

# THE KANSAS FARMER

ESTABLISHED 1863.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, DECEMBER 29, 1880.

VOL. XVIII, NO. 52.

## THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor and Proprietor,  
Topeka, Kansas.

\$40. \$20. \$10. \$5.

## Cash Premiums FOR CLUBS.

ALL PRIZES. NO BLANKS.

EVERY AGENT GETS A PRIZE.

Single Subscriptions \$1.50 a Year.

We are making the following unparalleled offer to all who will act as Agents in obtaining subscriptions for the KANSAS FARMER, the "Old Reliable" KANSAS AGRICULTURAL and LIVE STOCK JOURNAL.

10 Subscriptions for One Year Constitute a Club.

All Agents who send in 100 names accompanied by the Cash, at club rates, will receive a

**Cash Premium of \$20.00**

and a free copy of the paper.

The Agent sending in the highest number of names above a hundred, in place of the \$20 premium, will receive a

**Special Premium of \$40.00**

and a copy of the paper for one year.

All agents sending in 50 subscribers at club rates, accompanied by the cash, will receive a Premium of \$10 in Cash, and a copy of the paper free for one year.

The Agent sending in the largest number of names over fifty, and less than a hundred, in place of the \$10 premium, will receive a Special Premium of \$20 and a copy of the paper free for one year.

All Agents sending in 25 names accompanied by the cash, at club rates, will receive a Premium of \$5.00, and a copy of the FARMER free.

The Agent sending in the highest number of subscribers over 25 and less than 50, will receive, in place of a \$5.00 premium, a Special Premium of \$10, and a copy of the FARMER free.

All Agents sending in a club of 10 subscribers for one year, at \$1.00 each, will receive a copy of the paper free for one year.

The Agent sending in the highest number of subscribers over 10 and less than 25, will receive a Special Premium of \$5.

Subscriptions for two years at same rates may be counted as two names in making up clubs.

Names may be sent in as fast as taken without waiting to form a full club, though clubs of ten or more names at one time, are preferred to a less number, but the cash must in all cases accompany the list of names.

Postal money orders, registered letters, and bank checks, are the safest ways to transmit money through the mails.

Now let us see what the hosts of warm friends of the "Old Reliable," the KANSAS FARMER, can do towards extending more widely its circulation. We offer them all the profit over bare cost in the hope that they will be able to put the paper into a thousand farm homes in every county in the state, that has been organized four years.

The premium offers will remain open for competition until February 1st, 1881, when the Special Premiums will be awarded and paid.

As soon as 25 names of subscribers have been sent in by an agent he will be paid \$5.00, or that amount may be retained in the agents' hands, remitting us \$20.00.

### Send for Club Lists.

No subscriptions for less than one year can be received at club rates, but present subscribers whose time has not expired can renew through agents and have the renewal to commence at the expiration of present subscriptions.

Address all communications for the KANSAS FARMER to

E. E. EWING,  
Editor and Publisher,  
TOPEKA, KANSAS.

## Correspondence.

### Letter from Samuel Stoner.

Having left Kansas in September and expected to have returned long ere this time, have seen but one copy of the FARMER with a notice "Stoner, come forth," to which I must reply "Here am I." As to my manger and shelter, I intended having cuts made so they can easily be understood by any one as I find a great many did not understand them from the description, and wrote me for a sketch. It further includes a cave to store roots, and a self-feeding hopper, all under a cheap roof, just the requirement for the comfort of stock in winter, all cheap and substantial. But I failed to have it accomplished, as precarious health and other incentives unexpectedly called me here to the Pacific coast in southern California, or in the extreme southwestern corner of the United States, where, I, in all probability, shall remain as long as my interests in Kansas will permit, as this country is more than I expected to find it. For healthfulness, salubrity and equitableness of climate, depth of soil, its adaptation to all the variety of fruits and nuts, both semi-tropical and northern, to which this climate is peculiarly adapted, and above all, inhabited by a social, genial class of people far above the average for intelligence and sobriety.

Some idea of the climate and the productiveness of the soil can be formed, when I tell you that rose bushes and geraniums grow into trees and are full of bloom now, in December. These and other flowers and vines bloom continually. I have seen a castor bean tree 20 feet high and from 8 to 10 inches in diameter; it also blooms and bears fruit continuously. I have also seen the Eucalyptus tree, which is hard wood and not soft like the cottonwood, from 50 to 60 feet high and from 10 to 12 inches in diameter, which, I have been credibly informed, was not five years old yet, and apple trees two years old from the bud, with 48 apples on; grape vines three years old with 30 pounds of grapes on, some clusters weighing 7 and 8 pounds. The orange trees are now loaded with green oranges and will ripen about Christmas or New Years. But this will not do, as I am occupying too much of your valuable space.

What the other inquiries are I know not, but can guess. Last spring I promised to give in proper season, a preparation to prevent rabbits from gnawing trees, which I will now give, and also what led me to the discovery, as it is better to give it late than never. I am all the time more or less trying experiments, and watching the result, and knowing that a piece of a dead rabbit rubbed on a tree prevented them in a measure from gnawing it, that I reasoned thus: if a dead rabbit has this effect why not any thing else that has the same nauseating smell. So at hog killing time (which further demonstrated the fact that nothing should be thrown away or wasted), I gathered up the cast off lights or lungs with the bloody refuse from the hearts and threw them into the scalding barrel, and sprinkled a few handfuls of sulphur on them, then put the kettle on the fire, and to every gallon of water added about a quart of soft soap, heated and stirred it into a strong suds, then poured it into the barrel on the lungs and stirred it all up together, then took it to the nursery and dipped the suds out in buckets, and instead of using a rag took a piece of lung which is tough, and encircled the tree at the ground, and gave it one upward stroke, then passed it to the next tree, frequently dipping into the warm suds. After a little practice I could go over them nearly as fast as I could walk, and when one piece of lung wore out, took another. This I did as before stated some seven or eight years ago, and then treated in a short time a nursery of some 7,000 apple trees, including about 500 set out in orchards. At the same time had some small cottonwoods in the same nursery, which I did not so treat, thinking that the rabbits would not disturb them, but in that I was mistaken as they were very plenty and must have been very hungry as they girdled the cottonwood as high as they could reach, and never touched or disturbed one of the apple trees in the nursery or orchard. The preparation not only prevents the rabbits from gnawing the bark but promotes vigor and healthfulness, and keeps other insects at bay. One application in the fall is sufficient for the rabbit and one in the spring for the borer. The strong suds alone with a little turpentine added, allowing it to run down over the roots, with thorough tillage, is sufficient for the borer.

Now friends, try it, and report result, and if

it is not worth hundreds of dollars to the readers of the FARMER I am much mistaken.

S. STONER.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 6, 1880.

### Pulverizing the Soil.

"This drouthy country" is an expression used by one of your correspondents from western Kansas, and occasionally heard in every state, and the question is often asked, Can we do anything to prepare our soil to stand a drouth? The latest and, I believe, the truest theory, bearing on this question, is that the plow is the greatest rain persuader at our command. I have experimented in a small way and believe we can retain much of the rain as it falls in our soil and prevent to a great degree its evaporation during a drouth. Plow deep in the fall. Plow for corn—for sowing wheat, the following year, so that water, rain or snow, will easily penetrate the soil instead of running off to the creeks, as it does from hard, unplowed ground.

I believe most of our western lands have a clay subsoil and will hold water like a cistern. By loosening up the soil and keeping stock from tramping it we may store up water for next crop. The next question is, How long will this store last in a dry season; or can we carry it in the soil the season through? There is very little waste until the air becomes dry and hot in the spring, and it is dry air only that steals it. On a coarse, loose soil, dry air makes short work of it. If we could exclude the air perfectly it is plain there would be no waste except as the growing crops used it. Mulching is an old practice in gardens, around trees and on small wheat fields. Boards, stones, straw, &c., have been used, and successfully in proportion to the completeness of the mulch. But we cannot find straw nor boards to cover the great cornfields of the west. There is a mulch, almost as good as straw, easily procured and applied,—powdered soil. As soon as the soil begins to dry out in the spring pulverize the surface to a fine powder and the air will be as completely shut out, and the moisture shut in as any straw mulch can do it. One inch of fine soil is worth as much, as a mulch, as six of straw.

