our ability to ward off. But more crops of wheat are lost by a careless culture than grasshoppers ever have or ever will destroy. The chief point is to secure a stand of vigorous plants—to get safely through until spring.

If a strong growth is not secured by cold weather, the chances of a failure are greatly increased. If we could always rely upon such a favorable rain-fall as has occurred the past season, there would be no trouble on this score. But we cannot. Our reliance must be upon a thorough preparation of the soil by early plowing, pulverization of the surface, a compact body underneath, early seeding, and the use of the drill. March is the trying month, especially to the late-sown fields. The surface is checked and furrowed by little crochets, created by the action of the frost first and the evaporation of the moisture of the surface afterwards, thus permitting the air to absorb the moisture from the weak plant on every side. Harrowing and rolling have been suggested as a remedy at that time. But I do not favor it. First, because, unless the ground is very smooth, the roller especially has no effect, except upon a portion of the surface; and, again, a field left in that condition, exposed to a strong wind of two or three days' duration, would blow soil, wheat, roots and

all to ruin. It is best, as a rule, to let the field take its chance, and next time seed in season. The danger from wind is, let me say, greatly lessened by drilling east and west.

SPRING WHEAT.

I have stated that I am not partial to spring wheat, and I will give my reasons in brief. It matures late, and hence is liable to be affected by drought. It is an inferior wheat, and hence commands a less price than winter wheat. It yields less, and hence is not so profitable. And, worse than all, it undoubtedly propagates chinch bugs—the worst enemy, by far, which the Kansas farmer will be called upon to contend with. I am aware that the Odessa, for instance, has proved successful the past year or two since its introduction, but the season has been favorable for it. It is later than any other spring wheat variety I am acquainted with, and necessarily more exposed to the dangers of drought and chinch bugs.

WORTH OF A PRACTICAL EDUCATION.

I do not wish to protract this essay, already, I know, too long; but I cannot conclude without expressing a few thoughts concerning the importance of a knowledge of the principles of agricultural chemistry. Within a few years; and since my personal interests have induced a more careful observation of the nature and growth of the wheat plant, I have been astonished to find how closely my conclusions have accorded with the researches of science; and I have thought if an iota of the time I have spent in groping my way along, had been given in youth to an acquaintance with the fundamental principles of organic and agricultural chemistry, how much more certain and direct would have been my pathway to the results I wished to obtain. I have long since found that the most economical experience is that which may be gathered from an observation of others' successes and failures; and as I have pursued my way in traveling about the country, how often I have overtaken great failure, entirely owing to an ignorance or disregard of some law plainly discernible to the student of nature; failures that might easily have been successes and thereby afforded ample means to secure for the youth of an entire household, perhaps, that sort of a practical education precisely necessary before the end of such agricultural follies is reached.

(CONCLUDED.)

FLOWING LAND WET, INJURIOUS.

We premise that we have more particular reference to the black, prairie soils of the western states. Of other soils we do not speak positively. Farmers in Illinois, especially where a large area is annually planted to corn, where wheat and barley have been almost entirely abandoned because of chinch bugs, blight, and scab, are greatly excited in the spring of the year, for fear they will not get their corn in the ground by the twentieth of May. It frequently happens that the ground is cold and wet till the eighth or tenth of May and to plow and plant from 50 to 300 acres of corn after this time and get it in before the first of June, requires several teams and extra hands, which involves extra expense which many cannot afford. Thus it happens that many thousands of acres are plowed and every year nearly, while the ground is so wet in places that the water stands in the furrow, and the whole length of the field the furrow presents a shining appearance; a certain evidence that the ground is too wet to plow, and in our opinion the plowman would be as well employed in attempting to construct a perpetual motion.

In the first place, it causes the upturned soil to bake, so that it is full of lumps from the size of a hen's egg to that of a man's head. The consequences are that the ground cannot be got in good order for planting in season. Then it usually comes off dry and the field has not really one-half the moisture in it that land in good till has. The planting cannot be done as nicely, and the stand will not be as even, the lumps are a nuisance in working the corn, and the above causes have a deadening effect on the soil so that the crop will be short from ten to twenty bushels per acre.

But the trouble, or rather the loss, does not end here, for the land will not regain its former fertility in less than from three to four years. The penalty of plowing in the mud has fast hold of the pocket for years, and yet the same process is repeated, the same dead and unnecessary loss sustained, because, foolishly, his diseased imagination says we must have forty acres to the team or we shall be behind our neighbors. Now corn at thirty to

thirty-five cents per bushel will not much more than pay the interest on that mortgage and keep the household running.

Thus he goes on from year to year, his farm less and less fertile, while the indebtedness gets larger and larger, till the money lender sustains his grip on the farm and he is forced to abandon the home of his choice and go west to subdue another farm. This farmer, far from raising all the corn possible in the fruitful source of evils, which thousands, when too late are forced to see. One-half the breadth of land plowed and planted in its proper season, and tended on principles derived from vegetable physiology and the chemistry of soils, would be far better for the producer, the consumer and the world, and nearly the same amount of corn would be raised as now. This thoughtless, reckless method of farming must necessarily, in the course of time, impoverish the soil and decrease the profits of farming. The farmer who does not carefully look to the keeping up of the fertility of his soil, is cheating the farm of the adornments which it may justly claim; cheating himself and family of the home pleasures their due; is robbing the future generations of the world of what they had a right to expect from his accumulated wisdom; is fraudulently cheating his children of their lawful patrimony.

It is high time that farmers should abandon the unfruitful, unprofitable and ruinous practice of working in the mud, unless it is digging ditches to carry off the surplus water. Indeed, more ditches made and less corn planted would prove vastly more profitable in the end. I beg of you, brother farmers of the west, that you will stop to think a season, and adopt a system of working land, based on well-grounded principles in accordance with nature, rather than in obedience to the blind god of gold that urges us on to our doom.

R. K. SLOSSON.

Verona, Illinois.

CORN AFTER TURNIPS.

I noticed in the KANSAS FARMER for Jan. 23rd, the experience of F. Wellhouse, in trying to grow corn after turnips. It is a well-known fact among growers of root crops, that corn can not be successfully grown after turnips; why it is so I cannot tell, but many have tried the experiment to their sorrow.

Turnips, if well cared for, leave the ground in fine condition, free from weeds, and perfectly mellow. The usual practice here is to sow the turnip ground with spring wheat or oats, and seed to timothy and clover. I do not believe in raising oats very largely, and it is a bad crop to get a good "catch" of grass with; but some of the best crops of spring wheat I ever saw were grown after turnips.

I would like to make a few inquiries of your readers, if you have no objection. I have but recently subscribed for the FARMER, and like it very much. I intend to go to Kansas in the spring and locate, if I find a place to suit me. I would like to know if any one has grown roots, either turnips or beets, to any extent; if so, the average yield per acre. I have gained much valuable information from the FARMER, and the monthly reports of the Board of Agriculture, but have failed to find out one thing: what kind of game you have in Kansas, from the size of squirrels, up. Also about fish; I haven't heard a word about fish; it cannot be that you are destitute of fish with all of your rivers. I like to do a little hunting and fishing when time will allow.

JOHN G. MCKEN.

TIDE FOR FEBRUARY.

- 1—Clear and pleasant.
 - 2-5—Cloudy, threatening weather, with heavy rain and snow storms in places.
 - 6-7—Clear or fair, and, if wind from the northwest, very cold.
 - 8-12—Severe storms in places.
 - 13-14—Clear or fair, and if wind from north or northwest, cold.
 - 15-16—Clouding, threatening weather, with rain and snow storms.
 - 17-18—Clear or fair, but sudden changes probable.
 - 19-23—Clouding, threatening weather, with violent wind storms and rain and snow.
 - 23-25—Cold, if heavy storms have occurred.
 - 26-28—Clouding, threatening weather, with heavy rains and snows in places.
- The warmer periods will be the 3d, 9th, 10th, 26th and 27th.
The colder days will be about the 5th, 12th, 18th, 21st and 31st.

THE KANSAS FARMER AND AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS sent postage paid one year for \$2.00.

CARBOLIC ACID.

The one substance produced by modern chemistry that has accomplished the most for the promotion of human weal, is the above.

It was discovered about forty years ago, by Runge, who was making a special study of dye stuffs, and applied dry distillation to indigo, and found this substance among the products. To-day it is the *magister magisterium* of the alchemist's dream, and whether we consider its power over the living or the dead, it stands as the nearest realization of the alchemist's elixir of life, whose drops distilled into the body, were to give immortality and exchange the decrepitude of old age for an eternal bloom of youth. Still, it is of, seemingly, most vile origin, and is neither pleasant to the taste nor smell.

In the manufacture of gas from bituminous coals, besides the gas, there is distilled a black pasty liquid called coal tar, carbolic acid is one of the many important substances found in that tar. It is there in company with benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, aniline, talu-dine, those mysterious substances which have wrought such wondrous revelations in dyeing and perfumery.

Chemically, pure carbolic acid fuses in its water of crystallization at 94° F., and the crystals are dissolved at common temperature by the addition of 5 per cent. of their weight in water. Such a solution is caustic, destroying the epidermis wherever it touches.

It is the most potent and useful of all antiseptics, and it is to its antiseptic qualities that it owes its importance. It is a specific poison to all forms of bacterial and infusorial life, killing them in water, it has been claimed, when added in the proportion of one part to ten thousand of water. It is claimed that a human body of average size may be kept for weeks without ice, if a little of the solution is poured down the throat and injected into the abdomen, and thereafter the body sponged every three or four days, or where the circumstances are saturated with it. Meat immersed in a solution of one part to two thousand of water, will keep for weeks, and if the supply is renewed it will keep indefinitely. It will cure many of the zymotic diseases from which farm stock suffer, if given before the diseases have involved some vital organ.

Probably, it will not cure a hog of cholera after his spine or lungs are affected, but by disinfecting the feed lot, keeping the hog from drinking branch water, or pond water, giving him only pure well or clean cistern water, and giving piggy a dose occasionally in his food or drink, he may be saved from ever getting so far along as bad diarrhea, stiffness and cough. Sheep with scab or rot may be cured by this means, and it "blackleg," "Spanish fever," "glanders" and "distemper" are germ diseases, as they certainly seem to be by the mode of infection, they, too, can be cured by it.

For general disinfecting purposes, what is called the crude, or unrefined, acid is commonly used, being much cheaper, and is not injured for this purpose by the tarry matters accompanying the acid. This is sold only as a liquid, and when 50 to 100 parts of water are added to one part of the acid, it is ready for use. It may be sprinkled on the ground to be disinfected, or dried up with saw dust and the saw dust used to cover the ground. Watering troughs should be washed with it or painted inside with the tar of gas works, frequently, where there exists a suspicion of infection with diseases of the putrefactive type. In Germany and in England a systematic disinfection and a close quarantine inspection of imported cattle, have about extirpated the cattle plague from those countries. As a wash, the solution kills animals of fleas, protects them from flies, cures scratches, relieves glanders and cures oozes; cures poll-evil, and all manner of putrid sores, whether on man or beast. If the carbolic saw dust, or coal ashes, or dry dirt charged with this acid, is sprinkled upon the floor of the henery, and the perches painted with it occasionally, and a little salicylic acid and bisulphite of soda mixed in an occasional mush dinner, the chicken cholera may be kept away from your roosts. It cures mange and scab as a wash; it has proved successful in foot rot, by constructing a long trough, filling to the depth of six inches, and forcing sheep to wade through. The nose and lung diseases of sheep, of the infectious type, are cured by covering the floor of the sheep fold with the carbolic saw dust.

Meat dipped in a pretty strong solution, may be hung up to dry without salt, and when a dry film is formed, the curing is complete.

Hides should have the flesh side washed with it. Butchers' scraps thrown into a weak solution, keep sweet indefinitely, so, of course, does the soap grease of the family. Sprinkled into privy vaults, cess-pools, etc., in sufficient quantity, it arrests decay, and so ends the odors after those previously fermented are dissipated.

For domestic medicine, the family provided with this substance, salicylic acid, glycerine, chloral and quinine, may well defy the doctors, except when their surgical skill is requisite. For the medicine chest, the chemically pure, crystalline acid should be used.

A solution of 2 to 5 grains per fluid ounce of water, inhaled by an atomizer, cures ozena, nasal polyp, ulcerated throat, bronchitis, and chronic diseases of the lungs; as a gargle and spray it is excellent in scarlet fever, diphtheria and swollen tonsils. For yeast stomach, take 2 drachms of a solution made of water, one fluid ounce, acid, 5 grains; same for bad breath arising from putrescence in stomach and bowels. For wounds, ulcers, etc., apply

bandages and cloths bathed in standard solution. For gangrenous sores and erysipelas, apply cloths wet with solution of 15 grains per ounce. For poisonous bites, and to remove corns, apply saturated solution (and it has been claimed that cancer has been removed by it, and as it is a caustic not followed by inflammation, it is worthy of a fair trial). The standard solution, 5 grains per ounce of water, is a fine wash for open cancer, and all old, fetid sores, and an unguent of glycerine or oil, or simple cerate containing 5 grains of acid per ounce, is the best of dressings for such sores. It cures scald head, tetter, herpes, etc.; proud flesh, warts, corns, chancres, etc., are eaten out by caustic solution, and the wounds readily heal. The vapor inhaled, especially when alternated with vapor of bromine, cures fetid nasal catarrh.

