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THE KANSAS FARMER.

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Correspondence.

Another Word on Hedges.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

I noticed two articles in your paper some time ago on hedges, and though the following paper contained three, I thought you might stand another. Of the first two both are misleading; one represents that a hedge can be raised for almost nothing, and the other that it can scarcely be raised at all. When a farmer concludes, as many do, that he can raise a good hedge without expense or careful work, he makes a mistake, and the chances are he loses the work he does; and when he concludes that the hedge is the dearest possible fence, he will not attempt it.

Now for a variety of reasons the hedge is the most desirable fence for the exterior lines of a prairie farm; it checks the force of winds and tends to prevent the ground from blowing away, the moisture from escaping and the snow from drifting off the farm into ravines, if it does occasionally make a drift in the road, invites birds, and when properly cared for does not call skunks, mink, etc., away from their favorite burrows in ravines and near creeks. It is not so likely to main stock as barbed wire, and does not carry lightning like wire of any kind, and it adds more to the beauty of a farm than any other fence, but above all it can be made a Kansas product, while all other fences except stone require a considerable cash outlay to be sent to some other state for raw material; the only cost in this really necessary is the seed; if we buy the plants it is light. But while it is a fence that is practicable with a very small cash outlay, and within the ability of every careful diligent persistent farmer, it is not the fence for the lazy or careless man by any means, and it never will be the careless fence, for it requires work and that must be done at proper times and in the right manner.

We set plants eight inches apart, in rows plowed several times and deep, free from grass and clods and set deep in furrow; keep plants heeled in or covered with old hay and moist, from time taken up until set; while setting keep bunch in a pall of water. When set take the same care of them you would of corn or garden; keep the ground mellow and fresh by cultivation until July; after that do not disturb them, let the ground settle. The growth will gradually check, the wood harden, and the earth settle about the roots for winter protection and if a few weeds grow they will help retain the snow. Mulching is good for the plants but helps harbor mice and is bad on account of the danger of fire. Most of the cultivating the first year may be done with corn cultivator if the ground is not allowed to become hard enough to break up cloddy; it may be necessary to have a strip a foot wide in center of row.

The second year plow the ground with star plow and throw the dirt away from hedge when as near the hedge as you can plow with two horses, hitch one to the plow and plow as close as you can, running very shallow; hoe out any weeds that may remain, then turn two furrows back; if very cloddy turn, if not let it lie until the weeds begin to start, then turn the two furrows away from and turn the whole row back. In this manner it may be cultivated in future years and if free from grass very little work with the hoe will be necessary. The essential point is to get a good stand, and try planting early—sometime in April. It may be replanted about the first of June and should be replanted again next season very carefully with strong plants; if possible we should get a perfect stand in two years, but if not we should follow it up.

When a hedge is three or four years old we trim them closely, hack them near the ground and bend them over at an angle of about 45°, leaving one stand upright about every three feet; when these are passed in laying we hack them just above where the leaning ones strike them, bend them over and fasten the leaning ones down with them. We lay them in April and May, and sometimes in June; they should then be trimmed once or twice each year; pass along each side with a corn knife and cut the side branches upward about ten inches from body, then cut the top branches house-roof shaped or flat if preferred, about four feet high. They should be trimmed twice a year, in June and September, and a man can trim 60 rods a day; parties who work at it charge 10 cents per rod for laying and 2 cents for trimming.

Our objection to bending over and tying down is that they tend to straighten up by stiffening near the ground while at the same time they do not throw up as many shoots from the ground and lower part of the stock as when hacked, making the fence more open at the bottom. If cut and bent over without trimming, or topped every year and never allowed to grow upward they become so wide that it is next to impossible to trim them, and they occupy unnecessary space. If managed as I have described they do not seem to make much drain on lands—nothing in comparison with cottonwoods; the latter last year in the dry weather killed three or four rows of corn where planted at edge of field 8 feet apart the trees being 50 feet high. But if I thought the hedge would seriously damage adjacent crops I would plow a trench a foot deep five or six feet from the hedge and run an upright culvert a foot deep, severing all side roots.

I have heard that castor beans planted in the row would exterminate gophers but cannot vouch for it. Clyde.

S. DORAN.

Hedge for Fences in Kansas.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

I have been a reader of the KANSAS FARMER between two and three years, and this spring I notice a variety of opinions as to hedge for fence. In an article written by Sedgwick Bros., Richmond, Indiana, on hedge, condemning it in every particular, coming from the source is no evidence why hedge should not be grown in Kansas for fences. The greater por-

tion of Indiana has a surplus of timber that has to be gotten out of the way before the land can be used for crop purposes, and consequently the gentlemen as sets that hedge is a constant drain on soil and labor; but he fails to show that hedge is in excess of any other fence. And further, he fails to substitute anything for a prairie country that will cost less. We are willing and thankful to our eastern friends for any advice that is adapted to Kansas as farming, but only a portion of these views will pan out in the west. I was once an eastern man myself, born in the state of New York, and I find that as a whole, eastern theory and practice is no criterion for a western man to farm on; and for any man to assert or maintain the idea that this western country can or ever will be fenced with timber in the shape that all the ingenuity of man's inventive powers have worked out is a mistaken notion. Sedgwick Bros. asserts that hedge is the worst harbor for vermin that a prairie farmer can introduce, and I know, and so do they, and every other man east or west that their assertion is without any foundation. Any man that has a variety of fences such as hedge, stone, lumber and rails, ought to know that stone fence made of the different shape rocks as they appear in the different states, is the harbor of harbors, for rabbits large and small, pole cats, skunks, weasels, rats and mice, and reptiles. I have four different varieties of fence namely: 765 rods of hedge, about 50 rods of rail and post, and about 150 of stone; the stone fence with me is where my boys and dogs and my neighbors boys always find the rabbits tread as they call it, and they injure my fence some by getting them out. Nevertheless the stone fence with me is the fence, providing I was able to fence in the 280 acres that I own here in Butler county; but for me to state through the columns of the KANSAS FARMER, or any other western document that hedge should be built every time and on any man's farm in Kansas would be erroneous, and fool hardy. Nor if our eastern friends have got to take their ax and go into the timber and cut down the forest in order that they may build a log cabin, build a fence out of the remainder by splitting a portion that is left, and rolling the balance into position, is no criterion that we could or should do so, when we have not the timber to do it with and don't want the amount they once had not how. I have had my satisfaction on shin-bumpers, from the breaking of roots, from the stumps and don't want any more in mine. Now to the question, what can the farmers of the west fence with that is the question. I refer to the majority of them as a great portion of the western country has neither rock or timber, and fences we must have. If the majority of farmers are of limited means, and cannot buy barbed wire for fence, then they are compelled to seek another material for fences. If they are not able to buy barbed wire staples and posts, then they are not able to buy rails, for they are out of the question and consequently cannot buy lumber at the exorbitant prices. Then tell me, some of you readers of the FARMER, where is your Balm of Gilead for a fence, unless it is in the hedge? A barbed wire fence is a dangerous fence and ought not to be called a fence. Won't the posts of a barbed wire fence burn down, and won't your lumber and rail fences burn down as quick and quicker than the Osage Orange? Then the hedge has the advantage. As far as to repairs on either of the above named fences, the hedge is the poor man's fence, as he can grow it himself and can prune it himself, something that cannot be done with either of the others.

When I came to Kansas eleven years ago into Butler county, and it was not the first time that I had lived in Kansas, as I was here in 1850, the time of the great drouth in Brown and Nemaha counties, I saw the necessity of a pasture for my horses and cattle; this being the case, my first step was to break out my hedge rows around as much of my ground where I intended to have my pasture as I could, the balance to be built of stone—about 60 rods of stone fence, the remainder to be hedge around the 65 acres. Then I bought the rails and posts, the rails were of the varieties of timber that grows here. I had thirteen head of as fine (2 year old heifers) as ever were driven into this country up to that date; they were considered worth \$30 per head making \$390. I did that so I might have a pasture for my stock. I set my wood fence inside of where I intended to grow my hedge, breaking hedge rows 16 feet wide as my hedge would grow faster on 16 feet than on 10 as a great many did, as the roots had that much more mellow soil to work in. When my wood fence was done, gone out of existence, then I had a live fence. I threw my furrows out, leaving a clean center, the same fall I re-stirred my lines turning to center. Next spring I plowed my lines turning to center again, thus double sowing my lines. I cultivated for five years, then I had a good cattle and horse fence. I have not been able to handle all my hedge as I believe is the right way in order to make a good tight fence, but have some that the smallest pig or chicken does not go through. The way all the hedges are splashed that I have seen is wrong, as they are splashed entirely too small, and the farmer finds when it has grown again he has not yet the desired body for a fence.

This trimming all away but the main stock is the worst thing you can do, as you need it immediately for your fence. When one-third of your plants have grown to one and a quarter inches to one and one-half inches take a hedge ax, made for that purpose and trim an occasional limb in the line and lay down to between 22 to 45 degrees; leave all the limbs on that you can. Be particular about this, and not cut off only an occasional limb. Cut from four to six inches from the bottom and preserve the part you want to lay down from splitting. Let the splitting go down on the stumps. Now you have got a hedge fence pig tight, bull strong, and horse high; and let me say if I had written this article on the handling of hedge last fall, before any of the Kansas farmers splashed their hedges, every man that would have tried my plan last winter and the last spring on one mile around 40 acres of a pasture would say it was worth fifty dollars to him, as my plan for laying down gives a fence immediately, whereas, the old plan deprives the farmer at least two years of the use of his hedge. Now, fellow farmers, as none of you have stated through the FARMER this method of making a good pig tight fence, horse high, and bull strong, I shall consider you did not know how, or you have been afraid some of us would profit on your experi-

once. We have had a hedge layer patented and made at Augusta, Butler county, Kansas, for the last five or six years and if Messrs. Trumbull, Reynolds, Allen & Co., of Kansas City, has one as good that they advertised in your paper, it is a very good thing for laying hedge; the only objection that can be raised to the hedge layer is the machine draws the hedge tight together, causing a portion of the hedge to rot. Whether this will be a serious objection or not is yet to be demonstrated.

This part of Kansas is a mud hole and has been for the last two weeks.