I pulverized fine a plot of ground weekly during a drouth and any time during the summer, on brushing aside the fine soil the moist earth appeared, when coarse soil was completely dried out. Ground intended for wheat sowing should be pulverized weekly till the wheat is sown. For corn and cultivated crops the same system should be pursued; implements should be used as cultivators that will work shallow, pulverize fine, leaving the surface level and firm.

Spring plowing should be done as early as possible and pulverized. Pulverize! Pulverize! should be the watchword of every western farmer. During a drouth, more moisture will be found in a hard road than in a poorly pulverized field because constant traffic leaves the road covered with a fine powder, often an inch deep. Even ground plowed after the moisture is dried out to the depth of the plowing, if pulverized immediately will be found in a week or two filled with moisture. The water in the subsoil rises and the fine soil holds it fast.

How much truth there is in these statements every western farmer can test. They are at least of great interest to every cultivator. No doubt many of your readers have more experience than I have and many more would like to hear from them.

J. W. MULVEY.

Kidder, Mo.

### Dog Tax.

ED. FARMER: In your issue of the 15th inst., I notice a mass meeting of farmers called to meet at Topeka on January 12th, to consider various matters of vital interest to the farming community of the state. As I am at present single handed on my farm, and so will be unable to attend, I would like, through the medium of your columns, to express my opinion on one of the subjects to be under consideration, viz: a dog law for the protection of the sheep business in Kansas.

In this neighborhood, most of the people keep a large number of dogs—from three to six or seven in one house, and seem to have no use for them whatever but to bark at the passer-by. These dogs are almost all dangerous to sheep, being crosses of almost all kinds of sporting dogs, but without training or occupation. If a small tax was paid for each it would be a considerable revenue to the state, but the probability is that if a tax were imposed then

they would only keep one. In Scotland all owners of dogs are taxed except those holding sheep stock, and they are only exempt from tax on dogs trained for the purpose. Because a dog is a sheep dog that is no guarantee that it will not worry sheep, so I would consider it necessary that sheep dogs exempt from taxes should be those in actual work and under the eye of a master, but I am quite sure that I speak with the voice of all the Kansas wool growers when I say that they would gladly pay a tax on dogs used for sheep, that all other dogs be taxed and so reduce the number.

Another matter, as far as I can understand, that calls for redress, in this county at least, is that while you have only to herd cattle a part of the year, you have to herd sheep all the year round, the fences at no time being sheep-proof. This places the sheep owners at a disadvantage. I am aware that this is only a county law, and do not know what other counties may be similarly situated, but it is a law that sooner or later must be altered if the sheep interest is to prosper.

ALEX. FLETCHER.

Cottonwood, Chase Co., Kansas.

### Stock Importers.

ED. FARMER: Inclosed please find check for advertisement in the FARMER. I was much pleased with the numerous correspondents that it brought forth, and thought surely it had a widespread circulation throughout the state among an enterprising set of stock breeders. But my sales were not as good as I expected from your state. There are so many long-wool grades brought west from Illinois, Kentucky and Canada, and peddled out for thoroughbreds, that it is hard for our western men to discriminate between them, especially when they do not see the animals to draw the contrast, and only learn the price by letter.

My flock of thoroughbreds number just one hundred head, which are doing well, and confidently expect a fine increase the coming spring. I am feeding one thousand head of New Mexico grade wethers. They take to my corn as though they were used to it. I have faith in their feeding well.

JOHN W. JONES.

Stewartsville, Missouri, Dec. 8th.

We publish the above letter of Mr. Jones, a breeder of improved mutton and long-wooled sheep, for the purpose of calling the attention of our readers to the importance of organizations of sheep breeding and wool growing associations, the only means by which swindling peddlers of scrub stock can be checked. The great and increasing demand for rams of improved breeds of sheep will make Kansas one of the richest fields for these scamps to work in. They not only ruin the business of honest breeders, but the wide-spread ruin that will result among farmers who have scrubs imposed upon them for thoroughbred, will be beyond estimate. A grade of the first and second remove, let his appearance be ever so fine, will almost invariably produce a race of scrubs, but little superior to their dams. Mr. Jones, it will be seen, has been injured in his sales by these swindlers, and every breeder of improved stock will suffer from their depredations. By thorough organization among breeders is the only means of keeping these imposters from inflicting most disastrous public injury on the stock business of the state. They are but little less insidious, if any, than the foot-rot and pleuro-pneumonia.

### Cooper's Early White Apple.

Fruit, medium to large; form—roundish truncated, regular and smooth; color—clear light straw, with a faint blush; dots—small, rather numerous, grey; stem—long to medium, often thick; cavity—wide, deep, green or russeted, regular; calyx—large, open; segments—medium, recurved; basin—wide, deep, furrowed; core—large, regular, open; carpels—large, wide, hollow; seeds—large, plump, dark brown; flesh—white, crisp, juicy, pleasant subacid; quality good; use—kitchen, market and shipping; season—15th of July to 15th of September. Tree vigorous, stocky, thorny, heavy grower, spreading open head, very early and very productive and saleable.

This very fine and valuable apple is said to have originated in Iowa, but so far we have been unable to find any facts to show its origin. We procured it in 1858, of Mr. A. Bryant, of Princeton, Illinois, and was one of the first to introduce it in Kansas, over twenty years ago. Our own bearing trees are of that original stock, from which we have disseminated it to numer-

ous individuals in different parts of the state. This apple, to Kansas, is worth more than a simple cut and description of the fruit. While it is almost unknown east of Kansas, never being fully described or found in any catalogue, yet to us it is one of the most valuable apples ever introduced into the state; bearing extremely young and most profusely, large, fine, fair fruit; in season almost as soon as Early Harvest, and continuing all the time to improve until the fall apples come in. It is fit to pick clean at any time and ship or cook during its season, and always brings the highest price in the market.

J. STAYMAN.

Leavenworth, Kansas.

### Garden Notes.

#### ONION CULTURE.

Any land that will raise a good crop of corn, except a stiff clay or gravelly soil, is suitable for onions. A sandy loam, with a light mixture of clay, as it is the easiest to work and produces the best crops, is the most preferable.

Land that has been worked two seasons and the sod thoroughly rotted, should be used, and it should be clear as possible from weed seeds. If it is well manured in the fall and plowed deep and pulverized well with a harrow, it will be in a better condition. The plowing and harrowing should be done in the fall after the weeds have ceased growing. This will be all the preparation needed in the fall. As early in the spring as it can be done, the ground should be thoroughly harrowed until every lump is crushed. Stretch a line perfectly straight along one side of the ground, then with a wooden hand-marker containing five teeth fourteen inches apart, mark off the ground, running the outside tooth along the line; re-turning, place the outside tooth in the last mark and follow it for a guide, repeating this operation until the piece is all marked.

There is a variety of drills used. I prefer the Planet Jr., No. 2, with large wheel which follows as a roller; it does good work. I use four pounds of seed to the acre. If large size onions are wanted, and the seed is good, a less quantity may be put on. Cover the seed one-half inch deep. As soon as the onions are up so they can be seen down the row give them the first hoeing; just skim the ground between the rows. There are hoes made expressly for the purpose. One that I have used is made as follows: The blade is 8 inches long and 1½ inch broad, with a long, crooked shank set in a handle 5 feet long. The shape of the hoe allows the earth to pass over the blade without moving it from its place. In a few days after, give them a second hoeing, this time close up to the plants; after which, weeding must be commenced if any weeds appear. In ten days or two weeks they will require a third hoeing and weeding, and they will be improved with still another hoeing. Onions need constant attention with the hoe.

When the tops die and fall, pull them and spread evenly over the ground to dry. Leave them a few days to dry and then gather them in heaps, taking all the loose skins off while doing so. Place them in a dry, root house where the temperature is medium.