To these it should be added that for burns, where the skin is destroyed, carbolic acid water is an excellent wash, and causes healing without suppuration; and for a plaster, glycerine and egg yolk, to which is added 3 per cent. of carbolic acid, may be used, or linseed, castor or sweet oil may be treated with 5 per cent. of acid. For salves for old sores or fresh cuts, take resin 12 ounces, beeswax (or paraffine) 1 ounce, tallow 1 ounce, carbolic acid 2 drachms; melt together, pour into cold water and work like molasses candy, then roll into sticks or spread upon cloth.

The reader bearing in mind what was said on the laws of putrefaction, to the effect that all organic lymph, fleshy or mucous surface exposed to the air, or upon which the air has a momentary contact, either naturally or in cuts, or in exudation, or where excreted from old sores, is devoured by bacteria tribes as readily as if the animal were dead, or the matter exposed to their influence where wholly detached from a living being; then let him remember that a 5 per cent. solution of carbolic acid is a dead shot to all of them, and he will readily foresee many other excellent uses.

It is prudent to remark that carbolic acid is, by its corrosive or albumen-cooking quality, a poison, when of the strength to curdle the white of an egg. It appears to, not only kill infusorial life, but to kill "cell life," generally, and especially the morbid cell. Indeed, it is claimed by some, that the resistance offered by the vitality of the whole being in large animals is all that makes the distinction between its action on the little beings and morbid cells on one hand and, the cells of healthy tissue on the other. For the eye, to cure granulations; for injection into the bladder or womb; where there exists pus discharges, or ichorous discharges, the solution should start at less than 1 per cent, say 1 part to 200, and the strength may then be continuously increased until a cure is effected. In carbuncles, boils, barber's itch, prairie itch, common itch, etc., the wash may be 1 per cent. at starting, and gradually raised to 5; carbuncles and boils may be injected with 5 per cent. at first.

The chapping of hands in cold weather, those open cracks of corn-gatherers' hands, the cracks in the lips, canker sores in the mouth, yield to the wash, and a rubbing or 3 with oil containing 1 to 5 per cent of the crystals.

C. W. J.
Atchison, Kansas.

WHAT LACK WE YET?

The state of Kansas viewed from various stand-points from the time of her organization as a territory in 1854, presents a wonder, almost approximating a miracle. Before answering the above query, I shall try by a few statistics to present to the eye, as well as by words to the mind of the reader, a miniature panorama of what Kansas was, now is and has been sketching her advancement politically, financially, morally and physically, in order to a fuller realization and appreciation of the matter contained in the above caption.

Kansas was born in a revolution! Fought and won the first battle for freedom over slavery in the United States. But she scarcely breathed her free air and rested from her domestic turmoil and bloodshed, when the general government was confronted by the slaveholders' rebellion. She furnished more soldiers in proportion to her population, to quell that rebellion, than any state in the Union. Her peaceful career may be said to have commenced in 1865. What do we behold to-day?

A magnificent state with 81,318 square miles i. e., 52,043,520 acres of land; 400 miles long and about 200 wide; having in a few brief years converted a wild waste, the haunt and roving grounds of the savage, the buffalo, the antelope, the wolf and coyote, into 77 organized counties, containing a population of more than 600,000 inhabitants, peacefully living under a free republican form of government; with all the modern, public, benevolent and literary institutions, equal to many of the older states. In 1875 she had 17,673,187 cultivated and taxable acres of land; 4,749,000 acres improved and cultivated acres against 271,663 acres in 1860. In 1875 her wheat crop was 13,209,403 bushels; corn, 89,798,769 bushels; oats, 9,794,051 bushels; Irish potatoes, 4,348,545 bushels. The cash value of these, together with all other cereals, vegetables and hay, was then estimated at \$43,970,494. If fruits had been added, the total amount would have exceeded \$46,000,800.

In the same year, her live-stock numbered as follows: Horses, 207,376; mules, 24,904; milch cows, 228,028; other cattle, 478,768; sheep 106,224; swine, 292,658. Estimated value of all these, is \$28,610,260; this sum added to the value of farm products will make a total of \$74,610,269. In 1877 the total value of

farm products was \$56,386,547. All other property \$239,124,216. Total, \$395,530,764. Her manufactures were as follows: 210 water, steam and wind-power, flour-mills, 128; water and steam-power, sawmills, 26 water-power, saw and grist-mills; 56 steam-power, saw and grist-mills; 30 furniture and cabinet factories; 13 foundries and rolling-mills; 7 woolen factories; 145 miscellaneous, including oil, cheese, gypsum, soap and carriage factories. Total, 614. Her system of railroads consists of 2,215 miles, are connected by direct routes with the entire railroad system of the United States. Her telegraphic system has kept pace with her railroads.

Her moral forces consist in one state University; one state agricultural college; 3,715 common school houses; a permanent school fund of \$1,161,918 and unpaid principal on the sale of school lands \$1,304,308. Also, 152 newspapers, are published in the state. And last, but not least, 509 church edifices belonging to nine different denominations, to which, if the church edifices belonging to the Quakers, (Friends), Disciples of Christ, (Christians), United Brethren in Christ, and several others, were added, the number would probably be over 550. (But if it be true that the Rt. Rev. Canon Farrar, rector of Westminster Abbey, of the noted D. D. Henry Ward Beecher, of Brooklyn, N. Y. and the Rev. Dr. Thomas, of Chicago, with a few lesser lights, have *annihilated* the hell spoken of in the "old fashioned Bible that laid on the stand," or have discovered that there is *not now, nor never has been* such a place or state, perhaps this branch of our moral forces is not quite so important as we were led to believe it was. I think however, that the query of a recent newspaper writer is quite pertinent. "If there is no hell, when and where will the Democratic party be punished for its stupendous sins?" And lastly, her vast number of rivers, creeks, brooks and springs of as pure water as flows; many of the rivers and creeks affording excellent motive power for manufacturing purposes, as well as an abundance for watering stock; her fine timber belts skirting all those streams; her coal beds, salt mines and limestones; her rich undulating prairies; her vast valleys with a soil not excelled by any in the United States, and above all, a genial and salubrious climate, equal to that of Italy, giving health and vigor to both animals and vegetables. This is a magnificent showing for a state not yet out of her "teens;" it stands unexampled in point of advancement and improvement, hence the query, What lack we yet?

I imagine that I am anticipated by at least three answers, viz: 1st, we lack the silver dollar of 412½ grains remonetized and made a legal tender for all debts. 2nd, we lack about \$1,000,000,000 greenbacks. 3d, we lack in cheap railroad fares. Now, while it is true that we lack in some of these things, which in justice we should have, I will nevertheless give a different answer to the above query.

The close observer, the profound thinker, the careful student in domestic and political economy, whether he is a farmer, mechanic, merchant or legislator in a state like Kansas, with so many physical resources and facilities for various remunerative occupations, will perceive at a glance, that the true system for advancement in wealth and general prosperity, is to have a judicious distribution and a well diversified pursuit or occupation throughout the entire body of the people. And that all products of prime necessity that can be produced in the state, should not be imported. Excessive production of any commodity will always prove to be a financial failure. Equally unwise and injurious is the practice of importing prime articles of necessity. We lack in many things yet, if we would be great in the ratio of our physical resources. Two items I will name as my answer to the foregoing query, viz: 1st, We lack in growing sheep, principally for wool. 2nd, We lack in sufficient numbers of woolen factories. Look at the foregoing statistics and you will see that in 1875, Kansas had only 106,224 sheep and 7 woolen factories. This is indeed strangely disproportionate to other stock and other manufactures. Just think for a moment about the vast amount of woolen goods that are worn by our families as clothing and bedding; I think I am within bounds when I say that nine-tenths of these prime articles are imported from the eastern states and from Europe; many of them ready made to hand. This is a gross violation of the plainest and simplest rules of economy. What! pay millions of dollars for those articles which we can and should produce ourselves, and by so doing keep the money in our own state and distribute it amongst our own people? Let us talk less politics, less nonsense, but economize and utilize our physical resources more.

As a remunerative occupation there is none more so than sheep husbandry. In proof of this, I refer to Washington Co., Pa., Brook Co., West Va., Harrison, Jefferson and Licking counties, Ohio. The former, (my native county) is quite hilly, but has much good limestone soil. There, about 50 years ago the farmers discovered that their lands were fast deteriorating by being almost constantly "under the plough," much of the soil had washed off into creeks and ravines; they commenced sheep husbandry, seeded their lands with grass seed and by that means "kept their soils at home;" their lands recuperated under the influence of grasses and the litter of sheep, so that now when a farmer turns down a "seed," he can raise fully as much corn per acre as the most of Kansas farmers do on their rich soils. In the latter, (Licking Co., O.) I resided and kept a flock of sheep nearly thirty years; was

one of the pioneer, fine wool-growers; commenced there in 1840. In 1855 that county had 855,000 sheep. The income from the sale of wool and sheep in that county several years before I removed to Kansas, was about \$1,000,000. Their lands are constantly improving, and now many of the farmers of that county are among the wealthiest in Ohio. The same can be said of the three other counties named.

Farmers of Kansas, especially you who are cultivating undulating lands, if you do not want your rich, virgin soils to wash off and perchance lodge at the mouth of the Mississippi river; there to be dredged out by Capt. Eads with his jetties, then seed your lands with tame grasses and stock them with sheep. And you, who are clamoring for lower railroad fares, grow wool; that will bear shipping, while wheat and corn will not. Just think a moment! The farmer who can keep a flock of 400 sheep that will clip 5 pounds per head, making 2,000 pounds i. e., one ton; can haul that with a pair of horses to his market town or railroad depot. That load of wool at 30 cts per pound, will bring him \$400; while a load or ton of wheat at \$1.00 per bushel will bring him \$38., and a load or ton of corn weighed in the ear, at 25 per bushel, will bring him only \$7.00. It will require 56 such loads of corn to be hauled to market to bring as much money as one load of wool at the weights and prices for each as stated above! Feed your corn to sheep, that will make wool, and in that form you can ship your corn to eastern markets notwithstanding the high railroad fares.

I will notice, and here reply to some of the principal objections urged against sheep-raising in Kansas. 1st, Sheep are tender animals and can't withstand the vicissitudes of the climate of Kansas like cattle. 2nd, Sheep are subject to many fatal diseases. 3rd, There is too little tame grass for fall and winter feed. 4th, There are too many dogs and wolves here. 5th, There is no home market for our wool. Reply 1st, While it is true that sheep are tender animals, compared with some others; my observation since in Kansas, now nearly eight years, has fully convinced me that the climate of Kansas with her usual dry and mild winters, is the best adapted to sheep husbandry of any that I have witnessed.

2nd, It is true that sheep are subject to several diseases, such as foot-rot, white-skin, scab and grub-in-the-head; but none of them necessarily fatal, except the last named. Fatality in that case depends on the course the larva takes in ascending the nostril of the sheep and the aperture it happens to enter. The "grub" is deposited by the gadfly (*ostrus*), in the form of a nit, in the skin, at the margin of the nose; soon hatches and immediately begins the ascent up the nostril, where it subsists on the mucous, until it acquires the size of a horse-bot, unless sooner discharged by the exertion of the sheep. All other diseases are easily cured. No fatality has ever occurred among sheep in Europe or America, equal to the rinderpest or Texas fever in cattle, or cholera in hogs.

3rd, It is true that there is not enough tame grass in Kansas. And for the benefit of those who may not know, I will state, that while our prairie grass is excellent pasture for sheep in the summer, after it gets several severe frosts it is worth no more than wheat stubble as food for sheep. The remedy is, sow tame grass seed and rye for fall and winter pastures.

4th, That there are too many dogs, is no less true than it is a disgrace and a damage to the people of the state. In 1875, when there were only 106,224 sheep in the state, there were 74,905 dogs! Only one and a half sheep for each dog. My experience is, the true remedy is not found by legislation nor by killing our neighbors' dogs, but by inducing all, or at least a majority, in any given district to engage in sheep-raising, and in just the ratio that the people will learn that sheep-raising is more profitable than dog-raising, will worthless curs disappear. As for wolves and coyotes, the taker of the census in 1875 "failed to make due return" of their number, but if any are curious to know, I will here furnish them with statistics, by which their school boys can "cipher it out" for them. The census of 1875 gives the number of sheep killed by dogs 5,233, and the number of sheep killed by wolves, 2,267. There were 74,905 dogs in the state. Now the proportion may be stated thus. If it required 74,905 dogs to kill 5,233 sheep, how many wolves will it require to kill 2,267 sheep? As a remedy to destroy wolves, I would recommend that one or two farmers in every district of six miles square, where sheep are kept, should keep some good fox-hounds, and the wolves will in a few years disappear. It is a singular fact that in my experience in sheep husbandry for 34 years, I never knew a full-blooded fox-hound to kill a sheep.

5th, And lastly, it may be true that we have not a sufficient home wool market; there are only 7 woolen factories in the state, one at Leavenworth, one at Fort Scott, one at Lawrence, one at Valley Falls, one at Blue Rapids, one at Neosho Falls, and one at Enterprise. If the six last named, used an average amount with the one at Leavenworth, they all must have used as much as the clip in Kansas was in 1875. I will say something about the woolen factory at Leavenworth because no mention is made of it in the fourth agricultural report and census of 1875, from which I collected many of the foregoing statistics. When that census was taken, this factory made carpets exclusively; since that time it has gone into the hands of Mr. Owen

Duffy, one of the most enterprising citizens of Leavenworth. He employs 40 hands and manufactured 100,000 pounds of wool last year; made into broadcloths, doekings, easimores, Moscow beavers, satinetts, flannels, jeans and carpets; equaling anything of the kind manufactured in the eastern states, in quality and price. All that is needed to give Kansas a home market for wool is to grow a good quality, wash and handle it well, and in addition to that, utilize our natural motive power by manufacturing establishments.

