

Our fears are that too much feeding and too little exercise will form the accumulation of fat, and induce a plethoric condition unfavorable to breeding ewes. The disadvantages of such winters come to us often. After all fears are seemingly unnecessary, breeding flocks ought to be compelled to travel every day a mile at least. It builds on the flesh and establishes a better vitality to carry them forward to maternity, with plenty of natural strength, and a full flow of milk; and we have always thought lambs from such mothers were born with better appetites than others. Do you laugh at the idea of being born with appetites? There is such a thing as all practical shepherds know. To us have been dropped puny looking little things. But for the royalty born in them they would have been left to die unweaned for. Yet, they had a will to live. They would take the teat or bottle like little hungry pups, and they would live and do well. Again, we have had great thumping, strong lambs come, and apparently a week old, life still and dimunish, not caring for food of any kind. No appetite at all. If taken by the fire—if in cold weather or damp, cool as most as bad—it could dry off and live half a day or all night comfortable, then wake up with a content and gladly take a chance for breakfast and life. Without this little warm nursing by the fire, the raschal would lie for so long a time that congestion of the stomach or bowels, sets in, and die it had to. If lambs are born with appetites, they will get up and suck. If they don't, they die, and it is said we have a bad lambing year. Besides, the milk of ewes confined to a feed and a yard, is often quite unfit for sustaining life. Constipation of the bowels carries off hundreds of young lambs. Ewes that travel have more changes of food, if they rove in the pastures which tend to supply proper nutriment in the milk of the ewe, to bring forward the development of the newly born lamb.

## Spirit of the Agricultural Press.

—A noted instance of the damage done to cattle confined in close cellars, occurred in western Massachusetts, a few years since. A well-to-do farmer built what he considered a model stone barn, having stables in the basement in which he kept forty to fifty cows. These were stanchioned on either side of the long cellar and their excrement thrown into the space between them. The arrangement was more convenient than healthy. The cellar being warm and poorly ventilated, the manure fermented and made a horrible stench. Before spring the cows were sick, some of them were dying, evidently from lung disease generated by the foul air of the stables. The State Commissioners being called upon to examine the diseased animals, pronounced the disorder pneumonia. The lesson from this and similar cases is that warmth is not the only requisite for a model stable.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

—Inquiry among stock men who should know and a careful inspection of the columns of our somewhat extensive and very valuable list of exchanges, leads us to believe that there are now feeding in the west but comparatively few cattle which can be made suitable for export to Europe by the time spring shall have come. This is to be regretted as there are many reasons for believing that the demand for prime beefes for consumption in the English markets will be greater next spring than ever before. Prices may not be high, perhaps, for the stock of pork and other food is simply enormous, but it is likely that prices for really choice lots of cattle will not be below a paying point. At five cents per pound on foot there is enough to at least pay expenses with judicious management, and it is by no means certain that any other stock for food can be made to pay better just now. There has been no unusual cause to complain of a want of maturity in the steers which have been coming forward of late, for if they have not been fully ripe, it is by no means certain that they could have satisfied a buyer for the English trade had they been fed out fully. They lack the necessary style and quality. Farmers will find it greatly to their profit to go to substituting improved blood for the inferior which they may now have, so that they may be ready to fill promptly the orders from this rapidly growing trade, which will probably soon settle down into a regular business, without extremely large profits, perhaps, but with enough to lead men to engage in it as a regular and permanent calling.—*American Stockman.*

Where eggs alone are the desideratum, a constant broodiness among the hens is intolerable. To avoid this, the non-sitters should be cultivated. It is really trying, when eggs are 30 or 35 cents per dozen, to find the majority of your hens down with the sitting fever at mid-winter. Yet the larger breeds will do it, no matter how great the emergency. Broodiness is contagious, and where once introduced among a flock of Brahmas, is likely to affect all alike. The infusion of Leghorn blood remedies this evil to a great extent, and increases the production of eggs. Where sitters are required for early chicks, the Brahma mother, by all odds, is to be preferred, not only from the fact that she is a steady and persistent sitter, but for many other good qualities that she possesses above all others. According to my experience the light Brahma is the more tractable, being more quiet.—*Country Gentleman.*

—This noble river (the Mississippi) as a highway for traffic appears to be used less and less. No other nation than America would own such a river and make so little use of it. The product of the south must be brought through New York and Chicago to be delivered to the West, must travel around three parts of the circle to reach the fourth part of it. New York and Chicago, like Ostend and Antwerp, must chew everything for us before we can stomach it. No matter that the distance from the south to the river is less than a fourth of what it is through New York—no matter that water carriage is remunerative at one-twentieth of rail carriage. The west seems complacently satisfied with high rail freights from all points of the compass. It matters not that rail carriage takes the greater half of farm produce as freights, still western folks, from force of habit, seem quite reconciled to the arrangement.—*Western Farm Journal.*

—The *Western Rural*, in summing up its arguments urging the necessity of state or national control of railroad freights and fares, says: Every bushel of corn or wheat, and every pound of pork placed upon a railroad for transportation is assessed to pay the expense of elegant special trains for the conveyance of officials whose good-will the railroad corporations hope to secure without cost to themselves. The President of the United States has no right to ride over a road without paying his fare. If he does do it somebody has to pay it, for railroad corporations never willingly transport anybody without pay in some shape. But this placing of trains at the disposal of officials through whom the corporations hope to gain some advantage to themselves, is not the worst plan of using a railroad for private purposes. The officials of railroads order special trains for their own accommodation as the owner of a carriage would order his team before his house. The President of the New Jersey Central railroad—now bankrupt—was accustomed to ride between the cities of New York and Philadelphia, both ways, on a single night, to attend an opera, or for some other as frivolous an object, in a magnificent train, fitted even with royal appointments, at a cost of several hundred dollars. The road was never assessed for this extravagance, but its patrons were; and yet that apparently magnificently prosperous road was exhausted and bankrupt because the officials stole all that came into it. Its patrons were assessed almost to death, and its stockholders were stolen clean to death.

## Farm Stock.

## Horses that Pay Best.

It is a generally accepted fact, that the breeding of what are termed fancy horses, cannot be successfully bred by the ordinary farmer.

With rare exceptions, breeding for speed is so uncertain, even when those engaged in the business are possessed of the very choicest animals adapted to that purpose, that it is only those that have a fortune, and are able to pursue the object as a matter of pleasure, that can successfully continue the business for any great length of time. The mania that, for years past has possessed our people for breeding fast horses is rapidly leaving them, and they are beginning to realize that if they are to make any money in breeding horses of any kind, it must be in producing animals that will have a specific value in themselves, whether trained or untrained. It is not necessary to enlighten the people as to the class of horses that sell the most readily at the present time. Every one knows that notwithstanding the great depreciation of almost everything that the farmer produces, beef, pork, dairy products, and all kinds of grain, that there is one thing that finds a ready market at nearly as good a price as it ever did, that is a good formed, large sized, vigorous, hardy draft horse. The buyers are searching the country in every portion where these horses can be found in any considerable numbers, and paying large prices, \$150 to \$225 for animals that weigh from 1300 to 1600 pounds and over, that are compactly made, smooth built active horses.

How to produce this class of horses is something that interests every farmer throughout the country. A few years since, when there were no pure bred, large sized stallions to be found in the country, it was a practical impossibility to do so with any degree of certainty from our ordinary sized mares, but latterly, the importation of heavier classes of stallions from foreign countries has made the hitherto unattainable object easy of accomplishment.

Nearly all classes of large horses have been tried, the English draft, the Clydesdales, the Belgians, and the different families of French horses, but none have seemed to "click" so well with the ordinary stock of our country as a smooth built, clean limbed, powerful muscled, vigorous and active Percheron horse of France. Some of the coarser and clumsier animals imported have not given good satisfaction, but wherever one of the above-named quality has been introduced, he has gained a reputation at once.

Since 1870, several hundred of these stallions have been imported from France, and are distributed through nearly every northern state. Several imported Percherons, besides quite a large number of grades, have been brought to Nebraska, and are doing the country valuable service.—*Nebraska Farmer.*

## Feeding Calves.

In the beginning of this article I wish to make a statement which illustrates the value of agricultural papers to the farmer. In the report of the National Dairymen's Convention, held at Cleveland last winter, I read the statement that as good calves could be raised on skim milk, by the addition of oil meal to supply the place of the cream removed, as by letting the calves run with the cows and have all the milk they could take. The idea had never been suggested to me before, and I had seen so many half-starved scrub calves, raised on skim milk, that I had concluded that a decent calf could not be raised in that way. I have tested this matter, however, and am fully convinced that the statement is correct, and I believe this item alone is worth more to me than a half dozen good agricultural papers will cost me for life, or as long as I continue in the dairy business. I believe that by breeding our cows to thoroughbred sires, either short-horn or Jersey according to circumstances, and raising all the calves, and some others of the best that can be bought in the neighborhood, the entire expense of keeping the cows can be paid from this source and leave the butter as clear profit. I am confident that two good calves can be raised for each cow kept, and with good cows, and a liberal feeding even a greater number. Dairymen living near a village can usually buy at a low price all the calves they want to raise, for few village residents are so situated as to raise their calves. My observations shows also that the best cows are generally found in villages, and we can generally get the best stock from this source.

At the season of the year when we can turn on grass, a calf will need but little milk, after it is three months old, if it has been taught to eat, and if it can be had, a second calf can take its place. I believe I have improved on the plan recommended at the Cleveland convention—that of feeding oil meal. I use instead, the flaxseed, and have never seen any ill effects from it. I think the oil meal is valuable largely for the oil it contains, and that if it was all extracted, it would be little better than bran or meal. I can see little sense in selling flaxseed at \$1.10 a bushel and paying \$30 a ton and freight for oil meal, and these are the present quotations. Perhaps I can not do better here than to describe in detail how I manage a calf, to raise it on skim milk, and make it as good as a new milk calf.

I let the calf stay with the cow a day or two, so as to fill itself well with its mother's milk, as the calf needs the purgative qualities which such milk contains. I then separate it and shut it in a close, warm pen, out of the sight of the sight of the mother, and let it go without food for twenty-four hours. This may seem cruel, but it is difficult to make a calf drink until it is hungry. I then feed it new milk for about ten

days or until it learns to drink well, and takes a start to grow. I then mix half the skim milk with the new and put into the skim milk a tablespoonful of flaxseed. This seed we put in a cup, pour boiling water over it, and let it stand until it jells.

By the time the calf is two weeks old we have him on a full diet of skim milk and flaxseed, and use a little more than a spoonful at a meal. We gradually increase the flaxseed until at eight or ten weeks old we feed a gill at a feed, or half a pint a day. By the time the calf is four or six weeks old we begin to feed shelled corn, and when it gets so that it will eat four large ears of corn a day, we slack off on the flaxseed. If it is summer the calf should run on grass, but if winter, keep a little good hay or corn-fodder where the calf can reach it, from the time it is four weeks old. I believe corn-fodder is best, and next to this, rowen or second crop hay. If you are wanting to raise all the calves you can, or are short of milk, your calf will grow finely after it is ten weeks old, with but little milk. A quart of milk night and morning, with water and a gill of flaxseed, and a liberal feed of shelled corn and fodder in winter, or pasture in summer, will keep it thrifty.