Will some of the readers of the FARMER that have bought thorough bred Poland China hogs of both sexes state who has the best hogs to buy from and give the address of parties and oblige an old reader. Douglass. HENRY BUTLER.

Prospect Farm.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

This is a name lately given the fine stock and fruit farm of J. B. and H. W. McAfee, situated about three miles west of Topeka on the Sixth street road. The farm consists of 340 acres nicely fenced and watered. They will make a specialty of breeding Short horn cattle and Clydesdale horses. Kansas Boy stands at the head of their herd of cattle, and Donald Dean is their famous Clydesdale stallion. Their new barn is 75 x 100 feet, and an elegant residence is to be erected near the center of their apple and small fruit orchard. From the farm a delightful view is had, where one can see the city, adjoining villages and surrounding country. The time occupied in visiting this place is well spent and especially to see such Short-horn cows and those peerless draft horses. "Prospect Farm" is well named. HEATH.

Pedigrees.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

In reply to Mr. Dilley's first question I would say that under the present rule cattle that trace to common stock cannot be registered in either of the American herd books, but in England they record them if with only our crosses of thoroughbred bulls for the cows and five crosses for the bulls, thinking that number of crosses sufficient to form a type that will re-produce itself; but in this country they require that all animals must trace to recorded animals to admit them to be registered in the American herd books. So we cannot breed out the native blood entirely, but every cross that we add by using a thoroughbred bull decreases the native one-half; to illustrate: the first cross we only have are half native stock left, next 3/4. Every time we make a cross from a thoroughbred we multiply the denominator by two which leaves the amount of native stock in the animal. For example, in six crosses we have 63 64ths full blood in the animals, and that will entitle an animal to be registered from present appearance in the new herd book they are talking of starting. Let me advise new beginners with a small amount of capital to buy up the best heifers—that is good beefy animals from good milking dams as you can find from what is called common stock and get a good thoroughbred bull and have the breeder to record him; then keep a record of each animal, the time served (so you may know when to look for the calf). In this way there is no guess work; you know the age, how much blood in the sire and dam; keep up your own pedigrees and by judicious breeding and feeding you can soon have as fine a lot of cattle to look at as your neighbors' at least, and your steers will bring the highest market price when ready for the butcher.

The second question I cannot say I really understand, but by sending off and getting a catalogue from some public sale of Short-horn cattle you will see by looking down the columns on the dam side a cow's name written in italics or the letters Imp. before the cow's name, so all animals tracing to her are called by her name; for instance, we see a cow as I have described by the name of Flora. All animals tracing to her would be called Floras. We also have what we call straight and pure bred animals, straight Floras, young Mary, Duchess, etc., means that both sire and dam trace to a cow by that name. The term, a pure bred animal, means that all the descendants trace to the same animal or an animal thought by the best breeders to be as good or better than the animal spoken of. This pedigree business is quite a study and with all the study we can only keep posted on the history of the best animals, and that is what we want to have an animal's pedigree with all good animals individually with judicious crossing.

But a few years ago we had what was termed a "pedigree mania" which caused many of our best breeders to discard all bulls regardless of merit if they were not of some fancy breed (or family perhaps I should say) which caused them to inbreed and breed animals together that should not have been bred together. And to make matters still worse about the same time the color mania struck the people, so it caused many a noble animal that should have been used to perpetuate the great race of Short-horns to be sold for a mere trifle, and a red animal with a stylish pedigree to be used on as fine a herd of Short-horns, as you would wish to see. Some of our smart men such as T. S. Miller and others seeing the mistakes of our leading breeders saw a good opportunity to make money by introducing the Hereford, Polled Angus, Holstein cattle, etc. X. X. X.

A Few Farms of Shawnee County.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

Geo. Kellam took me in charge and we drove out to the southeast part of the county to his ranch and saw "Jacob," his 650 Polled Angus bull; he intends crossing him with his high grade Short-horn cows; it is certainly a paying experiment. Mr. Kellam is also having good success with his Poland China and Berkshire cross producing the best hog for the market. The young orchard of 20 acres, the property of Mr. Lux is worthy of special mention.

I took a ride along the Kaw bottom and found the farms all nicely fenced, good orchards on nearly every farm. Most of the farmers have their corn listed; this looks like a "shiftless" way of farming but I was assured by the farmers that it was a great saving of time and labor besides giving them larger returns. However, I am satisfied that the system is very much of an experiment yet, and that they cannot raise corn profitably on the same land for several

successive years unless they follow the ground in the fall. Leaving the bottom I ascended to the upland and saw the large flocks of sheep on the Edison ranch near Silver Lake, under charge of James Oliver, an old experienced sheep man; he declared that sheep raising was one of the most profitable industries of the west and that nowhere could such large returns be obtained as in Kansas. The same care given sheep here would prove unprofitable elsewhere.

Your correspondent was kindly cared for at the Capital View stock farm of J. E. Guild. His popular Jersey Red hogs are coming on in good style, as well as his young Short-horn cattle. But special mention is due the poultry department conducted by Mrs. Guild; the young Plymouth Rocks, Brown Leghorns and Bronze turkey fowls are a very choice, well-bred lot of poultry. Your correspondent mentally resolved to call again when fancy spring chickens are ripe and fonder himself. The condition of corn on the upland was better than in the Kaw bottom.

Riding out west of Topeka I visited the small farm of J. M. Harvey; he has one of the finest residences and most complete barns I have seen, and a very thrifty orchard of 400 trees, but deserving special mention was his young groves of walnut, ash, cottonwood, etc. He has three different groves, planted at different times, and they are growing nicely. If he can afford to grow trees on land worth \$150 an acre in an unfavorable place for tree culture, then certainly our friends farther west are justified in making the experiment. Mr. Harvey is confident from his experience that forest trees can be grown successfully here; he has a number of cedar, Scotch pine and larch doing well. Mr. Sutherland, a neighbor, has 35 "Australian" pine trees doing well that he put out last summer.

The prospect for small fruit is very good as well as the different cereals; and unless that prove, the satanic chinch bug devours all, Shawnee county will boom. HEATH.

Short Letters.

BARNES, Washington Co., May 15. Corn all planted. Temperature a little too low to suit young corn; a number have commenced cultivating. Fruit prospect all right. Fall grain stands three feet high. Spring grain doing fine. During the last winter I lost a number of sheep with grub in the head; will some of the readers of the FARMER tell what they know about it? J. R. Y.

The one sad neglect from which lawns are allowed to suffer can now be attended to, to avoid the serious damage so often witnessed during a dry summer, and that care will improve the thrift and beauty of a lawn in the best of seasons. It is simply to dig with a spade or spading fork, and invert the sod around those trees; if tough and hard it should be pulverized for a distance of two feet around and from the stem of the tree. Of course a larger area may be profitable around evergreens or other choice trees; it allows the rains to reach the roots, retains moisture longer in dry weather, lets air to the lower roots which is a very important element to the trees' life and vigor. The above care is essential to common deciduous trees, and absolutely necessary to evergreens if they are not to die "premature deaths" as they so often do on the lawn. Sod is very injurious to the growth of trees and shrubs, and blue grass is the most destructive of all kinds combined; it prevents any moisture from getting down except during protracted rains, and it is very absorbing to moisture and fertility from the soil. So dig up the circle of sod and improve the trees and beautify your lawn. A. H. G.

Greenwood county ranks among the first counties of the state as a stock raising county. Cattle and sheep receive most attention; there are a number of thoroughbred herds of Short-Horns, while of late considerable discussion has been evoked as to the relative merits of Short-Horns and Polled Angus; a few of the latter have been introduced. The fine herds of sheep that thrive and grow fat on our rich prairies always are a matter of surprise to visitors and strangers; for Greenwood has some of the most active and intelligent sheep-breeders that can be found anywhere, consequently their herds are exceptionally good. A few fine-wool sheep have been brought in, but here as elsewhere in Kansas the Merinos are the stand by. Mr. Robert Lay, on May 10th, had a private shearing of his flock; heretofore we have had an annual public shearing, but for some reason it was not held this year. Mr. Lay has always been an active forwarder of all movements for advancing this industry and when he found that there would be no public shearing he arranged for one of his own which was quite well attended. His flock numbers about twelve hundred Merinos. We subjoin a partial report of the shearing:

Sex	Age	Weight of fleece.
Ram	3 years.	26 lbs, 8 ounces.
Ram	2 "	23 "
Ram	2 "	24 "
Ram	2 "	21 "
Ram	2 "	20 "
Ram	3 "	19 "
Ram	4 "	17 "
Ewes	2 "	16 "
Ewes	2 "	15 "
Ewes	2 "	14 "
Ram	1 "	9 to 15 "

The ram Romeo, No. 533, sired by Matchless, No. 119, took the first prize at Sedalia, Mo., this spring; weight of his fleece, 35 1/2 lbs.

Ewes 605 and 637, sired by Stubby, took the first prize at Sedalia, Mo., last year.

The affair went off quite pleasantly and Mr. Lay expressed great satisfaction with the results. A very large acreage of corn has been planted but fears are entertained that it will suffer from chinch bugs as these pests appear in unusual numbers; they have already injured the wheat in certain localities; however, it is hoped that the cool weather and rains that we have been having of late will effectually stop these ravages. CLERIC.

WICHITA. In your issue of May 19th, I have just perused an article entitled "Osage Hedge Fence," by H. S. L., in which he states that gophers sometimes

get in a hedge row, "for when they come they generally come to stay." As I am desirous of putting out over one mile of hedge in the spring I wish to ask a few questions and give my opinion, and thus elicit the opinions of others who have had some experience in hedge culture and who have at least some acquaintance with Mr. Gopher. Will gophers work in stable manure, or ground heavily manured? Will castor beans keep them out if planted in the hedge row? I desire to submit the following plan for the consideration of hedge growers:

1st. During the month of June open wide and deep the hedge rows, by taking a large plow and continuing to plow in the same furrow, alternately throwing the dirt right and left until the furrow is as deep as can be made with a plow.

2d. In the month of September put six or eight inches of well rotted stable manure in the furrow and let it lay until thoroughly wet by rain.