JACOB WINTER.

Salt Creek Valley, Ka.

AGRICULTURAL DREAMS AND REALITIES.

NO. I.

We are impressed with the idea that day-dreaming, in all departments of life, is too much encouraged; that the attempted action to make these dreams realities, results in unhappiness, the squandering of money that is needed for the sustenance of those, who, without any apparent reasoning rush into untrodden paths, too often obstructed by the boulders of solid resistance and bristling with unseen thorns that gives the lockjaw, to empty pockets. Some of these dreams and sturdy realities, we would present to our readers, especially such as have connection with our noble calling. It is a well-known principle that man has a restless spirit within, which is luring him on to gratify an apparently innate disposition to change from one locality to another. He will not examine, accept and act upon the experiences of the past, but relying on his own, too self-assertive shrewdness, he rushes from the only business he really knows anything about, into one of which he is comparatively ignorant, and consequently, in three-fourths of the cases his ignorance plays him a scurvy trick, leaving him with empty pockets; but it teaches him a practical lesson which invites him back to his former occupation. The hum-drum of a store in a city, after having accumulated twenty thousand dollars, grew irksome to Jo. Ballard; even his fashionable wife had spells of longing for the green pastures of the country, fresh milk and butter, and unadulterated cream. Ballard, by a process of thinking had brought himself to believe that the only paradise on earth must be on a farm. Visions of agricultural success light up his midnight slumbers and gave a brighter hue to his daydreams. He has read Leibig and Johnston on agricultural chemistry, and he fairly bloats up with confidence that various kinds of manure in liberal quantities will make mother earth groan with cereals and fruits. He buys a farm at sixty dollars per acre—the spirit of improvement and adornment moves on the white capped waters of his mind—he builds, ditches, fences, and covers his fields with costly manures. The face of things is greatly changed, but is making rapid strides towards the bottom of his pockets. His wheat looks very green and rank, but alas! when in blossom it has become so heavy that it falls to the earth, and a few hot days with heavy dews, blasts the pistil, or his wheat has the scab, or those legions of chinch bugs insert their little suckers, and lo! the heads turn white and are as empty of grain as a headless beer cask is of lager. His oats lodge, his Timothy is a little too ripe before he cuts it, and a breeze of twenty-four hours has scattered at least one-half of his seed on the ground. His prospects were splendid, but occurrences of seemingly, the most trivial kind have ruined his expectations and his bright visions have been cremated in the furnace of stern reality. The style of living indulged in while in fashion's alluring circles, will not down at his bidding and hence, the drain on the pocket is severe, and the amateur farmer's eyes begin to look wild at the fearful dwindling away of his ready money. Another year of profuse and expensive manuring and the free purchase of the evanescent gewgaws demanded by the stern fiat of that hard master, fashion, and the ex-city man's dream of money-making on a farm is dissipated, and he begins seriously to consider the propriety of selling out. His wife is as full of homesickness as an added egg is of sulphurated hydrogen gas, and she with tears in her eyes implores him to sell the farm which will not give them a living, and then she groans in spirit to be with her set in town, where scandal delights in a free range, where she can go to the theatre, a fashionable church and listen to those admirable lectures which cost five hundred dollars for a single delivery. Present realities are impressed upon his mind with great force, and he realizes that the day-dreams of a business man in the city, are not always reliable; that he must have made some mistake in his calculations, or been misled by a too vivid imagination. In short, he sells out, returns to the city, and never troubles himself to find out where he blundered about the Eden-like enjoyments of farming in the country. Without inquiry log into the folly of ignoring the pursuit we have been brought up to, this case shows conclusively that men have no business to abandon their own calling to enter upon a new business which they do not understand.

R. K. SLOSSON.

Verona, Illinois.

If anybody dared to believe the Boston Post it might be known that eggs are so cheap that they bring only a poultry price. Thus this eggs-hen-trick! Past lays over all other roosting jokers; in fact, as the Jersey Dutchman said "he is a regular yolker."

What's the matter with your eye, Tommy? "Oh, it's only been going through an operation at the hands of a knockulist, that's all."—Oil City Derrick.

Topics for Discussion.

TRANSPORTATION ON PRIVATE RAILROADS.

FACTS—FIGURES.

By the report of the Board of Agriculture of this state, for the months of August, September and October, 1877, pages 17 and 18, the crop of cereals of the past year is 132,000,000 bushels. Deducting from that the amount necessary to feed the stock and the other home consumption, there will be left for exportation, in round numbers, 60,000,000 bushels, of which, making an estimate of 8,000 bushels for each train, would make 7,500 trains. The other produce and our imports will probably equal that number of trains, making our exports, this year, 15,000 freight trains of 200 tons in each train.

The farmers of the state of Kansas pay for carrying this produce to St. Louis, our nearest market, an aggregate of 100 miles of distance in Kansas and 300 in Missouri—400 miles of transportation, we pay for this, on the average, for each ton of corn or wheat carried 100 miles of distance, \$3.33, or \$23.30 for each and every car-load each 100 miles of transportation; hence the tax on the farmers of this state for transporting their produce to market, is this year \$37,980,000, and this from 4,491,673 acres of land in cultivation.

On page 179 of the U. S. Agricultural Report for 1876, the commissioner says, "The comparative cost of transportation, for wheat and corn per ton, by lake and canal and railroad, from Chicago to New York, is, by lake and canal, corn, \$3.09, and for wheat \$3.19. The all-rail route averages \$4 per ton for each." The distance from Chicago to New York is about 1,000 miles, making these rail road rates 40 cents per ton for each 100 miles of carriage, or \$4 per car-load for each 100 miles of transportation, (we pay nearly six times these rates). Then, by rates of eastern roads, which have water competition and still make money at these figures, our produce would be carried to St. Louis for \$4,800,000. The difference, then, between the money we pay and the money we ought to pay, is exactly \$33,180,000; and this for the transportation of the product of our industries for one year only.

Now this sum is 912 tons of silver, or 91 car loads, and two tons of silver dollars! This sum is sufficient to buy all the railroads in the state of Kansas in fee simple, according to their assessed value, and to place two silver dollars on every railroad tie in the state of Kansas. This sum is sufficient to fence ten counties of land with silver dollars touching each other. If anybody would propose that the farmers of the United States should pay the national debt from the proceeds of one year's crop, that man would be taken care of forthwith, to prevent him from injuring anybody, and yet this sum of \$33,180,000 is exactly, according to population, the share of this state of Kansas of our national debt, and the farmers of this young state pay this enormous amount as "black mail" or "pin money" to the corporations for transporting their surplus of the crop of one year over their own private roads 400 miles of distance.

When we took honey from our hives we used to call it robbing the bees, but now, under the sympathetic influences with which we are surrounded, and not to hurt anybody's feelings, we simply extract the honey which the bees have gathered, and we are the "busy little bee" gathering honey, which is extracted by our owners at their pleasure.

As a parallel to our case: In Turkey when money is needed to "run" the government, or supply the harem of the sultan, that gentleman decides that each district shall pay so much. The pacha of that district at once pays the amount to his master, then, having the power, he compels every Turk in his domain to bring to him the whole of his produce, from which he extracts as much as seemeth to himself sufficient, then the owner can take the remainder home, which of course is precious little. Here the English railroad bondholder is the sultan, the railroad companies the pachas, and we make splendid Turks for our masters.

For a correct and complete example, the following, clipped from a Missouri paper of last November, illustrates our position exactly:

"The M. K. & T. railroad company has been until lately charging \$55 per car from Paris, Monroe county. Discovering that the county had a vast crop of apples to be shipped away, it has put up the price for cars to \$97.50, thereby arousing the just indignation of the inhabitants."

Superb magnanimity of a railroad company—cutting one dollar in two halves! but then in extracting the money from that Missouri hive, they tried hard to leave enough honey to winter those bees on. This is tyranny, complete and absolute.

The congress of the United States, representing public sentiment, has been at fever heat discussing the propriety of allowing us to pay our debts either with gold, or with gold and silver and greenbacks mixed, and these moneys being systematically extracted from us, we are constrained to pay our debts with fractions, and to procure the comforts of civilized life with zeros (0). Thus we behold the (to us) sublime spectacle of a nation convulsed from center to circumference from the effort at Washington to swallow the gnat, whilst we, here in Kansas are gulping down the camel right along—but it hurts though. After the sum of \$33,180,000 has been extracted from the farmers and from the state each year, the monetary question is to us an

atom of immensely diminutive proportions as compared to the elephant with each of us, and which we have to feed.

Corporations under excessively stringent laws could be tolerated, from running a joint-stock bank to owning a ferry-boat, but when it comes to private individuals, or joint-stock companies owning in fee simple the commerce of a sovereign state, thereby having control of the purses of its inhabitants, there is no word in Webster's dictionary adequate to convey an idea of the wrong perpetrated, first to the producer then to the state. For example: Four families settle on one section of land—raw prairie. By their labor and industry, assisted by powerful teams and expensive machinery, they bring the virgin soil into cultivation, and after supplying themselves and their stock with food, they are able to sell four car-loads of produce each year, or sixteen car-loads from that one section of land. This produce is worth \$300 a car-load, or \$4,800 for the section. This is creating wealth where none existed. This is creating wealth. This is productive industry. This is bringing that much money in the state for the use of the people. This is that which makes the state wealthy and prosperous. Of course one section of land is not much, neither is the wealth created on it, but multiply \$4,800 by the number of sections in one county, then again multiply that by the number of counties in the state, then you have an idea of the power and value of this productive industry. But if through the rapacity of no competition in commerce, the value of each car-load is reduced to \$150, or instead of \$4,800 received as the fruit of that section, only \$2,400 are received; that produce, nevertheless, adds as much to the wealth of the world, and is the means of giving food, employment and comfort to as many people outside of the state. But that producer is unjustly dispossessed of \$600 each year, every dollar of which he has earned "by the sweat of his brow," and is positively his own, and those four families thus lose \$2,400. There is extracted, under this head, this year, from the farmers of this young state, \$23,180,000, and the state of Kansas is deprived of that wealth and of that much money as a circulating medium.

The farmers, then, are the people entitled to protection; not to aggrandize a few individuals; not to advance the price of real estate in some town or city, that we need railroads, but to facilitate transportation for the producer, thereby establishing his prosperity. We need parallel roads, accessible to all, and on which there can be competition. Fourteen pooling railroad companies now carry our produce over their lines to Chicago or St. Louis. One trunk line to St. Louis would be sufficient. St. Louis and the Mississippi river are our natural outlets, and not more than twenty hours distant.

As farmers we ask no favors, but demand our rights, and they are, cheap transportation and uniform rates on railroads controlled by the government. That the general government should furnish us a broad, public highway across the state of Missouri, and with our produce we will pay for it, a measure that will deliver us from men who would be our masters and owners. Every manly feeling revolts at the idea of a man doing as he is bid to do without his having a word to say about it. We are unnecessarily taxed this year \$23,180,000 for transportation, and we are compelled to pay this, like dumb brutes led to the slaughter pen. This is taxation without representation with a vengeance—a principle as abhorrent as it is anti-republican.

Education has always been the pet measure of the government of the state of Kansas. Our state stands the peer of any state or nation in its efforts to educate all its citizens. Education creates and develops intelligence. Intelligence will create and develop the means to overcome this obstacle—private transportation—to our prosperity. On "this line," therefore, we propose to entrench ourselves, and after we become thoroughly conversant with the situation, we will wipe out, "as with a sponge," this outrage on freemen—this monopoly of the commerce of a sovereign state on private roads.

The next papers will demonstrate their further cost to us, in subsidies, in un-uniform rates, and from the jumbled, unsystematic and hap-hazard location of most of the present lines.

RIGHT OR WRONG.

I have been led to make these few remarks by reading an article in a late number of the FARMER, by A. G. Chase. My friend seems willing to adopt a measure to satisfy a popular clamor, without regard to justice or equity. In that way he expects to "hand down blessings to his posterity." We are not informed by what process of reasoning that conclusion can be reached.

We are certain that the facts of history will not sustain wrong-doing, under any circumstances, for the benefit of posterity. We might commence at the creation of man and follow history through the successive ages, to find a single instance where posterity was benefitted by wrong-doing, and utterly fail. Look what endless woes were entailed on posterity for the first taste of the forbidden fruit. Look at the woes and miseries that this country suffers now for wrong-doing, by the oppression of labor. Millions of men are out of employment; business is bankrupted; commerce is prostrated; the whole country is convulsed from center to circumference; old parties that have stood the shock of many a

hard-fought battle, that have survived the overturnings of one of the greatest civil wars on record, that held their fortresses with a devil-fish grasp, are rent asunder on this great question—the combination of capital against labor.

Money is the power behind the throne. Heartless, grasping, tyrannical, it has secured laws in its own interest and against labor, with a subtlety, audacity and meanness characteristic of its ability in wrong-doing.