I have a calf now just three months old, that will eat six ears of corn, and quite a bundle of fodder a day, and I am satisfied that it would remain thrifty if we gave it no more milk. If we had been asked one year ago how to feed skim milk to get the greatest profit from it, I should have answered at once, "feed it to the pigs," but this year's experience has convinced me that unless hogs bring near five cents a pound, or you can grow stock to sell at fancy prices for breeders there is more money in feeding it to calves. I have noticed for years that no stock brings proportionately such high prices, or sells as readily at farm sales, as weaned calves, and I think that where there is good stock to begin with, and good care, there is more profit in the first year's keeping than any subsequent one, and that the man running a butter dairy, who would raise all the calves he could and sell them at about a year old, would make the most from the waste of his dairy.—*Waldo in Ohio Farmer.*

## Percheron-Norman Horse Breeders' Meeting.

During the Fat Stock Show at Chicago, the breeders of Percheron-Norman horses held a meeting at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Gen. Ross was called to the chair.

Dr. Stetson read a paper, giving a brief history of the old world horses and their introduction into this country. A principle advanced in the essay elicited general discussion: That the best results in stock breeding are obtained by selecting the male of larger size than the female.

Several of the horse men in discussion advocated the same principle, notwithstanding the universal teachings of former stock writers to the contrary.

Several thought that our hogs had been deteriorated by breeding too fine males and that crosses of small breed boars to large breed sows were a failure.

We think the whole success of the heavy horses in this country is due to this one principle, that the large heavy imported horses bred to our common small mares, have generally produced a large well formed grade draft horse although the wisecracks insisted that such violent crosses would be a failure. This principle is simply following the criterion of nature. We see it in the buffalo, the deer, and all wild animals.

During the discussion it was advocated that heavy draft mares bred to thoroughbred stallions were not successful, while thoroughbred or blooded mares bred to draft horses were successful in producing general purpose horses, valuable and saleable at paying prices. With the exception of but one or two stock breeders present, all agree that in all stock the male should be larger than the female for the most successful result, producing better constitutional vigor which is the important feature in breeding all our stock.—*Western Agriculturist.*

## Shipment of American Cattle.

The telegraph dispatches of Monday contain the following unwelcome news:

The British Minister has informed the Department of State that pleuro-pneumonia having appeared in the cargo of cattle on the ship Ontario, from Portland, Her Majesty's government are considering whether they can retain the United States, under the exemption of part four of the fifth schedule, of the act of 1873.

This will cause a serious blow to the American live-stock trade which for the last year has been advancing with such rapid strides, if this regulation shall be enforced against fat cattle shipped from the United States.

From Liverpool, January 31 we have further information that the Privy Council Department has under consideration the subject of future arrivals of cattle from America. Those engaged in the trade contend that unnecessary alarm has been created out of the Ontario case, and dispute the statement that the animals condemned suffered from pleuro-pneumonia. They have retained veterinary surgeons of high repute to act as a check upon the Privy Council Inspectors.

We hope it may prove no more thorough investigation that the apprehension may prove to be unfounded, but it plainly points to the necessity of establishing a board of competent inspectors at our shipping points to examine all cattle designed for export, and allow none to pass showing any symptoms of disease. This impending danger to the great cattle shipping interests which the United States seems just entering on, will direct the attention of all parties interested, to the absolute necessity of preventing the spread of contagious disease among the cattle of this country.

## Horticulture.

## Pruning the Peach Trees.

Observation and experience has satisfied us that peach trees should not be thinned out, but kept "headed in," or cut back. Our readers who have had experience in growing peach trees will notice after a few years the tree will throw out three to four limbs, tall and spindling, and these are easily broken down or split off, and that the fruit becomes smaller. A remedy for this is to keep the tree cut back, that is, in the fall cut back at least half of all new growth. We hear much said about thinning out the fruit to grow first-class fruit. A very simple way is to pass around the tree and with a long pole pruning knife, cut off part of the bearing twigs when in blossom. This causes the balance of the fruit on the bearing twigs to grow much larger and finer. A still better way is to cut off half the new growth that has formed in August. (We speak for this latitude Rochester New York). This causes better development of wood and bud on the part that is left; and too, this cutting back will keep the tree more compact, and prevent such a long spindling growth of limbs. Try it reader, another year, and if you have any doubt of our statements being correct, trim one tree as we have directed and leave one of the same age and in same locality without trimming.—*Fruit Record.*

## Poultry.

## Profit of Fowls.

EDITORS, FARMER.—For the benefit of those who complain that farming does not pay, etc., I wish to give the readers of the FARMER an account of the profit there is in poultry. Raising poultry is a profitable occupation and on most farms the wife and daughters could prepare each season a liberal quantity for market and receive handsome profits for their trouble. Dressed poultry is worth seven cents per pound in this market, which is much better than selling them alive at one dollar and a half to two dollars per dozen.

I will now give you my account for the year just closed. You should know that I live in town and have all my feed to buy by the small lot and have to pay nearly double the price farmers get for it. For instance I have paid 25 to 30 cents per bushel for corn. I also have to keep my fowls shut up a great part of the summer. My account stands thus:

Jan., 1878, Poultry account Dr.	
To 7 fowls (1 cockerel),	\$2.50
" 14 fowls bought,	\$2.00
" 13 eggs bought to set,	\$5.00
" Express on same,	.50
" Feed,	\$9.60
Total,	\$19.10
Jan., 1, 1879, Poultry ac't Cr.	
By 90 doz. eggs, sold and used \$10.50	
" 31 chickens used,	7.75
" 14 cockerels sold,	8.50
" 4 hens sold,	1.25
" 6 pullets on hand (Todd st'k.)	6.00
" 3 cockerels,	6.00
" 10 pullets,	5.00
" 26 half breeds,	6.50
Total,	\$51.50
Deduct Dr. ac't	19.10
Net profit,	\$32.40

Now the farmers with their cheaper feed and better accommodations can do much better if they will try, and if this will encourage any of them to make the effort I will be amply rewarded.

Manhattan, Kan.

## Miscellaneous.

## Sorghum.

EDS. FARMER.—I have had only two years experience with the above crop, but after reading the reports of others, I feel that I cannot withhold my "mite" especially after reading such an account as your Maryland correspondent gives of the method of cultivation, and the yield per acre which is obtained in his state. But in the first place it must be premised that I am writing from Reno county, Kansas, where we have for the most part a good, pliable sandy loam—a soil which is kind to work, and quick to give good returns when properly handled, but being mostly new-comers we have to make our "sod" crops go as far as possible, and sorghum we find to be one of the most reliable for the purpose provided it is handled rightly.

In preparing for this crop, and I may say for any other "sod" crop to be planted in the spring. We put off breaking the prairie until the last moment, so as to give the crop a chance to get ahead of the weeds, then harrow twice in the same direction as plowed, drop the seed upon every fourth furrow or about four feet apart and at a step apart in the row. About three seeds to the hill as near as possible. I notice most of the catalogues say plant plenty of seed and then thin out; but we find that if the seed is good, every one will come up, and by a little extra care in sowing, we save the thinning out labor. After dropping the seed, harrow once more in the same direction as before, and the process is completed. No cultivation is required, and unless some thinning may be wanted, no further attention is given to the crop until ready for harvest, this we do by stripping with laths, topping, cutting, etc., as in the eastern states, and when the crop has been properly attended to, we expect, and usually obtain, a yield of 60 gallons per acre.

We find it best to strip in the field before cutting, grinding with the blades on is a slovenly and wasteful method, have seen it recommended to leave the blades on until ready to grind, but have never seen or heard of any quick and

cheap way of stripping after it is cut. Perhaps some brother correspondent may enlighten us upon this? Until we know how to get over this difficulty, we shall prefer to strip as it stands in the field before cutting. W. G. R.

## Wire Binders.

The following letter written by a prominent milling firm in Indiana to a member of the State Board of Agriculture of that state, is being widely published and creating much interest. It seems to point to the abandonment of wire as a material for wheat bands. The inventor is wanted who will make a machine that will tie the sheaf with a band taken from the bundle in old style. More difficult things have been accomplished, it would seem, in inventing machinery for the use in the wheat field.

PRINCETON, Ind.

Robert Mitchell, Esq.

DEAR SIR:—We have been looking through our bolting cloth, and making some calculations as to damage done by wire to wheat, since we began on new crop last July. Our estimate will run up to about \$800. Although we have some five cleaners through which the wheat passes, yet you would scarcely believe the amount of wire that goes to the stone and from the stone to the bolt. The larger pieces pass off into the bran (and it seems to us that it will be a little hard for stock to digest). The smaller pieces pass out as middlings into the purifiers, cutting the cloth as they go, until they are returned to the stone again for regrinding; then, after grinding, it goes to the middlings chest to perform its work of perforation again, until the larger portion, after having done its work on the cloth, works off in the ship stuff as feed. Our receipts of wheat this year from the portions of country where wire binders are being used has been comparatively small, and yet the damage is too great a burden to be borne, with the close competition we have and small margins we are running on. Knowing the prominent place you occupy among the leading farmers, we have been this minute in describing the results of the wire in our milling, thinking by some slight improvement either in the machine for cutting and binding or in taking the wire out at time of threshing, these results may be obviated. Gibson county for years has occupied an enviable reputation as one of the best counties for wheat in the Western fall-wheat district. This reputation has been well earned by the energy and enterprise of her farmers, and we rejoice in every increased facility that can be given for the saving of labor and development of the agricultural interests of our country. The truth is, milling and farming go hand in hand, and anything that militates against one injures the other.

You will perhaps have seen that this subject of "wire binding" has been agitated in the northwest, and the millers in several of their conventions have discussed the question at length. We have written you at this early date in order, if possible, to have some change made before another harvest. Shall be glad to hear from you on the subject. Will also say that foreign buyers are alive to the fact, and protesting against it. Awaiting anything you may see proper to give us, we are, yours truly,

IGLEHEART BROTHERS.

Evansville, Dec. 27.

## The Secret of Success.

The best means employed of making a grange interesting and profitable, is to make your meetings interesting by discussing practical questions in which members are interested as a class, and as individuals. Have essays read on practical subjects; patronize your established grange business houses; whereby you can save to your own pockets the large per cent. of profit that you paid to dealers before you had an organization, and that you would have to pay again in case your organization failed; look closely after your own organization, your business, your interests, your welfare and that of your families. Wherever these matters have been attended to and looked after, there the grange has been a success, and continues prosperous; and wherever you find it otherwise, you will invariably find that these important matters have been neglected. And herein lies the whole secret of one grange being a success and another not.—*Grange Advocate.*

## "One By One The Roses Fall."

It is the current report in Wall Street circles that Jay Gould must soon succumb to the pressure or "hard times," times being made hard for him because stocks won't fall that he has bet on. The *New York Times* says of the impending break of this millionaire:

Mr. Jay Gould is one of the very few American financiers whose misfortunes will be generally regarded as a public gain. For the foundations of Mr. Gould's fortune were laid in the plunder of confiding investors, and the additions to his wealth have come from loss and disaster of which he was to a great extent the cause. He has persisted in betting that stocks would go down at a time when the surplus capital of the country is pouring into railroad and other investments, with the natural consequence of sending stocks up.