3d. Take a vibrating harrow and run back and forward in the furrow until it is nearly full of dirt, then let remain until time for planting hedge.

4th. Open furrow and harrow thoroughly, then close furrow by back furrowing after which harrow once more.

5th. Draw a deep furrow where you desire your hedge, then place your plant against the straight side of the furrow, rake in a small quantity of dirt and water well, then rake in more dirt and tramp well.

6th. As soon as spring rains are over mulch well with old hay, straw or green grass. O. K.

KENNETH, May 15. I write you in the interest of the farmers of our county. Of course you are aware of the partial failure of crops in this part of the state during the last two years; most of the farmers who are now here came three years ago and have expended their money in valuable improvements upon their claims and in supporting their families until they have little or none left. They realize the unquestioned fact that sheep raising in this country is a success and hence they are very anxious to combine it with farming; as they have not means to invest they want to secure sheep for a term of years to keep on shares. Millet and sorghum has proved good crops each year in the past which will guarantee an ample supply of feed for sheep. Our range for sheep is ample and of the best character, the upland being covered with buffalo grass for summer and winter feed, while along the streams and in the hollows the bluestem prevails for early grass in the spring. We have four running streams of water through the county all supplied with springs and containing an uncommon amount of fish, and no appearance of alkali is to be found. Large quantities of prairie hay may be cut along all these streams. 10,000 head of sheep could be judiciously placed in this county in the hand of responsible parties who are entirely worthy of confidence and able to guarantee proper care and management of sheep entrusted to them; they only want healthy, young sheep. Reference will be furnished that will satisfy any man of the reliable business character of these men. We are anxious to find parties who have the sheep or the money to invest in sheep to furnish our people, for it will insure profitable employment to them and further the development and material prosperity of this section of the state. Winter wheat and rye are looking finely; in fact the present could not present a more encouraging prospect for crops. E. J. TURNER.

Miscellaneous.

In the North American Review for June, Senator W. B. Allison has a paper on "The Currency of the Future," in which he indicates the measures that will have to be taken by Congress for insuring a stable currency after the national debt has been extinguished. "A Memorandum at a Venture," by Walt Whitman, is an explanation of his purpose and point of view in trenching upon topics not usually regarded as amenable to literary treatment. "Andover and Creed Subscription," by Rev. Dr. Leonard Woolsey Bacon, is a philosophical review of the present state of dogmatic belief in the churches. Hon. George F. Seward, late minister to China, in an article entitled "Mongolian Immigration," makes an argument against the proposed anti-Chinese legislation. Not the least important paper is one entitled "Has Land a Value?" by Isaac L. Rice, it being a criticism of one of the fundamental postulates of Henry George's political economy.

Another Farmer Announced.

We are authorized to state that Hon. H. C. St. Clair, of Sumner county, will be a candidate before the State Congressional Convention, which assembles in June, for nomination as a candidate for congressman at large. Col. St. Clair is a farmer of practice and experience. He has been honored twice by the southwestern senatorial district, in being elected its state senator. The Colonel is an honest, enthusiastic Kansan; a hard worker and faithful representative. It is up-hill business for him to say that he does not believe.

We are in receipt of a special report from the department of Agriculture at Washington giving the condition of the crops of the country; but the KANSAS FARMER was at least two weeks ahead of the government officers. This reminds us to say that the inefficiency of the work of the Commissioner of Agriculture is the tardiness of his reports. The newspapers have told the people all about his work long before it gets out to be read.

The Stock Interest.

Advantages of Small Flocks.

The reason why large flocks of sheep—and the principle applies to all farm stock—are less thrifty than a small number together is answered very truly by an address before the Indiana Sheep Growers' Association, in speaking of pasturing: There is one thing about pasturing sheep that has been overlooked, viz., the damage done to the grass by being run over by the flock: While I believe one acre of good grass would keep five or maybe eight sheep well, I do not believe 100 acres would keep 500 sheep. Five sheep would probably do but little damage to one acre, even though they were confined to it; they would put a few tracks over it in a day, and would easily find fresh grass each day. But suppose we put 500 sheep in a 100 acre lot; if each sheep would confine themselves to their own particular acre they would probably do well in summer. But they will not do this, and right here is where theory and practice part company. Our five sheep start out to graze, and the 495 go along with them. Now, a sheep is a dainty creature and likes clean food. So the hindmost part of the flock keep pushing ahead, paying little or no attention to what has been already run over, and being in each other's way each would go over ten times as much ground before it is filled as it ought. And having so much more work to get its food, it does not do so well as one that can satisfy itself with little or no exertion. Going over the trail too frequently and picking about dung and urine for grass is doubtless what makes large flocks so liable to disease.—*Ex.*

The Utility of Pedigreeing.

How many breeders and stock raisers there are that fully realize what a pedigree is; and how many more there are that but dimly understand its meaning and its value. These latter include every grade, and it seems to me that if they did fully understand and appreciate the system we should not hear so much about expenses, and nonsense and in every form against pedigreeed stock. (One man in Illinois who has been breeding fine stock for twenty-five years was a bitter opposer of the whole movement. "You have looked after the pedigree until you have lost the hog. I think it is all foolishness. Breed a good pig and never mind the pedigree" were some of his remarks. But when a charter-member of the Central made him a present of the first Vol. he fell so much in love with the Vol., with the system of pedigreeing, and with this whole movement of breeders to thus preserve and improve their fine stock, that he is now a firm advocate of it. Another prominent breeder of Oxford, O., about a year ago was at a fair. He approached a leading breeder of Columbus, Indiana, and said, "Come down here to the pens, I have the finest pig in the show and will sell him to you cheap for \$75." The Hoosier asked, "How does he pan out on paper?" "What?" replied Mr.—flying into a rage, "do you mean a pedigree?" "That is what I mean," replied the Hoosier. "Then d—n the man that would ask for such a thing," hotly replied Mr.—The Hoosier drew himself up to the full height of his splendid form, and responded, "The same to the man who would sell me a pig without a pedigree." Mr.—walked off without a word, and now we find this very same gentleman recording all his stock in Vol. 4, and buying a share of stock also in O. R. What is the pedigree? To my understanding it is the history of an animal and its ancestors, only this and nothing more. Its value depends on the quality of the animals whose names appear in the pedigree, the more of these possessing great individual merit the more valuable it is; and why more valuable? Simply because it is known to every breeder that the good or bad qualities of an animal are largely inherited, and as the ancestors were good or bad, so these transferred their peculiar and distinguishing quality to the progeny. This power of transmitting qualities will last to the tenth or twelfth generation, and perhaps even longer. This silent power of the blood has been known to lie silent for four generations then appear; and certain marks of an ancestor have been known to reappear every other generation for six generations. In order to know the value of an animal we must know its history—i.e. its pedigree. It is necessary for breeders to keep a private record of their stock, as in keeping a number of animals for breeding purposes for several years right along, and unless everything is in writing it is simply impossible to keep the pedigrees of his stock with any accuracy, great as is the need of the private record, the necessity is more so for a public one. Public Records for pedigrees are necessary for the preservation of these as the private one may be lost or destroyed. Besides in no other way can breeders become acquainted so cheaply and easily as through the medium of these banded organizations. Such membership is also to a certain extent a guarantee of character, for any member who becomes guilty of wilful misrepresentation should be unceremoniously expelled and remain unrecognized by such organizations. The cost of these Records is trivial as compared with the advantages derived. There must be a test or criterion of fitness, and this is the only manner in which it can successfully be maintained. The next question is, which is the best Record where there are more than one of the same breed? A condition that never ought to be. In deciding this question I take the ground that none can be too strict in their rules regulating the admissions to their pages. For the true value of the pedigree is its correctness. Among the Poland China Records taking them all in all, I of course think the

Central is the best. The other records may have advantages in the eyes of certain breeders, but not in mine. I know of no record that gives so full a description of each animal recorded. In no way can we know the real value of an animal unless we have a full and exact description of it and every one of its ancestors, these descriptions being placed on record with the pedigrees, are preserved for time to come. Of course Public Records are and will be opposed by a certain class of stockmen. These are not breeders in the true meaning of the word. These men may be justly divided into three classes. First those parties who are afraid of an exposure of their dishonest practices, if stock must be registered in order to be accepted as pure bred. Second, those who are unwilling to incur the necessary expenses of Recording. Third, those that are too "lazy" to be to the trouble of keeping their affairs in business shape. These three classes I believe include all the opponents of the Records. They are all to be pitied, the first, because they have lost all sense of right and honor; the second because they are unable or unwilling to do their share of work for the benefit of mankind; the third because they are like the shiftless "go easy" known in every community, they can't help it, it is natural. None of either class are of any benefit to our profession, which demands that a member should be honest, honorable and truthful. My advice to all, is not to buy a bad animal even if it has a good pedigree, and also never buy a good animal with a poor pedigree, in neither case will they give you the best results, these are only secured by having extra choice animals possessing extra choice pedigrees.—*Wisconsin Breeder.*

Sheep, their Types and Characteristics.

The origin of the fine-wool sheep—the Merino in its several varieties—so far antedates any known history as to preclude the possibility of enlightenment upon that point beyond what is furnished by conjecture. However interesting authentic information might be to the student of history, all that the practical breeder could realize from such knowledge is now vouchsafed to him by the knowledge that the descendants of admirable fine-wool sheep have been carefully bred and reared in Spain and (pure-bred descendants from these) in other countries for nearly or quite two thousand years. In that nature favored land, with the prestige of former fame, and under the patronage of royalty, and aided by all that science and art could bring to its improvement, the Spanish Merino sheep laid broad and deep the foundation of a fame that seems destined to prove as lasting as the hills over which it roamed through a score of centuries. Fortunate it was that those who had the power to protect and the resources for improving those valuable flocks at once made them the special objects of care and pride, jealously guarding them against contamination by other blood, or deterioration in any of the essentials to a profitable fine-wool production.

From these Spanish flocks, attaining their highest excellence during the latter half of the eighteenth century, have sprung all the fine-wool varieties of sheep, however widely divergent their present types may seem.