The last grand act in this drama of crime against labor, was the demonization of silver. This was so stealthily secured that the whole country has become aroused to the danger that threatens not only to pauperize posterity, but to ruin and bankrupt the present generation. We are not alarmed by this agitation, for only by it comes reform. Let the hosts of the people gather at every school-house and discuss the vital questions of the day, and hold their public servants to do what is right, all the time, "from a moral standpoint," for there is really no other that is tenable. Let the people grapple with this monster crime in their might, for its power is great. It has undertaken to pauperize and enslave forty millions of the freest people on earth, and while I realize the vastness of the crime attempted, with all its woe, I derive a satisfaction from the assurance of a commensurate vastness of effort against it by the aroused masses of the country, determined not only to vindicate right against wrong, but to redeem this government from the thralldom of the money power, and put labor on an equality with capital. We ask for nothing more and will be satisfied with nothing less. We are for right, justice, and equity, all the time, internally, externally, and for wrong—NEVER, under no circumstances.

N. CAMERON.

Lawrence, Kan.

Patrons of Husbandry.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master: John T. Jones, Barton, Ark. Secretary: O. H. Kelly, Louisville, Ky.

KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master: Wm. Sims, Topeka, Secretary: P. B. Maxon, Emporia.

COLORADO STATE GRANGE.—Master: Levi Booth, Denver. Lecturer: J. W. Hammett, Platteville.

MISSOURI STATE GRANGE.—Master: H. Rehnagel, Hanover, Jefferson county. Secretary: A. M. Coffey, Knob Noster.

TO OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

For the use of Subordinate Granges we have a set of receipt and order books which will prevent accounts getting mixed up or confused. They are: 1st Receipts for dues. 2nd, Secretary's Receipts, and 3d, Orders on Treasurer. The set will be sent to any address, postage paid for \$1.00.

We solicit from Patrons, communications regarding the Order, Notices of New Elections, Feasts, Installations and a description of all subjects of general or special interest to Patrons.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER: At the regular quarterly meeting of Pomona Grange No. 4, P. of H., on Saturday, the 16th, the following officers were elected and installed:

Worthy Master, Maj. S. J. Underwood; Overseer, John Cameron; Lecturer, Geo. Montague; Steward, Geo. Heidle; Assistant Steward, Bruce Munford; Chaplain, J. M. Wandler; Treasurer, Robert Reynolds; Secretary, S. G. Hoyt; Gatekeeper, D. Munford; Ceres, Mrs. G. Heidle; Pomona, Miss Emma Harney; Flora, Mrs. B. Munford; Lady Assistant Steward, Mrs. Jennie Reynolds.

After the election the good things were disposed of in the usual genteel style of Patrons. Co-operation was the subject ably handled by Maj. Underwood; a large amount was subscribed, and the session closed at early morn, with the best of feelings.

S. G. HOYT, Sec. P. G. No. 4.

THE WORK OF THE GRANGE.

It is now very plain that the true work of the order must be done by patient, faithful and courageous self-sacrifice on the part of individuals. Neither the grange nor any other organization can supply the place of personal toil and personal effort. The machine is all supplied, and is now in good working order, but the motive power must be found in the constant and unselfish work of individual Patrons.

It is, therefore, for every true and earnest Patron to set himself to work in his own neighborhood, to build up the organization in every possible way. If the grange meetings are dull and uninteresting, he must invent some means to make them attractive. If a brother be in difficulty, no matter of what kind, his must be the hand to help him. He must find out what the members of the grange are needing, and club all the funds together and have them sent to the state agency, so as to save all the expense of middlemen. He must personally visit the sick and the despondent, and comfort the one and encourage the other. He must strive to provide newspapers and books to teach the true principles of the order, especially among the young. In a word the true and earnest Patron, in these times, must be a missionary, preaching the grand doctrine of human brotherhood by his whole life and conversation.

Just suppose for a moment that every brother and sister in Iowa should begin this new year resolved to spare no pains and shun no sacrifice to fully carry out the principles they profess. Would we have any dead or dormant granges in six months? Would not the whole state be merged into a huge organization, strong enough to break down all unjust combinations and repeal all unfair legislation in less than a year? Should we not be able in our business transactions alone to save ourselves millions of dollars?

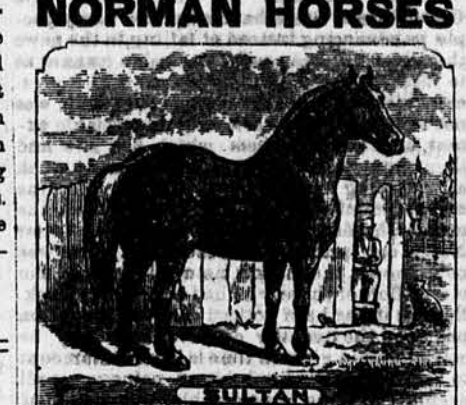
Now then let us go straight to work. Let

every one stir up his own grange first. Then arouse all the granges of the county. Combine in everything. Do as your enemies have always done. Wherever there is a fair advantage to be gained in buying or selling by large quantities, do it by combination. Buy all your supplies, and sell all your produce, without the intervention of half a dozen grasping middlemen. And whatever else you need, get it in the same way. Not every Patron can afford to have a good library, but fifty or a hundred of them combined can soon obtain all the really valuable books that were ever written. Good, wholesome literature for the young can also be provided in the same way. Work together, every man for his brother as well as for himself, and at the end of this new year we shall stand a powerful and united order, unshaken and undismayed.—Patron's Helper.

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ALBERT CRANE, Durham Park, Marion County, Kan., breeder of pure Short-horns of fashionable blood. Stock for sale low. Also best Berkshire in Kansas. Catalogues Free.

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None but first-class stock shipped.

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HEREFORD CATTLE, COTSWOLD SHEEP, BERKSHIRE AND DORSETSHIRE PIGS.

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Gardeners buy from first hands save money. Cheapest best, purest stock ever grown. Sent prepaid by mail or express. Gardeners write me there are none as good. Hundreds of splendid engravings in my new illustrated catalogue. Fine as ever published. Free to all, send for one now. R. H. SHUMWAY, Rockford, Ill.



STOVER WIND ENGINE COMPANY, FREEPORT, - ILL.

Manufacturers of the Celebrated Stover Automatic Windmill that carried off the highest honors at the American Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, proven by actual test to run in a lighter breeze than any other self-bracing tower, is a perfect self-regulator, will stop itself in gales and start again when the storm subsides. We also manufacture the Stover Twenty Dollar Oscillating Feed Grinder, operated by ten and twelve foot pumping Mills; is a novel and economical grinder for farmer's use, will grind from ten to twenty bushels per day and pump at the same time. All who have used them speak of them in the highest praise. Therefore buy a Windmill and Feed Grinder. Save money and make me happy. Agents wanted in unassigned territory. Send for circular.

The Countries of Osage, Jefferson, Jackson, Douglas, Wabash, Pottawatomie and Shawnee having been assigned to us as agents, we will be pleased to receive orders for the erection of the above mill, complete with pump, or will fill orders for the mill alone. We have a sample mill in operation at the warehouse on A. T. & S. F. R. R. track at Topeka, we invite an examination of the mill. J. W. DAVIS & RICE, Agt's Implement Dealers, Topeka, Kansas.

Breeder's Directory.

J. BELL & SON, Brighton, Macomb County, I. A. Hinds, breeders and dealers in Spanish, Marino Sheep. Thirty-five miles from St. Louis on the Alton and St. Louis Railroad. Stock reliable; prices reasonable; Reference furnished.

ALBERT CRANE, Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas, Breeder of Pure Short-Horn Cattle of fashionable families. Young stock for sale cheap. Send for catalogue. Herd of 300 head. Also Berkshires.

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SAMUEL JEWETT, Breeder of Pure Blood Merino Sheep. 200 Choice Rams for sale. Correspondence solicited. Address, Independence, Missouri.

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FOR Choice Merino Rams and Ewes. Also Importers of Choice Merino Rams at Moderate Prices. A. B. MATTHEWS, Kansas City, Mo.

M. ANDERSON, Salina, Kansas, Pekin Ducks, F. Partridge, Cootin fowls, and White Guinea. Write to me.

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HALL BROS., Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-China, Suffolk, Essex and Berkshire Pigs. Prices \$4 less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jills and boars now ready.

WM. HASTIE, Somerset, Warren Co., Iowa, breeder of Short-horn cattle, Cotswold and Leicester sheep. Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited.

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FRANK LEECH, Waterville, Marshall Co. Kansas, Breeder of thoroughbred Short-Horn cattle and Berkshire pigs. Stock for sale at fair prices.

JOHN W. JONES, Stewartville, Mo., breeder of Thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle of approved blood and pedigree. Also, breeder of Berkshires of the best strains in the United States and Canada.

SAMUEL ACHER, Kansas City, Mo., breeds Spanish Merino sheep as improved by Alwood and Hammond from the Hampshire's importation in 1825. Also Cheshires, Wires Hogs, premium stock, and Light Brahma Chickens, both bred pure by me for eight years past. Send for circular. \$2.00 RAMS FOR SALE this year.

R. F. AYRES, Louisiana, Mo., Breeder of Short-Horn Cattle, Berkshire Sheep, and South-down Sheep. Stock for sale, and satisfaction guaranteed.

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O. Cook, Whitewater, Wis. Breeder of Spanish Merino Sheep bred from some of the best flocks in Vermont. Rams and Ewes for sale. Box 104.

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PROPRIETOR OF

Elmwood Flock of Cotswolds, From imported Stock. Young Stock for Sale.

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WATSON & DOBBIN, Best of assorted Hedge Plants one and two years old, wholesale and retail, shipped to any R. R. station, freight guaranteed. Address, ROBT. WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

50,000 Apple Stocks, 1,000,000 Osage Plants, 50,000 Fruit Trees, 25,000 Small Fruit Plants, &c. Apple Root Grafts put up to order by experienced hands. Send for Price List. R. F. CRAWFORD, 10 mi County Nursery, Louisville, Kansas. Charges

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—The newest and best reduced rates. Send for price list to SAMUEL MILLER, Sedalia, Mo.

STEAM GARDENS. Two acres of Glass. Cut Flowers and Bedding Plants by the million. Bottom prices. Try us. Price list free. MILLER & HUNT, Wright's Grove, Chicago, Ill.

FLOWERS.—All lovers of Plants should send for Catalogue of Geraniums, Fuchsias, Verbenas, Roses &c., to ROBERT S. BROWN, Box 1158, Kansas City, Mo.

VILLA NURSERY AND GREENHOUSES.—Grape Vines from 15 dollars per 1,000 and upward, excellent plants. Greenhouse plants at lowest eastern prices. Address: A. SAUER, Kansas City, Mo.

KAW NURSERY, WYANDOTTE Co., KANS. General Assortment of Nursery stock. Especially Apples and Cherry Trees, Grape Roots and other small fruit plants. Address: G. F. REYNOLDS, Box 972, Kansas City, Mo.

Dentists.

A. H. THOMPSON, D. D. S., Operative and Surgeon Dentist, No. 189 Kansas Avenue, Topeka Kansas.

GOLD WATCH and CHAIN only \$30 Cheap as in the World. Sample WATCH and CHAIN FREE to agents. C. M. LININGTON, 47 Jackson St., Chicago.

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Mica Lamp Reflectors, 35¢, \$2.00 a Dozen, Nigger Head Match Safe 35¢ \$2.00 a Dozen. Patent Pocket Stove \$1.50. Send for Circulars.

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\$3 GOLD PLATED WATCHES. Cheapest in the world. Sample Watch Free to Agents. Address: A. COVATTA & Co., Chicago.

WORK FOR ALL

In their own localities, canvassing for the Fireside Visitor, (enlarged) Weekly and Monthly. Largest Paper in the World, with Mammoth Largest Free Big Commissions to Agents. Terms and Out of Free. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

PEAR TREES FOR SALE!

I have on hand a large stock of standard pear trees two and three years old, Kansas grown, very low prices. Address E. H. HARROP, or M. S. GREEN, Topeka, Kansas.

Osage Hedge Plants.

500,000 Osage Hedge Plants for sale at Wholesale and Retail, also an assortment of other nursery stock cheap, apply for price list. H. B. TREATH, Prop of Woodland Park Nursery, Atchison, Kansas.

The Kansas Farmer.

J. K. HUDSON, Editor & Proprietor, Topeka, Kan.

SOME PLAIN FACTS CONCERNING THE CIRCULATION OF VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS.

The Washington correspondent of the *Kansas City Times*, as claimed by that journal, secured from the official post office records, in Washington, the following tabular statement showing the amount of money paid by various Kansas daily papers on their circulation sent outside the counties in which they are printed:

Leavenworth Press, \$80.46; Leavenworth Times, \$358.98; Atchison Champion, \$323.00; Atchison Patriot, \$103.78; Topeka Blade, \$112.20; Commonwealth, \$358.56; Fort Scott Monitor, \$75.44. Every paper in this table issues a daily and weekly, or seven papers each week. According to the official report in the Topeka postoffice, the KANSAS FARMER, which is issued each week, paid on its bona fide circulation to subscribers outside the county in which it was published, for 1877, \$438.98.

This shows that the FARMER on its single issue each week pays more than the combined daily and weekly circulation of any paper in Kansas, or in other words the 52 issues of the year pay more revenue to the Post Office Department than any daily paper issuing 312 dailies and 52 weeklies per year. The FARMER has maintained this position at the head of the Kansas press for four years past and we propose to do it in the future.

As the business of a paper depends upon its circulation, no more interesting and profitable reading can be placed before our advertisers, than the official postoffice records, showing exactly where it will pay them to place their advertising, when they wish to reach the people of Kansas.

The amount paid above, is for mail by the pound, as much more was paid for stamps to send out sample copies to advertisers and others.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Remember that the Kansas FARMER pays \$85.24 more postage on its bona fide circulation than any paper in Kansas pays on its daily and weekly papers combined.—This is a big fact.