A gentleman from Larned writes:

"There seems to be something wrong with our railroads, or the management. My freights are at least twenty per cent. higher than they have been for the past three years, and I can get no satisfaction by corresponding with the officers. When times were much better than now I used to get my stock cars for \$45 and \$50 and from the west to this point without any trouble. This season it is \$50 and \$60 per car and I can get no satisfaction. Is the company going to fail, or does it cost so much more to run the road? We are not able to give our correspondent the desired information, but hope the railroad is not 'going to fail.' We presume if he will write to the General Superintendent at Topeka, he will receive a satisfactory answer.

BY JOHN D. KNOX.

**M. W. DUNHAM,**  
Wayne, DuPage Co., Ill.

## THE KANSAS FARMER.

HUDSON & EWING, Editors & Proprietors.  
Topeka, Kansas.

## Reading.

Every winter the agricultural papers urge upon the farmers the necessity of improving their time by increasing their knowledge in the business which most deeply concerns them, and the necessity of subscribing for and reading one or more papers devoted mainly to farming. This advice is being acted upon more every year but the much needed reform, like most healthful and beneficial reforms moves slowly.

The agents of the agricultural papers send greetings to their employers that the farmers makes all sorts of excuses for refusing to subscribe. "The times are hard, and economy must be practiced. And "we take too many papers—more than we can afford and must drop some of them."

This stroke of economy is not applied to the chewing of tobacco, or checking the impulse to spend in the neighboring town three or four dollars in buying some old rubbish at an auction sale or, cheap gim-cracks at a "dollar store;" articles often of no earthly use to the purchaser. More money is spent in an afternoon by many farmers while visiting the neighboring town, for such rubbish, or worse for drinks, than would pay the subscription for a year to the best farm paper or magazine in the country, from whose pages he and his friends would receive more gratification alone, many times over, than the possession of the useless stuff affords them, that too often the farmer's dollars are invested in, to say nothing of the valuable information to be acquired, and would be acted upon, to a greater or less extent, by every man engaged in farming, who reads up in his business and learns the experience of others, laboring in the farm field. The poorest newspaper or periodical ever printed, whose pages are devoted to the discussion and advocacy of the business one engages in, will impart to its habitual reader many times worth the subscription price, in the course of a year; information that will not only afford him pleasure and satisfaction but put dollars in his pocket. But those who need this information most are found the most indifferent about acquiring it. Farmers having large families growing up around them who need proper mental food to develop a strong, healthy mental growth, are often met with by canvassing agents who allege as a reason for stopping their farm paper, or refusing to subscribe for one, hard times, while they hold on to, and pay more for, some trashy story paper, filled with horrible love adventures, improbable and impossible yarns, and worse cuts and pictures of fainting females and haggard libertines, in the act of brandishing pistols and bowie knives. This stuff is nothing less than brain poison crammed into young minds in place of wholesome mental food.

John Randolph said to a young friend on the subject of such reading that it was as ruinous to the mind as whiskey to the body. There is nothing so injurious to the memory as habitual novel reading and the trashy stories in the average cheap picture papers are still worse. There being nothing worth remembering in it all, there is no effort made in that direction and the mind soon acquires a vague, forgetful, lazy habit, which permits everything to pass through it without leaving any impression of what is read. Precious hours which amount to years of time are thus squandered by multitudes of farmers and their families, who are sorely pressed for want of the necessary knowledge of the business they depend upon for their very existence; and it is no wonder to see them turn perplexed, not knowing what to do to make a bare living.

All they know of the whole round of farm and household duties is what they have learned by seeing others do and practicing themselves; while they might have acquired volumes of the most valuable knowledge all about their business, had they invested the time and money in books and papers pertaining to it, which they have wasted in the love and murder picture papers that fill every news stand in the country. These publications may be justly termed the literary saloons which make drunken and debauch the mind, as the rum shops do the body. It is a sad truth that at least five-sixths of the reading done by women is wasted. It is light trash containing no information whatever, but merely causing a momentary and transient excitement like a glass of grog; and both of these pernicious habits are indulged in to gratify the same set of nerves. The liquor poisons the blood and creates physical disease, while the literature does not. In all other respects their mission is the same.

Mere delving without the employment of brains never advanced man or woman to any considerable extent in the world. And uneducated brains are not available to any great extent. Education, to be profitable and available, must be in the line of the business we employ our time and energies in to acquire a living for self and family and accumulate wealth. No farmer or housewife can make the manifold branches of his or her employment wholly profitable without thorough education in these diversified fields of labor, and that information is given in a more practical and convenient shape in a well managed and edited agricultural paper than in any other form attainable.

The editor devotes his time to culling and arranging into convenient, short articles, the gist of all that is valuable found among the mass of scientific and experimental discoveries constantly being made in agriculture. What requires a volume, or may be volumes, to contain on special branches, he condenses and arranges in series

of brief articles, weekly or monthly, requiring little time to read and easily comprehended, so that an agricultural journal, in the course of a year, imparts an immense amount of information on every branch of farm industry, the study of which never grows irksome owing to the plain, practical and condensed manner it is presented.

The spread of a better agricultural knowledge is missionary work which every advanced farmer should engage in. It is to his individual interest his neighbor should be a reading, intelligent worker, in place of a mere routine plodder, following in the ruts made by his ancestors. There is some self-sacrifice and labor required in all missionary work, trusting to the good we accomplish for others, to be our reward.

Every farmer who knows the profit and pleasure he has derived from a well conducted farm journal, should use his best endeavors to induce his neighbors to subscribe for and read one. The whole laboring force of the farm must be lifted up to a higher plain than it at present occupies, before it can hope to contend successfully in the strife with other interests, whose followers are better educated in the specialties which they make a business of, than the farmer. There is nothing a farmer can engage in of a public nature where he can effect so much good as inducing his neighbor farmers to subscribe for and read an agricultural journal, and connect themselves with some farmers organization.

Read up and study up in the line of the business is the "open sesame" to the farmer acquiring that control they are now attempting in public affairs.

## The Next Wheat Crop.

Great hope is entertained already of a bountiful wheat crop next summer. Messages from all parts of the state are received full of assurance for the crop now under the snow. The ground was dry and the young wheat generally in a delicate and unpromising condition, but immediately the ground was covered, great expectations at once sprang up in the breasts of our farmers, and sanguine temperaments at once prophesied a heavy yield for next harvest. By these means public opinion is already being shaped, and with a little manipulation by the dealers and speculators in grain, the belief will crystallize all over the country that an abundant crop for the harvest of '79 is an assured fact, than which nothing can be more uncertain and perhaps deluding. The assurance of such a happy result is suspended by a very frail thread. We all, of one accord, hope for such a happy result, but the assurances are of the faintest, and among the most uncertain of future events. The wheat crop has many enemies and mishaps, and among them not the least is a safe deliverance from the frosts of winter. While protected by a covering of snow the young plants are shielded from the action of frost and wind. But winter has not far advanced and the probability is that long before March enters in with his drying winds and sudden thawing and freezing, that the ground will be as free from snow as its wont in the state of Kansas. If exposed by a sudden thaw the young plants are very tender, and a sharp frost, which is almost sure to follow a rapid thaw, will destroy and injure the wheat to an incalculable extent. And March, with its drying winds, is one of the severest ordeals for the young wheat. The truth of the matter is that the wheat crop did not have an early start last fall mainly on account of a dry spell of weather which extended through the best seeding season, and the plants entered the winter young and tender. They will remain fresh and lively under the snow, but will not grow much and acquire that vigor and strength which should be attained in the fall. Early sown wheat, with a propitious autumn, goes into winter quarters strong and vigorous, and has many odds in favor of its coming out vigorous in the spring, and pushing forward rapidly. There may be a large crop next harvest, but the chances, if put to the test of past experience, point to a decidedly opposite result. It is at least the part of prudence in farmers not to publish their expectations so far in advance, and thus supply a weapon for speculators and middle-men to slay future prices with.

## Mr. Slosson Has a Grievance.

Mr. R. K. Slosson, familiar to editors of western agricultural journals for his itch for scribbling, has a grievance which he ventilates through the *Journal of Agriculture*. He complains that the *Kansas Farmer* called him "a fool." But we never called Mr. Slosson a fool. On the contrary we said he wrote some very creditable articles on agriculture, but when he mounted that hobby of his, government smothering and finance, he perpetrated a great deal of stuff and nonsense. The wisest of men frequently have hobbies and commit follies, but are not by any means fools. Because Mr. Slosson happens to be affected by the contagious lunacy that has swept over the country, which persuades men to believe that they have a plan to readjust government on a better foundation, organize society on a more equitable basis, establish a perfect system of finance for the world, it doesn't follow that they are fools. Folks thus afflicted are only "elevated in the head" on these subjects, as Van Buren told Col. Benton. Time and circumstances generally work a cure, if the victims do not grow dyspeptic and insist that the world has ill-used them because it commits the offense of proving their theories wrong.

We distinctly state here that Mr. S. is mistaken in thinking we called him a fool. He is only troubled with a crotchety or two. We trust he will come round all right shortly with pockets full of gold which he can exchange for greenbacks any day.

## Selecting United States Senators.

Under this caption the *Factory and Farm* draws a very familiar picture: Familiar to every one who has the fortune—good or bad—to be a resident of a state capital during the first week of a session of the legislature. The editor says:

"In a majority of States we are now, being treated to a burlesque on law and a comedy on legislation, by the representatives of the people, in their mode of electing or choosing a man for the high honor of United States Senator. The candidates were not few, and they were in the field before the autumn elections were held, 'aiding' the people in determining who should sit as their law makers, never forgetting those who would vote for them for the Senate. Up and down through the States these beggars made their pilgrimages, 'finching' the unwary and persuading those who were in doubt what duty was."

When the legislatures met, there were to select from among the candidates the one that would be chosen, their importuning was almost pitiful. The entire patronage of the Government was freely dispensed by them—in promises, and men sold their votes for considerations that would make bribery with money respectable. The leaders of the very worst elements of metropolitan places were called into service to influence members from their districts to vote for the men who hired them to corrupt legislatures. Intimidation in the shape of peril of life perhaps was not resorted to, but threats of adverse influence that would result in pecuniary difficulty, by the losing of place, were freely used; and can an honest mind divine a difference between buying a man's influence or vote for money in hand or by threatening to remove the source from which money is obtained in return for honest service?

Places in post offices and custom houses for friends and relatives were the prices paid for votes, and the brazen effrontery of the shameless candidate for Senatorial honor was more than once supplemented by the smiles of women and ruby of the wine cup. In this way are some of the men chosen to go to Washington to legislate for the people. What wonder that honest men and pure women are put to the blush by the conduct of their representatives! It is a laudable ambition to covet the place of Senator, but to purchase it with fear or favor is a sin, and, if statutes can be framed, should be punished.

In this state we have just passed through an experience similar to this picture, so vividly and truthfully drawn, and unless report does great wrong to parties actively engaged, all of these disgusting appliances were called into requisition on the occasion of our Kansas Senatorial election.