Though closely guarded against exportation, under the impulse of selfishness and by stringent laws, so desirable an acquisition to the wealth of a country could not long be confined to Spanish territory. In 1765 a number of fine-wool sheep—supposed to be about three hundred—were taken from Spain into Saxony, where, owned and controlled by the royal families, they assumed certain peculiarities of form and fleece, materially differing from the parent stock. Some twenty years later (1786), the first importation of importance—some three hundred—was made into France. These also became the objects of royal care, and through a system of care and breeding, assumed a changed type, and became the source of the French Merino.

Though a very few animals had been brought here previously, the shipment of Spanish Merinos to the United States really began in 1801-2, between which date and the year 1812 large numbers, probably as many as twenty thousand, were landed and scattered mostly through the New England and Atlantic States. Conspicuous in these importations, and mainly instrumental in their promulgation, were three of the representatives of the United States to foreign countries, viz: David Humphreys, Minister to Spain; Chancellor Livingston, Minister to France, and William Jarvis, Consul to Portugal. These far-seeing statesmen, moved undoubtedly largely by philanthropy and a desire to plant in the young republic the foundation of an industry which promised so much by way of advancing its wealth and independence, though not unmindful, it may be, of the opportunity of turning an honest penny for their own benefit, bought on their own account and for others large numbers from the best flocks of the kingdom, and sent them to the United States, where they were distributed at highly remunerative prices. In fact when the prices paid for many of these imported animals by the hopeful breeders of seventy-five years ago are considered, in connection with the scarcity of money and the narrow limits to which American agriculture was then confined, during no so-called "crisis" of later years have prices run higher. Enormous prices were paid for single animals, while in some instances entire invoices brought an average of more than \$1,000 per head.

It is a fact to be recorded in its favor that the best specimens of fine-wool sheep have always commanded, in all countries where they have been introduced, prices that seem extravagant to the casual observer. From the palmy days of the Roman Empire down to the present,

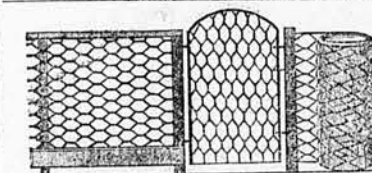
men have been found ready with the money and the nerve to back their faith in fine-wool sheep of high excellence. Who is to say that in the main these men have not acted wisely? Who assumes to place a limit to the valuable results from a first-class ram, as his blood and excellencies mingle through the millions of sheep with which his descendants are brought into contact? Let the timid talk as they will about the folly of "fancy prices," but there still remains the fact that among the men, and in the localities where such so-called visionary prices have obtained, have always been found animals of the highest merit, when judged by a wool-bearing standard; and, whatever may have been the experience of certain individuals, no man can successfully deny that the country is richer and wool-growing more generally profitable than either would have been, had not the incentive of high prices—the knowledge that actual merit would be seen and appreciated, and paid for at its full value—been constantly in sight. Men will do much under the impulse of philanthropy, and the majority of them still more to gain personal renown; but the knowledge, or at least a reasonable expectation, that their work will pay will be found to quicken the pulse of the philanthropist and spur the ambition for renown with the best of men.—*Breeders' Gazette.*

Dark Swine Preferred.

Some forty odd years ago, when I first began to execute orders given me by the southern planters, they required, with rare exceptions, white swine. I told them the dark colored would prove the most hardy and thrifty for their climate, the same as negroes over white men. But I could at first persuade only a few to adopt my opinion and take Berkshire, Essex, Neapolitan, in preference to Suffolk, Prince Albert, Yorkshire, Irish Grazer and Chester County—these last five being the popular white pigs of that day. But my southern friends soon found that all of these five were subject to scur, mange, and other disagreeable cutaneous diseases, which the black or dark spotted pigs escaped entirely, and always were a healthy, clean, glossy hide. The planters then began to change their orders, and in the course of a few years would hardly accept white pigs from the north, of even the finest breeds, as a gift. In most other parts of the United States, a great prejudice prevailed against black and dark spotted, and few would breed them. Pork packers were especially opposed to them, because they say the skin was dark, and yet this would generally scrape to white when they came to dress it. However, time went on, and as breeders gradually found out, north, east and west, the same objections to white swine which had taken place at the south, they began rapidly to change the color of their stock, and now few white hogs are found in the Chicago, or other great markets of the west, the general run being on the Berkshire, the Poland China and Essex. Indeed so much more favorably are dark-colored swine now considered there, that they have been gradually breeding out the white spots of the first sort above, and now they are almost entirely black or very dark brown, like the Essex and Neapolitan. All these swine are very thrifty and mature early. The Berkshire and Poland China are especially hardy—can endure any extreme of climate, from the coldest to the hottest. The Berkshire is famous for its larger proportion of tender, lean, juicy meat, and is consequently greatly improved for smoked hams, shoulders and bacon. The three other sorts cut up choice, clear, fat pork, which is most desirable to salt and barrel.—*A. B. Allen in New York Tribune.*

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In answering an advertisement found in these columns, our readers will confer on us a favor by stating that they saw the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.



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Is the only general purpose wire fence in use. Being a strong net work without bars, it will turn dogs, pigs, sheep and poultry, as well as the most vicious stock, without injury to either fence or stock. It is just the fence for farms, gardens, stock ranges, and railroads; and very neat for lawns, parks, school lots and cemeteries. As it is covered with rust-proof paint (or galvanized) it will last a life time. It is superior to boards or barbed wire in every respect. We ask for it a fair trial, knowing it will wear itself into favor. The S. J. GUYTON GATES, made of wrought iron pipe and steel wire, defy all competition in neatness, lightness, strength and durability. We also make the BEST AND CHEAPEST ALL IRON automatic or self opening gates. For prices and particulars ask hardware dealers, or

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Cures Epileptic Fits, Spasms, Convulsions, St. Vitus Dance, Vertigo, Hysterics, Insanity, Apoplexy, Paralysis, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, and all Nervous Diseases. This infallible remedy will positively eradicate every species of Nervous Derangement, and drive them away from whence they came, never to return again. It utterly destroys the germs of disease by neutralizing the hereditary taint or poison in the system, and thoroughly eradicates the disease, and utterly destroys the cause.

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Cures Female Weakness General Debility, Leucorrhoea or Whites, Painful Menstruation, Ulceration of the Uterus, Internal Heat, Gravel, Inflammation of the Bladder, Irritability of the Bladder. For Wakefulness at night, there is no better remedy. During the change of life no Female should be without it. It quiets the Nervous System, and gives rest, comfort, and nature's sweet sleep.

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Cures Alcoholism, Drunkenness and the habit of Opium Eating. These degrading habits are by far the worst evils that have ever befallen suffering humanity. Thousands die annually from these noxious drugs. The drunkard drinks liquor not because he likes it, but for the pleasure of drinking and his friends, lured by thinking that he is on his road to ruin. Like the Opium Eater, he first uses the drug in small quantities as a harmless antidote. The soothing influence of the drug takes strong hold upon his system, and he is unable to resist its influence. The habit of Opium Eating and Liquor Drinking are precisely what eating is to alimentiveness, as over eating first inflames the stomach, which redoubles its efforts, and makes him eat more, and so on, until it consumes the vital force and then itself. Like the glutinous tape-worm, it cries "Give, give, give!" but never enough until its own rapacity devours itself. Samaritan Nerve gives instant relief in all such cases. It produces the sleep, quiets the nerves, builds up the nervous system, and restores body and mind to a healthy condition.

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Cures Nervous Dyspepsia, Palpitation of the Heart, Asthma, Bronchitis, Scrofula, Syphilis, diseases of the Kidneys and all diseases of the Urinary Organs. Nervous Debility, caused by the indiscretions of youth, permanently cured by the use of this invaluable remedy. To the young, middle-aged, and old men, who are covering their sufferings as by a mantle with silence, look up, you can be saved by timely efforts, and making haste to society and jewels in the crown of your Maker. If you will. Do not keep this a secret longer, until it saps your vitality, and destroys both body and soul. If you are thus afflicted, take Dr. Richmond's SAMARITAN NERVINE. It will restore your shattered nerves, arrest premature decay, and impart tone and energy to the whole system.

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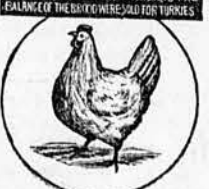
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BALANCE OF THE WHEAT WERE SAVED FOR FODDER.



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OFFICERS OF KANSAS STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE. President—W. S. Curry, Topeka, Shawnee Co. Vice President at Large—N. G. Gill, Emporia, Lyon Co.

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At wholesale, retail, or on commission. My plants made a large growth last year and will give the public entire satisfaction. Printed instructions for cultivating hedge fences sent free to any address.

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\$72 WEEK. \$12 a day at home easily made. Costly Outfit free. Address TRUE & Co., Augusta, Me.

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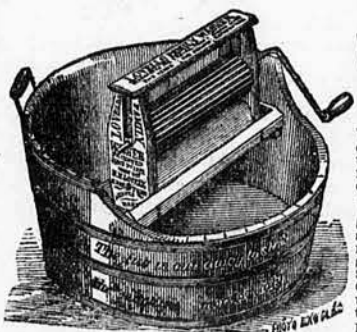
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Our New Catalogue of the Planet Jr. Farm and Garden Implements is Free to all, and we guarantee it to interest every one who plants seeds or cultivates the soil. It is a beautiful descriptive work of 16 pages, full of illustrations. We want Market Gardeners and Root Growers to examine closely our Garden Tools: Farmers who value Labor-Saving Tools to study our Combined Horse Hoe, Cultivator and Coverer; and every one who has even a small vegetable garden to learn what the Planet Garden Flow will save them. S. L. ALLEN & CO., 127 and 129 Catharine St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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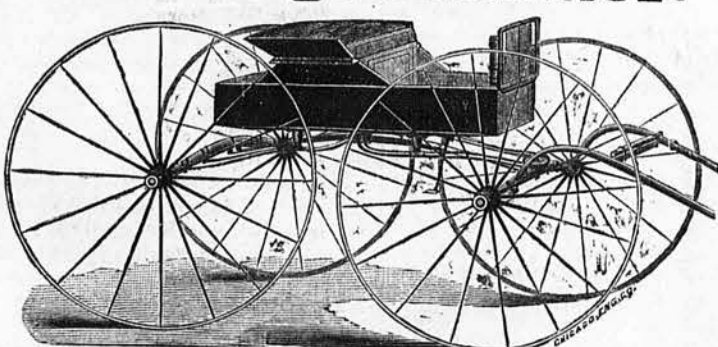
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AGENTS WANTED in every county. We can make \$200 to \$500 during the winter. Ladies have great success selling this Washer. Retail price only \$5. Sample to those desiring an agency \$3. Also the Celebrated KEystone WRINGERS at manufacturers' lowest price. We invite the strictest investigation. Send us your address on a postal card for further particulars. LOVELL WASHER CO., Erie, Pa.