T. W. HRY.

### Indignant Wool Growers.

ED. FARMER: By direction of the Wool Growers' Association of Neosho county, I am directed to send you the following resolution, which I think will explain itself:

Resolved, That the circular of Walter Brown & Co., of Boston, Mass., charging Kansas wool growers with plowing and harrowing their corals for the purpose of rendering their wool heavy, is a slander upon the wool growers of Kansas, published for the momentary motives, and we, as an association, demand of Walter Brown & Co. that they publish the names of those wool growers in the state who plow their corals, or withdraw their statement.

LYMAN PETERS,

Cor. Sec'y W. G. A.

Erie, Neosho Co., Kan., Dec. 11th.

### Advertisements in the Kansas Farmer.

To all stock owners and others who are timid or skeptical about inserting their advertisements in the FARMER, for fear they may "get their money back," we commend the article of Mr. J. M. Byram of Cedar Point, published in the present issue of the paper, under the caption of "Advertising."



## The Farm and Stock.

## Feeding Calves.

[An essay read before the Farmers' Club at Neosho Falls.]

Most of us know some way of feeding calves, (I refer to winter feeding) and I expect each one thinks his own way the best, though one will sometimes meet a man who will acknowledge that he does not take enough care of his calves, says he is not forced to do so, or gives some such invalid excuse.

How to get "fixed" I think is the first step to be taken, and it does not take very much work to make 10 to 20 or even more calves very comfortable, but they must be comfortable and have a dry bed to lie on if you expect them to do well, even though they have the best of feed; but this is one point at least on which I think everybody will agree with me. They should do so at any rate if they don't, so I shall not enlarge on that.

"What to feed and how to feed it" is the next point. I will presume that I have made the first point, and we are well sheltered by this time, and everything looks comfortable and one almost wishes one's self a calf. But before being initiated into calfdom, one's taste naturally suggests some furniture in the way of troughs and salt boxes with plenty of elbow room. This is very necessary as it is very seldom you can get a lot of calves all of one size, and the weaker ones, when it comes to a scramble for food necessarily have to go to the wall. This can and ought to be avoided by giving them more trough room than you think they need, and if you are a fairly liberal judge it will be sufficient. Hollow logs, anything in fact, that will hold corn, will answer the purpose; so nobody can say that troughs are an expense which they cannot afford. Fifty cents will buy hollow logs enough for a hundred head of calves; in fact, you can get them for nothing. Now if possible I would divide the steers from the heifers, for, unless you really want to sell them on the grass as yearlings, it will not pay to feed them as well as steers. So I will confine myself to the steer calves.

"What to feed." Feed everything. That is, feed all the steer calves. Feeding calves is not like feeding three year old steers. In the latter business it does not pay to feed a rough steer, neither does it pay so well to feed a rough calf as it does to feed a smooth built one; but unless you feed your rough built calf well, it will grow worse, whereas good treatment will expand its frame and make a good steer of it in spite of its natural defects.

There is no theory attached to this. I have practical proof of it, and shall be happy to illustrate it to any member or any number of members who have time to see my cattle to-day or any other day. Hence I say feed everything, and feed will do to a great extent what nature has failed to do, and in course of time when it becomes a two or three year old, in place of a gaunt, raw-boned steer, you will have a plump, though he may not be as round and steep as you might wish, he will have a good frame, a good constitution, and will take on flesh and fat nearly as fast as a steer of better proportions.

Under this head comes the feed itself, and I want nothing better than corn. Some will have it that oats are the best, but I cannot see why, and I have objections to oats, especially when feeding more than five calves together. In the first place they are not as handy to feed, and though I admit calves are very fond of them and prefer them to corn, when you have a lot of them together they eat, or rather, bolt them, and their digestive organs become impaired, and they do not feed as regularly day after day as they will on corn. Some will say at once, Of you feed too much. That is not it. Unlike corn, they can bolt oats, and before the smaller ones have eaten half their share, the larger ones will have their's about cleaned up. So I repeat, feed corn.

How to feed. My plan is to feed morning and night, beginning gradually and increasing until you have ascertained about what quantity they will eat up clean, and then let them have that allowance until you turn them out to grass, or better still, until your rye, if you have any, is fit to receive them.

The corn should be chopped as small as possible, as they will eat cob and all, if cut small; and this brings me to another point. Some people say shell the corn; I say chop it up. Being told that calves did better on shelled corn, I purchased a sheller and I found it was like feeding oats; they bolted the corn and did not do as well. Neither are they as easily satisfied on the same amount of corn.

For rough feed I would only feed hay and corn fodder. Millet and straw are not to my mind desirable feeds for calves, though perhaps the calves would not thank me for saying so, as there is nothing they like much better than good oat straw, and I may be wrong here, but that is the only point that I will admit it might be the case. My objection to straw and millet is this: I believe, that if a man wants his calves to become scabby round the eyes and head, he cannot do a better thing than feed either millet or oat straw. Last winter I had a small stack of millet and oat straw mixed, and I looked on it the beginning of winter as a great acquisition, and fed it sparingly so as to make it last all winter, until my calves became so scabby that they ceased to do well, in fact they began to do very badly. I at once blamed the millet and straw for it, and stopped feeding it, and the scab all disappeared in a few weeks, but one being determined to have his straw in spite of me, used to jump out and feed at the stack, and bore the scabby marks of his wilfulness to the grass, and it was a month before he

could shake off his blemishes. Which one of the two feeds was to blame I cannot say, but I would like to know and I mean to find out this winter, if I do not do so before. Therefore if as I have shown calves will not do as well with scab on them, and, if it is as I affirm, produced by feeding straw or millet, it would be better to feed it to the older cattle and let the calves have the corn. Regularity in feeding is essential. Feeding one day and not the next is a mistake though often indulged in. Man cannot keep up animal heat in his body on a cold day on the thoughts of what he had the day before or the day before that; neither can it be expected of a calf, and unless you can keep his back level he will not do well.

Again, while they are on this high feed, they must have pure water, from the fact that even on the coldest day they drink very heartily, and bad water would have an injurious effect on their health. Neither should they be stinted, for by doing so, you are subject to losses from dry murrain and I believe black leg.

Salt, ashes and sulphur should be kept in boxes before them.

To curtail the expense of feeding so much corn a few small shoats will do very well, but a mixed lot will not do very well, neither would I recommend putting heavy hogs in with calves.

This is about all that is necessary, and about all I need say on the subject, but before concluding I should like to say a few words as to the results of this treatment. A convenient excuse for some, for not feeding their calves is, that they have not corn enough, or that they are afraid of black leg. Let me say that I have tried the plan for three years now and have only lost one calf from that disease, or any other, and that happened the night I weaned the calves, and before they had any corn at all. More calves die of bad treatment than of black leg produced by over-feeding. The way, and a sure way to get black leg, is to starve your calves all winter, and then force them in the spring, a few weeks before grass.

As a result of good feeding, I can show yearlings weighing eight to ten hundred pounds, some of which are May calves, and the earliest came on March 15th.

In place of keeping cattle until they are three years old, would it not be better to sell them at two years old? For the same money, it can be done. Sell them by weight, and feed them well until that time, at the rate of about and shock of corn to every ten head. I have two-year olds that at three cents per pound would fetch me at least, \$33.00, which have been subjected to this treatment, but as all my two-year olds will not equal that, not having had the same treatment, I have already refused that amount. In future, my steers will be sold at two years old and as close to 1050 pounds as I can come.

## Winter Feeding for Cattle.

The second winter, the yearlings may be fed with prairie hay, in racks, with a trough on each side, to catch the shelled corn and bran, which should be distributed along the top of the hay in the racks. If the rack is narrow at the bottom, the grain will be eaten with the hay, and what falls out will be caught in the trough and saved. As the bran and hay cost the same price, it will be best to mix 100 lbs. of bran with 150 lbs. of corn, as this proportion will produce the best result the second winter. 12 lbs. of prairie hay per head is sufficient the second winter, the balance of the ration being made up of corn and bran—10 to 12 lbs. of the latter will probably be found to be about right, but that depends on the degree of cold and exposure. The skillful feeder, however, will feed all the cattle will eat with a good appetite. It will pay to feed a small amount of corn and bran to yearlings upon pasture—say 2 lbs. per day to each; or if the pasture should be short, 4 lbs.