Such scenes and practices are disgusting and disgraceful. The legislature, elected by the people, among other things, to make a United States Senator, should choose with deliberation and judgment, unbiassed by any other motives than those of promoting the public interest of the state and nation, should forbid interference with its business and punish for contempt, any lobby which presumed to approach it in the interest of any candidates for the high honor and trust its duty required it to elect. And a Senator or Representative who dared to leave his post of duty at the nation's capital, and attend the legislature of his state for the purpose of engineering his re-election, should receive the severest reprimand from that body for his presumption. All such interferences with the duties and responsibilities of a legislature should be viewed as the greatest indignity that could be offered that august body. But such is the practice in every state in the country, and the corruption and open shame it covers our institutions with calls loudly for reform.

We want more dignity, more respect for the honor of the state enforced in our legislatures. Weak and needy men are tampered with by political gamblers, bribed with money and thereby incur disgrace and ruin. All lobbyists should be driven from the halls of legislation, and ordered to appear before the committees having bills in charge they were interested in, to give such information as they might possess bearing on the subjects under consideration. Public opinion is unanimous in support of this position, and public opinion should be educated to enforce its observance and practice.

We have inquiries for tobacco for sheep-dip, peach pits, grape seed, etc. Seed men having those articles should make a note of this and send their advertisements to the *Kansas Farmer*. There is a great demand, which will continue to increase for years, in the western parts of Kansas for this class of articles, and the *Kansas Farmer* circulates in all that country more extensively than all other agricultural papers combined.

Will you please inform me when is the proper time to sow blue-grass; also please inform me if there is any other grass which is better or more profitable to raise in this locality. I want to seed, this season, enough land for fifty hogs to graze on through the summer. I have supposed that timothy and clover was better for hogs, but am told that blue-grass succeeds better in this state. Is it so? Also please state how much blue-grass is required to the acre. I like your paper very much indeed; am a new beginner in this state; have already received information enough to pay for subscription.

Yours, N. WHITTEMORE.

Kentucky blue-grass (*poa pratensis*) should be sown in July or early fall, but the next best time to sow it is as early in the spring or late winter as the ground will permit. When sown by itself it is apt to suffer from the heat of summer, but should be sown with some crop that will afford it shade. If sown in the spring half a bushel of seed to the acre would answer, but this quantity may be increased with profit. Six quarts of clover seed to the acre, sown as soon as danger from frost is over, would make an excellent mixture and a surer catch. After the second year the clover will disappear and the blue-grass will take possession of the ground, provided it makes a good catch.

We believe that clover and timothy would do well in your county, if the ground is put in good condition before sowing, and clover is the best pasture of all the grasses for hogs, but will not make a permanent pasture.

## Annual Meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.

The Kansas State Board of Agriculture met in Annual session in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol, at Topeka, at 7 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, the 15th inst.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following persons entitled to seats as delegates:

1. L. T. Webster, President Marion County Agricultural Society.
2. L. J. McCrum, President Wabaunsee County Agricultural Society.
3. Thomas Henshall, President Doniphan County Agricultural Society.
4. I. O. Savage, Republic County Agricultural Society.
5. J. F. Stratton, Lyon County Agricultural Society.
6. J. B. Edwards, Dickinson County Agricultural Society.
7. William Griffenstein, Sedgwick County Agricultural Society (S. M. Tucker, proxy).
8. W. B. Lowe, Davis County, Kansas Central Agricultural Society.
9. J. D. Waite, Linn County Agricultural Society.
10. Wm. Evatt, Douglas County, Kansas Valley Fair Association.

After a spirited debate upon the adoption of the foregoing report, participated in by members of the State Board and representatives of County and District Associations, the report was adopted.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected:

President—R. W. Jenkins, of Pottawatomie county.

Vice-President—Levi Wilson, of Leavenworth.

Secretary—Alfred Gray, of Shawnee.

Treasurer—Wm. Sims, of Shawnee.

For members of the Board of Directors for the ensuing two years, the following named persons were elected:

- J. W. Johnson, of Greenwood.  
G. Y. Johnson, of Douglas.  
W. P. Popenoe, of Shawnee.  
Joshua Wheeler, of Atchison.  
M. Mohler, of Osborne.

For the short term of one year (as director), J. B. Edwards, of Dickinson, was elected.

The financial report of the Secretary for the year ending June 30, 1878, shows the

Total receipts to be..... \$16,716.05  
Total disbursements..... 14,963.47

Balance..... \$1,752.58

The report of the Treasurer from July 1, 1878, to January 14, 1879, inclusive, shows the

Total receipts..... \$8,685.95  
Disbursements..... 8,052.82

Balance cash..... \$ 633.13

The old Board closed up its affairs and the new directors were sworn in.

The Committee appointed for the purpose of examining and reporting on the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer (Messrs. Henshall, Edwards, and Stratton) submitted very gratifying reports approving the same.

## Editorial Notes of the Kansas Legislature of 1879.

## The Senatorial Election, Adjournment, Etc.

In our last issue we gave the first ballot of both houses for U. S. Senator, and also the rules for governing the republican caucus and the ballot in caucus on Monday evening, January 27th. The vote in caucus of Tuesday evening being practically the same as on Monday evening, it adjourned, subject to call of the president.

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 1879.

At 12 o'clock m., to-day, the senate and house met in representative hall to vote for United States Senator in pursuance of the law of congress.

The house received the senate and its officers in the usual form, and Lieutenant-Governor Humphrey called the convention to order.

The rolls of the two houses were then called, no absentees being reported.

The roll of the senate was called with the following result:

## SENATE ROLL.

Those voting for Mr. Ingalls were, Senators Benedict, Buchanan, Carpenter, Finch, Grass, Griffin, Halliwell, Hamlin, Johnston, Kirk, Metsker, Murdock, Ping, Taylor, Williams, and Woodworth—16.

Those voting for Mr. Anthony were, Senators Bradley, Finney, Gillett, Gilpatrick, Harris and Henry—6.

Those voting for Mr. Simpson were, Senators Bradbury, Brown, Greene, Hadley, Kellogg and Morrill—6.

Those voting for Mr. Phillips were: Senators Evans, Richey, Savage and Wells—4.

Those voting for Mr. Gooden were: Senators Matthews, Pyburn—2.

Those voting for Mr. D. P. Mitchell were: Senators Robinson and Spurgeon—2.

Those voting for Judge Campbell were: Senators Nichols and Sluss—2.

Those voting for Mr. A. H. Horton were: Senators Guthrie and Myers—2.

## HOUSE ROLL.

Those voting for Mr. Ingalls were, Messrs. Albin, Alexander, Anderson of Cherokee, Anderson of Ellsworth, Anderson of Shawnee, Blackman, Boggs, Bower, Breyfogle, Briggs, Bronson, Brown, Bruner, Calvin, Clarke of Montgomery, Cool, Cunningham, Danahur, Eckles, Gillespie, Gilmore, Hartshorne, James of Shawnee, Keller, Kollock, Lawson, Manning, Martin of Kingman, McCrumb, Myers, Price, Robb, Seaton, Shaw, Smith of Bourbon, Smith of Marshall, Stewart, Towle, Tucker, Wait of Pawnee, Walker, Willey, Wilson of Jackson, Wilson of Nemaha, and Woodard—47.

Those voting for Mr. Anthony were: Messrs. Armstrong, Barber, Bissell, Bull, Clapp, Clogston, Eastland, Fisher, Hawkins, Hodge, Legate, Loy, Miller, Randolph, Raybell, Spillman, Wait of Lincoln, Wright, and Mr. Speaker Clarke—29.

Those voting for Mr. J. R. Goodin were: Messrs. Beatty, Bevins, Brinkman, Butts, Corbin, Donahue, Ewing, Gable, F. M. Gable, T. P., Greever, Griffenstein, Hall, Henderson, James of Wyandott, Martin of Miami, Parsons, Prouty, Rath, Sallee and Tallman—20.

Those voting for Mr. Mitchell were: Messrs. Baker, Barrackman, Berry, Blanchard, Farris, Helmick, Hewins, Lovard, Majors, Martin of Labette, McMillan, Riggs, Rood, Scott, Wait of Linn, and Watson—16.

Those voting for Mr. Simpson, were: Messrs. Biddle, Eggers, Games, Godfrey, Hamilton of Norton, Huffaker, Humes, Kelly, McKay, Rice and Selover—11.

Those voting for Mr. Phillips were: Messrs. Bishop, Faulkner, Kennedy, Moore, Morgan, McClintick, Ellison, Hamilton of Marshall, Hutchinson and White—10.

Those voting for Mr. Campbell were: Messrs. Congdon and Taylor—2.

Those voting for Mr. S. C. Pomeroy were: Messrs. Callen and Stumbaugh—2.

Mr. Ballard voted for A. H. Horton.

The president announced that no candidate had received a constitutional majority; whereupon, on motion of Mr. Legate, the convention adjourned to 12 o'clock Thursday.

Thursday, Jan. 30, 1879.

At 12 M., all business was suspended in both houses for the purpose of meeting in joint session. The Senate accompanied by its officers appeared in the hall of the House and was received in due form:

Lieutenant-Governor Humphrey, President of the Senate, took the chair and announced the next order of business to be the calling of the roll. The roll of the Senate was called by the secretary. The roll of the house was called by the chief clerk.

Yesterday's journal of the joint convention was dispensed with.

A vote was then taken, resulting as follows:

## IN THE SENATE.

Those voting for Ingalls, were: Senators Benedict, Buchanan, Carpenter, Finch, Grass, Griffin, Halliwell, Hamlin, Johnston, Kirk, Metsker, Murdock, Ping, Sluss, Taylor, Williams and Woodworth—17.

For Anthony—Senators Bradley, Finney, Gillett, Gilpatrick and Henry—8.

For Simpson—Senators Bradbury, Brown, Greene, Hadley, Harris, Kellogg and Morrill—7.

For Phillips—Senators Evans, Richey, Savage and Wells—4.

For Goodin—Senators Matthews and Pyburn—2.

Those voting for Mr. Horton were Senators Guthrie and Myers—2.

For Mitchell—Senators Robinson and Spurgeon—2.

For Campbell—Senator Nichols—1.

## IN THE HOUSE.

Gentlemen voting for Mr. Ingalls were Messrs. Albin, Alexander, Anderson of Cherokee, Anderson of Ellsworth, Anderson of Shawnee, Ballard, Berry, Blackman, Blanchard, Boggs, Bower, Breyfogle, Briggs, Bronson, Brown, Lurner, Calvin, Clark of Montgomery, Cool, Corbin, Cunningham, Danahur, Donahue, Eckles, Gillespie, Gilmore, Greever, Hartshorne, Hankins, Hewins, Hossack, James of Shawnee, James of Wyandott, Keller, Kollock, Lawson, Manning, McCrumb, Myers, Price, Richards, Robb, Seaton, Shaw, Smith of Bourbon, Smith of Marshall, Stitt, Stewart, Towle, Tucker, Waite of Pawnee, Walker, Willey, Wilson of Jackson and Wilson of Nemaha—55.

Gentlemen voting for Mr. Anthony were: Messrs. Armstrong, Barber, Bissell, Buell, Clapp, Clogston, Congdon, Eastland, Fidler, Hodge, Legate, Loy, Miller, Randolph, Raybell, Spillman, Taylor, Waite, of Lincoln, Wright and Mr. Speaker Clarke—20.

Those voting for Mr. Simpson, were: Messrs. Biddle, Eggers, Games, Godfrey, Hamilton of Norton, Huffaker, Humes, Kelly, McKay and Selover—10.

Those voting for Mr. Phillips were: Messrs. Bishop, Ellison, Faulkner, Kennedy, McClintick, Moore, Morgan, White and Woodard—9.

Those voting for Mr. Goodin, were: Messrs. Beatty, Bevins, Brinkman, Butts, Ewing, Gable F. M., Gable T. P., Griffenstein, Hall, Hendricks, Martin of Miami, Parsons, Pruntly, Sallee and Tallman—15.

Those voting for Mr. Mitchell, were: Messrs. Baker, Barrackman, Farris, Hamilton of Marshall, Helmick Hutchinson, Lenard, Majors, Martin of Labette, McMillan, Rath, Riggs, Rood, Scott, Waite of Linn, and Waterson—16.

Gentlemen voting for Mr. Pomeroy were: Messrs. Cailen, Martin of Kingman and Stumbaugh—3.

Mr. Rice was absent but voted yesterday for Mr. Simpson.

## CHANGES FROM YESTERDAY.

In the Senate—Harris changed from Anthony to Simpsons; Sluss changed from Campbell to Ingalls.

In the House—Ballard changed from Horton to Ingalls; Berry from Mitchell to Ingalls; Blanchard from Mitchell to Ingalls; Congdon from Campbell to Anthony; Corbin from Goodin to Ingalls; Donahue from Goodin to Ingalls; Greever from Goodin to Ingalls; Hamilton of Marshall from Phillips to Mitchell; Hawkins from Anthony to Ingalls; Hewins from Mitchell to Ingalls; Hossack from Anthony to Ingalls; James of Wyandott from Goodin to

Ingalls; Martin of Kingman from Ingalls to Pomeroy; Rath from Goodin to Mitchell; Taylor from Campbell to Anthony; Woodard from Ingalls to Phillips.

Upon the announcement of the result of the ballot the joint session adjourned till noon tomorrow.

During Thursday night the opposition to Senator Ingalls met in joint caucus to agree, if possible, upon a candidate. At 2 o'clock in the morning, after many ballots, the present Chief Justice of the state, A. H. Horton, became the choice of the opposition caucus, all other candidates having been withdrawn, leaving the contest between Senator Ingalls and Judge Horton.

Friday, Jan. 31, 1879.

At 12 o'clock the Senate appeared, and the joint convention was opened in due form, Lieut. Gov. Humphrey presiding.

Upon the roll being called the vote stood Ingalls 86, Horton 79.

The gentlemen voting for Ingalls were:

#### SENATORS.

Benedict, Buchan, Carpenter, Finch, Grass, Greene, Griffin, Hollowell, Harris, Johnston, Kirk, Mathewson, Metaker, Murdock, Ping, Pyburn, Robinson, Savage, Sluss, Taylor and Woodworth.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

Albin, Alexander, Anderson Cherokee, Anderson Ellsworth, Anderson Shawnee, Ballard, Berry, Biddle, Bishop, Blackman, Blanchard, Boggs, Bower, Breyfogle, Briggs, Brinkman, Bronson, Brown, Bruner, Calvin, Clark Montgomery, Cool, Corbin, Cunningham, Danhauf, Donahue, Gillespie, Gilmore, Godfrey, Greever, Hamilton of Marshall, Hamilton of Norton, Hartshorne, Hewins, Hossack, Humes, James of Shawnee, James of Wyandott, Keller, Kolloch, Lawson, Leonard, Majors, Manning, McCrumb, Myers, Price, Richards, Robb, Rood, Seaton, Shaw, Smith of Bourbon, Smith of Marshall, Stewart, Stitt, Towle, Tucker, Waite of Pawnee, Walker, Willey, Wilson of Jackson, Wilson of Nemaha, and Wright.

Those voting for Mr Horton were:

#### SENATORS.

Bradbury, Bradley, Brown, Evans, Gillett, Gilpatrick, Guthrie, Hadley, Henry, Kellogg, Morrill, Myers, Nichols, Richey, Spurgeon Wells, Williams.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

Armstrong, Barber, Barrackman, Beaty, Bevis, Bissell, Bull, Butts, Callen, Clapp, Clark of Douglas, Clouston, Congden, Eastland, Eggers, Ellison, Ewing, Farris, Faulkner, Fiesler, Gable, Frank M. Gable, Thos. P. Games, Griffenstein, Hall, Hankins, Helmick, Henderson, Hodge, Huffaker, Hutchinson, Kelley, Kennedy, Legate, Loy, Majors, Martin of Kingman, Martin of Labette, Martin of Miami, McClintock, McKay, McMillen, Miller, Moore, Morgan, Parsons, Prunty, Randolph, Rath, Raybell, Rice, Riggs, Sallee, Scott, Selover, Spillman, Stumbaugh, Tallman, Taylor, Waite of Lincoln, Waite of Pawnee, Watson, White, Woodard.

After the result had been read by Secretary Brandley, the presiding officer announced that Mr. Ingalls having received a majority of all the votes cast was declared the choice of the convention for United States Senator.

Senator Hollowell moved that a committee of five be appointed to wait upon Mr. Ingalls, inform him of his election and invite him to appear before the convention. The motion was adopted, and the President appointed as such committee Senators Hollowell, Morrill and Robinson, and Representatives Smith of Marshall and Humes of Washington.

Mr. Ingalls then appeared and being introduced to the convention, said:

#### THE SPEECH.

Lieut. Governor Humphrey, Senators, Representatives and Fellow Citizens:

I should assume an indifference which I do not feel, and of which I believe myself incapable, were I to pretend to be insensible to this most cordial and gratifying demonstration of good will and esteem on the part of my fellow-citizens of the state of Kansas. After the unprecedented campaign that has resulted in your action to-day, I may perhaps be allowed to say that my feelings of gratification are deeper than I can find words to express, for the kindness, the consideration, and the courtesy which has been extended towards me; a thankfulness for which I am unable to find a fitting expression.

It has been my honor to serve the people of the state of Kansas in a public capacity for the past six years. During that period I have endeavored to do so in a manner which no citizen might have occasion to be ashamed of my conduct, and the most I can do in this most solemn, most significant, and at the same time most impressive hour, is to renew the pledge that I made six years ago, that to the welfare, glory, and future development of the state, I pledge my best efforts, to the extent of my life, my fortune and my sacred honor.

I beg to say that the conclusion of this campaign, leaves no trace of bitterness or resentment toward any of my adversaries. They were all honorable gentlemen, who had an absolute right to aspire to the place which they desired to fill; and I can only repeat that in the campaign which has just closed, I feel no trace of resentment, no feeling of vindictiveness towards any one who has been my rival. I therefore particularly desire that at this time, laying aside all the feuds and disagreements that have distracted us heretofore, we may therefore devote ourselves to the glorification of the state of which we are all so justly proud.

I know that you are anxious to adjourn, that you may depart for your homes, and I will not detain you further than to close by thanking you from the bottom of my heart for the most distinguished honor you have again conferred upon me.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Ingalls' remarks the joint convention dissolved, and both houses of the legislature adjourned until Wednesday, next, at 3 o'clock p. m.

It is not our intention at this time to enter into the details of the canvassing and methods pursued by the friends of the different candidates to secure an election. Each candidate had warm supporters, and as the day approached for the joint ballot, the crowd from all over the state continued to grow at a rapid rate.

From Tuesday noon until Friday noon there was the most feverish excitement. The work of planning, plotting, buttonholing, urging, coaxing, threatening, went on with untiring energy, day and night. Charges and counter charges of corruption and fraud were made, and around the old Teft House it was like Bedlam let loose. Senator Ingalls, on Tuesday, night made a speech in Union Hall, to refute the various charges made against his official and personal record. On Friday morning, after the result of the opposition caucus was announced, all waited the final ballot with great anxiety. The Horton men claimed sufficient pledged votes to elect, so also did the Ingalls men. As the hour for voting approached the crowd at the State House became more dense. Every foot of space in the House and its gallery was packed with an intensely interested crowd of men and women. The vote was close, Mr. Ingalls having only six votes more than Mr. Horton. When the vote was cast giving him the necessary 85, a scene of the wildest confusion ensued. The friends of the Senator sent up cheer after cheer, shaking hands and making many foolish speeches, as men do in the face of a great victory. The contest was over; the friends of the defeated candidates did not entreat to any great extent, it was not their jollification. The adjournment from Friday until Wednesday was given to permit the victors to work off their surplus enthusiasm, and for the defeated to recover their usual good humor, and more particularly to give all participants an opportunity to rest and get ready for the more sober and earnest work of the session.

Charges have been freely made that a few of the votes given Senator Ingalls were secured by bribery. It is due to the large number of the members voting for him, and to Senator Ingalls as well as the people of Kansas, that the charges be thoroughly and fairly investigated.

#### Adulteration.

The Board of Trade Gazette informs us that the large lot of honey sent to Liverpool by Thurber & Co., of New York, last November, has been condemned by the British authorities on account of adulteration. Being honey in the comb, the only solution of the difficulty that suggests itself (in the absence of the facts in the case) is the probability that the bees were fed glucose, and that they stored it in the surplus boxes. The British Bee Journal seems to have taken this view of the case, and, before the seizure, criticised the matter in the following language:

"There is, however, no limit to the possible; and it may have happened that the bees gathered the impure honey alluded to, having found it welling after the manner of petroleum, from a rock, and that everybody was perfectly innocent in respect of adulteration. It is, notwithstanding, known that bees will take the abominable stuff (glucose) when they can get nothing better; and furthermore, if mixed with a little honey and water, that they will take it and store it as if it were genuine nectar, producing honey-comb (or 'comb-honey,' as our American friends prefer to call the genuine article) of surpassing beauty!"

Undoubtedly the form of the sections, the mode of putting up, and the general appearance of the goods are all that can be desired, and the contents may be sufficiently palatable to ensure ready sales; but if it is not what is represented, it will be dangerous for our traders to handle."

The honey was valued at about \$40,000. We are exceedingly sorry to hear of the seizure, because it practically closes the European ports to American honey. Had the warnings of the American Bee Journal been heeded, this distressing circumstance would never have occurred.

This Journal has argued persistently against the use of glucose for feeding bees. Its voice has been steady against adulteration, in all its forms. It has advised that even comb foundation should not be used in comb honey—and even if it was used for starters, that it should be only of a narrow strip, of about two cells in width, because nothing should be used that would in any way compromise the sale of the delicious article of food. Notwithstanding this advice, some have used half a sheet in surplus boxes, and others have filled the sections full of it! It may be that this latter has something to do with the confiscation of that comb-honey in Liverpool—we hope not, but fear that it is so."

—American Bee Journal.

This abominable stuff, glucose, corn syrup, starch sugar, grape sugar, etc., by what ever name it may be designated, is being manufactured extensively in this country. Its process of manufacture is said to be a basis of water and sulphuric acid with enough corn starch, old rags or any other substance that the acid will dissolve to thicken the mixture, with the addition of lime to neutralize the acid. We do not know that this is the exact process, but this, or a similar formula, is charged as being the composition of the stuff called glucose which is used extensively in the manufacture of the fine syrups that are sold in the groceries throughout the country under a variety of fancy names; as also in the adulteration of most of the strained and extracted honey in commerce.