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LIBERAL TERMS. Price, \$1.00. Thompson & Co., Publishers, St. Louis, Mo.

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It is manifest that from GOOD SEEDS ONLY can Good Vegetables be obtained.

The character of LANDRETH'S SEEDS has been substantiated beyond all question. They are the STANDARD for Quality. Over 1500 acres in Garden Seed Crops under our own cultivation. Ask your Storekeeper for them in original sealed packages, or drop us a postal card for prices and Catalogue. Address: DAVID LANDRETH & SONS, 21 and 23 S. Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

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Sotto il Patronato di S. M. la Regina, Palazzo Del R. Conservatorio.

AT THE GREAT ITALIAN MUSICAL EXPOSITION

Recently closed at Milan, was probably the MOST EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, old and new, ever brought together; fully illustrating the great progress which has been made and present high excellence in this department of manufactures. After exhaustive examinations, test and comparisons, extending through a period of several months, more than 250 Awards were made of medals and diplomas, in recognition of the merits, including Organs and Harmoniums of all descriptions, European and American.

THE GRAND SILVER MEDAL, being the highest award in this department, was conferred upon the

Mason and Hamlin Organs.

Their manufacturers value this extraordinary distinction the more highly because of the importance of the occasion, LY MUSICAL. The Mason & Hamlin Organs were honored by special exhibition before the Royal Court by CARLO DUCCI of Rome, and warm commendations from their Majesties the King and Queen.

At all the WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITIONS for fourteen years these Organs have received the HIGHEST HONORS, being the only American Organs which have received such at any.

During the year just closed this Company have introduced improvements of Organ by then, twenty years since.

Improvements. are now received from their factories daily, surpassing in capacity and excellence anything which has before been produced, and certainly worthy to be ranked with the VERY FINEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS IN THE WORLD.

Elegant Styles. are in cases of solid black WALNUT, MAHOGANY, including, also, the most valuable of the recent improvements, and adapted to all uses, public and private, in plain and elegant cases, are at \$22, \$30, \$37, \$46, \$72, \$84, \$90, \$95, \$100, \$102, \$105 to \$200, and up.

Popular Prices. These organs are sold for cash or easy payments, or will be rented until rent pays for an organ.

Easy Payments, A New Illustrated Catalogue, just issued, fully describing and illustrating MORE THAN ON HUNDRED STYLES OF ORGANS, with net PRICE LISTS and circulars, will be sent free to any one desiring them. Certainly no one should buy or rent any organ without having seen these circulars, which contain much useful information about organs.

MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN AND PIANO CO., 151 Tremont Street, BOSTON; 46 East 14th Street (Union Sq.), NEW YORK; 149 Wabash Avenue, CHICAGO.

THE KANSAS FARMER.

The Kansas Farmer Company, Proprietors,
Topeka, Kansas.

TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.

One Copy, Weekly, for one year, 1.50
One Copy, Weekly, for six months, .75
One Copy, Weekly, for three months, .50

CLUB RATES—In clubs of ten or more, one dollar a year, and one copy free to the person who gets up the club. Sent to any post office.

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

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers should very carefully notice the label stamped upon the margin of their papers. All those marked 122 expire with the next issue. The paper is not to be discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, and to avoid missing a number renewals should be made at once.

When subscribers send in their names, write plainly the name, postoffice, county and state.

When an address is to be changed from one postoffice to another, give the name of both offices, the one where the paper is now sent, and also, the name of the one to which it is to be sent.

Post Office Addresses.

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

H. A. Heath is a duly authorized traveling agent and correspondent of the KANSAS FARMER.

New Advertisements.

The following advertisements appear in the FARMER this week for the first time:

Wool buyers; Short-Horn Sales; Sheep Dip; Pigs for Sale; Farm for Sale; 30 Acres, etc.; Prospect Farm—Stock; Rollins & Walker, Swine Breeders; Stover Wind Mill.

The final opinion in Guitau's case is, that the judgement of Judge Cox's court must be affirmed.

We are in receipt of the second tract of the society for Political Education—"Money and its Substitutes," by Horace White.

With Funston, Benedict and St. Clair in the field, the farmers of Kansas ought surely to secure one of their number as representative in Congress.

A few short letters were on file for our last week's issue that we had not room for. They related to weather and crops, and hence would be old for this week. That accounts for their non-appearance. We gave their substance in an editorial note.

H. T. Brown, of the house of Walter Brown & Co., Boston, writes to one of our subscribers that notwithstanding the fact of there being a good many wool buyers in Kansas, his house proposes to keep the lead by doing better for our wool men than ever before. He says: "It looks as though we could do better for our Kansas friends than we did last year."

The past week has been too cold for tender plants to make much growth. Corn is retarded a good deal; some of it very yellow and sickly looking, but that will change when the temperature becomes warmer. Some fruit is falling, though not enough to create any anxiety.

Wheat is doing well, so is stock. The cold and rain has checked the ravages of the chinch bugs, which is much to be pleased with. A light frost is reported in some parts of the state Monday morning, but it did no injury, so far as we have been able to learn.

There has not been any material change in the condition of the markets during the past week. Money is easy and abundant, and business generally is good. Labor is everywhere employed at satisfactory wages, except, in a very few cases of mechanics who are striking for an advance. As to wool, the new clip of Kansas is getting to market in condition showing an improvement in quality and in handling, which is appreciated by buyers. The general expectation of a good harvest exerts a buoyant influence which, while not stimulating to gambling, yet keeps things lively in all channels of trade.

Carlyle's posthumous "Reminiscences of My Irish Journey"—the second part of which appears in the June Century, and which will be completed in the July number—show that the general poverty of the people and their dissatisfaction with things in general were almost as marked in 1849 as they are to-day. Carlyle's point of view is revealed in the following passage: An Irishman having exclaimed in his hearing, "All admit we're very ill governed—" "Yes, indeed," reflected Carlyle, "you govern yourself. He that would govern you well, would probably surprise you much, my friend,—laying a hearty horse-whip over that back of yours."

Ensilage.

As our readers know, we are taking a good deal of interest in the preserving of green fodder for stock. If it be true that green corn, sorghum, grass and other crops which animals eat, can be preserved in the green state, with all or most of their nutritive properties retained, so that they may be fed in this preserved state during the cold seasons, there can be no doubt about its utility. It would, to a very great extent, relieve farmers of anxiety on account of insect ravages, and it would prevent in large measure all those diseases of stock consequent upon the use of dry and innutritious food in the long winter months. When men eat salt and dry food for a season, scurvy, con-

stipation, skin diseases and fevers often appear as results. The same principle holds good in animals. Stock fed on straw or light hay in the winter become poor, hidebound, and are afflicted with divers skin diseases, none of which are ever known to come when green feed is used.

We know that some persons argue against ensilage because, they say, that in drying hay or corn, or corn fodder nothing is lost except water, and this may be supplied in winter without trouble. If such persons can explain why it is that when the drying process begins, the atmosphere is freighted with fragrance from the vegetation curing, they ought to understand that this fragrance is of substance going out of the drying leaves and stalks. Pure water does not send off any odor. It will hardly be argued that the odorous elements are not nutritive. If not, then why is it that cooks never eat as much from the table as other equally healthy persons who have not been subjected to the fumes of the cook room? Why is it that, when one is hungry and comes within an atmosphere full of scents from the kitchen he is cheered and to some extent relieved? These plain and common facts, aside from chemical analyses, prove that more than water passes from drying or cooking vegetables when not confined. We all know that the best roast or stew is that which was the most confined during the process of cooking, so that the best part of the meat or vegetable should not be permitted to escape in vapor or steam. Take other examples: The fragrance of some flowers is pleasant to all persons, while that of others produces sickness in some people; and the fumes of cooking meats and vegetables produces the same effect. Pure water, when changed into steam and floated in the atmosphere to no greater extent than the vegetable odors herein referred to would have no other effect than, simply, to moisten the air.

That argument has no force in our opinion. Then, on the other hand, we have some familiar analogies. The making of sauer kraut is ensilage in one sense. The green cabbage is chopped fine and pressed or beaten down as solidly as can be done with conveniences at hand. A little salt is mixed with it generally, we believe, and the mass is thoroughly secured against all approaches of air. When the air has access to it the kraut is spoiled. The canning of vegetables and fruits may be used as an illustration of some force. After a thorough heating in confined receptacles, the articles are quickly transferred to cans or jars and sealed air-tight. And we also can, and thus preserve, meats in the same way. These preserved articles are much better as we all know, than they would have been dried. Why may not the same be true in the case of ensilage?

But we are in the infancy only of this business. As much fruit was spoiled and wasted in learning the art of canning, so many experiments will be made and many failures occur in learning how to preserve green feed. But it has been done, and more ensilage will be made this year than ever before. Any one can experiment on a small scale. For instance: Make a large box; set it in the earth on a north hill-side, or in any drained earth; fill it with green corn chopped fine, spread about evenly and pressed down compactly as possible; cover so as to exclude the air; weight it heavily, then cover with a shed of some kind so as to keep the silo dark, cool and well ventilated. When cold weather comes, open a small aperture and learn the result. By thus experimenting, one may learn much that will be of benefit in operating on a larger scale. Our faith in ensilage grows stronger the more we learn of its results.

Improving Stock.