The three year olds may be fed in the same way as last described, except that 100 lbs. of bran should be mixed with 200 lbs. of corn. When fed in this manner, the corn will be much more fully utilized than by the old way of feeding in the shock, and only about half as many hogs will find food from the waste. Straw or corn stalks and wind breaks should be provided. No feeder can afford to allow his cattle to be exposed to rain storms in winter. We have not prescribed oil meal or cake for fattening the older steers, because of the large difference between the price of corn and cake; and fed in the way we have proposed, the steers will be healthy and make great progress in fattening. They should gain at least 2½ lbs. per day per head. Oil-cake is very valuable, and should be fed in this country, and the beef produced exported instead of the cake; but there is no such difference between the value of cake and corn as four to one, or \$28 a ton for cake and \$7 a ton for corn. But even at this rate it will pay to feed a small amount of oil meal to calves, as the young animal requires food that will grow rapidly the muscles and bones, and the oil meal and bran is rich in the elements needed for this.—Nat. Live-Stock Journal.

## Drying Potatoes.

We have frequently seen it noticed in the public journals recently that a great industry is likely to grow up in California in potatoes. A process has been invented for drying the potato and grinding when it is packed and shipped to Europe. The Commercial Herald speaking of the business says, that during the past year or two an important industry has sprung up in that state in the way of preserving potatoes for a foreign market. A machine has been invented for pressing and preserving potatoes in such

manner that they may be dried and kept for a number of years in any climate. No oxidation or fermentation takes place in the process; they retain to a great extent, their natural taste and original freshness. Shippings made to England during the past year have attracted attention, and the demand for California preserved potatoes in that country already exceeds the supply. The first shipment to Liverpool brought the sum of \$100 per ton over all expenses of shipment. Last year about twenty tons were shipped from San Francisco, which brought forty-five English shillings per hundred weight, or at the rate of \$3 per sack for green potatoes. At Arcata, Humboldt county, a strong company has been organized to preserve potatoes by the new process. Ventura has an apparatus in working order, and will handle a large quantity of potatoes this fall. San Francisco merchants and capitalists evince a lively interest in the enterprise, and are watching results closely. The testimony of English merchants is to the effect that the products are superior and in active demand.

## Horticulture.

## Downing Against the Wilson Strawberry.

ED. FARMER: It was my purpose, in my last article on strawberry culture, to close the subject for the present at least, but in perusing your issue of the 8th, I found an article from the pen of W. W. Cone, of Topeka, severely criticising my suggestions on varieties of strawberries, and placing my statements in an unfair and unenviable light, making the same with state records. Permit me, through your valuable paper, to make a brief reply and to be a little more explicit than in former articles.

Bro. Cone must be mistaken in the man. Surely it was some other writer that declared the Wilson Albany strawberry "utterly worthless;" sent to "oblivion." I never thought of such a thing. I have ever held the Wilson as a grand, good berry, with but few equals in the whole list. Its carrying qualities are remarkable, and in its climate a wonderful berry. Of northern origin, it can resist cold equal to an oak. The same can be said of the Baldwin, Greening, and Northern Spy apples—noble specimens when grown in Michigan, but utterly worthless as a winter apple here. During all my small fruit experience I never saw the Wilson grow as it does in the state of Michigan—bean hill high, and the runners cover the ground as a mat. It is no wonder they sell at small figures there. But how is it here in "bleeding Kansas," bled by more ways than one. Year after year, for the past fifteen years, the citizens of Kansas have opened their purse-strings freely to exchange "filthy lucre" for a berry tempting to the appetite, pleasing to look upon, with an acid cooling and refreshing to the parched lips of the patient burning with wasting fever—acting like a charm to the boys and girls in reconciling them to their new-made homes—but to what purpose? The money has been worse than squandered. The new-comer has shivered on the strawberry, and his family has been deprived of this luxury. Why this failure? I answer, without fear of contradiction, they have got the Baldwin apple in the shape of Wilson's Albany strawberry out of its native element. It can stand cold, but it requires a berry of southern origin to overcome the hot winds and midsummer heat of this latitude. Talk is cheap, but facts are stubborn things and figures will not lie. My experience teaches me a lesson that it is not for the credit of Kansas to whisper abroad—proud Kansas, always first in every good cause, should be first in everything—but is she ahead in strawberry culture? A little thing, to be sure, but in the language of another, "the best fruit that God ever made." Our situation is much like the college graduate that failed to get his certificate to teach a district school; he simply over-reached. Are we not doing the same thing to-day?

The State Horticultural Society of the state has just closed its winter meeting at Wyandotte. As to its doings I am yet ignorant, but I can imagine the great talks and windy words uttered for effect in older states; by the wise and learned professional horticulturists of the state of Kansas. They can beat the world in raising fruit, and it would not surprise me in the least to learn that they have placed the Wilson's Albany first on the list for the state of Kansas. But candidly, simmering all their proceedings down, what new light have they shed upon our pathway to lighten our burdens and help us to make a success in our calling?

I will now give figures and dates for the professional to think about. The Gulf railroad traverses the entire eastern tier of counties, the "Frisco" railroad the southern tier, making lines of railroad north, south, east and west for nearly 400 miles. On these roads there is not a single city or town (with one exception) that produce its own strawberries. Most of these cities are deprived of these luxuries only as they receive them from abroad. Can you find the like anywhere in the east? Again, I have been receiving letters of inquiry from all over the state, and I find the same state of things exists everywhere. I am not sure, but it is my opinion, formed from every source within my reach, that there is not a half dozen cities in the state that raise a surplus of berries, so that the consumer can, during the flush of the season, purchase all he needs at five cents per quart. It was so in my own city of Columbus until I introduced the Charles Downing strawberry. Now, for the past two seasons, during the decline of the berry crop, I have put them on the market at those figures—and sell by the peck and bushel. When at 25 cents, I could

sell only by the quart. I think I am doing well at those figures—netting me, clear of all expense, \$1 per bushel on the vines. I am aware that some of the small growers around here look a little sour at these figures, but this is a free country either to sell or give away, as you like.

Since I introduced the new variety in Cherokee county almost every family that has a garden plants a patch of strawberries. But, says one, how about the vote from your county being cast for the Wilson first and Downing second. I am ignorant as to who cast the vote; that matters not. Whoever did so did it in ignorance of facts, or was dishonest in trying to deceive the public. In either case he is unworthy of notice. Should the balance of the distinguished horticulturists of the state that voted for the Wilson prove the counterpart of the Cherokee voter, you and I can never estimate the importance of that vote.

I am personally acquainted with every shipper of strawberries in the county, and I know of none that raise the Wilson now as the main crop. A few plant the Wilson in a small way, but all with poor success. Nine-tenths of all the Wilsons planted out two years ago are now dead. Such is Cherokee county's success in the growing of the Wilson in a climate not adapted to its nature.

I could mention a dozen varieties of strawberries better adapted to the Kansas climate than the Wilson, but among the number none have reached my ideal of a perfect strawberry, like the Downing; and were the berry as firm, and would bear shipment as well as the Wilson, I could ask for no better. The American Agriculturist has for four years placed it at the head of the list as "best of all strawberries grown." I think that such disinterested testimony is sound; and I might multiply testimony to show that there is no deception or humbug in it.

I am not writing these articles for the benefit of the professionals, but rather for the benefit of the farmer, the laborer, and those that can appreciate the luxury of nature's best production. And now, in conclusion, I would say to my friend Cone if he will secure for me an honorable man in the city of Topeka, to whom I can consign the Charles Downing strawberry, to be sold on commission, I will make daily shipments to that city providing I can make close connections at Kansas City during the coming strawberry season. You can then compare these rivals side by side. And furthermore, I, on my part, will select the editor of the KANSAS FARMER as one of a committee to test their merits, and donate to him not less than one quart daily during the shipping season; you to do the same. F. A. CHILDS. Columbus, Cherokee Co., Kan., Dec. 18th.

## Poultry.

## Buff Cochins.

Although called Cochins Chinas, the Buff Cochins are the real Shanghaies. They were unknown to the Southern Chinese, and they never claimed them as their native fowl, and were as much astonished at their size as we were when they first came to this country. There are three varieties of color—buff, lemon and cinnamon. The buff seems to be the most desirable variety.