THE SILVER BILL IN THE SENATE.

After many long days of discussion, the silver bill, loaded down with amendments, reached a vote. We give herewith the bill as it passed the Senate, 48 voting for it and 21 against it. The bill is not all that the friends of the Bland bill wanted, but it reestablishes silver as one of the standard coins of the country, and it is a victory over the advocates of the single gold standard. Whether the House will concur or not in all the Senate amendments, is questionable; but whatever may be the action of the House, the vote of the Senate conclusively shows that a bill something like this that passed the Senate, will become a law even over the President's veto.

The following is the full text of the bill as passed:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be coined at the several mints of the United States silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains, troy, of standard silver, as provided in the act of Jan. 18, 1873, on which shall be the device and superscription provided by said act; which coins, together with all silver dollars heretofore coined by the United States of like weight and fineness, shall be a legal tender at their nominal value for all debts and dues, public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to purchase from time to time, silver bullion at the market price thereof, not less than \$2,000,000 worth per month, nor more than \$4,000,000 worth per month, and cause the same to be coined monthly, as fast as so purchased, into such dollars; and a sum sufficient to carry out the provisions of this act is hereby appropriated, and any gain or seigniorage arising from this coinage shall be accounted for and paid into the Treasury, as provided under the existing laws relative to the subsidiary coinage. Provided, that the amount of money at any one time invested in such silver bullion, exclusive of such resulting coin, shall not exceed \$5,000,000; provided further, that nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the payment in silver of certificates of deposits issued under the provisions of section 254 of the Revised Statutes.

Sec. 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. That immediately after the passage of this act the President shall invite the governments of the countries comprising the Latin Union, so called, and of such other European nations as he may deem advisable to join the United States in conference to adopt a common ratio between gold and silver, for the purpose of establishing internationally the use of bi-metallic money and securing a fixity of the relative value between those two metals; such conference to be held at such place in Europe or in the United States at such time within six months as may be mutually agreed upon by the executives of governments joining in the same, whenever the governments so invited, or any three of them, shall have signified their willingness to unite in the same. The President shall, by and with the consent of the Senate, appoint three Commissioners, who shall attend such conference in behalf of the United States, and who shall report the doings thereof to the President who shall transmit the same to Congress. Said Commissioners shall receive the sum of \$2,500, and their reasonable expenses, to be approved by the Secretary of State, and the amount necessary to pay such compensation and expense is hereby appropriated out of and money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 4. That any holder of the coin author-

ized by this act may deposit the same with the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States, in sums not less than \$10, and receive therefor certificates of not less than \$10 each, corresponding with the denominations of the United States notes. The coin deposited for or representing the certificates shall be retained in the Treasury for the payment of the same. Said certificates shall be receivable for customs, taxes and all public dues, and when so received may be re-issued.

On motion of Senator Allison, the title of the bill was amended so as to read, "A bill to authorize the coinage of a standard silver dollar, and restore its legal tender character." The Senate at five o'clock, after a continuous session of seventeen hours, adjourned until Monday.

AN UNEXPECTED RESULT.

One of the standing arguments which the gold men have used in season and out of season, against the silver bill has been, that its passage would greatly impair our credit in Europe. This class of financiers who have always cared very much more for our credit in Europe than the prosperity of the people at home, will be somewhat astonished this morning in reading the following cable dispatch from London. It is a splendid argument for the silver bill:

U. S. BONDS IN EUROPE.

London, February 19.—The times says United States funds have surprised many people by advancing instead of falling, in the news the silver bill has passed in such a manner as to insure it becoming a law in much the present state. We have always said the public was not selling the stock to any appreciable extent, and the weakness which has now and then characterized the bonds was due as much as anything to the passing fears of a decline and speculative selling, which only made the market harder; hence, on receipt of better New York prices, and because the worst was now known, the market naturally rose by the mere effort of those who had sold to buy back. Besides it has been noticed that the limitation put upon the quantity of silver that may be coined within a given time is itself tantamount to making silver a subsidiary coinage, at all events for some considerable time; so that there is little alarm felt, and holders stick to their bonds. The only thing that will lower the price of these, or any other high class stock just now, is dearer money.

D. Landreth & Sons.—This old and reliable firm appear in our columns today, with a large advertisement. No seed firm of the United States has enjoyed for so long a time, the fullest confidence of the people, east, west, north and south. Their annual always contains matter of practical value to all farmers and gardeners.

The Mud-Blockade.—which has been so thoroughly established throughout Kansas the past six weeks, has very seriously interfered with business. Corn and grain remains unmarketed, and to a large extent this is true of cattle and hogs. Should the weather of the next ninety days prove favorable, business will be unusually active in preparing for the spring work.

Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen.—of Kansas City present our readers some new prices in this week's paper. Their advertisement will be found in the supplement. By the way, if you have not yet sent for their seed catalogue, don't fail to do it. It is the best thing yet issued in the west, and is worth preserving. The politicians of New York city recently made a move to cut down the salaries of teachers. A mass meeting was held at Cooper Institute to protest against the reduction. Many of the leading citizens were present, Cyrus W. Fields presiding, Peter Cooper, William Cullen Bryant, Alexander M. Agnew, B. Blakeman, Gen. Palmer, and many others equally distinguished. Resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting were adopted, after which Hon. Joseph H. Choate delivered a tremendous speech. He took the position that the teacher's salaries had always been low and are still low, and further, politicians must cut off their superfluous offices and let the schools alone. It was shown that the Commissioner of Juries receives \$15,000 a year, as much as was paid to the principals of six of the city schools, who did each five times as much work as the commissioner; and the commissioner found time to extort illegal fines at \$50 a head from delinquent jurymen. Other instances were mentioned.

THE HISTORICAL REGISTER.

The irrepressible Frank Leslie has at length completed his great work, called the Illustrated Historical Register of the Centennial Exhibition of 1876. We have had the pleasure of examining a specimen copy, and have no hesitancy in pronouncing it incomparably superior to anything of the kind published in the country; a beautiful memento of the culminating effort of a century of grand achievements.

The design of the publisher, was to furnish a permanent, truthful and beautiful chronicle of the congress of nations assembled in friendly competition, in Philadelphia in 1876; and to afford a complete history of exhibitive effort in the past; an artistic and discriminating record of the Great Centennial.

The "Register" comprises history, description and illustrations of all previous international exhibitions, while to the Centennial it gives a degree of minute attention which includes nearly every detail of structure and exhibit; also, a vast amount of historical and statistical information, which renders it in fact a comprehensive encyclopedia of the agriculture, manufacture and commerce of the world.

The entire work embellished in the highest style of art, containing 775 beautiful illustrations by the best artists of America, and forming altogether a magnificent memorial of the colossal exhibition in Fairmount Park. We predict for the "Register" a wide circulation

as the only complete and permanent record of the magnificent events it chronicles and the industrial works it does.

IS IT ECONOMY?

EDITOR FARMER: Don't you think that the farmers of Kansas are the most prosperous set of people in the world? I don't know that they are, but I do know that certain things would go to prove the truth of such a statement. For instance: In traveling over the state, wherever you may go, on some farms (and a good many, too) you will see the corn cultivator standing just where the last row of corn was plowed when the farmer "laid his corn by." His mowing machine you will find just where the last swath of grass was cut; his sulky-rake you will find near by;—all "handy" for next harvest, you see! And so it goes through all the catalogue of farm tools; and it brings the thought to one's mind that our farmers must be a most prosperous people or they could not afford to indulge in such a "handy" way of doing business. Farm implements are very high in price, and when we contemplate the amount that is allowed to go to waste with rust and rot every year, thereby incurring the expense of a new outfit every two or three years, we do not wonder that the average Kansas farmer is always grumbling of hard times, tightness of the money market and everything and everybody in general, except the right thing.

Economy, like charity, begins at home, and it will pay all of us better to practice it than to preach it to our neighbors. A building made of the same material of the average Kansas stable, viz: hay and poles, with a door large enough to admit a grain drill and mowing machine, will make a much better tool-house than none at all; and what is its cost compared with the fence-corner system?

Well, as to weather, it "beats" the "oldest settler." Predictions fall and mud continues to rule supreme. No cold weather to speak of since about Thanksgiving. Business at our county seat (Topeka) is very flattering indeed; but one empty business house in town, and that soon will be occupied. New corners are clamoring for houses and none to be had. Our local land agent, Geo. A. Bowler, reports a marked improvement in his line of trade, having sold several large tracts of land to eastern parties the present winter—all indicating a healthy state of affairs in the agricultural world in spite of the "terrible silver quarrel."

For fear of being too lengthy, I will leave market and stock reports, etc., for some future time. Jolia, Kansas.

HOW TO KEEP FROM FREEZING.

A question of importance these cold winter days. A question of great importance, to those who, like I, do considerable riding in wagon or on horseback. Perhaps no one will ever escape an opportunity to put into practice the hints in this article. For every one, some time or other, must ride in cold weather.

Perhaps the first thing to freeze, if not attended to, will be your ears. Always, if possible, tie a cotton or light woolen cloth over your ears. If the cloth is woolen it should not be too heavy, or it will "awear" your ears, and if it does, you will doubtless catch cold, to the injury of your hearing. Under any circumstance, if your ears get cold, rub them violently with your bare hand or woolen mitten. Friction is a very important mechanical source of heat, and also tends to make the blood circulate more quickly. Or slap your ears, for concussion will warm them up. The next thing to claim your attention, will be your hands. Of course no sensible person will go out into the cold without some covering for the hand. If you are needy, (who is not these hard times) you can get one-half yard of jeans for 25 cents, which will make two or three very warm pair of mittens. For a pattern lay your hand down on a piece of paper, the fingers close together and the thumb extended, and mark around your hand, half an inch from it, with a pencil. But should your hands be in danger of freezing, you may rub them, blow your breath upon them, etc. But the best remedy is to quickly cross your arms in front of you in such a manner that your right hand will strike violently against your left shoulder, and vice versa. This will make half-frozen fingers tingle, and you may think the cure worse than the disease, but many times it alone has kept my hands from freezing.

Your feet too will doubtless trouble you. Let me again urge you to dress warmly, if coarsely, and if you can afford nothing better, buy a pair of "buffalo" overshoes. The best mechanical means of warming your feet, is to stamp them violently on the ground, knock them together, etc. If you are riding in a wagon sit on them by all means. When they get tired and ache get out and walk. Always wear loose boots, for the air confined between the foot and boot, is a very poor conductor of heat, and will be slow to carry off the heat of your feet.

The best way to keep your face from freezing, is to tie a light cloth over it, letting it come just below the eyes. Otherwise, slapping or rubbing it are the best expedients.

Animal heat is produced by a slow combustion ensuing from the union of oxygen of the air, with the carbon of our food. Therefore whatever increases the supply of oxygen or carbon, increases the normal heat. Therefore exercise, causing rapid and full breathing, increases bodily warmth. Also greasy food containing carbon is productive of heat. If you have a cold ride before you, eat plentifully of meat; if it makes you feel uncomfortable, take

a sip of vinegar. This is one reason why a person can, as so often remarked, stand cold better on a full stomach than an empty one. Never drink whiskey to keep warm.

But we will not repeat the stereotyped argument.

In conclusion let me say that much exercise is preferable to much clothing. If you are in a wagon and will jump up and down, striking your hands on the opposite shoulders, and occasionally giving your face and ears a slap, you will never freeze to death! (fact.)

To economize space, I have not given the scientific reasons for this, but have obeyed the "Editaire's" injunction and have "billed her down." J. M. STABE.

PRESENT STATE OFFICERS OF KANSAS.

The postoffice address of the following State officers, is Topeka, Kansas:

Governor, Geo. T. Anthony. Lieut. Governor, L. U. Humphrey. Secretary of State, Thos. H. Cavanaugh. Auditor, P. I. Bonebrake. Treasurer, John Francis. Superintendent of Public Instruction, Allen B. Lemmon. Attorney-General, Willard Davis. Adjutant-General, Peter S. Noble. State Printer, Geo. W. Martin. Superintendent of Insurance Department, Orrin T. Welch. State Librarian, D. Dickinson. Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Alfred Gray. Chief Justice Supreme Court, Albert H. Horton. Associate Justice, Daniel M. Valentine. Associate Justice, David J. Brewer.

MR. PRESIDENT, I WANT THE FLOOR.

About two minutes, to notice the remarks of the gentleman from Illinois, (Mr. Slosson) found on the first page of the FARMER of Jan. 23rd.

Mr. Slosson writes some good communications for more than one leading journal, and I read them with both pleasure and profit, but in the article mentioned above, I think on some points he runs quite into the fog.

Let me be misunderstood, I will say at the outset, that in some cases and under some circumstances the most of us will concede a profit from using a portion of, not only ground food, but cooked food also; but, that the ordinary farmers, or at least nine-tenths of those in the Mississippi valley, who keep stock in any considerable numbers, can keep them principally on ground or cooked food, with profits very much in excess of the expense, I very much doubt. I am aware that the merest novice can, with his little pencil, demonstrate, in less than no time, that it will pay anywhere from 50 to 200 per cent., but in practice, the busy farmer with several kinds of stock to feed, usually fails to "see it."