Time was when some men were heard to say that "Feed makes Breed," and it is not wholly untrue to say there is to be found, even now, once in a long way, a man who imagines that if he only feeds well, he may have as good stock as anybody. The fact that such persons are so few and generally so short in enterprise and public spirit, is good evidence that their theory is fast losing advocates. Time was when the only means of improving stock seemed to be feed; for every farmer owned the same kind of stock, and the best feeders usually had the best specimens. It was from that fact the feeding theory became a common one. But that was when the breeds grew largely to heads, legs, horns and tails. Take for example the hog of half a century or so ago, whose hinder parts had to be weighted down by a brick fastened to his tail so that he could root with any reasonable degree of comfort and grace. We remember giving offence once to a neighboring farmer who was complaining about his hogs not improving in flesh although they had a good hazel brush patch to work in, when the writer's hogs were sleek and fat as seals. We called his attention to the fact that his hogs were more than half head and legs, and suggested that he tie every tail around a ten pound rock so that the operation of rooting could be successfully performed, and the saving in labor would show itself in increased flesh.

There is no disguising the fact that feed, in quantity and quality, and given with regularity in proper places, has much to do with the appearance of animals even of the same breed; but it is equally true that animals of some breeds, especially of the swine family, will live and thrive on what others waste in rambling after what is not intended for them at all. Who does not remember the China hogs when first introduced, and how sleek and lazy they were, rolling in fatness while their long-legged, slab-sided, barrel-headed neighbors were running about on forage expeditions, always hungry and always poor when outside the fattening pen?

And, also, who does not remember, how, after the little Chinas became common, two generations of them went into the meat barrel while one generation of the others was getting into the butchering condition? Who does not know that 500 pounds of good meat could be made out of those same little Chinas cheaper than 300 pounds could be made out of the common wild-cat stock?

There is no doubt that breeds may be and have been improved by care in selecting the breeding animals from among those possessing the best points. This every careful farmer would do on a common sense principle. There are always, among animals, as well as among humans, some superior specimens; and when a farmer selects the best individuals he has among his flocks and herds for breeders, he invariably produces improved animals. This is equally true of all breeds and all classes of animals. But, this plan might be adopted and continued carefully with all breeds, limited to themselves, for any period of time, and the Short Horn, or Jersey, or Hereford would be, at the end of that period, as far ahead of the long horn Texan, as they are now.

So that, while it is to the interest of every farmer to improve his stock by using the best animals he has among his own, if he cannot do better, yet, if he is at all able to procure males of other and better breeds to cross on his common stock, he will soon find a large increase in its value. While it is true that an occasional instance of excellence is seen among scrub stock, they are rare. The writer of this once owned a common cow that for a considerable time after weaning her calf gave milk that made a pound of butter a day, or seven pounds a week, and this while other cows in the same herd made only two to three pounds a week. All of us have known such instances, but they are very rare.

Improving stock pays. It costs less to keep a good animal than it does to keep an inferior one; and the gain in the products of the improved animals more than pays for the increased expense in starting with males of better breeds. A short horn steer, for instance, at three years of age, will yield more and better beef than a long horn at four, and his beef will command a better price pound for pound. A Jersey or Hereford cow will cost no more in keeping than a common cow will, yet her milk and her calves will be worth nearly if not quite twice as much. Hence we urge our farmer readers to improve their stock by the best means within their reach. It will pay half a dozen neighbors to join in purchasing one good male for use as they may need him, if they cannot have one apiece. It requires but a few years to own good stock.

Chinch Bugs.

The farmer is now restive in face of his little enemy. The wheat harvest is nearly here, and we will soon know how much wheat has been destroyed by the pest. What can be done to retard their ravages is the chief topic, for they seem to be in every place. We believe it would pay, when a wheat field is attacked, to mow the part invaded and burn the straw and stubble on the ground, provided, of course, that it be done before the standing grain is dry enough to burn. And as soon as the burning is done, plow the burned strip and harrow and roll; then run cultivators and roller near the standing wheat every day until it is out of danger. If the bugs reappear on the plowed ground, make furrows, and when they are well filled with the moving army, drag a log through them. All this will require time, but it will destroy millions of bugs.

Then, as to corn fields, we would advise the plowing of a rod or two in width all around the field and cultivate it the same as the strip at the wheat fields. If a field is attacked before the bugs are discovered, let all the outside rows be cut close to the ground or plowed under with chains to draw every stalk completely under the turning earth, and then roll. If the cutting plan is adopted, let old hay or straw, or other dry stuff, in large quantities be scattered over the cut space and burned, and then plow and cultivate and roll, and drag with logs or long stones. If the corn is plowed under, fasten a trace chain to the double tree at a point above the furrow, fasten the other end to the beam just above the top of the mould-board, and leave the chain long enough so as to whip the stalks under as the plow moves.

And while on this subject we will repeat our suggestions about rotating crops. We believe that repeating grains of the same kind on the same ground for years in succession is a standing invitation to chinch bugs and other grain destroying insects to come, help themselves and stay. No grain should ever be planted twice in succession in the same field. And in the regions chiefly infested with these destroyers, there ought to be a careful cleanliness in cultivation. All trash should be removed to the barn yard, compost, heap or burned. Some farmers always plow their land the same way and leave a great deal of dry stuff, cornstalks and such, lying about the outer edges. This is a bug-harbor business. Fields ought to be cultivated as neatly as gardens. Many of our farmers undertake to cultivate too much. We incline to believe that any careful farmer can, by proper effort begun in time, save 75 to 80 per cent. of any crop from chinch bugs. But he must have open spaces between his crops and the rest of the world. On that open space he can defeat any number of insects that walk to their work like chinch bugs do. We have known strips of millet sown in corn fields to save the corn. We have known daily working of loose ground around the field to save a corn crop.

These bugs move in masses, and on the

ground when they are in search of feed. Anything that will check that march, or destroy the moving myriads, will save the crop.

Messrs. Rollins and Walker publish an advertising card this week to which the attention of our readers is called. The Indicator, of Kansas City says Kansas ought to be proud of the stock exhibited at the great fairs last year by Mr. Rollins. At Bismarck he took first premiums on aged boar, and on sow and pigs, second on sow and pig, and sweepstakes on best boar and five sows of any age or breed. At the state fair, with the same competition, he took first on two-year old boar, first on one year old boar, second on boar under six months, second on yearling sow, first on sow and five pigs, first on sow under six months, sweepstakes of \$40 for best sow of any age or breed, sweepstakes of \$100 for the best collection of swine of any age or breed, and grand sweepstakes of silver tea set, costing \$125, for best collection of swine of any age or breed. At these two fairs Mr. Rollins' premiums amounted to \$414, and he had for competitors noted herds of Poland Chinas and Berkshires from Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, besides strong competition from Kansas herds. He exhibited twenty-five head of Berkshires at these fairs.

An editor often has perplexing experience. A few days ago we received a card requesting us to change the address of a paper, and no postoffice was given, so that we did not know where to address the writer to call his attention to the omission. Now a card lies before us in these words: "Mr. Editor, please direct my paper to Conroton postoffice, Davis Co., Kas." That is all—no name given. Both of these writers will wonder why their requests are not granted, but we do not see how to remedy the matter, unless, when they get angry enough they write again.

Roads On Section Lines.

A subscriber who does not give his postoffice, wants some information about roads on section lines. We do not quite understand his question, hence must answer at some disadvantage. No place is a road, within the meaning of the law, until it is ordered open by the county commissioners, and made matter of record; and it may not be worked before it is declared to be a road; that is, it is not a lawful road until it is so declared by the commissioners.

Cattle Sales—a Mistake.

The Illinois and Indiana cattle sales to which we referred editorially last week, instead of being held at three separate places—Lexington, New Windsor, and Cambridge City, as we wrote it, herds from those places will be sold on the days named in our article; but the sales will all be at one place, Dexter Park, (Union Stock Yards) Chicago, Ills. The advertisement was misleading in respect to place of sale. All the cattle advertised will be sold at Dexter Park.

Gossip About Stock.

J. M. Anderson's Jersey bull, Duke of Lawdale, died the 14th inst.

P. Adsit has lately brought a fine Norman stallion into Greenwood county.

A horse fair is to be held at Wichita, June 28th, 29th, and 30th under the auspices of Sedgewick county Agricultural, Mechanical and Stock Association.

Heller & Co., have opened a wool house in Wichita.

James B. Swarthout, of Peabody, is raising a good sheep herd from crosses of Missouri and Mexican sheep.

D. M. Green, north of Peabody, has a nice lot of sheep.

C. E. Westbrook, Marion county, has sixty-five bucks that he expects will shear twenty-five pounds of wool apiece next year.

Wm. Smith and Clarence Filley, Wabaunsee county, have a herd of some four hundred sheep.

Dodge City is becoming a considerable horse market.

Charles Goodnight expected to ship sixteen hundred head of beef cattle from Dodge City the 20th inst., the largest shipment of fat cattle ever made from that place.

The demand in Texas for sheep seems to have drained New Mexico so completely that it is feared the sheep market there will be high for a year or two.

The Coffeyville Journal says the sheep industry in that vicinity is growing fast.

Major E. A. Osborne, of Coffeyville, short horn breeder, recently returned from Chicago with six fine specimens—one bull and five cows.

The Well's Bros. of Coffeyville, last week shipped nearly 5,000 pounds of wool, purchased of the farmers in that vicinity.

A drove of sixteen hundred Texas cattle passed through Sheridan county last week on their way to Nebraska.

An ox train from Texas took away one thousand bushels of Sumner county corn recently.

A. M. Arnold, near Burlington has a young colt which was born "with a fully developed bag, from which he is obliged to draw the milk" to prevent inflammation, says the Patriot.

The sheep of J. M. Vernon, Mitchell county averaged fleeces 13½ pounds in weight.

Mr. Crandall, Coffey county, heavy cattle dealer, owns 4,040 acres of land, of which 3,400 acres are under fence and 900 acres under cultivation.

Special Notice.

The KANSAS FARMER, Weekly Capital, and American Young Folks, sent one year for \$2.50.

KANSAS FARMER CO.

This, That and the Other.

Money to Loan at 7 and 8 per cent. Interest.

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, Wis., is prepared to loan money upon strictly first-class business property in the larger cities, and upon well improved farms within this state, to desirable borrowers, at above rate of interest.