The carriage of the cock should be upright and majestic; breast very broad, forming a straight line from the crop to the thighs; back short and wide; tail very slightly raised, and the wings short and held tightly to the sides; the legs, thighs and saddle universally large in proportion to the rest of the body; head small and carried well up; a stout, coarse and yellow beak. The carriage of the hen must be similar in general character to the cock, excepting that the head is carried much lower; and a gentle, pleasing expression of face is a mark of high-bred specimens. The hackle of the cock should be very full and of a light bay color; the hen's hackle should be a distinct, clear buff, free from any markings. A black tail in the cock is admirable; but the principal feathers if bronze in color, add very much to the appearance of the bird. The breast of the cock and hen should be clear buff, the feathers running somewhat lighter in color towards the top; the legs should be very heavily feathered, short and wide apart; the wattles of the cock thin and fine, perfectly flord in color; ear lobes well developed, long, thin and fine; any white is a blemish. The eye of the cock should be of a yellow ochre color; in the hen a little darker than those of the cock. A clear, dark-winged cock throws the best chickens.

As producers of eggs the Buff Cochins do not stand very high. The quantity they lay before becoming broody is small, and being very heavy they have given us a great deal of trouble by breaking their eggs, and also killing their chickens after they were hatched by stepping on them, for they are very clumsy birds. They produce heavy chickens, and are most valuable in the larder, but are not popular breeds and are rarely kept by those who make a business of producing eggs or poultry for market. Any person who is desirous of having heavy, quiet birds will find them just the kind. We have had hens which dressed seven pounds, and one cock which weighed when dressed twelve pounds. It is little trouble to make a pen which will confine them, and they will do equally as well in confinement as if allowed to roam at large, and in this respect they have few if any equals.—Ex.

Well conducted experiments have been recorded, showing that fowls in small flocks—of 100 or less—will pay in eggs alone a profit of from \$1 to \$1.50 per head, every year.

## BOOKS FOR FARMERS

FOR SALE BY THE

## KANSAS FARMER.

[Any of these books will be forwarded, by mail post-paid, on receipt of price.]

Allen's (R. L. & L. F.) New Am. Farm Book,	\$2.50
Allen's (R. L.) American Cattle,	2.50
Allen's (R. L.) American Farm Book,	1.50
Allen's (R. L.) Rural Architecture,	1.50
Allen's (R. L.) Diseases of Domestic Animals,	1.00
Amateur Trapper and Trap Makers' Guide, paper, 50c; bound,	.75
American Bird Fancier,	.30
American Rose Culturist,	.30
American Weeds and Useful Plants,	.75
Barber's Grass Shot,	.25
Barry's Fruit Garden,	2.50
Bogardus, Field, Cover & Trap Shooting. New ed.	2.00
Bommer's Method of Making Manures,	.25
Boushington's Rural Economy,	1.60
Brackett's Farm Talk—paper, 50c; cloth,	.75
Breck's New Book of Flowers,	.75
Breech-loaders, Bygones,	.25
Brill's Farm-Gardening and Seed-Growing,	1.00
Broom Corn and Brooms, paper, 50c; cloth,	.75
Brown's Taxidermist's Manual,	1.00
Bruist's Flower-Garden Directory,	1.50
Bruist's Family Kitchen Gardener,	1.00
Bruist's American Kennel and Sporting Field,	3.00
Burnham's New Poultry Book,	1.00
Burns' Architectural Drawing Book,	1.00
Burns' Illustrated Drawing Book,	1.00
Burns' Ornamental Drawing Book,	1.00
Butler's Family Aquarium,	.75
Caldwell's Agricultural Chemical Analysis,	2.00
Canary Birds. Paper, 50c; cloth,	.75
Chorlton's Grape-Grower's Guide,	.75
Cleveland's Landscape Architecture,	1.50
Cobbett's Swine Husbandry,	1.25
Cole's American Fruit Book,	.75
Cole's American Veterinarian,	.75
Cooked and Cooking Food for Domestic Animals,	.25
Cook's Manual of the Apilary,	.50
Corbett's Poultry Yard and Market, pa.,	.50
Dadd's Modern Horse Doctor, 12 mo.,	1.50
Dadd's American Cattle Doctor, 12 mo.,	1.50
Dadd's American Cattle Doctor, 8 vo. cloth,	2.50
Dadd's American Reformed Horse Book, 8 vo. cloth,	2.50
Dank's Muck Manual,	1.25
Dead Shot, or Sportsman's Complete Guide,	2.00
De Voo's Market Assistant,	2.50
Din's, Mayhew and Hutchinson, on the Dog,	3.00
Downing's Landscape Gardening,	2.00
Dwyer's Horse Book,	.75
Eastwood on "ranberry,"	.75
Elliott's Hand B. o. for Fruit Growers, pa. 60c; cloth,	1.00
Elliott's Lawn and Shade Trees,	1.00
Enfield's Indian Corn,	1.00
Evelin's School House Architecture,	4.00
Every Horse Owner's Cyclopaedia,	2.75
Famous Horses of America,	1.50
Field's Pear Culture,	1.50
Field's Culture. (7 price Essays by prac. growers.)	1.50
Frank Forester's American Game in its Season,	2.00
Frank Forester's Field Sports—2 vols.,	4.00
Frank Forester's Fish and Fishing,	2.00
Frank Forester's Manual for Young Sportsmen,	2.00
French's Farm Drainage,	1.50
Fuller's Grape Culturist,	1.50
Fuller's Illustrated Strawberry Culturist,	.20
Fuller's Small Fruit Culturist,	1.50
Fuller's Peach Culture,	1.50
Geyelin's Poultry Breeding,	1.25
Grant's Beet Root Sugar,	1.25
Gregory on Cabbages,	.30
Gregory on Carrots, Mangold Wurtzels, etc.,	.30
Gregory on Onion Raising,	.30
Gregory on Squashes,	.30
Guano on Milch Cows,	.75
Gun, Rod, and Saddle,	1.00
Harney's Barns, Out-Buildings and Fences,	4.00
Harris on the Pig,	1.50
Harvey's Farming with Green Manures,	1.50
Harvey's Butter and Butter Making,	1.50
Henderson's Gardening for P. off,	1.50
Henderson's Practical Floriculture,	1.50
Henderson's Gardening for Pleasure,	1.50
Herbert's Hints to Horse-Keepers,	1.75
Holden's Books of Birds, paper, 25c; cloth,	.50
How to Culture. By Mine Experienced Cultivators,	.25
How I Made \$300 a Year by my Bees,	.25
How to Make Candy,	.50
How to Use the Pistol,	1.00
Hunter and Trapper,	1.00
Hummel's Grapes and Wine,	1.00
Jacques' Manual of the farm, garden & barn-yard,	1.50
Jacques' Manual of the House,	1.50
Jennings on Cattle and their Diseases,	1.75
Jennings' Horse Training Made Easy,	1.25
Jennings on Sheep, Swine and Poultry,	1.75
Jennings on the Horse and his Diseases,	1.75
Jersey, Alderney and Guernsey Cows,	1.50
Johnson's How Crops Grow,	2.00
Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry,	1.75
Johnson's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry,	1.75
King's Beekeeping Text Book, paper 50c; cloth,	1.00
Kipper's Wheat Plant,	1.75
Leach's How to Build Hot-Houses,	1.50
Lyman's Cotton Culture,	1.50
Lyman's Practical Poultry Book,	1.50
McClure's Dis. of the Am. Horse, Cattle & Sheep,	2.00
Maynard's Naturalist's Guide,	.75
Miles on the Horse's Foot,	.75
Mohr on the Grape-Vine,	1.00
Mrs. Cornelius' Young Housekeeper's Friend,	1.50
Nichols' Chemistry of the Farm and Sea,	1.75
Norris' American Fish Culture,	1.75
Norton's Scientific Agriculture,	.75
Ontions—How to Raise them Profitably,	.60
Our Farm of Four Acres—Paper, 50c; cloth,	.60
Palliser's American Cottage Homes,	5.00
Pardee on Strawberry Culture,	1.75
Parsons on the Rose,	1.00
Pedder's Land Measurer,	.60
Percheron Horse,	1.00
Phin's How to Use the Microscope,	.75
Phin's Lightning Rods and their Construction,	.50
Phin's Open Air Grape Culture,	1.00
Potato Culture. (Price Essays.)	1.50
Quincy's Mysteries of Bee-Keeping,	1.25
Quincy (Hon. Josiah) on Sowing Cattle,	1.00
Quinn's Money in the Garden,	1.00
Quinn's Pear Culture for Profit,	1.00
Randall's Fine Wool Sheep Husbandry,	1.00
Randall's Practical Shepherd,	2.00
Randall's Sheep Husbandry,	2.00
Riley and Knowlton's Complete Horse Tamer,	.50
Richardson on the Dog, paper, 50c; cloth,	.60
Riley's Potato Seed, paper 50c; cloth,	.60
Riley's Miniature Fruit Garden,	1.00
Riley's Manual on the Culture of Small Fruits,	.50
Roe's Play and Profit in my Garden,	1.50
Saunders' Domestic Poultry, paper, 40c; cloth,	.75
Schreck's Gardener's Text Book,	.75
Schley's Am. Partridge and Pheasant Shooting,	2.00
Shooting on the Wing,	.75
Slack's Trout Culture,	1.00
Standard of Excellence in Poultry,	1.00
Sarr's Forest & Stream, Hand book for Rifleman	3.00
Stewart's American Farmer's Horse Book,	1.50
Stewart's Irrigation for Farm, Garden & Orchard,	1.50
Stewart's Shopkeeper's Manual,	1.50
Stewart's Sorghum and its Products,	1.50
Stoddard's An Egg Farm, paper, 50c; cloth,	.75
Stonehenge on the Dog,	.75
Stonehenge on the Horse in the Stable and Field,	2.00
American Edition, 12mo.,	2.00
Tegetmeyer's Poultry Book,	.90
The Rifle, its Theory and Practice,	.50
The Thorny System of Grape Culture,	.50
Thomas' American Fruit Culturist. New ed.,	3.75
Thomas' Farm Implements and Machinery,	1.50
Thompson's Food of Animals,	1.60
Tobacco Culture. By 14 experienced cultivators,	.25
Todd's Young Farmers' Manual, 3 vols.,	1.00
Ten Acres Enough,	1.00
Vick's Flower & Vegetable Garden, pa. 50c; cloth,	1.00
Ville's Chemical Measures,	.50
Warner's Hedges and Evergreens,	.50
Waring's Draining for Profit and Health,	1.50
Waring's Earth Closets and Earth Sewage,	.50
Waring's Elements of Agriculture,	.50
Waring's Farmers' Vacation,	.50
Waring's Handy Book of Husbandry: 8vo ed.,	2.50
Waring's Sanitary Condition in City and Country Houses,	.50
Waring's Sanitary Drainage of houses and towns,	2.00
Waring's Village Improvements & village farms,	.75
Weidemann's Beautifying Country Homes, A superb quarto vol; 24 lithograph plates, in clrs 15 00	15.00
Wheeler's Homes for the People,	2.00
White-Cranberry Culture,	1.25
White's Gardening for the South,	2.00
Willard's Practical Butter Book,	3.00
Willard's Practical Dairy Husbandry,	3.00
Woodruff's Trotting Horse of America,	2.50
Woodward's Cottages and Farm Houses,	1.00
Woodward's Country Homes,	1.50
Woodward's Grapes & Horticultural Buildings,	1.00
Woodward's National Architect. Vols. 1 and 2 15 00	15.00
Woodward's Suburban and Country Houses,	2.50
Wright's Brahma Fowl,	1.00
Wright's Practical Poultry-Keeper,	2.00
Yount and Spooner on the Horse,	1.50
Yount and Martin on Cattle,	1.00
Yount and Martin on the Hog,	1.00
Yount on Sheep,	1.00
Yount on the Dog,	2.50







## THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor and Proprietor,  
Topeka, Kansas.

## TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.

One Copy, Weekly, for one year, 1.50  
One Copy, Weekly, for six months, 1.00  
One Copy, Weekly, for three months, .50

The greatest care is used to prevent swindling humbugs securing space in these advertising columns. Advertisements of lotteries, whisky, bitters, and quack doctors are not received. We accept advertisements only for cash, cannot give space and take pay in trade of any kind. This is business, and it is a just and equitable rule adhered to in the publication of THE FARMER.

## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers should very carefully notice the label stamped upon the margin of their papers. All those marked "expire with the next issue." The paper is at once discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, and to avoid missing a number renewals should be made at once.

## CLUBS! CLUBS!!

Look at our offer for clubs. The greatest offer to club agents ever made. Cash and no trade in articles at high prices for work. Every agent who works for the KANSAS FARMER knows that he is working for Cash! And every agent gets something.

No Special Authority is needed for a person to form clubs. All that is necessary is to secure the names and remit the money.

In Giving Address, be careful to give the full name of individuals, the Postoffice, County and State, and do not write on the same piece of paper that communications for the FARMER are written on.

Club Lists with necessary instruction sent to those who contemplate getting up clubs.

## Post Office Addresses.

When parties write to the FARMER on any subject whatever, they should give the county and post office both. Some of the new post offices are not put down in the post office directory, and when the county is not mentioned, the post office clerks do not know where to send papers or letters.

## The Farmers as Legislators.

Let the farmers elect, (and all others) to the incoming legislature, read what one of their own class, who has had much experience among them, says, and we think it may well make the blood tingle with shame in the face of every one of them. Farmers of the present legislature, are you going to justify this picture? We trust not. We believe that farmers have learned much within a short time back. The scales are falling from their eyes, and we have greater faith than ever we felt before, that they will stand together, will consult together, and then act and vote in the legislature as independent men, who, knowing their rights, dare maintain them. They absolutely own the solid acres they stand on, which insures them and their families a good living in spite of every opposing interest and power, however they may frown and threaten. There is no other pursuit or business so absolutely independent of opposing power as agriculture, and it can, if it will, throttle any domineering force which may threaten or encroach upon it. Put the organized vote and the organized brains of agriculture in the contest, and we have a power that might defy even "Satan and his angels." Read what one of your own household says of you, then swear by

"— your alters and your fires,"

and keep your vow as well as young Hannibal did: "They will not do this (stick together). Their interest in party politics blinds them to their personal and pecuniary interests. They disagree about trifles, are jealous of localities, easily prejudiced, lack courage enough to stand up for their rights. Now this may be and is hard language, but still it is true. A service of seven or eight years in our legislature has convinced me of the truth of my opinions. I have seen them demonstrated so often that I can hardly believe that much can be done for our farming interests. When the money lenders and usurers wanted the rate of interest raised, farmers' votes gave the required majority. When foreign corporations wanted to loan money in Kansas and take our farms as security, they demanded the right to have mortgages waive the benefits of the appraisement law, and farmers' votes went to their support, and resulted in selling out thousands of our farmers' homes for a tithe of their value, leaving heavy judgments against the debtor to follow them to their death; when to this was supplemented a demand that any attorney fee be inserted in the mortgage, notes, etc., farmers' votes were ready to do their bidding. I might give you scores of instances of the same kind when the farmers voted against their own interests, when their friends were making vigorous and manly efforts in their behalf.

"You will have to teach farmers to be better friends of themselves than they are of the noisy, blatant party hack, and then farmers will take their true position in our legislative halls and in the nation's councils.

"The agricultural interest of our country is the foundation of its prosperity; when it languishes, all other business feels the shock; when it is prosperous, an impulse is given to all other kinds of business, and the new, warm blood of agricultural prosperity flows enterprises to all parts of the country.

"In the early days of the republic the educated agriculturist took his position in the front ranks in the councils and legislatures of our nation and the state, but this is changed now, and the noisiest politician is selected as the better man than the farmer, and the farmer, when

chosen now, acts as if an election to our legislature was a great favor done him, for which he must humbly bow to the party 'machine' during his natural life.

"I hope for the best, but my past experience does not promise much. I hope the coming legislature will be an exception to its predecessors so far as the interests of the farmers are concerned."