To begin with, those who have not tried it can scarcely be made to believe how much extra labor is involved in feeding from 25 to 300 head of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs on this ground feed, to say nothing of the trouble, labor and expense of getting it ground. Grinding machinery costs our western farmers anywhere from \$75 to \$500, according to the mill and power used, and this with interest, taxes, cost of extra labor and fixtures necessitated by its use, would, I think, in a majority of cases, amount to much more than the loss on undigested grain, which the gentleman unwittingly admits "is much sought after by pigs and chickens." The very fact that every kernel of undigested corn is eagerly eaten by swine, to their great improvement, is one of the best reasons why the farmer can dispense with ground feed. Few animals except cattle, void much whole grain, and few men who grain cattle, fail to provide a sufficient number of swine to save to the very best advantage nineteen-twentieths of it. On any well-conducted farm, pigs will do all such grinding, and instead of charging toll, will pay a big bonus for the privilege.

If my circumstances are such that I cannot buy some patented high-priced grinding apparatus, I am forced to patronize our steam-mill, which for 100 pounds of good, ear corn returns me 58 lbs chop (cracked corn), or 50 lbs of fine meal, certainly not a very large pile of feed for what was equivalent to 80 lbs of ground feed (shelled corn) before I started from the crib with it. In other words, if during the next year I wish to feed out 1000 bushels of corn, I must, to have it coarsely ground, either go to the expense of buying the machinery and necessary fixtures, and do the work of grinding, or haul and make a present to my neighbor, the miller, four hundred and twenty bushels for cracking the grains of the remaining 580 bushels. It strikes me that by the time the boys and I had paid the bills and done the work incident to grinding the corn at home or at the village mill, maybe 3 miles and maybe 20 miles away, and feed out the meal, we would find it—well—well, rather tedious and tasteless not to say profitless.

However, Bro. Slosson is on the right track when he advocates having some ground feed for the colts, suckling sows, for some of the very old horse and cow stock, and to make some "pudding" for late or unthrifty pigs. And I think on the whole, his head is about level; but I want to caution the FARMER's half million readers against making haste to go in debt, and give cut-throat notes for new-fangled feed mills and et ceteras, thereby thinking to secure that "silver lining to the domestic bed-quilt" of which Mr. Slosson writes with the grace and fluency of a born poet.

He talks about saving so much on his hogs which eat from 60 to 80 bushels of corn in 12 and 14 months! Whoopie! What breed of hogs does he raise that requires such a quantity of nourishment to get them fairly started on life's journey? After all, I'm not surprised that he wants to try ground feed. If he will give them away and correspond with me, I

will assist him to get some Berkshires that won't eat half so much to attain the 300 lbs. F. D. COBURN.

Pomona, Kan.

SADDLEBAG NOTES.

NO. II.

Near the mouth of the Big Blue river, three miles east of Manhattan, Riley Co., is one of the best conducted and most successful fruit farms in the state. It is owned by Hon. Welcome Wells, and consists of 35 acres of land well protected upon all side by tall hedges and thickly set forest trees. About 325 of these trees are common cedar. They are about 12 feet high and nearly the same in diameter, and have been set out about 15 years. These evergreens and the four rows of closely set deciduous trees make the best wind-break for an orchard that I have yet seen.

The apple orchard was commenced in 1860 by setting out 400 trees. Only 100 of them lived. Almost every year since then Mr. Wells has planted out trees. Some seasons but a few hundred; at other seasons, nearly a thousand. A large proportion of those set, either did not live, or have died since.

The apple orchard at present consists of 1500 trees, three quarters of which were in bearing this year. There are 65 varieties of apples on this place. The following are the six best varieties: Early Harvest, Jonathan, Wine-Sap, Ben Davis, Rawles' Genet, and Rome Beauty.

There has been 3000 pear trees set out here, only 60 of which are alive. Mr. Wells recommended White Doyenne as a dwarf and Flemish Beauty as a standard.

The first crop of apples was 500 bushels in 1872. In '73, 200 bushels. In '74, 2,000 bushels. In '75, none. In '76, 4,000 bushels; and in 1877, 6,000 bushels, making a grand total of 12,700. The average price received for them was 85 cents per bushel.

Near Arispe, Pott. Co., we found a very successful stock-raiser, Mr. G. B. Davis. He has 130 head of very nice cattle, 90 of which he is fattening. 175 hogs are following these cattle.

Six miles west of Manhattan is the home of John Warner, Jun. Here we found a fine farm well managed, good stock well cared for, abundant buildings conveniently arranged. Inside of the house was a good wife, happy children, and abundance of well cooked food. Here too were healthy house plants in profusion, a selected library of interesting books and choice paintings and pictures tastefully arranged.

In the FARMER of the 6th of Feb. will be found an article on the sheep question by Mr. Ed. Jones, of Wakefield, Clay Co. A few days ago I visited his farm and had the pleasure of seeing his fine flock of "Shropshire-downs." He has 20 full bloods and 60 half-breeds. The wool on the Shropshires is not so long but finer than the cotswolds. It is coarser and longer than the wool on the Merino sheep. They averaged 7½ lbs apiece and he received 25c per lb for the fleece.

I saw one full blooded buck, two-years-old that Mr. Jones gave \$496.75 for, to be delivered at Wakefield. Mr. Jones is a practical and reliable sheep-raiser. He had the misfortune to lose 65 head of hogs the past season with the "hog cholera."

The corn crop in Davis county was better in quantity but poorer in quality than the crop of 1876. The winter wheat both in Davis and Clay is looking extremely well and, in these counties where the principal dependence of the farmers is placed upon wheat and corn, it is a subject of rejoicing that the prospects for a good crop, are so flattering.

I am now in a "herdlaw" county, and, while I do not wish to express my own individual opinion as to the merits or demerits of the "herd-law question," yet, as I pass through these counties, I will endeavor to give the impressions conveyed to my mind by seeing the effects and results of this law. To our thousands of eastern subscribers I would say that this is pre-eminently the "poor man's law." As there was but little timber in many of the counties of the state, and fence material was very scarce and high, a law was passed compelling owners of cattle to keep them herded, so as to allow the poor man an opportunity to farm his land. In my next I will write what I saw and what I did not see in relation to this subject.

Your editorial, Mr. Editor, in the FARMER of Feb. 6th, headed "Tell the truth" is a point in the right direction. The people in the eastern states should know that this is not a timbered country, notwithstanding, we received a Diploma at the Centennial for the exhibition of forest timber. They should know that only two states in the Union, California and Nebraska have less timber in proportion to the area of land, than has Kansas.

The amount of timber as well as the other productions of Kansas, has been greatly exaggerated.

We exhibited corn at the Centennial which had made a growth of 20 feet. This did not seem to satisfy the visitors from Kansas, for the burthen of their complaint was that "this was our poor year, ordinarily our corn grows 30 feet tall."

I believe that if every Kansas subscriber to the FARMER would now give their individual failures in farming, that it would be ten times more value to the new comer, than the exaggerated accounts of our occasional successes.

Another species of exaggeration very much practiced, is to say, whenever we have grasshoppers, or drouth, or too much moisture, or crops light, or poor-sales, "this is an exceptional year, this is unusual," or, "this is a re-

February 20, 1878.

markable season, even the oldest inhabitant has never seen anything like it. This has a tendency to deceive, and the people east will soon begin to think that we have exceptional seasons every year. W. W. COLE.

From Osborne County.
Feb. 9.—Jeremiah Quigley, of this county, raised, in 1877, the following crops; I give the average yield per acre of the different varieties by weight: Early May winter wheat, 272 bushels, average per acre 45 bushels and 20 pounds; Golden Chaff winter wheat, 388 bushels, average per acre, 42 bushels and 6 lbs.; South American spring wheat, 154, average, 30 bushels and 4 lbs per acre; tea wheat, spring, 258 bushels, average, 32 bushels and 26 lbs per acre; white Mediterranean spring, 13 bushels, average, 8 bushels per acre. Total number of bushels of wheat raised, 1060. Number of bushels of rye, 294, average 42 bushels per acre; oats, 178, average 50 bushels per acre; sorghum seed, 191 bushels; corn, 850, the corn on old ground averaging 46 bushels per acre. Turnips, 87 bushels from one acre; Irish potatoes, 50 bushels from one bushel planted; sweet potatoes, 25 bushels from 400 plants; beets, 15 bushels from 6 rows 40 feet long; sorghum molasses, 325 gallons; sour kraut 126 gallons; tobacco 100 lbs; pumpkins 16 loads; onions, 3 bushels; 1 bushel of beans; 8 bushels of parsnips; 2 bushels of carrots; 10 bushels of tomatoes; 3 wagon loads of melons; also enough raspberries, currants, and wild plums (grown from the seed) for family use. By figuring on it at the common price here for grain and produce, the total value of his crop amounts to \$2,800. Jerry moved here about six years ago, took a homestead and a timber entry; he raised all this crop on his two claims, he and his three boys doing most of the work, except in harvesting and threshing; we think that this is an evidence that farming pays out here. Thousands of acres of as good land as his is vacant in this and adjoining counties, which only waits for the settler to bring it into cultivation to produce as well as Mr. Quigley's. We trust that before another year we will have a railroad up the Solomon valley, to ship the immense crops of grain and stock raised here. We have had a mild winter for the most part, a little snow storm yesterday and today. Stock is doing well. Winter wheat still in good condition. I can hear of but one live grange in the county, we used to have seven or eight; what's the matter? who can tell? who was appointed by the State Grange as Lecturer for northwestern Kansas?
J. W. WINSLOW.

Markets.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, February 18, 1878.
GOLD—Weak; opened at 102; closed at 101 1/4.
LOANS—Carrying rates, 5 per cent. to 9 1/2%.
SILVER—Bare, \$1.19 in greenbacks; \$1.16 1/2 in gold; coin, 1/2 per cent. discount; trade dollars, 1/4 per cent. discount.
BONDS—Governments, active. Railroad, steady. State, quiet.
STOCKS—Dull and featureless.

Kansas City Produce Market.

KANSAS CITY, February 18, 1878.
WHEAT—Lower; No. 3, \$1.08 1/2; No. 4, 95c.
CORN—Lower; No. 2, 31c; rejected, 25c.
OATS—Quiet; No. 2, 24 1/2c.
RYE—Nominal; No. 2, 41c.
BUTTER—10 to 17c.
EGGS—9c.

Kansas City Live-Stock Market.

KANSAS CITY, February 18, 1878.
CATTLE—Receipts, 266; shipments, 33; weak and lower; little doing; sales of native shippers at \$3.60 to \$3.80; cows, \$2.50 to \$3; stags and oxen, \$2.50 to \$3.
HOGS—Receipts, 1,551; a shade lower; all sales at \$3.60; closed at \$3.50 to \$3.55.

New York Produce Market.

NEW YORK, February 18, 1878.
FLOUR—Dull and lower; shippers holding off.
WHEAT—Dull, lower and heavy; No. 2, spring, \$1.25; ungraded red winter, \$1.30 to \$1.35; No. 2, Chicago spring nominally \$1.30 to \$1.35.
RYE—Quiet; western, 71 to 73c.
BARLEY—Unchanged.
CORN—Dull and lower; steam mixed, 54 to 54 1/2c; high mixed and common yellow western, 51c.
OATS—Lower; mixed western, 35 to 37c; white western, 36 to 40c.
COFFEE—Quiet and unchanged.
SUGAR—Fair demand and firm.
MOLASSES—New Orleans, steady; 25 to 45c.
RICE—Quiet and unchanged.
PORK—Steady; western, 16 to 15c.
PORK—Mess, \$11.20 to \$11.50.
BEEF—Quiet and firm.
MIDDLEB—Western long clear, 5c.
LARD—Unchanged.
BUTTER—Steady; western, 7 to 22c.
CHEESE—Quiet; 7 to 13 1/2c.
WHISKY—Quiet; \$1.00 to \$1.10.

St. Louis Produce Market.

ST. LOUIS, February 18, 1878.
FLOUR—Dull and unsettled; 10 to 20c lower, to sell.
WHEAT—Dull and lower; No. 3, red, \$1.20 1/2; cash; \$1.21 1/2 bid March; No. 4, \$1.13 to \$1.14 cash; spring lower; No. 2, \$1.05.
CORN—Lower for cash; 41 to 41 1/2c cash; 40 1/2c February; 41c March.
OATS—Inactive but higher; 25 1/2c cash; 24 1/2c bid February.
RYE—Higher, 55c.
WHISKY—Steady; \$1.04.
PORK—Lower; \$10.60 bid cash and March.
DRY SALT MEATS—Dull and nominal.
BACON—Heavy and unchanged.
LARD—Dull and nominal; lower to sell; buyers standing off.

St. Louis Live-Stock Market.

ST. LOUIS, February 17, 1878.
CATTLE—Holders firm; market low; prime to choice shipping steers, \$4.50 to \$5.35; fair to good, \$3.25 to \$4.50; butchers', \$3.25 to \$3.55; cows and heifers, \$3.25 to \$3.75; stockers, \$2.50 to \$3.50; receipts, 1,000.
HOGS—Good demand; declining tendency; light, \$3.50 to \$3.75; packing, \$3.50 to \$3.75; butchers' to fancy, \$3.50 to \$3.75; receipts, 3,300.
SHEEP—Good demand and firm for good grades; extra heavy shippers, \$4.50 to \$5; common to choice butchers', \$2.75 to \$4.40; receipts, 75.

Chicago Produce Market.

CHICAGO, February 17, 1878.
FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.
WHEAT—Active but lower; generally unsettled; No. 1, spring, \$1.07 1/2; No. 2, gilt edged, \$1.07; regular, \$1.05 1/2; cash; No. 3, \$1.01.
CORN—Heavy and active but weak and lower; gilt edged, 41c; regular, 40 1/2c cash or March.
OATS—Dull, weak and lower, 23 1/2c cash or March.
RYE—Dull and lower, 45c.
BARLEY—Heavy; 46c.
PORK—Dull, weak and lower; \$10.30 cash; \$10.22 1/2 @ 1.25 March.
LARD—Dull, weak and lower; \$7.25 cash; \$7.25 @ 1.25 March.
BULK MEATS—Steady and unchanged.
WHISKY—Firm; \$1.04.

Chicago Live-Stock Market.

CHICAGO, February 18, 1878.
HOGS—Receipts, 25,000; dull and lower; mixed packing, \$3.70 to \$3.90; light, \$3.90 to \$3.95; choice heavy, \$3.95 to \$4.00; nearly all sold.
CATTLE—Receipts, 4,800; shipping dull, weak and lower; sales at \$3.50 to \$4.00; feeders and stockers scarce at \$2.50 to \$3; butchers' slow but not much lower; cows, \$2.50 to \$3; bulls, \$2.50 to \$3; steers, \$2.50 to \$3; Texas, \$3.50 to \$3.75.
SHEEP—Receipts, none.

Baltimore Corn Market.

BALTIMORE, February 18, 1878.
CORN—Western weak and lower; western mixed boot, February and March, 54 1/2c; April, 54 1/2c; May, 55 1/2c.

Topeka Lumber Market.

JOIST and Scantling..... \$ 22.50
Rough boards..... 23.10
No. 2..... 23.10
No. 3..... 23.10
Common boards, surfaced..... 25.00
No. 2..... 27.00
No. 3..... 25.00
No. 4..... 23.50
No. 5..... 22.50
No. 6..... 21.50
No. 7..... 20.50
No. 8..... 19.50
No. 9..... 18.50
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No. 18..... 9.50
No. 19..... 8.50
No. 20..... 7.50
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No. 23..... 4.50
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No. 100..... .50

Topeka Retail Grain Market.

Wholesale cash prices by dealers, corrected weekly by W. Edson.
WHEAT—Per bu. spring..... 1.10
Fall No. 2..... 1.00
No. 3..... .90
No. 4..... .80
CORN—Per bu. white Old..... .20
Yellow..... .18
OATS—Per bu. white Old..... .18
Yellow..... .16
RYE—Per bu. white Old..... .32
Yellow..... .30
BARLEY—Per bu. white Old..... .32
Yellow..... .30
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs. No. 2..... 3.25
No. 3..... 3.00
No. 4..... 2.75
No. 5..... 2.50
No. 6..... 2.25
No. 7..... 2.00
No. 8..... 1.75
No. 9..... 1.50
No. 10..... 1.25
No. 11..... 1.00
No. 12..... .75
No. 13..... .50
No. 14..... .25
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Topeka Butcher's Retail Market.

BEEF—Striploin Steak per lb..... 12 1/2c
Round..... 10
Roast..... 10
Fore Quarter Dressed, per lb..... 6
Hind..... 7
By the carcass..... 12 1/2c
MUTTON—Chops per lb..... 12 1/2c
By the carcass..... 10
VEAL—Steaks per lb..... 10
Roasts..... 10
By the carcass..... 8
PORK—Steaks per lb..... 10
Roast..... 10
By the carcass..... 12 1/2c
SAUSAGE—Per lb..... 12 1/2c

Topeka Produce Market.

Grocers retail price list, corrected weekly by J. A. Lee.
Country produce quoted at buying prices.
APPLES—Per bushel..... .75 to .80
BEANS—Per bu.—White Navy..... .25
Common..... .15
CORN—Per bu. white Old..... .20
Yellow..... .18
OATS—Per bu. white Old..... .18
Yellow..... .16
RYE—Per bu. white Old..... .32
Yellow..... .30
BARLEY—Per bu. white Old..... .32
Yellow..... .30
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs. No. 2..... 3.25
No. 3..... 3.00
No. 4..... 2.75
No. 5..... 2.50
No. 6..... 2.25
No. 7..... 2.00
No. 8..... 1.75
No. 9..... 1.50
No. 10..... 1.25
No. 11..... 1.00
No. 12..... .75
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No. 100..... .00

Leather Market.

Corrected weekly by Hartsock & Gossett, Dealers in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.
HIDES—Green..... .05
Dry Flint..... .10 to .12
Dry Salt..... .08
Calf Green..... .08
Kip, Green..... .08
Sheep Pelts, green..... .25 to .30
Damaged Hides are bought at 1/2 of the price.
TALLOW in Cakes..... .05

Hereafter Ross & McClintock will confine themselves exclusively to the real estate, collecting, renting and commission business, giving personal attention to all business entrusted to them; pay taxes and take charge of property in any part of the state. Business solicited. Best of reference given. Parties having money to loan would do well to place it with them for safe and profitable investment. They are well posted as to value of property in Shawnee, Wabunsee, Jefferson, Jackson, Pottawatomie, Lyon, Greenwood and Douglas counties, and all other portions of the state.

Your attention is called to the advertisement of the Vinland nursery, established in 1857—over twenty years ago. The proprietor, W. E. Barnes, offers for sale a complete assortment of thrifty and reliable trees. Send for his price-list and make your selections for spring planting. He will have trees in Topeka during planting season.

SAVE YOUR EYES.

Dr. Haley, of Trenton, Mo., the most successful oculist in the west, will be in Topeka again on Saturday, February 23d, 1878, and will treat all diseases of the eyes ten days free of charge, if ample satisfaction is not given. For particulars and references, see small bills. Don't fail to call on day and date. Office and rooms at the Galt House, corner of Fifth and Jackson streets, Topeka, Kansas.

HOG RINGERS.

The enterprising firm of Chambers, Bering & Quinlan, of Decatur, Ill., well know the value of advertising a good article, and our readers will note the reappearance of their Hog and Pig Ringers which have attained such an enviable notoriety. The superiority of the rings manufactured by this firm consists principally in the fact that they and no others close on the outside of the nose, thus preventing it from becoming sore.

Parties visiting Kansas, looking for lands, farms and business openings, want to be sure and call on Ross & McClintock, Topeka, Kansas.

A HOUSEKEEPER SAYS:

The Charter Oak Cook Stove I bought of you has proved all it was represented and more, and all we could wish in a cook stove; bakes perfectly, with less fuel than any stove we have ever used, and is the combination of economy and utility.

"I have used Dr. Simmon's Liver Regulator myself and in my family for years, and pronounce it one of the most satisfactory medicines that can be used. Nothing would induce me to be without it, and I recommend all my friends, if they want to secure health, to always keep it on hand."

R. L. MOTT, Columbus, Ga.

Ross & McClintock say no county in the state offers better inducements for farming and stock-raising than Shawnee. They ought to know, as they are the most extensive land firm in Kansas.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East Indian missionary, the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe in German, French, or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 126, Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

50 Visiting Cards with Your Name finely Printed and 2 Parlor Pictures (Fruit and Land-scapes) printed in 10 Colors, each the lot sent post-paid for 25 Cents. Postage Stamps taken as Money. KURTZ & BROTHER, S. E. Cor. 5th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

Read Ross & McClintock's advertisement in this issue.

MONEY! MONEY!!

If you wish to borrow money upon Real Estate, and get your money without sending paper East, and at reasonable rates, go to the KANSAS LOAN AND TRUST CO. Topeka, Kansas.

May Brothers, Galesburg, Ill., want county agents for their late improved wind mill, the cheapest, strongest, and best in use. Retail price, \$50. Write for terms, cuts, etc.

Happy tidings for nervous sufferers, and those who have been doped, drugged and quacked. Pulvermacher's Electric Belts effectually cure premature debility, weakness and decay. Book and Journal, with information worth thousands, mailed free. Address PULVERMACHER GALVANIC CO., Cincinnati, O.

Ross & McClintock have a large list of lands in Lincoln, Ellsworth, Davis, Clay, Dickinson, Ottawa and other counties, at low prices, long time and six per cent. interest.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Our readers, in replying to advertisements, in the Farmer will do us a favor if they will state their letters to advertisers that they saw this advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

E. C. Newton, of Kansas, Mo., has a large stock of choice hogs for sale. Address, E. C. Newton, of Kansas, Mo.

Craig's justly celebrated Yellow Danvers Low Flint Seed Corn will increase your yield ten per cent at a cost of only 18 1/2 cents per acre. Address, HENRY LANE, Cornwall, Vt.

L. Lane's Improved Yellow Danvers Low Flint Seed Corn will increase your yield ten per cent at a cost of only 18 1/2 cents per acre. Address, HENRY LANE, Cornwall, Vt.

Parties wishing to contract for Texas Cattle to be delivered the coming season can do so by addressing the undersigned. Parties wanting Texas Bees and Cows, that are now being wintered in Kansas can be furnished by WM. B. GRIMES, Kansas City, Mo.

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45,000 ACRES University Lands.

FOR SALE ON LONG TIME.

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NATURE'S CHAIRS.

The sounding cataract
Haunted me like a passion; the tall rock,
The mountain, and the deep and gloomy wood,
Their colors and their forms, were then to me
An appetite, a feeling, and a love,
That had no need of a remoter charm,
By thought supplied, nor any interest
Unborrowed from the eye. — Wordsworth.

WAB.

War is honorable
In those who do their native rights maintain;
In those whose words as iron barriers are
Between the lawless spoiler and the weak;
But in those who draw the offensive blade
For add-to-power or in, sword and despicable
As meanest office of the worldly churl. — Battie.

MINUTE THINGS.

Each shell, each crawling insect, holds a rank
Important in the plan of Him who framed
The scale of beings; holds a rank, which, lost
Would break the chain and leave behind a gap
Which nature's self would rue. — Thompson.

BOOKS.

Come, let me make a sunny realm around thee.
Of thoughts and beauty!—here are books and flowers,
With spells to loose the fetters that have bound thee,
The ravell'd evil of this world's feverish hours. — Mrs. Hemans.

VIRTUE.

O Virtue! Virtue! as thy joys excel,
So are thy woes transcendent; and the gross world
Knows not the bliss or misery of either. — Thompson.

HEART SPEAKING.

But that which leads from the heart alone
Will bend the hearts of others to your own. — Goethe.

TO SUSAN GABRIEL.

Thanks for valuable suggestions in your
last letter. I am also pleased to find other
lady friends interesting themselves in my
gastronomical welfare. I find some, I suppose
to be excellent recipes, and if I had no
corn to husk, or summer's wood to chop, or
horses to water and feed, or cattle to fodder
and cows to milk, nor milk to put away, and
hogs to slop, and a thousand other chores to
do, I think it would be satisfactory employ-
ment to sit up nights to boil potatoes and hope
and mix salt and sugar and ginger and flour,
thick and thin, and set it away in warm blank-
ets, and stay in all day to watch the bread
rise, to knead it and slash it with a knife, and
watch it again until just right to bake. As
an experiment, if I was a gentleman of leisure,
I should like to try all the processes so kindly
suggested by my new friend Mrs. B. and oth-
ers. But yourself and other lady friends will
readily see that I want some sort of yeast that
I can make in an evening, and mix it up next
morning, and bake for breakfast.

I trust my lady friends will continue to
suggest short methods for making good light
bread. I wish to correct an impression you
seem to have that I make a business of setting
hens, about Christmas time. I think if you
have ever tried it, that you will agree with
me, that it is easier to take care of a brood of
young chickens, than to suppress an old hen,
if she is bound to have a "fitting." I once
tried the suppressing business, and was thor-
oughly convinced that a sitting hen was as ir-
repressible as a woman's rights advocate.

By the way, cannot you suggest some plan
to accomplish it? I don't believe that, as the
Popular Science Monthly, says "Gen Pleas-
anton" gauged the depth and density of American
stupidity," congress was not discussing the
silver bill then. I rather like the recipe for
breakfast cakes, they are so simple, so easily
made, and accord with my taste for plain food,
easily prepared. I shall undoubtedly try them,
and in proportion to my success, will vanish
my fears of being compelled to get a house-
keeper. You say "aunt Sally" thinks you ought
to marry, but, advises you to purchase Dr.
Chase's book of recipes." Is that a treatise on
ill-assorted marriages? I accept your assur-
ances about the worth of a good wife, she
ought at least, to be worth enough to buy her
own cook books. I shouldn't ask her to buy
all there are, it might confuse her mind, be-
sides, the money would be worth more in
something else.

I am glad to have drawn from you so plain
and clear a statement, (much too short), of
your ideas on woman's education for house-
hold duties, and home-life; woman's sphere of
duty, by nature, made narrow and confined.
The household care, the rearing and training
of children, these do, and ought to claim the
best powers of her mind. From this narrow
circle of home-life the rippling influence
widens, and extends itself, until all that there
is of social and political consequence, is affect-
ed by it. The recompense to woman, for her
seemingly narrow sphere in the world of ac-
tivity, should be the knowledge that her in-
fluence has a paramount importance in shap-
ing the world's progress.

How necessary then, that she cultivate as-
siduously her mind, so as to render her sphere
of social and home duties unceasingly valu-
able, and make still stronger her influence.
"Truly there is a glory and grace as a halo
about a woman's life duties, that every man
and woman ought to recognize, and for a
proper appreciation of which, every girl should
be educated." To make home pleasant, should
be the aim, and a part of the education of ev-
ery girl. How much this education is needed,
not only in city homes, but on farms also.

How much of unpleasantness and bitterness
and strife could be avoided, were the farm
houses made attractive, not only by tidiness in-
side, and embellishment with pictures and
articles of skill, which an educated taste has
wrought, both for utility and beauty, but al-

so by the flower bed, the climbing vine, and
and tastily disposed surroundings. These add
a charm to home-life, that will throw around
the heart of the rudest man a softening in-
fluence that will tone down bad propensities
and make easier to bear all cares and per-
plexities. We believe the foundation for such
taste, and the exercise of such skill
should be laid in our educational institutions.

I see you are determined to go through this
world as plain Susan, well, Gabriel is not a
euphonious name, and it always suggests
blowing a trumpet, which is not a very lady
like exercise.

It seems to me the reason you give for not
liking the name Benjamin, is a strong one
in its favor, for when one loses their temper
and begins to say angry words, they ought to
pause long enough to say Benjamin.

LONESOME BEN.

MY WIFE'S NEW FRIEND.

Mrs. Jones has quite a habit of cultivating
new friendships, which have every appearance
of blooming eternally, but which soon wither
in the world's cold blasts. I used to think
this characteristic was confined to school girls,
who wear immortal fidelity in letters crossed
and recrossed, but forget each other as soon as
they have caught a lover.

My wife's last acquisition in the way of a
bosom friend is Mrs. Mortimer Mowbray, with
whom she became acquainted last summer,
while we were boarding out of town. Mrs.
Mortimer Mowbray had her carriage with her
and created quite a sensation—in fact, every
lady in the house was eager to become her
confidante; but the amiable deportment of
Mrs. Jones, combined, I doubt not, with her
intellectual accomplishments, rendered her
the favorite, and she it was who daily occupied
the spare seat in the coach, and had the
honor of advising Mrs. Mortimer Mowbray in
those thousand grave perplexities under which
women suffer.

We returned to the city after the Mowbrays;
but my wife, though usually very firm on
the question of etiquette, waived her privilege
on this occasion, and made the first call. She
was graciously received and came home in
high spirits. All that evening she could do
nothing but talk of Mrs. Mortimer Mowbray.
"Such an elegant establishment," she said.
"A footman, with manners like a prince, wait-
ed at the door. The drawing-room was the
perfection of luxury and taste. Mrs. Mowbray
had on such a sweet cap, and altogether look-
ed so lady-like. Her manners were, indeed,
most aristocratic, just what those of a countess
are supposed to be."

In a few days Mrs. Mortimer Mowbray re-
turned my wife's call, coming in a shining new
carriage, and with a new span of horses.
Her equipage created quite a sensation in our
street.

Mrs. Jones, soon after this, began to act as
if brooding over some vast design, which
not being matured, she deemed it wisest to
be silent respecting. At last the mighty
secret was broached.

"I was thinking, Jones," she said, one night
just as I was composing myself to sleep on
my pillow, "that we ought to give a party.
Not a regular ball, indeed, but a select enter-
tainment, where a few congenial minds may
be brought together. I should like to intro-
duce my dear Mrs. Mowbray to some of the
choicest of our set."

Now, I detest parties, small or large; but,
as the delicacy of my wife's nerves does not
allow of her being thwarted, I made no objec-
tion to the proposal, though I sighed to my-
self.

"Of course, my dear," I said, "you know
best."

"Well, about thirty," continued my wife,
warming with the subject. "There's Mrs.
Wharton, and Mrs. Horace Shinn, and Mrs.
Price, and the Misses Trelawney, and thus the
dear creature ran on, until she had men-
tioned about forty names, and I saw that her
select party of congenial souls was going to
be, after all, a crowded rout."

You have forgotten the two Misses How-
ell," I said at last, when my wife stopped for
want of breath.

The two Misses Howell were amiable, in-
telligent and pretty girls in whom I took a
particular interest, because their father had
been an extensive shipping merchant, but
having become reduced and died bankrupt,
the sisters were obliged to earn a livelihood
by standing in a store. They had numerous
rich relations on whom they might have bil-
lied themselves, but, with a proper spirit of
independence, they preferred to work for their
maintenance, instead of eating the bread of
charity. I had long nourished a romantic
idea of seeing them married well, and had
consequently made it a point always to invite
them to our parties; to praise them highly to
the young gentlemen there, and, in every
other indirect way, to assist in realizing my
pet scheme.

My wife, heretofore, had seconded me in my
benevolent plan; but on the present occasion
she hesitated to reply, and I knew at once
there was something the matter.

"Ahem!" she said at last, clearing her
throat. "Ahem! The Misses Howell are very
nice girls, to be sure—that is, in their place;
but as it is to be a select party, and as I have
already mentioned rather too many, and as
Mrs. Mowbray may not want to meet all sorts
of people, and as—"

"Stop, my dear," I said, with a sigh, for I
saw that my favorites were not to be invited.
"You have given good reasons enough. It
is a great pity, though." And I sighed again
—a sigh eloquent of passive resignation.

My wife heard my sighs, and her tender
heart was touched. She paused a moment in
embarrassment, and perhaps even revolved
the idea of yielding to my wishes; but in the
end she raised herself on her elbow, and said:

"Mr. Jones, do listen to reason. You don't
know how foolish you make yourself about
those Howell girls. They've been unfortun-
ate, to be sure, and they're very passable, in-
deed; but there's a prejudice, you are aware,
against girls who stand in stores; and you
knows but Mrs. Mowbray would take offense
at my inviting such persons to meet her. I
shouldn't like to do it, indeed, without first
asking her; and I can't do that this time.
She is very particular, and so excessively high
bred."

"Then I don't think she'd regard you the
less, my dear," I ventured to say, "for being
acquainted with two such excellent girls as
Patty and Lizzy Howell."

"Mr. Jones, don't be a child," replied my
wife, flinging herself to the other side of the
bed. "At your age you should know some-
thing of the world. Exclusive people, like
Mrs. Mowbray, don't care to meet nobodies.
She was very choice, as you saw, whom she
admitted to her acquaintance this summer; I

may say, indeed, that I am the only one, of all
she met, whom she recognizes now."

To have protracted the conversation would
have excited my wife's nerves and deprived
her of sleep, so I said no more, but closed my
eyes and courted slumber anew. I have no
recollection of anything after that till I woke
up next morning, and, leaving Mrs. Jones
asleep, as usual, went down to see that the
fires were all right and to do the marketing
while breakfast was being prepared.

The invitations to the party were issued
that week, Mrs. Mowbray graciously prom-
ising to attend.

When the important evening arrived my
wife was all nerves. At every ring of the
bell, the color rose to her face with expecta-
tion, but guest after guest entered without
Mrs. Mowbray appearing. Her nervousness
soon began to change to anxiety, and this, as
the hours wore on, to disappointment and dis-
may. She delayed the supper for a full hour,
thinking that her new friend might yet ar-
rive, but in vain.

"What can the matter be?" she said to me,
as soon as we were alone. "I hope the dear
babe is well. Perhaps, however, Mrs. Mow-
bray is herself sick. Dear me, I am afraid I
shall not sleep for anxiety. The first thing
I'll do tomorrow will be to call on Mrs. Mow-
bray and see what is the matter."

"Wouldn't that be against etiquette?" I
ventured to ask. "It seems to me that Mrs.
Mowbray should send you a note or message,
or something of that sort, to apologize for her
absence."

Mrs. Jones did not reply in words, but she
gave me a look. And such a look! It ex-
pressed all the indignation which her outraged
bosom felt at having the slightest suspicion
cast upon her friend.

When I came home to dinner that day I
saw at a glance that something had occurred
to ruffle my wife's nerves. She had nothing
whatever to say to me, but she scolded the
servants and children incessantly. I was too
wise to inquire what was wrong. I knew
that Mrs. Jones, if she thought proper, would
tell me, and if not, that idle questions would
only aggravate her secret troubles.

But the next day, having heard something
that cast light on Mrs. Mowbray's absence
from our party, I could not contain myself;
when I came home.

"Did you ever hear, my love," said I, as I
began to carve the turkey at dinner, "that
the Mrs. Howell had a married sister?"

Mrs. Jones looked sharply up, as if she sus-
pected I meant more than I said, then answer-
ed laconically:

"I heard it casually, but never asked fur-
ther."

"It seems," I continued, "that Mrs. Mowbray
is that sister."

"I've heard so since," said Mrs. Jones,
sharply, and turning to our second child, who
was asking for the wing-bone, rapped him
over the head, exclaiming, "Haven't I told
you to wait till you're helped? Take that,
now, and learn manners."

I allowed a minute or more to elapse, in or-
der that my wife's bullition might subside,
when I remarked:

"Mrs. Mowbray, it seems, expected to meet
her sisters here."

"I shouldn't wonder if she did," snappishly
said Mrs. Jones, looking down into her plate,
and apparently absorbed in parting a wing-
joint.

"When she found," I continued, "that her
sisters were not asked, she grew indignant.
She heard the reason, it seems. Your friend
Mrs. Wharton, whom you have made a con-
fidante, told some lady, who told her; and
hence her anger."

"I am sure I don't care if I never see the
proud thing again," said my wife, reddening
very much, but still without looking up. "One
word did not have supposed that she was a sister
to the Misses Howell."

After another pause passed, I said:

"Did you call on Mrs. Mowbray, as you in-
tended?"

Mrs. Jones was silent for a full minute, and
seemed half disposed to decline answering al-
together; but finally she blurted out her re-
ply as follows:

"Yes, I did, since you must know. She
was not at home—so, at least, the footman
said, but if I didn't see her at the drawing-
room window," and here she burst into tears
of mortification and rage. "May I never eat
another mouthful!"

I saw that it would not do to continue the
conversation; so I quietly ate my dinner,
kissed the children, and went my way.

Of course, the intimacy of my wife with
Mrs. Mowbray ceased from that fatal party,
and I am sorry to say that the Misses How-
ell have, as the phrase goes, "cut our acquaint-
ance."

ANECDOTES OF MOODY.

An opulent and stubborn Chicago merchant
who became one of the subscribers to the fund
in aid of Moody's work, declined for a long
time to be converted. Mr. Moody was so per-
sistent, that, although the merchant liked him
for some traits, he resented what he thought
to be a persecution. It was not, in fact, and
probably never will be entirely agreeable to
man to be pursued by the best-meaning
evangelist into his office and dwelling, and
urged vehemently, to "save his soul."

At last the merchant said with candor, "Moody if
you ever speak to me again on the subject of
religion, by G—, I'll horsewhip you, even
if it's on the street." The next time they met
was on the verge at one end of a swing-bridge,
which was withdrawn to give passage to
boats. They shook hands and Mr. Moody,
without flinching, said: "Mr. —, I hope
you will remember that you have a Saviour
who loves you, and a soul to save?" Crossing
the bridge they went their different ways,
without the horsewhipping. A few days later
Mr. Moody entered the merchant's store, as in-
tended upon his purpose as ever he had been.
He was anticipated by the merchant, who
drew him aside, and together they sat on a
dry-goods box. "Now look here, Moody,"
said the merchant, "what you said to me the
other day there by the bridge—that I 'had a
Saviour who loved me and a soul to save,'
made a profound impression on me. I want
you to talk to me." The revivalist seized the
opportunity so long coveted, and soon the two
were on their knees together, in business
hours, in the merchant's private office turning
it into a place of prayer and tears.

II.

Not long after his arrival in New York, a
distinguished merchant invited Mr. Moody to
his house to meet a party of eight or ten of
the wealthiest "businessmen" at dinner. Be-
ing averse to such entertainments, he thanked
his host and said: "I will be glad to go, on
one condition—that it shall be understood
among your guests that at the table religion
shall be the topic, and that I shall be sure
to urge upon them all." The condition was
accepted, to the gentleman who gave the invi-

tation judging rightly that the curiosity of
the rest of the company would transcend their
dread of a possible bore. They came in force
and one of the toughest, most "wide-awake"
men amongst them accompanied Mr. Moody
into an adjoining room to talk, to be convinced
and to subsequently offer his check for several
thousands.

III.

When the revival in Brooklyn was at its
height, a very wealthy, cultivated and skep-
tical lady from New York went over there to
hear Mr. Moody preach. She was amazed
and a little disgusted by his style of oratory.
But for some reason which probably she could
not have defined, she went again. Still again.
On her fourth visit she passed into the inquiry
room and said to Mr. Moody, that she would
like to hear from him, directly and privately,
his argument why she should become a Chris-
tian. He answered her, saying, "Madam, I
know of no surer way to reach your heart than
through prayer. Let us pray," Mr. Moody
kneelt. His manner was such that the lady
could not choose but to kneel beside him. He
asked her to repeat after him his prayer. In
low, earnest tones, and with all the tender and
pathetic phraseology of which on such occa-
sions he is master, he uttered his supplication,
pausing after each sentence for his companion
to follow. The prayer concluded with the
word:

"And now, O Lord, I give my life to Thee!"

"Mr. Moody," said the lady, in a hard, pain-
ful whisper, "I cannot say that; truly I can-
not."

Mr. Moody made no reply, nor did he
change his position. There was a pause of
half a minute. Then again he uttered the
words:

"And now, O Lord, I give my life to Thee!"

The lady, trembling, did not respond. The
evangelist paused for about the same space as
before, motionless. And now with a voice
still more resolute and fervid, he repeated for
the third time the pledge. After a momen-
tary interval of silence, the new convert said:

"And now, O Lord, I give my life to Thee!"
Mr. Moody rose, took his weeping charge
by the hand with the words, "Madam, de-
voutly thank God!" and led her quietly to the
door. She has ever since been actively em-
ployed in religious work.

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