No commission for negotiating a loan is charged, and no life insurance is required to secure a loan. The borrower, will, however, be required to furnish at his own expense a complete and acceptable abstract of title to the property proposed to be mortgaged, with the opinion of a local attorney, satisfactory to the Company, upon the same.

The abstract will be examined and the bond and mortgage prepared by the Company's Counsel at the Home Office, and the mortgage recorded without expense to the borrower.

All applications for loans are examined and passed upon by the Executive Committee of the Company at Milwaukee, after the property offered as security has been examined and its condition reported by the undersigned or some authorized representative of the Company.

Any desired information and necessary blanks upon which to make application for loans will be furnished upon request made to the undersigned.

F. CRANDALL,

Special Loan Agent, Topeka, Kas.

Don't Build Wire Fences

Until you have investigated the Lindsey Improved fence, the only fence that can be kept up. Will not injure stock so badly as the old style. The only hog fence ever made with seven wires. In fact the future wire of this country. We want a man for every county in the state to canvass and build for us.

S. B. CORRINGTON,

252 Kansas ave.

Gambling houses in Chicago are defying the law, and are increasing the attractions of their houses.

Persons exposed to the sun will escape sunstroke if they take Dandelion Tonic regularly.

Kansas City, Mo., June 17th, 1881.

LEIS CHEMICAL MAN'G CO. I have used Leis' Dandelion Tonic for some time past for Torpidity of the Liver, Deranged Stomach and Loss of Appetite, and consider it a very valuable medicine.

GEORGE WELLS, Architect,

Corner Main and 5th sts.

At the Denver races Belle of the West won the mile and a half dash, and Pilot won the trotting race.

Brain and Nerve.

Wells' Health renewer, greatest remedy on earth for impotence, leanness, sexual debility, &c. \$1, at druggists. Kansas Depot, McPIKE & FOX, Atchison, Kansas.

Two brothers at work in a field in Arkansas were overcome with heat and both became insane.

A Card.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous debility, early decay, loss of manhood, &c. I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City.

The inaugural meeting of the National Jockey Club at Washington was well attended.

Catarrh of the Bladder.

Stinging, smarting, irritation of the urinary passage, diseased discharges, cured by Bichuphalba. \$1, at druggists. Kansas Depot, McPIKE & FOX, Atchison, Kansas.

Northern Dakota reports increased acreage in wheat, and the condition good.

\$1,500 per year can be easily made at home working for E. G. Riddett & Co., 10 Barclay Street, New York. Send for their catalogue and full particulars.

Dr. H. D. Butts, Louisiana, Pike county, Mo., breeder of Alderney or Jersey cattle. Stock for sale. Fifty head to select from. Send for catalogue.

Paul Boyton, the noted water man, descended the James river rapids at Richmond uninjured.

Don't Die in the House.

Ask druggists for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, bed bugs, roaches, vermin, flies, ants, insects. 15c per box.

WILBOR'S COMPOUND OF PURE COD LIVER OIL AND LIME.

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30 finest mixed CARDS, Bevel Edge, Imported Chromo's. Most Rose, etc., with name only 10c; or 50 mixed or all chromos 10c. AGENTS WANTED. Low Prices. EXTRA CARDS 5c. Outfit 10c. 20 samples, terms, etc., 2c.

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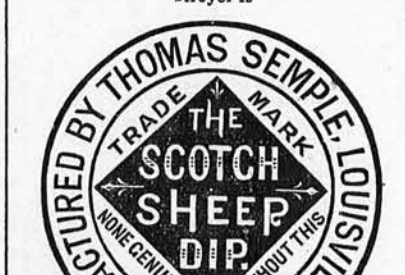
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A light brown Mare about 10 years old, dark mane and tail, both hind feet white, has one shoe before, a star and light blaze in forehead, is light. 3½ miles east of Topeka. A suitable reward will be given by

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\$30 Per Week can be made in any locality. Some-thing entirely new for agents. \$5 outfit free. G. W. INGRAHAM & CO., Boston, Mass.

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Whose Flocks Show SCAB or VERMIN are reminded that

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Covers 120 acres of land. Capacity 10,000 Cattle; 25,000 Hogs; 2,000 Sheep, and 300 Horses and Mules.

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Breeders of Poland China Swine, Shepherd Dogs and Plymouth Rock Fowls. Our spring pigs are by our boars Drag 1879; Sandhurst 1881; Roderick Dhu 1923, and the young lot Blackfoot by Aaron 1241; Dan 1XL 4th 2310, and are coming of fine quality. Set for greater and price list. We have reduced rates by express. P. O. Address, Junction City, Kas.

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OF

SHORT-HORN CATTLE

AND

POLAND CHINA HOGS.

CHAS. E. ALLEN, Proprietor, Manhattan, Kas.

My Short Horns are of the "Rose of Sharon," "Flat Creek Marys," "Josephines," "Ianthas," "Harriets," "Clarksvilles" and other good families, headed by the "KENICK" "Rose of Sharon" bull 628, "Cordelia's Duke" sows.

My Poland Chinas are not excelled in the west—for size, quality and purity of blood. My breeding stock for 1882 have won prizes at the last three years. I have the "Black Bess," "Perfection," "Moorish Maid," and other good families. Have 150 choice pigs from three weeks to five months old for sale, of both sexes. Pairs sent not akin. Have some sows which I will breed at a fair price. Write.

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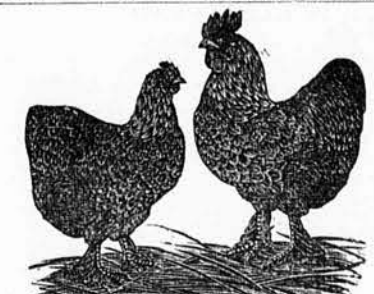
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Choice Plymouth

Ladies' Department.

Hurry Home.

Together they rattle along the street,
Those old chums called wind and rain,
Playing the strongest tricks with your feet,
Till you stumble and stagger again.
But little care I
While I can see
A light in the window
At home for me.
Cheerily blinking the street lamps shine,
Waiting to see the doors flung wide,
And in the radiance of home divine
Some one's waiting for me inside.
Some one's waiting,
And I can see
Red lips holding
A kiss for me.

Reflection.

'Tis a good thing sometimes to be alone,
Sit calmly down and look self in the face,
Ransack the heart, search every secret place,
Prayerful, uproot the baneful seeds there sown,
Pluck out the weeds ere the full crop is grown,
Gird up the loins afresh to run the race,
Foster all noble thoughts, cast out the base,
Thrust forth the bad, and make the good thing own.
Who has this courage to thus look within,
Keep faithful watch and ward with inner eyes?
The foe may harass, but can't pierce surprise,
Or ever him ignoble conquest win,
O! doubt it not, if thou would'st wear the crown,
Self, baser self, must first be trampled down.

—E.

BUTTER MAKING.

MR. EDITOR: In all our labor in making butter, in keeping cream at the proper temperature, in churning and making butter, the preservation of the grain must be kept in mind, and anything that has a tendency to mash the granules must be avoided, or we can not produce good butter. If the cream is too warm or churned too fast, or if a churn is used in which the motion causes friction rather than pressure, or the all day churning of cream taken from unsalted milk of farrow cows, or from cows milked near to the time of coming in, or if it be over-worked after churning, we cannot obtain good butter; it will often have a greasy appearance, the particles do not seem to adhere, and no amount of cooling will make butter under any of these conditions solid. Ice should never come in contact with butter.

Mrs. E. W. Brown.

MR. EDITOR: There been thinking of writing to your paper for some time as I see no letters from this county, and the best part of the paper is the column devoted to the ladies; that is, it suits me best; and I thought I would try and help to keep it interesting as it is. I have just finished cleaning house, and I will write about that. My house is rather large or new (there being only two rooms in it) but with a little good white-wash and a few rolls of plain, neat wall paper, and a good deal of elbow grease well laid on, I made it look like a new one, on the inside at least. Then I put clean white curtains, ruffled up the center, at the windows, and a few neat pictures and various articles that I have made myself, and it really looks so nice that I am quite proud of it. Now, my friends, don't think because you have a small, mean house, that there is no use trying to keep it clean and neat; for it will pay you well. I think the worst of a dirty house wears a woman out more than the hard work of cleaning, even if you have to do it alone as I had to do.

I want to send directions for making some nice crochets for the next time I write, if it does not find the waste basket and fear will be the case, it being my first attempt.

Do any of you ever put cream and sugar over lettuce? If not, just try it for ten some time and see how good it is. Cut the lettuce once, and if very large, twice in two. I send thanks to Cecilia for the washing list receipt.

Bessie Brown.

HOME TALK.

MR. EDITOR: I will just say to the lady of World Rose, Pennsylvania, that Greene county, Pennsylvania, was my birth place and home of my youth. I live now in Pratt county, Kansas, a beautiful and healthy country, but we do not have the same comforts of life here to enjoy as there in many respects; but we have beautiful prairies, good level roads, can see for miles without being hindered by trees or hills; but I would rejoice to see the dear old hills, rocks, and trees once more and pick some delicious fruit. We are all trying our best to make comfortable homes here, but it takes hard labor. We will have to raise our own timber, and it is very hard to get it started and it grows very slowly; we have to cultivate it as much as corn for a number of years if they do any good. There are some fruit trees growing in this part, some peach trees will bear this year if nothing happens. I think peaches and plums will do well here, but I am afraid apples and other fruit will fall as the cold winds and get so very hot through the summer; some vegetables do well. If we can make a success raising timber and fruit trees, this will be a good country, but of course we do not do without timber and fruit. We have to haul our wood from forty to fifty miles; can get canned fruit, but do not have the pleasure or bother of picking it. This is a good stock country; there are a great many cattle and sheep held here. I think that fall is the best time to come, if you care any; but I will say, although I seldom advise any one, if you are comfortably situated and have your health, do not come west; do not sacrifice a good home and leave all; it will pay you to come and stay a year before you do that, but to all who need a change of climate, need pure air and water, come; especially consumptives. Five years ago the best physicians gave me up to die with consumption, and I believe I would if I had not come to Kansas; this is why I am here to day. Hoping some one will be benefited by this, I will close, after saying to Farmer's Daughter that her call needs grass and new milk.

BELL McBERTHE.

ECONOMY.

MR. EDITOR: There is no question relating to the duties of women so important as economy; economy of mental and physical labor, economy of time. The forty years that have passed over my head have taught me time is precious. I might fill columns in telling you how I have learned to economize my time in almost everything relating to woman's duties, but I leave that to others; I wish to draw your attention to a more general view. As a class our American women are educated to house keeping, almost exclusively so; it absorbs all their thoughts, some it enslaves, but it brings no pecuniary remuneration, hence that question of asking for money. Since it is not in the nature of the most considerate of husbands to anticipate the wants of women, nor yet to comprehend the sensibility which causes her to shrink from asking pecuniary favors, no matter how deserving, lest her wants should be regarded as insignificant and heard with indifference, even though she may have sweated over the heated oven for hours preparing some dainty morsel to tickle his appetite, and spent precious hours to embroider his slippers; this voluntary sacrifice of time and labor on her part only renders him more exacting and if anything less considerate. Well—there are many things

that are that need not be, since there is a cause for every effect. We should look to the source and let the results care for themselves. When women have learned just what their duties are positively needed on their part, then use their mental powers in finding just how to perform their duties thoroughly with a view for securing time and strength to devote to some remunerative industry, something that may be healthful and entertaining, she will no longer feel the humiliation of a dependent, but in many instances may turn the scales. There are but few industries in which the farmers' wife can engage, but they are productive of more or less profit in proportion to the skill and energy employed. We have the market garden, the dairy and the poultry business, and for those who love the exercise of skill, the apirary, and as a beautiful and highly remunerative business for women, of Kansas silk, culture in the near future is going to take the lead. I will here acknowledge the receipt of two copies of the "Orange Patron," containing two articles by Dr. Woodward on silk culture in Kansas; I have written for further information, and will be pleased to place before you all the information I shall be able to obtain. At present it is a fact there are ladies in Kansas wearing beautiful silks made by their own hands. We are talking the matter over here and I would like to see a Ladies' Silk society formed in every county in Kansas, in time to begin operations for business next spring. Let us hear from you and let us see if women's brains and energy cannot develop one of the grandest industries ever introduced into Kansas. Economy brain and energy and independence is a sure reward.

Mrs. M. J. Hunter.

FLOWERS.

MR. EDITOR:—I have been watching to see if any of the ladies had anything they wanted to exchange, but guess they have not as no one responds. I promised I'd come to see you again I would tell you something about my flowers and birds, but on looking them over I don't know which plant to write about. I have over fifty different varieties of house plants and I heartily wish I could deposit a bouquet on the desk of our good editor, and let their silent beauty speak thanks for his kindness to the farmers' wives. Mary Mollenbrush, if you will wash your plants in whole oil soap it will kill the green lice. Will you tell me how she treats her Calia lilies? I would like to know if she has a better way than I have, and here must be better than mine, or else it is older. The Kansas Post No. 29 Grand Army of the Republic have a sad duty to perform to-day. An old soldier has been discharged from this warfare, but if his name is enrolled in the life book above, what matters it? He has only starved to death of the great unknown a little in advance of those comrades that he-day march with the stars and stripes at their head. They can only go with them as far as the grave. What a fraternal feeling exists among old soldiers, but it is not to be wondered at when we remember their friendships were cemented by hardships and suffering.

I had intended to give some few hints on decorating our homes, but to-day I have not the heart; my mind is drawn away from such things and I feel that it is better to see that our lives are adorned with a goodly walk than we may be ready when it comes to cross the dark river.

AUNT BEN.

SPICED BEEF—GENERAL RECIPE.

MR. EDITOR: As I am a reader of the Farmer's I would join the ladies in thanks for the Ladies' Department. And now don't let us be prejudiced against one another's ways, for we may learn many things to our advantage; I can see I was a little prejudiced against every way to make light bread, except the way described by Aunt Sue. I have baked that way for years with good success, but since living here we were not successful in making potatoes, except early ones, which late in the spring lose their good quality of making light, flaky bread. I am truly thankful to Practical for his timely receipt for bread, for since trying that, cooking goes easier again. I always think nothing tastes right if the bread and butter are poor. I will give away my making grain snaps: 1 cup brown sugar, 1 cup molasses, 1/2 cup oil, 1/2 cup lard, 1/2 cup corn meal, 1/2 cup flour, 1/2 cup yeast, 1/2 cup salt, 1/2 cup pepper, 2 of melted butter, 2 eggs, one-half cup rolled crackers, mix, roll together tight and bake quickly when cold, slice.

HOMERUS.

KENSINGTON STITCH, ETC.

MR. EDITOR:—Farmer's Daughter wishes Kensington stitch described. It is merely a simple outline stitch; make a knot in the creel to commence with, then put the needle through the material, and pass it back a quarter of an inch distant from the beginning; bring it back not quite half way from the first point and put it back the same distance from the second; the length of the stitch must depend upon the size of the flower to be worked and the fine or coarse texture of the material; the stitches should be evenly placed and blend into each other. The work will look much better if put in a frame and worked, then the needle is put through by the right hand and the upward stitch taken with the left which should be kept under the frame all the time. It is very pleasant work and easily learned.

I am glad to welcome Rebecca into our circle and hope that we all may become acquainted. Jerusalem come too, we could not do anything without her. I would like to take my work and step into her house some pleasant afternoon and have a good talk. A pretty trimming for children's dresses made by setting up any number of stitches divisible by six: 1st row, knit one, put thread over the needle, knit one, knit three stitches together, knit one, make one, repeat to end of needle. For second and every alternate row leave the knitted stitch between the two made stitches and knit; the rest repeat these rows until you have the desired width of trimming. For the crocheted edge, one double stitch into first knitted stitch, four chains, one double stitch into first, one double into next stitch, repeat from four chains three times, two chains, one double into narrow stripe of knitting, two chains, repeat to the end. Second row, one double into first stitch, four chains, one treble stitch into top of last double, one double into the next chain, five chains, one treble into the top of last double, one double into next loop, three chains, one double into the next double of last row, three chains, repeat to end of trimming. It should be made of coarse thread.

BRAMBLEBUSH.

PASSING THOUGHTS.

MR. EDITOR:—Sister Bramblebush asked what all thought of men, who helped in the house, I for one answer, I think it shows good common sense on their part. Such husbands are generally pretty good to have around, and good husbands generally make good wives. If a couple unite their destinies for life they should help each other as occupation requires. Very often a man can save the expense of a hired girl if he will help when wife or children are sick. I don't consider the wages half the expense of some hired girls. There are many ways we can make our work lighter; we should use less cake and pie, and use more clear fruit. A great many women are shut in the house all day without any outdoor exercise, perhaps none except to carry heavy pails of slop and milk to the pigs and calves. The husbands of such wives invariably say "I can't fool away my time with housework, if wife can't cook for the hands I suppose I'll have to go and hunt up a girl." The wife knowing financial prospects, and knowing that from ten to twenty-five dollars is

needed for tobacco and cigars, worries along without help. I think every mother should teach her boys to be neat and clean and do housework. Boys, who can depend on it, the girls will think more of you. I have heard some girls say they did not want nor expect to have their husband ever help about the house; just watch them a few years, they will be sure to need help all the same.

Butter sticking to bowls and paddles causes many a frown and hasty word. Just before churning I put my bowl, paddle, mould, etc., to soak in cold water; butter cannot stick to a clean bowl well soaked with water; if butter is warm I rub bowl with salt. I always scald my bowl after use, sometimes with soap suds. I would like to know if any of you are using a cheap creamer can that would pay to get for 3 to 6 gallons of milk.

A few years ago I raised a couple hundred ducks. One day after feeding soaked wheat bran as usual I found several downy fallings and staggering around like drunk men; I caught up a big apron full and ran to the house; the first thing I saw was a cup of sweet cream. At a venture I stirred several spoonfuls of soda in and gave each duck a spoonful as fast as I could; out of 75 I lost but thirteen; others were not so bad; some lay stupid for an hour or two. Now, to find the cause, I tasted feed remaining in pail, found it tasted salty; I found also that salt had been spilled in box of bran. To test the matter I took a duck out of a pen that did not have that kind of feed, mixed salt with some meal and fed it. It acted like the rest. I gave soda and sweet milk and saved it. I suppose the soda neutralized the effects of the salt.

We have had our first fried chicken: call around, Mr. Editor, and you shall have a fry. With good wishes for our favorite paper, I will close. S. S. S. Mankato.

The Funny Part.

—How to make a barrel of flour go a great way—ship it to Australia.

—The potato is a susceptible vegetable. It is constantly getting mashed.

—A successful debater—the hornet always carries his point.

—When is a circus clown not a clown? When he's a tumbler.

—The strength of a farmer is oftentimes concentrated in his butter.

—This is a godless country. A man was arrested for kneeling and praying aloud in Broadway. He said he stood up and sworn with impunity.

—Fogg says he was never baptized, but he went to church where there was a sprinkling of sinners in the congregation, and he was one of them.

—A man gathering mushrooms was told that they were poisonous. "Thank you," he replied, "I am not going to eat them myself; I sell them at the hotel."

—A priest asked a condemned criminal in a jail, "What kind of a conscience have you?" "It's as good as none," replied the prisoner, "for I have never used it."

—Snooks went home the other night afflicted with double vision. He sat for some time with his steepy gaze riveted on Mrs. Snooks, and then complacently remarked: "Well, I declare, if you two gals don't look 'nough alike to be twins."

—A woman has sharper eyes than a man. Any little love passages that may be going about a woman will detect in an instant. With a man it is different. He will not perceive a kiss, even, unless it is brought under his nose.

—Strike while the iron is hot," says the proverb, but when the old man is on a strike and his wife is compelled to support the family by taking in washing, she has to iron while the strike is hot.

—"Colonel," said a man who wanted to make out a genealogical tree, "Colonel, how can I become thoroughly acquainted with my family history?" "Simply by running for Congress," answered the Colonel.

—"Doctor," said a lady patient, "I suffer a great deal with my eyes." The old gentleman adjusted his spectacles, and with a Socratic air replied, "I do not doubt it, my friend; but then you ought not to forget you would suffer a great deal more without them."

Advertisements.

For 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.

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