## A Lawyer On the Defensive.

ED. FARMER: Please send me a copy of the FARMER and I will pay for same when at Topeka next month. As I have received several numbers in which I have been interested, you may date my subscription back a month.

I must say I don't like your wholesale tirade against lawyers, in which you seem to treat them as an antagonistic element to the interests of the farming community. I don't understand this to be true upon any rational theory. I apprehend that all professions and business interests are subserved by assisting and stimulating that source from which all supplies are drawn, and upon which rests the success of every business community—the agricultural interest.

The successful prosperity of any country can only be enhanced by harmony of feeling and action; and every interest that engenders strife and discord becomes only a destroying element, and is capable of greater injury than we can estimate.

It seems to me there is a higher plane of thought and action that would develop more noble results and would not present the appearance of appealing to the prejudice of the farmer alone, which always results disastrously even though it become a controlling power for a time, in accomplishing the object desired.

Of course I am not writing this for print, neither do I expect an answer, nor do I mean to advise, but guess it is only written because I feel like saying it and may feel somewhat relieved.

May be our legal friend will accuse us of taking undue advantage of his confidence—taking "snap judgment" he would term it in technical language, in publishing his letter. But his letter is interesting because it is quietly sincere and reflects his honest sentiments from his own standpoint, and is just as the situation looks, or would look, to any lawyer, although he may have left the farm but three years ago and gone through Blackstone to the bar where he has become a member of the legal fraternity, and received that free-masonry of sympathy which binds men of the same pursuit—the farmer being almost the only class exception to this law of sympathy.

As the letter was intended for a private one, we withhold the writer's name, which is not important, as our purpose is to point out the reason of the antagonism which the legal profession is meeting with recently, and especially among farmers.

The second paragraph of our correspondent's letter shows that he has not studied the case very well, and has misconceived our position in regard to lawyers and law-makers. He styles our criticisms "wholesale tirade against lawyers," which shows a careless use of language or a careless investigation of the questions at issue.

Our position is that the legal profession has usurped a field which does not legitimately belong to it, and by sympathy with each other and skillful management, have almost entirely appropriated the law-making power in state and nation, of this country. This is a fact which it is only necessary to state. No proof is wanted.

The second point is that lawyers, of all other classes, must necessarily compose the very poorest body of law-makers that could be got together. Their business most thoroughly unfits them for that duty. As professional attorneys they are divorced from the active pursuits of trade, commerce, art, and productive industry. Laws are enacted mainly to arbitrate and constrain the conflicting interests which are constantly arising among and between these classes. All of these interests are foreign to, and awake no sympathy in, the professional lawyer. He therefore becomes the most unfit among men to frame a class of rules and regulations (otherwise laws) to harmonize and fix the bounds of justice for this, the great mass of society. This is a very strong reason for remanding him from his position as a law-maker back to his legitimate business of sifting testimony and establishing justice within the rules and regulations of the statutes.

Again the thirst for gain disqualifies a man from acting for the good of society where that weakness of the human mind is liable to influence his judgment or his honesty. To enact laws that will make the legal profession more lucrative, is a constant menace society is ever threatened with as long as the professional lawyer is allowed to be the law-maker.

A plausible delusion has generally been urged and believed that a law-maker should be one "learned in the law." Nothing is farther from the truth. A law-maker should be one learned in the needs of trade, of productive industry of commerce. A lawyer is the slave of precedents, an ingenious twister and construer of language.

Again, American politics have been the bane and lowering of the standard of the American bar. The temptation and opportunity of gain held out by the management of party politics, have filled every hamlet in the country with pennyless and briefless shysters, who use brass for learning and cunning for wisdom. This undesirable, and to the profession, unenviable element, crowds the bar of every court of justice, fills to overflowing the halls of legislation, and by sheer weight of numbers and hungry

effrontery, overslaugh and crush the reputable, honorable and learned men of the profession, who are driven to shifts, subterfuges and sharp practice in self defence. They brow-beat and abuse witnesses under a pernicious license allowed by an elective judiciary, pervert truth and wrest law, not to promote, but to defeat the ends of justice. Look at the confused jumble that this class of political adventurers have placed on the statute books throughout the country. Stand in the gallery of the house of representatives at Washington, and look down on that disorderly mob. Listen to the roar that rises up from it as from the mouth of pandemonium. Who are they? Two hundred lawyers! A riotous, mutinous crew, crowding the ship of state, from deck to topgallant, from stem to stern, steering and cabin, with a few born patriots who value liberty above pelf, manning the wheel, and in spite of the rabble, keeping the ship before the wind and steering her clear of breakers.

This is not a picture or a "tirade against lawyers," but a statement of dry, prosy facts. Let any true disciple of Blackstone who has drawn inspiration from the study of the common law, styled by a great jurist "the perfection of human wisdom," reflect upon the pitiable condition of the political bar at the present, and he cannot but groan in spirit.

How shall the legal profession be restored to its ancient grandeur? By driving this pack of legal political adventurers from the halls of legislation, substituting plain, wholesome laws for the mass of conglomerations and snares to justice they have placed on the statute books; simplifying and cheapening the means of justice.

Our correspondent's jealousy of the profession has made him mistake our position in condemning the abuse which has crept into it through the filthy channel of party politics. The legal profession has sided to corrupt politics and politics has reacted and corrupted the bar. For the interest and honor of both they should be virtually separated. One lawyer to ten of other callings is a large representation for the profession in any legislative body, and that proportion is ample for the best interests of both.

## The Approaching Farmers' Convention.

As a preparatory step in aid of the more successful issue of the mass convention of farmers, which has been called by authority of the farmer's alliances of this state to assemble at Topeka, the capital city of the state on the 12th of January next, at 10 o'clock, a. m., a district alliance was formed by the farmers of Shawnee county on Thursday of last week, No. 37, and named Topeka Alliance. The following account of the meeting was made by a reporter of, and published in, the *Daily Capital* the following day:

## FARMERS' ALLIANCE NO. 37.

A meeting of the prominent farmers of Shawnee county was held yesterday afternoon in Odd Fellows' Hall, and a farmers' alliance formed. The meeting was called to order by L. A. Mulholland, who stated the objects of the formation of an alliance for the better protection and advancement of the farmers' interests. Mr. S. W. Wilder was then elected temporary chairman, and W. W. Cone temporary secretary. The editor of the KANSAS FARMER, Mr. E. E. Ewing, being present, was called upon to more fully explain the advantages of an alliance to the farming portion of our community.

Mr. Ewing said that some of the principal objects were to create a public sentiment more favorable to the farmers; to work for more favorable legislation, and for a more thorough equalization of representation in congress. He stated that the alliance was not a secret organization, all its meetings being open.

The constitution was then read and adopted, after which the meeting proceeded to elect officers with the following result:

S. W. Wilder, president; D. G. Jones, vice president; L. A. Mulholland, secretary; H. W. Carter, treasurer.

On motion the chairman appointed a committee of three to draft a code of by-laws. The subject for discussion for the next meeting will be the propriety of repealing the law creating a county auditor.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 4th, at 1 o'clock, p. m.

The charter contains the following names: S. W. Wilder, A. C. Moore, L. A. Mulholland, H. H. Wallace, Geo. Kellam, Geo. Luddington, S. P. Beall, Chester Thomas, Jr., J. Snel, A. Hughes, T. M. James, and others.

Thirty of our best farmers signed the constitution.

At the next meeting, January 4th, arrangements will be made and a hall procured for the accommodation of the convention which is to meet on the 12th. All alliances, granges, farmers' clubs, township meetings, boards of trade, and other industrial associations, are invited to send delegates, all parties meeting on an equal footing; and individuals without any association authority are invited to attend and take part in the meetings.

The alliances having called the meeting will assume its organization and direction; and either preceding or after the convention a state alliance will be formed. It would probably be best for the delegates from the district alliances to assemble on the evening previous to the day named for the meeting, Jan. 12th, and organize the state alliance which, as a responsible and representative body, could with propriety assume the management and direction of the meeting. This would probably be the most satisfactory arrangement to all who wished to take part in the discussions.