Mr. N. Cameron of Douglas county (with others having honesty as well as the protection of public health at heart) is endeavoring to induce the Kansas legislature, now in session, to take the first step in checking this fast growing and widespread evil, the adulteration of food, by enacting a stringent law against the evil.

This dishonest, hellish business has advanced so rapidly that no one is altogether safe from injury to health who touches sweets as food. We hope that the legislature will respond by the passage of some law to remedy the evil, the present session.

N. B.—Since the above from the Bee Journal was published, the Messrs. Thurber, deny that they have had any honey confiscated, but they admit using glucose to mix with honey they put up in packages for market.

Commercial reports show that surplus capital is being largely invested in good railroad stocks, which suggests the question, why does capital select that class of securities at this time when profits on business is so small? The answer is plain. Because railroad corporations are clothed with Czarian power to tax at will the products of every other industry, and by that means make their stocks earn dividends, or enhance their value by making such a result certain in the near future.

Chew Jackson's best Sweet Navy Tobacco.

If you are in want of osage hedge seed or plants, address F. L. Mann, Gilman, Ill. He has also an imported French stallion for sale.

A cough, cold, or sore throat should not be neglected. "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are a simple remedy, and will generally give immediate relief.

A sure remedy for chills and fever. Ayer's Ague Cure never fails.

#### The National Scurge.

It is estimated that the annual damages caused by the ravages of insects and worms exceed \$150,000,000 in the United States alone. Truly an enormous loss! Yet it sinks into insignificance when compared with the ravages of that most terrible scourge, consumption, which annually sweeps hundreds of thousands of human souls into eternity. The causes of consumption are various; depending in every instance for the development of the disease upon the scrofulous diathesis, or temperament, of the victim. Thus the same cause which will produce in one person an attack of acute disease or a slight nervous prostration, will engender consumption in a person of scrofulous habit. That consumption can be cured by proper treatment will be readily perceived when the exact nature of the disease is understood, viz: the accumulation and deposition of scrofulous matter (tubercles) in the lungs. Obviously, the principal remedies required are (1) a powerful alterative, or blood-purifier, to arrest the accumulations and also cleanse the blood of the scrofulous matter, and (2) a mild cathartic to expel the diseased matter from the system. This course of treatment, in conjunction with a strict hygienic regime, has proved the most successful method of curing this disease. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets are the best alterative and cathartic remedies before the public, and have been alone used in thousands of cases of consumption with the most marked efficacy. Dr. Pierce's Invalid's Hotel, at Buffalo, N. Y., affords special and unequalled advantages to consumptives, not only possessing the best medical and hygienic means of treatment, but having the essential advantage of being situated in a climate where the inhabitants are notably free from this disease.

For Coughs, Colds, and Throat Disorders, use "Brown's Bronchial Troches," having proved their efficacy by a test of many years. 25c a box.

HEALTH—the poor man's riches, the rich man's bliss—is found in Ayer's Medicines, after a fruitless search among other remedies. A word to the wise is sufficient.

#### Be Ye Like Foolish.

"For ten years my wife was confined to her bed with such a complication of ailments that no doctor could tell what was the matter or cure her, and I used up a small fortune in humbug stuff. Six months ago I saw a U. S. flag with Hop Bitters on it, and I thought I would be a fool once more. I tried it, but my folly proved to be wisdom. Two bottles cured her, and she is as well and strong as any man's wife, and it only cost me two dollars. Be ye like foolish." H. W., Detroit, Mich.

#### Cured of Drinking.

"A young friend of mine was cured of an insatiable thirst for liquor that had so prostrated his system that he was unable to do any business. He was entirely cured by the use of Hop Bitters. It allayed all that burning thirst; took away the appetite for liquor; made his nerves steady, and he has remained a sober and steady man for more than two years, and has no desire to return to his cups, and I know of a number of others who have been cured of drinking by it."—From a leading R. R. Official, Chicago, Ills.

#### Are Fat People Healthy.

Why are fat people always complaining? asks some one who entertains the popular though erroneous notion that health is synonymous with fat. Fat people complain because they are diseased. Obesity is an abnormal condition of the system in which the saccharine and oleaginous elements of the food are assimilated to the partial exclusion of the muscle-forming and brain-producing elements. In proof of this, it is only necessary to assert the well-known fact that excessively fat people are never strong, and seldom distinguished for mental powers or activity. Besides, they are the early prey of acute and epidemic diseases, and they are the frequent victims of gout, heart disease and apoplexy. Allen's Anti-Fat is the only known remedy for this disease. It contains no acid, is absolutely harmless, and is warranted to remedy the most confirmed case of obesity or corpulency.

Uncle Sam's Harness Oil put on your harness, will make the leather look new, and keep it soft and pliable. Give it a trial.

Mother, when your dear baby suffers in teething, use Dr. Winchell's Teething Syrup, it regulates the bowels, soothes the pain and brings natural sleep. Sold by druggists at 25cts a bottle.

#### 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.

You should see the warm gloves at 25 cents a pair at Bartholomew's.

For information concerning the treatment of chronic diseases with Electricity, send for a pamphlet on Electric treatment, which will be sent free, on application to the McIntosh Electric Belt and Battery Co., 192 & 194 Jackson St., Chicago, Ill.

For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis and Consumption, use Marsh's Golden Balsam, the great throat and lung medicine. There is nothing equal to it. Try a sample bottle—price 10 cents. Two doses will benefit. A large bottle will do wonders. Regular sizes 50 cents and \$1. For sale by Swift and Holliday, Topeka, Kansas, and druggists everywhere.

Mammoth Artichokes for hogs. Address A. J. Westbrook, Muscatine, Iowa.

8 and 9  
Eight and nine per cent. interest on farm loans in Shawnee county.  
Ten per cent. on city property.  
All good bonds bought at sight.  
For ready money and low interest, call on  
A. PRESCOTT & CO.

The new silk handkerchiefs at Bartholomew's are very satisfactory in price—styles excellent.

"A stitch in time saves nine" is not more true in mending clothes, than in getting farm stock through the winter. An economical and sure help is Uncle Sam's Condition Powder, it restores the sick, strengthens the weak, improves the appetite, and will keep the stock in a thriving condition, for it supplies the valued qualities in grass. Sold by all druggists.

Men's wool jackets at unapproachable bargains—prices, 89c, \$1.25, \$1.34, \$1.69, \$1.74, \$1.88 and \$1.98 each at Bartholomew's "cheap cash store" 177 Kansas avenue.

Purge out the morbid humors of the blood by a dose or two of Ayer's Pills, and you will have clearer heads as well as bodies.

#### Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India 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 fellow-men. A. tutored by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, the recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by address, with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 149 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

#### Markets.

[Markets by Telegraph—February 3, 1879.]

#### New York Money Market.

GOVERNMENTS—Quiet.  
RAILROADS—Generally firm.  
STATE SECURITIES—Dull.  
STOCKS—The stock market was irregular, on a moderate business. In early dealings, prices fluctuated within 1/4 to 1/2 per cent. coal shares being notably weak. During the afternoon a firmer tone characterized dealings, and prices advanced 1/4 to 1/2 per cent., but towards the close, a weak tone again prevailed, and the improvement was lost. The market closed at the lowest point of the day.

#### New York Produce Market.

FLOUR—Steady; superfine western and state, \$3 10 to \$3 15; common to good, \$2 62 1/2 to \$3 00; good to choice, \$3 00 to \$3 10; white wheat extra, \$4 50 to \$4 75; St. Louis, \$3 80 to \$4 00.

#### Kansas City Live-Stock Market.

The Price Current reports:  
CATTLE—Receipts, 159; shipments, 120; fair demand; native shipping steers, \$2 30 to \$2 40; native cows and heifers, \$2 00 to \$2 20; corn-fed Texas steers, \$2 45 to \$2 55; HOGS—Receipts, 213; shipments, 102; demand, active and firm; fair to choice heavy packing, \$3 20 to \$3 30; light hams, \$1 15 to \$1 25.  
SHEEP—Demand steady; poor to choice, \$2 25 to \$3 50.

#### Kansas City Produce Market.

The Price Current reports:  
WHEAT—Receipts, 3,600 bushels; shipments, 2,650 bushels; market weak; No. 2, 81c; No. 3, 77 1/2c; No. 4, 72 1/2c.  
CORN—Receipts, 9,500 bushels; shipments, 3,000 bushels; fair demand; No. 2, 23c cash; 22c February.  
OATS—Receipts, No. 2, 20c; No. 3, 19c.  
RYE—Firm; No. 2, 33c cash; rejected, 29c.  
FLOUR—Firm; XXX to fancy, \$1 75 to \$2 25 per sack.  
LARD—Firm; 56c.  
PROVISIONS—Heavy demand and fair; clear bacon sides, 5c to 5 1/2c; long clear ribs, \$4 75 to \$5 00.  
SUGAR CURED HAMS—\$7 50.  
LARD—Tierces, 56c.

#### St. Louis Produce Market.

FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.  
WHEAT—Firm; No. 2 red, 92 1/2c to 93 1/2c cash; 90c February; 91 1/2c to 93 1/2c bid.  
CORN—Firm; No. 2, 23c cash; 22c February; 31 1/2c to 31 3/4c March; 32 1/2c to 33 1/2c April; 32 1/2c to 33 1/2c May.  
OATS—Higher; 21 1/2c to 22 1/2c cash; 23c February; 22 1/2c March.  
RYE—Steady; 43c.  
BARLEY—Unchanged; choice Iowa, 71c to 77 1/2c.  
WHISKY—Firm; \$1 04.  
PORK—Good jobbing demand; 55c.  
DRY SALT MEATS—Stronger; fifteen to twenty days, dry clear ribs, \$4 40 to \$4 50.  
LARD—Higher; clear ribs, \$5 10 to \$5 15 cash; clear, \$5 30 to \$5 35.  
LARD—Held higher; \$5 50 asked; \$6 40 bid.

#### St. Louis Live-Stock Market.

CATTLE—Active and firm; export steers, \$4 75 to \$5 00; good to choice shipping steers, \$4 25 to \$4 75; fair shipping steers, \$3 00 to \$3 25; native butchers' steers, \$2 75 to \$3 00; cows and heifers, \$2 50 to \$3 00; corn-fed Texas steers, \$2 75 to \$3 00; feeding steers, \$2 20 to \$2 50; Colorado, \$3 25 to \$3 40; receipts, 385; shipments, 20.  
HOGS—Better for heavy; Yorkers and Baltimore, \$3 40 to \$3 60; packing, \$3 50 to \$3 75; fancy heavy, \$3 80 to \$4 00; receipts, 3,800; shipments, 1,200.  
SHEEP—Steady; all grades wanted; offerings only common; fair to good would bring \$2 50 to \$3 00; choice to fancy, \$3 75 to \$4 25; export grades, \$4 50 to \$4 60; receipts, 270; shipments, none.

#### St. Louis Wool Market.

WOOL—Tub, choice, 30 1/2c; medium, 30c; dingy and low, 28 1/2c. Unwashed—medium and combing mixed, 21c to 22c; coarse, 16c to 17c; light fine, 18c to 19c; heavy do., 16 1/2c. Burry, black and spotted, 3c to 10c b b less.

#### Chicago Produce Market.

FLOUR—Steady and unchanged.  
WHEAT—Steady and firm; No. 2 red winter, 88c to 89c; No. 2 spring, 87 1/2c to 88 1/2c; No. 3, 86 1/2c to 87 1/2c; No. 4, 85 1/2c to 86 1/2c; rejected, 54c to 55c.  
CORN—Firmly active and a shade higher; 32c to 31 1/2c; No. 2, 31 1/2c to 31 3/4c; No. 3, 31 1/4c to 31 1/2c; No. 4, 31 1/4c to 31 1/2c; May, 31 1/4c to 31 1/2c; OATS—Good demand and a shade higher; 20 1/2c cash; 20c March.  
RYE—Steady and unchanged.  
BARLEY—Dull and nominal.  
PORK—Unsettled but generally higher; \$9 47 1/2 to \$9 50 cash; \$9 71 1/2 to \$9 75 April.  
LARD—Unsettled but generally higher; \$8 37 1/2 to \$8 40 cash; \$8 45 to \$8 47 1/2 March; \$8 50 to \$8 52 1/2 April.  
BULK MEATS—Steady and firm; shoulders, \$3 55; short ribs, \$4 40; short clear, \$4 75.  
WHISKY—Steady and unchanged; \$1 04.

#### Chicago Live-Stock Market.

The Drovers' Journal this afternoon reports as follows:  
HOGS—Receipts, 20,000; shipments, 6,500; market fairly active and a shade higher; choice heavy, \$3 60 to \$4 00; light, \$3 50 to \$3 60; mixed, \$3 40 to \$3 50.  
CATTLE—Receipts, 2,000; shipments, 310; market firm; shipping, \$4 00 to \$4 25; stockers, dull, but choice steady; cows, \$2 40 to \$3 00; steers, \$3 00 to \$3 30.  
SHEEP—Receipts, 1,200; shipments, 1,200; market firm \$3 50 to \$4 00.

#### Chicago Wool Market.

WOOL—There was no business of account transacted in the wool market, and prices ruled easy but unchanged. We repeat quotations: Tub-washed—coarse, 20c to 22c; medium, 22c to 24c; fine, 24c to 26c; unwashed—coarse, 19c to 21c; medium, 21c to 23c; fine, 23c to 25c. The above prices are for wool in good condition; dingy, heavy and damaged, 2c less.

#### Topeka Leather Market.

Corrected weekly by H. D. Clark, Dealer in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.

HIDES—Green, dressed ..... .05  
Green, frozen ..... .04  
Green, kip and calf ..... .05  
Bull and stag ..... .05  
Dry salt prime ..... .10  
Dry salted, prime ..... .08

Dry damaged ..... 50 1/2  
TALLOW ..... 4 1/2  
Topeka Butchers' Retail Market.  
BEEF—Sirloin Steak per lb ..... 12 1/2  
" Round " " " ..... 10  
" Roasts " " " ..... 10  
" Fore Quarter Dressed, per lb ..... 6 1/2  
" Hind " " " ..... 7 1/2  
" By the carcass " " " ..... 12 1/2  
MUTTON—Chops per lb ..... 12  
" Roasts " " " ..... 10  
PORK ..... 8 to 10  
Sausage ..... 10 to 12

#### Topeka Retail Grain Market.

Wholesale cash prices by dealers, corrected weekly by W. Edson.

WHEAT—Per bu. spring ..... .55  
" Fall No. 2 ..... .50  
" Fall No. 3 ..... .45  
" Fall No. 4 ..... .40  
CORN—Per bu. ..... .17  
" White Old ..... .17  
" Yellow ..... .15  
OATS—Per bu. old ..... .15  
" New ..... .15  
R YE—Per bu. ..... .25  
BARLEY—Per bu. ..... 20 to 24  
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs ..... 2.40  
" No. 2 ..... 2.20  
" No. 3 ..... 2.00  
" Rye ..... 2.00  
CORN MEAL ..... .75  
CORN CHOP ..... .60  
RYE CHOP ..... .70  
CORN & OATS ..... .60  
BRAN ..... .10  
SHORT ..... .60

#### Topeka Produce Market.

Grocers retail price list, corrected weekly by J. A. Lee. Country produce quoted at buying prices.

APPLES—Per bbl.—Choice Michigan ..... 3.00  
APPLES—Per bushel ..... 1.00 to 1.20  
BEANS—Per bu.—White Navy ..... 2.00  
" Medium ..... 1.50  
" Common ..... 1.25  
" Castor ..... 1.25  
BUTTER—Per lb.—Choice ..... .10  
" Medium ..... .10  
CHEESE—Per lb. ..... .08 to .10  
EGGS—Per doz.—Fresh ..... 1.25  
HOMINY—Per bbl ..... 5.25 to 5.50  
E. R. POTATOES—Per bu. ..... .40  
P. B. POTATOES—Per bu. ..... .50 to .60  
VEGETABLE POTATOES, Live per doz. ..... 2.00 to 2.25  
POULTRY—Chickens, Dressed, per lb ..... .07  
" Turkeys, " " ..... .09  
" Geese, " " ..... .10  
ONIONS—Per bu ..... .75  
CABBAGE—Per dozen ..... .75 to 1.00  
CHICKENS—Spring ..... 1.50 to 2.00

#### Advertisements.

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

#### Sow English Blue Grass.

COMMENCE NOW. The best grass for this climate. A limited quantity of seed will be sold while in stock at \$2.00 per bu. in small lots, 10 bu. lots, \$1.75 per bu. 20 bu. lots, \$1.50 per bu. Also German or Golden Millet in quantity at 75 cts. per bu.; subject to fluctuations of the market. Sent on receipt of the money. Sacks extra. Address C. C. GARDNER, Wakarusa, Kansas.

#### Osage Orange Seed

By pound or bushel. Plants by thousand or million. Extra fine lot of apple trees from 5 to 7 feet, and 4 to 6 feet. An imported French Stallion for sale on terms to suit purchaser. F. L. MANN, Gilman, Ill.

#### Durham Park Herds

ALBERT CRANE, BREEDER OF

#### Short-Horn Cattle

—AND—

#### Berkshire Pigs,

Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas.

Catalogues free. The largest and best herds in the west. Over 200 head of cattle, and a like number of pigs. Prices Low. Address letters to DURHAM PARK, Marion County, Kansas.

#### Ayer's Hair Vigor

FOR RESTORING GRAY HAIR

TO ITS

## Literary and Domestic.

Edited by MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

## Winter Jewels.

A million little diamonds  
Twinkled on the trees,  
And all the little maidens said,  
"A Jewel, if you please!"  
But while they held their hands outstretched  
To catch the diamonds gay,  
A million little sunbeams came  
And stole them all away.

—St. Joseph Gazette.

## A Winter Morning.

The snow-drifts pile the window-ledge,  
The frost is keen, the air is still;  
The lane that lies below the hill  
Is drifted even with the hedge;  
Gray skies, and dark trees shaven bare,  
Blue smoke that rises straight in air;  
And down the west a yellow glare  
Is driven like a wedge.

—Frank Tucker, in Scribner.

## Only Me.

A little figure glided through the hall:  
"Is that you, Pet?" the words came tenderly;  
A sob—suppressed to let the answer fall—  
"It isn't I, mamma, it's only me."

The quivering baby lips—they had not meant,  
To utter any word could plant a sting.  
But to that mother-heart a strange pang went;  
She heard, and stood like a convicted thing.

One instant, and a happy little face,  
Thrilled with unwonted kisses rained above;  
And from that moment Only Me had place,  
And part with Pet in tender mother-love.

## The Story of a Hand.

BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

## CHAPTER I.

Such a hand! It was white and hairy and fat and thick, with stuffed fingers spreading from it at equal distances all around, apparently, for it was outstretched and supported a head. Not a bad looking head from behind, covered with dark hair, trimmed with barberic neatness, but of coarse texture.

For half an hour that hand had pillowed that head, while the arm that upheld them rested on the back of a seat in a westward bound palace car. It attracted my attention by inclining a little more and a little more to the right, as if the next time it slipped the head would fall off and land in the lap of a very sweet-looking girl just across the aisle.

To those who had never speculated upon which part of the body goes to sleep first, it was a well-learned nap, but there happened to be among the most vivid of my childhood recollections the theory of an old philosopher whom everybody knew as Uncle Benjamin, to the effect that "just to lose himself" was more refreshing than a sound sleep, and in order to secure this result he would seat himself in his easy chair with his right arm extended and his hand resting on his cane, when the cane fell, he knew he had "lost himself," the shock would arouse him and he was wide awake again. How much time one has to recollect old scenes when traveling by rail, it is a very poor place to read but an excellent time to think.

The memory of the little incident about the cane, sent me wandering off to two or three old churches that I had frequented at different times in my youth, and an honest confession would reveal the fact that although my ears were open to the precepts that fell from these pulpits, there was no room for them in my mind, it was preoccupied with watching the physiological effects of approaching sleep on the different members of the congregation. A startling noise would announce that old Mrs. Bilkin's hand had unconsciously relaxed its hold on her hymn book.

Uncle Benjamin's theory was, that sleep began at the extremity of the nerves, and hence that his hand would go to sleep before his head, and whether this is true, or whether it begins in the brain, as I am now inclined to believe, though I have never heard the subject discussed by physiologists or scientists, I for many years never doubted that it began in the finger tips, and have always been amused in watching for its signs. But wherever it begins, one cannot sleep and control the muscles of the arm and hand sufficiently to support the head, and I knew that the man with the pincushion hand was shamming.

Finally his head did slip clear off, not into the pretty girl's lap, nor off his neck, but off of his hand, and that huge member fell down and hung over the end of the seat.

His head went up like a bladder in a tub, and his face, I know though I could not see it, and never saw it, wore an expression of supreme self-satisfaction and satisfaction, and was adorned with onion eyes and a sort of portico mouth. He shifted his position several times but was careful never to remove his hand, it hung there expressive of nothing but doughtiness and that I am sure began in the brain.

It perhaps reminded the nice-looking girl of caterpillars and toads and centipedes, for she glanced uneasily over her shoulder once in a while and fidgeted a little in her seat as if unpleasantly aware of its unbecoming proximity, and at last when a seat was vacant further front she very quietly removed to it, ostensibly to get on the shady side, to be sure, but I knew it was to get away from that hand. So did a brown, knotty-looking little man who sat just behind her, for there was a sly twinkle in his eye, which said, "good for him," as plainly as anything could, he sat looking across the car and I could see his side face. The conductor caught the spirit of it too, for he chanced to be passing just then and assisted her to carry her packages and arrange them comfortably, he even punched her ticket tenderly, I imagined, and returned it with a bow, but when he went back to the owner of the bag pudding hand, he snapped out "Ticket," as if he added to himself, "You dog." From that moment the pretty, modest-looking young girl was a heroine in the eyes of every

person in the car, not excepting, perhaps, the man with the doughy palm.

He arose soon after this incident and took a book from his satchel in the rack above his head and as he did so, discovered to his fellow passengers that he had but one hand.

Accidents, deformities and unnatural things have a fascination for some people, and it was not long before a representative of the non-curious sex approached him, and after a good deal of very confidential talk concerning Kansas real estate and crops and immigration, and many side-long glances at the arm on which the absent member should have been, he asked, as if it had just occurred to him to wonder, "Lose your hand in an accident, Sir?"

"Bitten off," replied the stranger, and promptly resumed his book.

This laconic answer and the blood-curdling doubts and imaginings it left in the minds of his companions, forthwith made a hero of him too. Bitten off! By what and when and where? ran through everyone's mind, but nobody, not even his impertinent inquisitor, dared ask another question, his tone and his manner were too decisive for that; those two words comprised the information he had to impart on that subject, and soon after his momentary acquaintance withdrew to his former seat.

Had he been a lion-tamer, and escaped from the den, when at last the time had come, as it always does, for the beasts to assert their nature, covered with great gashes made by their sharp claws and the blood streaming from them? I pictured him being dragged forth more dead than alive, quailing and fainting under the glare of those terrible eyes, and winking to find one hand gone. How he must have shuddered when he remembered that he heard his bones crushed in these powerful jaws, and felt his sinews torn! But no, that characterless hand could never have been the fellow to one that commanded the King of Beasts, much more likely it was amputated with a buzz saw. He had suffered in any manner of its taking off, that thought extracted sympathy, and then, he possibly bore it bravely. I could not make a lion tamer of him, but he was a hero at any rate, though I could not help reflecting that the fewer such hands a man was possessed of the better, but that, probably did not console him in any degree, nor even occur to him. What a monotonous world it would be if we all admired the same kind of hands and people. Doubtless the speculations of the other passengers concerning the loss of that hand would be interesting and startling, but, unfortunately, I am not a mind reader and cannot translate them, and the reader must be left for the present to follow his own.

At the next station we dined; as the young girl stepped from the car a good-looking old gentleman offered his hand and said to her, "I do not think you need protection, Miss, but if you will allow me I will introduce you to my wife and daughters, they will be company for you."

"Thank you, my name is Helen Brook."

"Mrs. Abrams, Katherine, and Sarah, this is Miss Brook, she tells me."

This much I heard as I passed the group on the platform, and then they hurried in to the unceremonious meal. From conversation that passed between Miss Brook and the Abrams family, after we returned to the car, I learned that she was going to join either a friend or friends who were already in the mountains.

When Mrs. Abrams asked her if she did not feel timid about undertaking so long a journey alone, she said not in the least, that there was really nothing to fear, especially since she had met such kind friends, and that, in fact, she rather enjoyed travelling alone. At that the matron turned involuntarily toward her daughters as if she was thinking, "How could I have you do so, my dears?" And I thought I saw Mr. Abrams cast a suspicious glance at the man of the puffy hand, but as that individual sat directly in front both of the family party and myself, I could not tell whether they observed him much or not. He studiously kept his back to us, but he seemed ill at ease, his book ceased to interest, and he frequently hung his monstrous hand over the back of the seat as though offering it as a flag of truce. Before nightfall my journey came to an end, and I supposed that I had seen the last of the characters who had unconsciously afforded me a day's diversion. So, perhaps, I have but a returned sojourner in the mountains has just told me the following sequel to that day's observation, which may possibly interest some others as much as it did me.

TO BE CONTINUED.

## Letter from Cloud County.

DEAR FARMER—The holidays are past and we are ready now to begin the work in earnest for another year. How many old memories have been renewed, and faces that were half forgotten been brought face to face with us again! What a blessing to us that we have holidays. As a people we are too loth to take a day for pleasure, and the old saying "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," applies in too many cases to western farmers. Fathers and mothers should be sure of making Christmas a merry day, and New Year's a happy one—a day that their children will always have a pleasant remembrance of.

I would like to tell the girls that read the Kansas FARMER about a Christmas book that was given to our children that I think would please many a Kansas boy and girl. The book is made of green Holland, fourteen by twenty-eight inches in size, folded in the middle, cut in scallops around the edge with a pinking iron, and tied in the back with scarlet ribbon. It is then filled up with pictures of all sorts and kinds. Our children are very much pleased with it, and I think many a sister will find it an

easy task to make one for the younger ones at home. Use any pictures that you have or buy a variety of small chromos, paste them in neatly, keeping the leaves smooth, and when you have it finished, you will have something that you will be well satisfied with. By commencing now, any one can save pictures enough for such a book before next Christmas, and then gladden the heart of some little one, with a present from Santa Claus.

Our long term of cold weather has at last broken up and we are now having a little taste of the much talked of Italian winters that are said to belong to Kansas. I think, however, we had best not look for spring just yet, for usually in March we have a "blizzard" or two. Our oldest settler says he never saw such cold weather for so long a time here, and he has been a resident of Kansas for nineteen years.

The FARMER comes to us in its new dress this week and presents a nice appearance, thus giving evidence that the editors are meeting with success.

LOUISE.

Mrs. Hudson—Tell Mrs. Bucknell that a quart of salt is enough for a barrel sauer kraut, (some use a less quantity) and she will know why her experiment failed. You may tell her also, that salting sweet corn will turn out a sauer kraut experience. It will be simply salted corn, which will require soaking and changing the water on it to extract the salt, till the corn is tasteless and unfit for use. It can be nicely dried, by slightly boiling the ears when in the milk state; then cut the grains from the cob, and dry with much care not to scorch or cook in a hot oven or in the sun. It is liable to become wormy if dried in the sun, unless heated in an oven afterwards to destroy the insect eggs which are deposited while the grain is drying.

E.

## Knitting Mittens in Garter Stitch.

In a late number a lady asks for directions for knitting mittens garter stitch with ribs running lengthwise. I will try and be very explicit, that she may have as little trouble as possible.

The Hand.—Cast on 62 stitches, widen every other time across on same end to 72. Narrow on same end to 62 (every other time) widen again to 62 and narrow to 62; bind off, sew together—leaving a place for the thumb. Crochet straight around the wrist in long crochet stitch four rows, finish with scallop, make underneath another cuff, same stitch, commencing at second row from first, some color of Shetland wool. The first cuff is made of zephyr like mitten, and the second cuff may be made of any pretty contrasting shade with ribbon to match.

Thumb.—Cast on one stitch, widen every other time across till you have six stitches; knit across, cast on 10, making 16, widen each time across at the end of the needle till you have 27, knit 10 times across, widening at the end with the gore and narrowing at opposite end, keeping 27 stitches all the time. Knit 10 times across, widening at the end without the gore, and narrowing at the opposite end. Narrow each time across till you have 16 stitches; bind off 10, leaving 6 for gore at the same end as the gore on opposite end, narrow every other time across to nothing, sew together and then into mitten. Two and a half ounces of zephyr are required, and one yard of ribbon. Run the ribbon through first row on cuff and tie on back. I prefer seal brown for mittens, cuffs, and ribbon. Light pink and blue are much worn. Size of glove 6 1/2. Two stitches more or less, I think, will be sufficient.—Country Gentleman.

## Fashion Notes.

Muffs of the dress material or of its trimmings are made by modistes to match costumes.

Very small figures, checks and stripes on white grounds are the features in the new spring calicoes and percales.

Oriental silks, Persian and Egyptian silks, satins, velvets, brocades and corduroys are all used for waistcoats.

A double cape of heavy silk chenille, with tinsel thread twisted in the same, is the latest novelty for the neck in place of a scarf.

The long waistcoats worn with dressy toilets are separate garments, and may be worn with several different kinds of coats and skirts.

Mummy cloths, rough-surfaced cotton fabrics, in all the fashionable shades for upholstery, are all the rage at the moment for porticoes and window draperies.

All sorts of stones are cut, in cameos—chalcedony, sardonyx, topaz, amethyst, onyx, agate—and all sorts of translucent, opaque and stratified stones and shells of various kinds are used for these artistic gems.

Grenadine veils for wintry days are chosen in colors to match the costume; olive green and dark maroon red grenadine are the novelties, also beige colors. The preference however, still continues for dark blue and green veils.

Among novelties in sleeves is the "Adele," one of Mme. Demorest's patterns, that is very pretty and becoming. It is close-fitting, with the underside very narrow and the outer gathered in at the elbow. Three upright folds are placed above the turn of the elbow, and six buttons, with simulated button-holes, are placed on the outer seam from the wrist to the folds.

The newest hats for young girls in their teens are of felt, high-crowned, with square tops, trimmed with three rows of inch-wide ribbon in bands placed quite far apart around the crown. The brims roll in Derby shape. Other felt hats have a scarf of brown or navy blue satin with white polka dots.

Cravat bows have superseded the cravats that pass around the neck; if the latter are used, they are placed inside of the dress, instead of concealing the neat collar of the dress, and only the cravat bow is seen. White muslin cravat bows are preferred for plain suits in the morning and for dressy afternoon wear. When colored cravats are chosen they are folded like gentlemen's scarfs, to fit in the reverse collar of a coat, or else they are as narrow as the lawn neckties worn in full dress; the latter are made of foulard, and embroidered on each end.

## Concerning Women.

Gail Hamilton is in Washington.

The Indiana Woman's Prison is entirely under the control of women.

Miss Blanche Nevins, of Lancaster, Pa., has been awarded by the Legislature of that state the contract for the statue of Peter Muhlenberg, which is to be set up in the old hall of the House of Representatives at Washington.

A number of New York young ladies have really learned to wash dishes, sweep and dust, it is said, so that they might be able to teach these accomplishments to some outcast little girls, in a charity school. No matter what they did it for, it is an encouraging sign.

The wedding anniversaries that are usually observed are as follows: Fifth, wooden; tenth tin; twelfth, linen; fifteenth, crystal; twentieth, china; twenty-fifth, silver; fiftieth, golden; sixtieth, diamond.

As a Miss Harmon, of Iowa Point, was assisting J. T. Pierce in scalding hogs, on Wednesday, of last week, her dress took fire and before the flames were extinguished she was so badly burned that the flesh dropped from her limbs, and her life was despaired of at the latest accounts.

Moral.—Women are out of their "spere" when they try to scald hogs.

At last we learn just what Anna Dickinson intends to do. She has written a play for John McCullough called "Aurelian," which that actor is to bring out next April, with himself in the title role. Miss Dickinson is to play with him, taking the first female part of Queen Zenobia. The scenes of the play are laid in Rome and Palmyra.

The supreme court of the United States recently decided that whenever property is lost or stolen in a hotel, through the personal negligence of a guest, the liability of the inn keeper does not exit; that if the guest does not leave his valuables in the safe provided by the innkeeper, he must bear his own loss, unless it occurs by the hand or through the carelessness of the landlord or his employees.

ONIONS A CURE FOR GROUP.—A lady who speaks from experience says, that probably nine children out of ten who die of group might be saved by the timely application of roasted onions, mashed, laid upon a folded napkin and goose oil, sweet oil, or even lard poured on and applied as warm as can be borne comfortably, to the throat and upper part of the chest, and to the feet and hands.

HOW TO EAT MILK.—There are many who say, "I like milk, but milk does not like me," that is, it does not agree with them. The reason for this, in most cases, is, that the milk coagulates in the stomach in too firm a curd to be easily digested. But many who cannot drink milk or eat bread and milk, find no difficulty in digesting a bowl of baked apples and milk. Upon this hint the experiment has been successfully tried by a physician of large experience, of telling his patients who could not digest milk, to use apple sauce as a concomitant, taking a mouthful of apple alternately with a spoonful of bread, crackers, or pudding and milk. The apple prevents the formation of a solid mass in the stomach, and its juice also aids digestion, so that no distress or sense of heaviness follows after a meal thus taken.

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