We hope that the railroad companies of the state will be represented at the meeting by some of their ablest and coolest-headed men, and that the opposing parties in the railroad question will compare views and ascertain the difference that exists between them in fact there is any difference—for the substantial interests of both there should be none except on minor points and modes to best

attain a common end. It is useless for the railroad companies to longer seek to antagonize this general movement throughout the country, to fix bounds to their power and confine and restrict them by specific laws which will well define their powers and privileges, so that the public and railroad official alike will understand the privileges and prerogatives of both, which neither do at present. To systematize and consolidate this movement on the part of the public is the leading object of the proposed convention, and the time appointed for holding it is at the opening of the legislature, so that all parties interested may meet face to face, and the members may be led the better to understand the wishes and opinions of their constituents, as developed by this conference at the capital of the state.

There are other questions, local and national, to be considered, of vital importance to the agricultural and stock interests of the state; in fact such questions are too numerous and far-reaching in their influence to admit of examination and discussion at a single meeting, and will be subjects of future work for the alliances and granges. With so many subjects of pressing importance involving the interests of the farmer, it is strange there are "dormant granges"—sleeping farmer associations—when so much work is awaiting their action. We trust and believe that the forthcoming farmers' convention will give an impulse to this work such as has never been felt in the state heretofore. Let farmers shake off their characteristic timidity and boldly face the questions of the hour. To those who dare belongs the victory, and fortune rarely fails to smile upon their efforts.

## The Holidays.

Since the FARMER last greeted its readers, Christmas, the great Christian holiday, has passed, and is recorded among the things of time that were. In the hurry of the hour, the FARMER neglected to extend the usual greeting of "Merry Christmas" in advance, but now offers its congratulations on the happy event passed, while joining in the hopeful anticipations which the new year that we are on the eve of, promises.

As a class, the millions who draw their subsistence directly from the soil, have much to hope for from the present outlook, both in a public and social point of view. Farmers all over the land are saying to one another, "Come, let us reason together," and from their great weight of numbers, their conservative habits, the justice of their demands, and the great aggregate wealth which they own absolutely and control, give their every movement toward concentration and co-operation, a sublime importance, when contrasted with any other class or interest. We can, therefore, with the fullest confidence in the future, say to the class which the KANSAS FARMER is proud to represent, be of good cheer; the day is not far distant when agriculture in the United States, as a representative business, will occupy, not in name alone, but in reality, a higher plane than ever before. Speed the coming of this newer and better era which is freighted with hopes of glad tidings to mankind.

## Annual Address of Worthy Master Sims Before the State Grange.

We have been furnished with a copy of the very able address of the worthy master of the Kansas State Grange, delivered before that body, which assembled at Olathe, in annual session last week, but our grange page having been made up before the receipt of this paper, we were unable to publish it in the present edition of the FARMER, a circumstance we regret exceedingly. The address is an excellent one and should receive careful examination by every farmer in the state. Our legislature will do well to bear in mind the sentiments expressed in the address, and receive them as a very fair reflection of the wishes of the agricultural population of the state of Kansas. The thought of that class is fast crystallizing on those questions treated by the worthy master, and if their servants don't take heed to do their bidding very soon, it will be forever too late for a number of them two years hence.

We will publish the address in the next issue of the FARMER.

## Appointing Delegates.

From the letters of inquiry we are receiving from all parts of the state, we infer that much interest is felt in the farmers' forthcoming convention. In some neighborhoods where no farmers' organizations exist, township meetings are being called to appoint delegates. This is a good move and will serve to concentrate attention on the movement, and delegates attending as representatives of the farmers assembled in neighborhood meeting, will serve to give weight and importance to the proceedings of the meeting, which will be reported by the associated press and published throughout the country, and if the farmers will send their best men the meeting will not fail to create a profound impression beyond the bounds of the state. The farmers of Kansas can't afford to fail in this movement. Kansas is already looked upon as a "leader in Israel."

## Walter Brown &amp; Co.

This old Boston wool commission house publishes their card this week in the FARMER, and the irate wool-growers association of Neosho county pay their respects to the firm in a way that should make the wool-growers and the "down-east" commission house better acquainted. The letter of explanation from Walter

Brown & Co. published in the FARMER of the 15th inst., explains the position taken by them, and goes far toward extenuating their statement in relation to the alleged practice of sanding wool in this state. The association, through their secretary, make a formal demand on the house for the names of the sanding parties, and if they can speak definitely, we trust they will forward them to the association which calls for the information.

## The American Bee-Journal.

Friend Newman, of the Bee-Journal, published at Chicago, has made a new step in journalism, which marks also the rapid advance in the bee industry of this country. The Bee-Journal which has for twenty years been published as a monthly, appears with its initial number for the new year as an 8-page weekly. We welcome this evidence of the healthy growth of the apiary and the enterprise of the veteran editor. The Journal stands at the head of bee periodicals of this country, which includes that of the world, for America leads the world in the science and industry of apiculture. The Journal is among our most welcome exchanges.

## The Hour of Meeting is 10 A. M.

In the call for the meeting of a farmers' convention at Topeka, on the 12th of January next, by an oversight no hour for the meeting was named. 10 o'clock a. m. has been fixed upon as the hour, which will necessitate the arrival of delegates the day previous, as all the trains do not reach this city till the middle of these short afternoons. This will enable the delegates representing the district alliances to assemble and form a State Alliance on the evening of the 11th, if they think it best to do so. Such a step might facilitate business the next day.

## A Correction.

ED. FARMER: In your list, published last week, of those members of the incoming legislature who are connected with or engaged in farming, you have—doubtless through an oversight—omitted the names of Hon. W. B. Bass, of Ottawa, and Hon. C. P. Crouch, of Rantoul, both of Franklin county. These gentlemen do not belong to the class who call themselves farmers for political effect, but are the genuine article and a credit to their chosen profession. Dec. 24th. F. D. CORBURN.

ED. FARMER: In the issue of the FARMER of the 22d inst., we notice a list of the members of the Kansas legislature who are farmers. You may add to that list Woodson county's representative, Gen. D. E. Clapp, who is a farmer and stock-raiser, and whose interests and sympathies are with the farmers. WOODSON.

## Tree Seeds.

We are constantly receiving inquiries for different kinds of forest tree seeds. Why do not some of our enterprising seedsmen advertise a catalogue of the various kinds of seed they have for sale? A correspondent wishes to know where the American holly seed or trees can be had. Almost every week we receive similar inquiries. Advertise your seeds and plants, gentlemen, and let the people know where they can be supplied. A live seed man in this part of the universe could soon make a fortune if he knew how to tell the public what he had.

## Clydesdales and Holsteins.

These two famous breeds of stock are imported and bred by the Smiths & Powell, of Syracuse, N. Y., whose advertisement will be found in the FARMER. This firm ranks among the first in the United States as breeders and importers of the famous Scotch draft horse and the no less famous Dutch cattle, both of which are becoming more popular as their merits are proven by experience and they become better known among the users of heavy draft horses and dairy farmers. Both these breeds of stock rank among the largest animals of their class.

## Capital Grange.

At the regular annual meeting of this grange held in their hall in Topeka, Dec. 25th, it was decided to have a public installation of officers on the 4th Saturday in January. This grange now number 116 members. It is desirable that every member be in attendance.

## Wrong Name.

In the list of farmer representatives published in last week's issue, the name of C. S. Millington of Crawford county, inadvertently read Wellington.

## A Cough, Cold, or Sore Throat

should be stopped. Neglect frequently results in an Incurable Lung Disease or Consumption. BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES are certain to give relief in Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Catarrh, Consumption and Throat Diseases. For thirty years the Troches have been recommended by physicians, and always give perfect satisfaction. They are not new or untried, but having been tested by wide and constant use for nearly an entire generation, they have attained well merited rank among the few staple remedies of the age. Public speakers and Singers use them to strengthen the Voice. Sold at twenty-five cents a box everywhere.

L. B. Smith, of Fairbault, Minn., says:—I am still wearing an "Only Lung Pad," and it has helped me; I intend to have another of extra strength soon.—See Ad.



has all the advantages of carbolic and arsenic  
out their poisonous effects. Send a 3 cent stamp  
prospectus and testimonials to  
**JAMES HOLLINGSWORTH,**  
216 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill











