

KANSAS FARMER

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TOPEKA, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1888.

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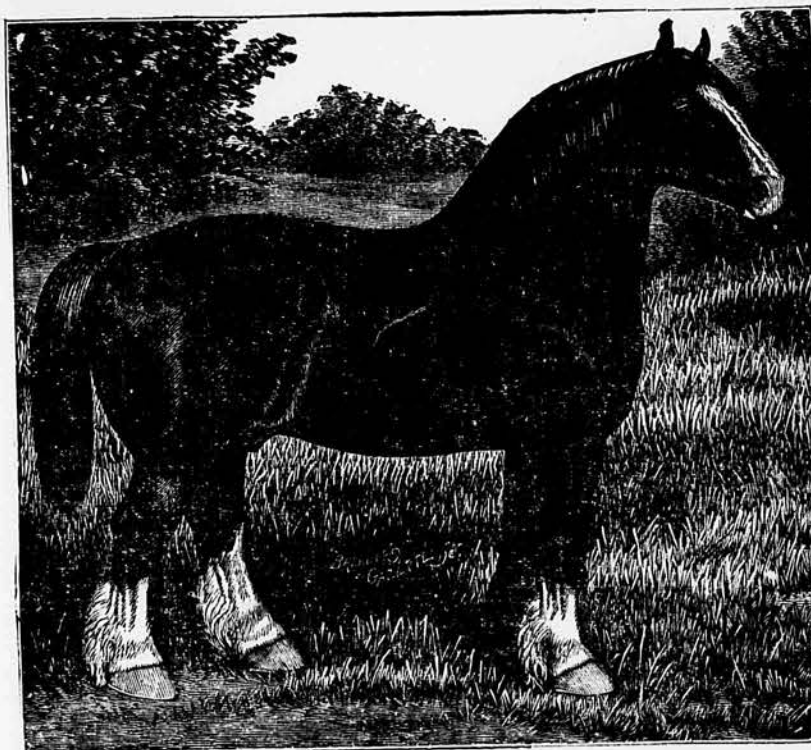
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(Continued on page 24.)

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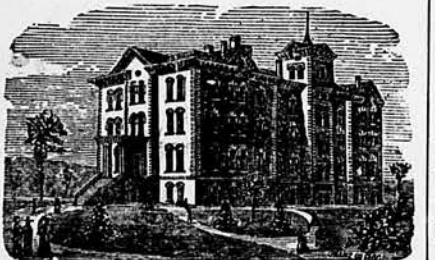
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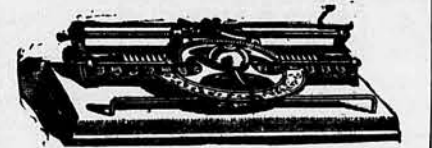
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Agricultural Matters.

FORAGE CROPS.

Address of Hon. O. E. Morse, of Linn county, before the Farmers' Institute, at Mound City, January 19, 1888.

The steady absorption of our grassy prairies into cultivated fields, roads and weed patches, is forcing the Kansas farmer to the conviction that the day of prairie meadows and pastures is near its end, and that our native grasses, like the scrub cattle that feed upon them in summer and starve upon them in winter, are going rapidly, and going to stay. And the question that is seriously puzzling many a farmer in even the oldest portions of the State, is, what will take the place of the native grasses? And on many a farm this question is still unsolved, though year by year the feeding capacity of farms is steadily fading away and the farm stock is being reduced to keep it within the possibility of support by the worn-out pastures and meadows. This condition of things creates a serious outlook for the stock interest, and therefore for the farm interest of any community.

Any method that will add to the capacity of our pastures and to the supply of feed for winter use will be hailed as a God-send by many a farmer now floundering in the "slough of despond." The natural answer and the proper one is, put your farm, at least one-half of it, in tame grasses, and go into rotation of crops. This brings the question, What varieties of grass shall we use?

Prof. Shelton, in his report of experiments at the College farm for 1886, on the subject of grasses gives the preference to orchard grass, red clover, alfalfa and timothy, in the order named, but speaks very unfavorably of blue grass, white clover, and many other varieties experimented with. The experience of the farmers of Linn county will somewhat disturb the order of preference as made by Prof. Shelton. They will place red clover, both the common sort and the mammoth, to the front in the list of grasses for hay and for pasture for all kinds of live stock, including swine, followed very closely and perhaps mixed with orchard grass for pasture, and timothy for hay. On most of the soils of Linn county, red-top is bound to play no inconsiderable part, particularly for pasture. In some localities, especially in our wooded bottom land, blue grass can be grown and add a large per cent. to the winter feeding capacity of the land.

On my farm, during the disasters of drouth and chinch bugs of the last year, the clover fields have furnished the only rift through the clouds of utter failure, making it possible to keep the farm well-stocked, furnishing early and good pasture until the middle of May, then, for the season, a fair crop of hay—from a part of the ground two cuttings—and again good pasture until the 20th of November, besides an abundance of feed for hogs through the entire season, besides yielding about twenty-five bushels of seed, which in these hard times is an item not to be despised.

Clover straw, that is clover with the seed threshed out, has been considered of little value as feed, because, as a rule, clover for feed is left standing to thoroughly ripen and often left on the ground to partially rot before threshing, but we have found by the experience of the past season and this winter's feeding, that clover put up in fine condition for hay will furnish seed enough to make threshing profitable, and leave the hay in better condition for feeding than before. In fact, while we were having first-class seed extracted at the rate of about one and one-fourth bush-

els to the ton, we had the hay as nicely prepared for feed as a first-class straw cutter could have done the work; have fed it in mangers with bran, not losing 1 per cent. by waste. So I am inclined to put clover at the head of the grass list for pasture and hay, and emphasize this conclusion by the addition of at least five dollars worth of seed to the ton, and next to it, and equal to it for hay, you can place timothy. Then, if an inferior quality of hay or pasture will do, and a plant that will stay by you through drouth and flood, through winter storms and summer's heat is wanted, try alfalfa. But you must keep stock entirely off it the first year and let it get a good growth and well-rooted, then you have it to stay and can get two or three crops of hay each season. To those who have area enough to devote a portion to winter pasture and have some fertile wooded lands, I feel sure that blue grass will not be a failure, though it is worth but little for summer's use.

So I say again, sow grass and keep adding to your tame meadows and pastures. But if you would put certainty beyond a doubt, if you would successfully defy drouth and chinch bug, if you would put all questions of shortage of feed to flight, if you would add at least 50 per cent. to the feeding capacity of your farm, then sow amber cane (sorghum) broadcast over at least 10 per cent. of the area, and reap a richer harvest of desirable feed than your imagination could lead you to believe.

Last year we sowed between two and three acres about the 1st of May, and from which we cut in July at least eight tons of cured feed, and again in October not less than six tons more. And from the preference shown for it by colts and calves when they have in the same lot, clover, timothy, prairie hay, oats and flax straw, one is led to believe that it is first-class feed. I believe it safe to say, that if sown on ordinarily good land, as early as the 10th of April, one and one-fourth bushels to the acre, and cut when the top is just fairly out, that at least five tons of first-class feed can be taken in the two cuttings from every acre sown, and practically makes the feeding capacity of the farm unlimited; besides, if sown in an inclosure by itself, where stock can be turned upon it after the first cutting is taken off, its second growth furnishes the best of pasture, as it continues to sprout and grow until frost comes, and for soiling, or cutting and feeding green, it has no equal unless it is sweet corn. From about one-fourth of an acre near the barn we fed it green to horses and cattle whenever we had use for such feed about the barn, for more than a month, the stubble sprouting up at once, so that finally we took from the ground a good half-ton of cured feed. This small piece was sown about the middle of June.

I am satisfied that good results would come from giving more attention to root crops, such as turnips, sugar-beets, carrots, rutabagas, etc. At the College farm, Manhattan, they have experimented this last season with a comparatively new plant—kohl rabi—described in seed catalogues as a turnip-rooted cabbage, the description indicating its habit of growth and that top and root are used for feed. Prof. Shelton says of it:

"Our crop of kohl rabi—less than half an acre—which has been the object of very favorable comment by many farmer visitors, was harvested last week in very satisfactory condition. The to us surprising fact about this plant is its wonderful drouth-resisting ability. During the entire summer, when for weeks at a time the ground

was as dry and hot as road dust, when the heavens seemed to be of brass, and the air like the breath of a furnace, our kohl rabi appeared to suffer no particular discomfort, thriving and growing without much apparent difficulty. The yield seems to have been nearly or quite twenty tons per acre—we have not yet measured the ground—of handsome, clean bulbs, which in appearance we have never seen excelled by anything in the turnip line. Of the nutritive and keeping qualities of kohl rabi we are not advised. We only know that our cattle, when once accustomed to them, eat them greedily and thrive amazingly upon the diet."

My son Wilton, who is in school at the college, helped to cultivate and harvest this crop, and has assisted in feeding, confirms Prof. Shelton's report.

The real value of root crops in the economy of farm feeding is the change they furnish from the dry feed to which stock is subjected through the long winter months. A light feed every few days helps the animal to digest and assimilate the coarse dry food that is his usual ration.

Corn fodder, the great staple for cattle-feeding throughout the great West, and often our only dependence for that purpose, is being cried out against more and more by reason of the amount of hard work it takes to save it, and the constant and heavy labor it takes throughout the entire winter to feed it. Through storms of sleet, snow or rain, through mud or over the frozen ground, day by day, from October to April, the fodder wagon must be in use. This is not all. Year by year the fertility of the soil is being sapped by this constant hauling off and taking nothing back. Often has the resolve to use less fodder been made and only failed of execution by the non-appearance of a suitable substitute.

Amber cane now steps in and meets this demand. There is no question that the winter's feed can be procured at much less cost, stacked or shocked, and the assurance given that every pound handled is a pound of feed and not three-fourths waste, besides the cane serves as an admirable weed-exterminator when sown in old feed lots, hog lots and other waste places that on many farms have been given over to weeds. The first crop, if it does not entirely smother the weeds, is cut before they mature, and the second growth ends the business.

For several years there has been much said *pro* and *con* about a new method of preserving feed in a comparatively green condition by the use of great storage vaults, called silos, into which growing corn, cane and other feeds, after being run through a cutter, are pressed and preserved for winter use. Feed preserved in this way is called ensilage, and is said to retain all the qualities of the growing feed. Should this plan prove to be practically successful, it will work a revolution in our feeding and would bring corn fodder to the front strong in a new role, though here again sugar cane would prove a close rival.

At the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, held last week at Topeka, Mr. A. E. Pierce, of Junction City, a practical and money-making farmer, read a paper on "Silos and Ensilage." The figures given and the conclusions drawn were startling, and the conviction is almost forced upon us that we are entering upon a new era in stock-feeding of such importance and value as to make our prospective sugar interest seem insignificant. Mr. Pierce said that his silo, enclosed by heavy walls thirty by forty-eight feet, twenty feet high, walls two feet thick at bottom, and eighteen inches at top, floor

and inside of walls cemented, and the whole roofed over, cost him some \$700, and thinks it could be built in a side-hill for half that amount. The capacity is over 300 tons. Last year he filled it with corn, getting twenty tons from an acre; gathered it when corn was just past the milk; cut it in less than inch lengths with a power cutter and packed. When the silo was full the top was planked over and weighted with 1,200 pounds to square yard. That nine men and four teams will cut, take from the field, and put in the silo two acres, or forty tons, per day, and that the cost is about 35 cents per ton. That they have put through the cutter and into the silo a ton in ten minutes. That in the curing process the ensilage loses but little of its weight. That fifty pounds of the cured product is a good day's ration for a cow, and that eighty pounds a day will fatten a steer. If Mr. Pierce's conclusions are true, an acre of corn will feed a cow 800 days, or a fattening steer 500 days. Putting it another way, one-half acre of corn, with \$3.50 added for gathering and storing, will cover the entire cost of feeding a cow for the year, or will put a steer in good condition for the market.

You can easily, each for yourselves, determine the feeding capacity of your farms. Mr. Pierce intends to experiment with mammoth sugar corn next year, and thinks that sugar cane treated in the same way would bring excellent results.

At the college farm, Manhattan, ensilage from cane is now being fed, and Prof. Shelton reports it as entirely meeting their expectation.

One of the great advantages of this plan of preserving feed is that during the mild weather of autumn the work of gathering and storing feed is completed and the winter's work is reduced to the minimum, giving opportunity of recuperating the wasted energies and for cultivation of mind and the enlargement of one's circle of influence. Mr. Pierce states that one man in one-half hour feeds over one hundred cattle. This question was deemed so important that the State Board of Agriculture, at its meeting, appointed a committee to make a thorough investigation of the matter and report the manner of constructing silos, their cost and capacity, description and cost of machinery, and other appliances needed, crop best adapted to this use, yield per acre, cost of storing, shrinkage (if any in curing), amount required for day's ration, and finally the results as shown by animals fed. Enough has been said to show that there is no farther need of the old plan of depending on prairie grass in summer and prairie hay in winter, and dry corn fodder in winter that is gradually sapping the productiveness of so many farms in this country. There is no reason in the world why the feeding capacity of our farms should not be so much improved as to make it possible and profitable to more than double the number and quadruple the value of our farm stock instead of having a steady decrease, as is shown by the statistics of the last few years.

The latest plan with ensilage is to cut the entire corn crop—stocks, ears and all—into the silo. The kernels of the corn will be wholly digested by the cattle, as it does not dry out nor lose its milky character, which gives it succulence for rapid digestion. A farmer who has made this point one of special investigation so reports, and affirms that there is not a visible trace of corn in the voidings.

Short-Horn Bulls for Sale.

Five extra good registered Short-horn bulls for sale cheap—on long time, if desired. J. B. McAFEE, Topeka, Kas.

The Stock Interest.

THOROUGHbred STOCK SALES.

Dates claimed only for sales which are advertised, or are to be advertised, in this paper.

MARCH 14.—Sweetser & Odell, Holsteins, at Kansas City, Mo.

ABOUT DEHORNING CATTLE.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I noticed in a recent issue of your paper an invitation to your readers to give you the benefit of their experience in dehorning cattle.

Having been the witness of much suffering by reason of the disposition which cattle seem to have inborn "to push with their horns," as well as suffering considerable loss in consequence of this disposition among my own cattle, I determined in the winter of 1885 and 1886 to investigate the advantages of removing the offending members. I eagerly sought to obtain full information as to how it was practicable. Read all the articles I could find on the subject, wrote to and received from the great apostle on dehorning several epistles upon the subject; but in all, could gather no light to guide me in the operation. My next move was to study the structure of the horn, the results of which for the benefit of those seeking similar information I will here briefly state.

The horn is composed of three distinct parts; first (avoiding all technical terms), simply stated, the bone or what is usually termed pith, which is nothing more nor less than an extension of the skull; secondly, the shell or outside case of the horn, which is simply a hardened extension of the skin, similar to the thumb-nail. Between these two is a very thin layer, no thicker than the thinnest writing paper, being the nerve.

In order to find the place to make the separation, grasp the horn with the hand, slipping it down toward the head, with your thumb-nail press the horn, and where you find the hard case changes to the soft skin, is the only proper place to cut. So much by way of digression. Not having the nerve to commence on grown cattle, I removed the horns from sixteen head of calves of spring of 1886, when they were from three weeks to two months old, an operation which is easily performed, by laying a calf upon its side, and holding it firmly, with a castrating or any common strong knife (round-pointed) cutting around the base of the horn, removing therewith enough of the skin to be certain that you have taken all of the embryo horn. The result was so satisfactory that in the spring of 1887 I not only repeated it upon that year's crop of calves, but in addition removed the horns from thirty-four head of 2 and 3-year-olds. The only tool used was a sharp saw, having about ten teeth to the inch. The rapidity with which it is done will be understood when I say that with the assistance of two men to rope and hold the cattle, after being placed in stanchions, I removed the horns from fifteen head of 2 and 3-year-old steers in thirty-two minutes, although many of the horns were two and a half inches in diameter at the base. I do not believe that a single animal lost to exceed one-half pint of blood. Now for results.

This thirty-four head were fed in a shed 112 feet long, in a manger running the entire length. Before the horns were removed, two-thirds of the cattle would stand outside while the other third were eating. After the removal we would not get the manger filled with hay the entire length, before every animal was standing at the manger and peacefully enjoying his food.

No other seemed inclined to "dare molest him or make him afraid," and I could soon see a great change for the better in the condition of the herd. In the pasture they herd close together, and at the watering troughs large and small drink together.

I breed high-grade and registered Short-horns, and have no desire to change to any other breed.

To those who say it is interference with nature to remove the horns, I would simply reply, so is spaying, likewise castration; and I might add stabling, and high feeding, and the same argument would prevent a man from trimming his toe or finger-nails, and combing out his hair. I do not pretend to say the operation of removing the horns is not painful, but I do say it is not one-hundredth part as great a shock to the system as castration or spaying. The evidence is plain, for after the performance of either of the two latter operations, the animal is all drawn up, and refuses food, while within one minute of the first operation the animal will be feeding as peacefully as if nothing had occurred to it.

This is the first time I have appeared in print on this subject, although I have practiced dehorning for two years. The fact is, that until I had demonstrated it was a perfect success, I cared very little to say anything about it. My own experience convinces me that the removing of horns not only saves food, induces better flesh by consequent loss of fear of other animals, but it also saves more suffering in one single month, and often in a single moment than is occasioned by the operation. I would say to any of those who are contemplating dehorning, neither to hesitate or fear, for the operation does not kill, nor do I believe it causes a temporary loss of a single pound of thrift. There are various details attending the matter, the recital of which would extend this letter, which is already too long. I am convinced with our mutual friend Coburn that "the horns must go."

GEO. Y. JOHNSON.

Lawrence, Kas.

We have the promise of Mr. Johnson that he will describe his method of dehorning for a future issue of the KANSAS FARMER.—EDITOR.

PROTECTION AGAINST DISEASE.

A bill to protect cattle against contagious diseases was prepared some time ago, and is now in the hands of Congressional committees. It has the endorsement of stock-growers and farmers generally. We give herewith the material portions.

Section 1 provides for the appointment of a Board of Cattle Commissioners.

Section 2 provides as follows: That it shall be the duty of said Commissioners to cause investigation to be made as to the existence of contagious pleuro-pneumonia, foot-and-mouth disease, and rinderpest, and such Commissioners are hereby authorized to enter, either in person or by their duly authorized and accredited agents, any premises or places, including stockyards, cars, and vessels, within any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Territories of the United States, in or at which they have reason to believe, and do believe, there exist any of such diseases, and to make search, investigation, and inquiry in regard to the existence thereof. Upon the discovery of the existence of any of the said diseases, the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to give notice, by publication, of the existence of such disease or diseases, and the locality thereof, in such newspapers as they may select, and to notify, in writing,

the officials or agents of any railroad, steam-boat, or other transportation company doing business in or through such infected locality of the existence of such disease or diseases; and are hereby authorized and required to establish and maintain such quarantine of animals, places, premises, or localities as they may deem necessary to prevent the spread of any such disease or diseases, and also to cause the appraisal of the animal or animals affected with, or that have been exposed to, the said diseases, or either of them, in accordance with such rules and regulations as shall be established by them, as hereinafter authorized and provided, and also to cause the same to be destroyed, except as hereinafter provided, and to pay, in case of diseased animals, the owner or owners thereof three-fourths of their value, as determined upon the basis of health before infection, and the full appraised value in case of animals exposed to either of such diseases but not themselves actually diseased, out of any moneys appropriated by Congress for that purpose: *Provided, however,* That they shall not pay more than \$160 for an animal with pedigree recorded or recordable in the recognized herd-books of the breed to which the animal destroyed may belong, nor more than \$60 for an animal not pedigreed: *Provided further,* That in no case shall compensation be allowed for any animal destroyed under the provisions of this act which may have contracted or been exposed to such disease or diseases in a foreign country or on the high seas; nor shall compensation be allowed to any owner who, in person or by agent, knowingly and willfully conceals the existence of any such disease or diseases, or the fact of exposure thereto, in animals of which the person making such concealment, by himself or his agent, is in whole or in part the owner.

SEC. 3. That the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and required to make, record, and publish rules and regulations providing for and regulating the agencies, methods, and manner of conducting and making the investigations aforesaid regarding the existence of said contagious diseases; for ascertaining, entering, and searching places where such diseased animals are supposed to exist; for ascertaining what animals are so diseased or have been exposed to such contagious diseases; for making, reporting, and recording descriptions of the said animals so diseased or exposed and destroyed, and for appraising the same, and for making payment therefor; and to make all other needful rules and regulations which may, in the judgment of the Commissioners, be deemed requisite to the full and due execution of the provisions of this act. All such rules and regulations, before they shall become operative, shall be approved by the President of the United States, and thereafter published in such manner as may be provided for in such regulations; and after such publication said rules and regulations shall have the force and effect of law, so far as the same are not inconsistent with this act and the other laws of the United States.

SEC. 4. That any person or persons who shall knowingly and willfully refuse permission to the said Commissioners, or to either of them, or to any duly authorized and accredited agent of said Commissioners, to make, or who knowingly and willfully obstructs said Commissioners or agents, or either of them, in making all necessary examinations of, and as to, animals supposed by said Commissioners or agents to be diseased as aforesaid, or in destroying the same, or who knowingly and willfully attempts to prevent said Commis-

sioners or agents, or either of them, from entering upon the premises and other places hereinbefore specified where any of said diseases are by said Commissioners or agents supposed to exist, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, or of either of the acts in this section prohibited, shall be punished by fine not exceeding \$500 or by imprisonment not exceeding one hundred days, or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 5. That any person who is the owner of, or who is possessed of any interest in, any animals affected with any of the diseases named in section 2 of this act, or any person who, as agent, common carrier, consignee, or otherwise, is charged with any duty in regard to any animal so diseased or exposed to the contagion of such disease or diseases, or any officer or agent charged with any duties under the provisions of this act, who shall knowingly conceal the existence of any of the said diseases or the fact of such exposure to said contagion, and who shall fail, within a reasonable time, to report to the said Commissioners, or to some duly authorized and empowered agent thereof, or to some one or more of such officers or agents, their knowledge or their information in regard to the existence and location of said diseases or of such exposure thereto, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable as provided in section 4 of this act.

SEC. 6. That when the owner of animals decided under the provisions of this act, by the proper authority, to be diseased or to have been exposed to said contagion, refuses to accept the sum authorized to be paid under the appraisement provided for in this act, such animals shall not be killed, but it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to declare and maintain a rigid quarantine as to the animals decided as aforesaid to be diseased or to have been exposed to any of said diseases, and of the premises or places where said cattle may be found, according to the rules and regulations to be prescribed by said Commissioners, approved by the President, and published as provided in the third section of this act.

SEC. 7. That no person or persons owning or operating any railroad, nor the owner or owners or master of any steam, sailing, or other vessel within the United States, shall receive for transportation or transport from one State or Territory to another State or Territory or to any foreign country, or from any State or Territory into the District of Columbia, or from the District of Columbia into any State or Territory or to any foreign country, any cattle affected with any of the diseases named in section 2 of this act, or that have been exposed to such diseases, especially the disease known as contagious pleuro-pneumonia, knowing such cattle to be so affected or to have been so exposed; nor shall any person or persons, company or corporation, deliver for such transportation to any railroad company, or to the master or owner of any vessel, any cattle, knowing them to be affected with or to have been exposed to any of the said diseases; nor shall any person or persons, company or corporation, drive on foot or transport in private conveyance from the State or Territory to another, or from one State or Territory into the District of Columbia, or from said District into any State or Territory, any cattle, knowing the same to be affected with, or to have been exposed to, any of said diseases. Any person or persons violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding the sum of \$5,000 or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both fine and imprisonment.

SEC. 8. That it shall be the duty of the several United States District Attorneys to prosecute all violations of this act which shall be brought to their notice or knowledge by any person making the complaint under oath; and the same shall be heard in any District or Circuit court of the United States or Territorial court of general jurisdiction holden within the district in which the violation of this act has been committed.

The remaining sections provide for the organization of the board, its officer's work, the employment and pay of veterinarians, and some other details.

In the Dairy.

KANSAS DAIRY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of persons interested in dairying in Kansas will be held in Topeka, Tuesday, March 20, 1888, at 4 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of organizing a State Dairy Association. The particular place of meeting will be announced in due time in the KANSAS FARMER. Persons who expect to attend will please inform us by card or letter early, that we may know in advance the probable number coming, and we will do what can be done in the way of obtaining comfortable quarters for them at reasonable rates.

The KANSAS FARMER hopes there will be a general and enthusiastic response to the call. A State Dairy Association is needed. It will work a stimulus in the business which nothing else can. Let us have a big, a rousing meeting of active intelligent dairymen who know their business.

A Suggestion or Two.

The following are the concluding passages of an interesting business letter, which the author, we doubt not, will pardon us for giving to our readers. He says:

We were amused at the different articles as to the breaking of heifers and wonder at it, and are almost forced to conclude that said heifer is a low-grade at most, for it seems unreasonable to us that any farmer can have a really fair heifer and ever allow her to be otherwise than tame, kind and gentle. Ours are always broke or gentle. We have twenty head that will be fresh from now to middle of June, from eighteen to twenty-six months old, and our little boy 9 years old (Horace, your correspondent, will remember him,) or our little girl 7 years old can go to any of the twenty head any place on the farm and handle their udder or teats, in fact can handle them in any natural and reasonable way. Our calves are our babies, they are taught to love us, and in this way we hope to keep them always kind. We, too, say of all the feed we ever fed to cattle sorghum is the best, and we have always used one-half bushel per acre broadcast, cut same as millet, in fact handle as millet; for milk, butter or beef we have never had anything better. Shall try a little mixed with millet this year, but only a little, for we know the sorghum alone is good. We agree with you that the fair associations could better afford to use the FARMER as a premium than any small sum of money. Papers of course will not pay feed bills, railroad expenses, etc., but in all cases of small money, I would say a good sound book or paper. Our county has made this a rule for several years, and I hope will continue to do so.

T. O. EMBRY.

Waverly, Coffey Co., Kas.

Record of a Native Cow.

A correspondent of the Orange county (N. Y.) Farmer recently gave a milk and butter record of one of his cows, as follows: "Thinking it might be interesting to dairymen to know that there are some good cows among our natives, I herewith give a record of one raised by me, and eight years old last June. Dropped her calf March 23. Commenced weighing milk March 27. Milk record up to January 1, 1888, 8,537 pounds. Drew her milk June 20, morning and night mess weighed 43 pounds. Set in can until sour, churned whole milk which made 3 pounds 2 ounces of butter after being thoroughly washed

in ice water and salted for table use. August 16, as before, 35 pounds of milk; made 2 pounds 11 ounces of butter. December 1, 21 pounds 10 ounces of milk; made 1 pound 10 ounces butter, which makes an average of 13½ pounds of milk to 1 pound of butter, or 633 pounds of butter to January 1, 1888. Value of milk at 1 cent per pound, \$85.37. Value of butter at 20 cents, \$126.60. Aside from the tests given as above her milk was churned with the dairy. She is now giving, January 2, 18 pounds 10 ounces per day, and will probably continue in milk until March, if I think best to milk her. She will come in April next."

The Poultry Yard.

Poultry-Raising.

[Entered for the Hughes prize.]

In January, 1887, I did not have more than eight hens and one male, mostly of the Light Brahmas. During 1887 I had 1,069 eggs and raised about one hundred chickens. When I balanced my chicken-book up the 1st of January 1887, I found myself very nearly \$20 ahead. I think this success enough, and it gave me good encouragement. My experience is not a very long one, but what I know about chickens I am sure of, and paid well enough and dear for it, too. Keep your chicken-house clean and ventilated, no matter if it does get cold in it in the winter; don't allow any foul air in it. Keep your chickens hungry all the time; keep them so they will follow you all over the yard, longing for something to eat. Provide always fresh and clean water for your chickens, build a stack of sheaf oats, unthreshed wheat, and buckwheat in the yard purposely for fowls, so they will have to work for their feed. Be constantly at work to keep your hens free from lice. Never bother with a sick hen. As soon as one don't appear all right, cut her tail off right behind the head; it is the cheapest way in the long run, and then compel the rest of the hens to drink alum water for a day or two. Feed no shelled corn at all; hens will over-feed themselves on it; but let them pick the grain off the ear. Don't let your hens eat mice, and don't feed much bran, unless you can mix it with milk. Don't keep too many males in the yard; one is enough for thirty hens; use a yearling male and in the fall put him in the pan, and raise or buy another. Keep the earliest-hatched pullets; they will pay better with fall eggs than they would as early broilers. Have the roof of your hen-house perfectly water-tight, and protect your hens from draft air. Don't let your hens out till half an hour after sun up.

This is the most of my little experience, and I hope will keep other ladies from making mistakes.

EMMA W. VON HOLDT.

Norton, Kas.

Spring Chickens.

[Entered for the Hughes prize.]

Spring is coming, and with it a desire on the part of hens to set. If you are raising chickens, the earlier hatched the better. A good plan is to set two hens at a time; you can then give one hen all the chickens when hatched. You should not put more than thirteen eggs under a hen, as that is all she can well cover as long as the weather is cool. Let your hen get well established in a nest before you give her the eggs, giving her time to make up her mind, as it were, as to whether or not she wants to set and when. Always mark your eggs before setting them, so if you find more than thirteen in the nest you will know

which ones to take out. When the chickens commence to hatch do not take them off too soon; thirty-six hours in the nest will not hurt them—during which time they need not be fed. Take your hen and chickens and put her in a coop (one which the chickens can get in and out of easily) away from the other fowls, where she can raise her babies in peace and quiet. By keeping your hen so confined the chickens will not be dragged off through the wet weeds in the morning, drowned in a rain storm, off no one knows where when a wind storm comes up, or such like. The mother always being in one place the chickens remain within calling distance of her. It is hard on the mother, but business for the owner. Keep your hen so confined until she ceases to cluck, or until you get through needing her as a shelter and protection for the young chickens. After this the chickens will always come to this place to roost. Feed the chickens wet corn meal for about a week; by this time they are all large enough to eat corn chops or fine grain. If, when your chickens hatch, you find you have a weakly lot, do not dose them; feed them as you do the rest, and those that are worth living will live—the fittest always survive. If you set good eggs and from good stock your chickens will be sound and healthy; if they turn out to be sickly and die you will sympathize with the hen on account of her lost time, and think of the eggs you might have eaten had you not set them by mistake.

S. M.

Brief Poultry Notes.

[Entered for the Hughes prize.]

The hen-house is of first importance. In general matters I do not believe in getting the cart before the horse; but for poultry, I think the first thing to do is to prepare a comfortable home for them. It is as reasonable to expect hyacinths and roses to bloom without sufficient warmth and good soil as to expect hens to lay and be profitable without warm houses and good feed. Make your house warm, dry and well lighted. Arrange your nests so the fowls cannot roost on or over them. Place a platform or sloping apron about eighteen inches below your roost to catch or carry off the droppings, so you can keep the floor clean. Clean out the house often.

Select some carefully-bred breed best adapted to your special want. No one breed will excel for all purposes. If you especially want eggs, try Leghorns, Spanish or Houdans. If large fowls are wanted, I think Light Brahmas good enough and the grandest bird of all. If a general-purpose fowl is wanted, try the Wyandotte, Plymouth Rock, or Houdan.

Set eggs early, as early chicks meet the best market and are also the best to keep for next winter's laying. If you do not use an incubator, keep some old hens for early setters, as they generally lay short litters, and set soon. Set two or three hens at a time and when hatched give all the chickens to one hen, and re-set the others. If early, they may set all the second time out or until others go to setting to take their place. In this way you often save much precious time. Feed often and a variety. If eggs are your main aim, don't keep your hens over three years. Dispose of the old ones and keep them replaced with young ones, one or two years old.

To break hens from setting, put them up in a coop and feed well; they will not go to laying again until they get fat.

Read poultry yard columns in KANSAS FARMER and learn all you can at the expense of others' experience, and

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low-test, short-weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall street, New York.

carefully study the wants of your own fowls; love them, and treat them like you loved them, and they will never fail to appreciate and repay for your care.

MRS. A. E. MORRISON.

Grenola, Kas., February 16.

Poultry-Raising—Leghorns.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—As I am interested in poultry-raising and having watched the results from a small flock, I find constant care must be taken in order to have good results. A warm place to roost in, fresh water every day, clean nests. If they find the nests dirty and neglected, they will go to laying in the hay-loft.

A great number of people who run down the Leghorn chickens haven't any experience with them; they think them too small for good layers, but they are, without disputing, the best layers. I have two single-combed Brown Leghorn hens that laid every day from the first of April until moulting-time, and are now laying. My June pullets are laying also. When crossed with common fowls I find them almost as good layers and some larger.

TERESA G. FORRY.

Fulton, Bourbon Co., Kas.

Eggs Used in Topeka.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—If everybody goes into the poultry business what will we do with the eggs? Let's see. The hotels in Topeka use per week:

	Dozens.
Fifth Avenue hotel.....	280
Hotel Throop.....	240
Windsor hotel.....	210
Copeland hotel.....	210
Union Pacific house.....	80
A. T. & S. F. dining room.....	80
Rock Island dining room.....	60
Dutton house.....	60
St. James hotel.....	30
St. Nicholas hotel.....	30
Adams house.....	30

Total.....1,310

This does not include the one hundred boarding houses, nor restaurants, which would use at least five dozen per day each, at a very low estimate, and the ten thousand families of the city would use at least one dozen per family per week, which would make a grand total of 20,000 dozen per week.

This is only one out of the many large cities in the State. We have concluded not to lose any sleep over the surplus.

F. A. A'NEALS.

Topeka, Kas.

Campbell Normal University, of Holton, Kas., opens its spring term April 3, and the summer school June 12. This gives young people who want to teach next year a fine opportunity to prepare for their work.

Horticulture.

TREE-GROWING IN CENTRAL KANSAS.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—Twenty years ago this portion of our fair State was covered with Indians and buffaloes, and was known to scientists and geographers as the central portion of the Great American Desert, the treeless plains, etc.; it then had no political significance; ten years later it was known to politicians as the coyote region. Even at that late date it was not considered habitable, as it was generally believed that nothing would grow here, and in discussing the matter one of the ablest and best writers upon the subject laid down as undeniable the following proposition, to-wit: "The little timber of the entire plains region of Kansas and Nebraska is found along the banks of ever-flowing streams of water, or in the horse-shoe bends of such streams." This was the gist of the best conclusions of the ablest writers and closest observers fifteen years ago. The facts, nevertheless, were just the opposite of what they stated—the most timber, the best trees, and the greatest variety of them, were then growing along the water courses that were dry most of the year, and the least valuable timber, and the least in quantity, was found just where those early writers said all of it would be found. This will be apparent to all who open their eyes and look. They can see the largest and longest of these streams, to-wit: the Platte and Arkansas, both practically without timber except a little cottonwood and willow, while the shortest of these main ever-flowing streams have more timber; but the most will be found where the water does not always flow. These brilliant writers and close observers always alluded to us at Hays City or Ellis, Russell, or even Ellsworth, as being in western Kansas; they did this so often and so persistently that thoughtless people fully believed it was so, the last named town being in the eastern half of the State. While we were on the frontier, and no one living west of us, we could not find much fault with being considered in western Kansas; but with the State full of people clear to its western border, please be good enough hereafter to consider all the above-mentioned towns in central Kansas.

Tree-growing here in central Kansas is very much the same as in the eastern part of the State, and there it is very much the same as in the Middle States, and there very much the same as in the Eastern States; yet when you come to consider the difference between the first and last-named localities it will be found to be very great. As a rule nursery and other trees grown in the far East will be taller, more slender at the base, and with less roots than when grown on the prairies, say of Illinois, Missouri or Iowa, and the difference will be found still greater between those localities and central Kansas, and the difference still continues as we go west, especially so long as the atmosphere becomes drier and the soil richer. Orchards planted thirty years ago in northern Illinois with trees obtained in western New York, proved to be worthless compared with trees of the same sort planted by the same hands on the same farm, but grown in the neighborhood. Small seedling one-year trees I procured from Illinois under the name of white ash prove to be green ash, and planted upon the same day and by the same hands and in adjoining rows with trees of the same age home-grown from seed gathered in sight of my own door, the former proving to be entirely worthless, while the latter are a grand success, leads me to believe that with many things the seed has much to do. The locality where the seed is grown has its influence, and yet the locality where the plant is grown also has its influence. Trees, plants or seedlings grown here under our bright sunshine and rich soil have shorter tops, heavier roots, and are thicker at the crown than when grown in the Eastern prairie States, and I think are worth twice as much, and the difference is probably as great between these Eastern prairie States and the Atlantic States. Therefore I find as a matter of fact, here in central Kansas, that sometimes when

an oriental tree is imported from the East and proves to be a failure, scions cut from it and propagated here may be much superior in vigor and staying qualities.

Seeds also grown in our locality seem to be superior for us, to those of the same sort brought from very far either north or south; but things from the South are even as a rule more promising than from the North; they seem better qualified to stand the hot sun which is almost as trying to us as the winter's cold is in central Illinois or northern Missouri. We cannot succeed here with the leading forest trees of Michigan, Wisconsin, or western New York; they won't stand our summer's heat.

Fruit trees have been but little planted here yet, but so far the indications are, that while the peach tree grows nicely and ripens up its wood growth very well, it cannot be depended upon for a crop of fruit; the blossom buds are usually killed by the low temperature occasionally reached almost every winter. Cherries of the sour culinary type are quite successful, more especially the Early Richmond. Grapes are doing exceedingly well. Plums are a success, and apples are promising good results. It probably takes a little more care to start an orchard or forest here than in the Middle or Eastern States, and it will be well to remember that it requires much more care there than it did a lifetime ago.

One of the leading difficulties in starting an orchard in all prairie countries has been that the heaviest and prevailing winds during the growing season (when the trees are covered with foliage) have come from a little west of south, causing the trees to lean a little east of north; this often exposes the trunk of the tree to the sun in the hottest part of the day, causing sun-scald or a breeding place for the flat-headed borer. This is true of both fruit and shade trees, and in careless hands has been the greatest annoyance of all. Many remedies have been suggested, such as staking the trees, leaning them to the southwest, etc., none of which have proved more than partially successful. My own practice is to plant the tree erect, being careful however to turn the heaviest part of the top to the south, also to be sure in pruning to have the lowest limb of the top to the south side, always heading low; then, about the middle of June and the first of August, young orchard or shade trees should be examined, and any shoot on the north side that is found to be assuming a leading character should have its end nipped with thumb and finger, or otherwise. In this way, with surprisingly little effort at encouraging growth on the south and discouraging it on the north side, can quite erect trees be grown even here in central Kansas. A tree planted in good soil that has been well prepared and trained as above mentioned, with fair culture of the ground, is in no danger from the flat-headed borer, that intolerable pest that has played greater havoc with efforts at tree-growing than anything else in all the prairie regions of the West.

MARTIN ALLEN.
Hays City, Kas., Feb. 20, 1888.

A Few Notes From the Vegetable Garden.
Read before the State Horticultural Society, at the December meeting, 1887, by Judson Williams.

I think in satisfactory results 1887 was an "off year" to most gardeners of southern Kansas, possibly not so much so as with the agriculturist; and strange to say poor returns are frequently attributable to an overproduction. Early Ohio potatoes have never done better, but had to be dug in mid-summer, because of rains which, owing to the fact that the tubers had become thoroughly dry, were beginning to produce a second growth; but these rains came too late to many of the late varieties. So we have the fact emphasized again that the only sure crop of Irish potatoes for the southern part of the State are the early sorts and those planted as early as the ground will admit of it in spring; and also that the Early Ohio may safely be planted to the exclusion of all other early varieties yet introduced, in fact may, with proper care, be made to take the place of late ones. However, if the planter has good rich soil and will plant late potatoes of almost any good variety, covering lightly with soil and then three or four inches deep (when settled) with wheat straw or other suitable mulch, he may feel reasonably sure of a

fair crop without further cultivation except to pull out any large weeds that may get through the mulch. Growers may also remember that there is but little danger of early potatoes taking second growth till they have become perfectly dry in the hill; hence if there are not sufficient weeds to prevent the sun drying them they may be protected by a heavy mulch of hay or straw, just as stalks begin to die, which will also do much to preserve the good quality of the potatoes.

Sweet potato-growers have had rather an unusual experience, beginning with a prospect of a very light crop and ending with a very heavy one, and forcing a large amount onto the markets at once, so that prices were probably lower than ever known before in the State. This might have been mitigated in a great measure by making some provision for holding the crop till mid-winter or even spring. This year's experience proves that the sweet potato is quite at home in much of our soil, and that one year with another, they may be produced at a much less cost per bushel than good Irish potatoes. It may be well to remember that the best house for keeping them in is one built on the surface of the ground, and that if the potatoes are dug before a frost falls sufficient to kill the vines, and then kept in a dark room (in bulk) where the thermometer is never allowed to remain long higher than 55 deg. Fahr., nor below 45 deg., they will keep with but little loss. It might be well to remember, also, that there is no vegetable worth more as feed for hogs or cows, to produce growth in the first, and milk from the second, and that for domestic use it may be either canned or evaporated.

Amid many failures the turnip crop stands out as a grand success in size of roots and in quality and quantity, and have sold at prices that make them not the least profitable among vegetables.

The plentiful supply of fine Golden wax beans and Stratagem peas on our late September market indicates that these luxuries may be had almost any year through at least twice as many days as we usually have them, by planting in rich, well-cultivated soil late in July and then well cared for with cultivator and hoe. In plowing up an old strawberry bed, immediately after taking off the fruit, it may be well to remember that if you are prompt about it you may plant a crop of early variety of Navy beans with a fair chance of good returns before frost, and that this crop is not damaged by chinch bugs as are most other crops at that season of the year, if the insect is in the country.

The amateur gardener should note that the difference between the so-called "big kind" and "small kind" of rhubarb generally originates in the soil and culture, and that it is very difficult to so prepare or cultivate land with "hard-pan" subsoil so as to produce the "big kind." It may be well for one just beginning the business of gardening to investigate the relative values of our prairie and timber lands, and also the difference between the average up land and bottom or bench prairie land for this business, and especially for all root crops, and that if ordinary prairie with a doubtful subsoil must be used, then to remember that money invested in four-inch tile will bring better returns than the same money invested in fertilizers, and also consider the statement that the timber bottom land will prove to be cheaper at four or five times the price of the land of doubtful subsoil. Also that one acre one mile from market is worth as much as two of the same quality two miles distant. And finally, it may not be out of place to say that the uninitiated, seeking a site for a market garden, would better change work with some honest Kansas granger on the basis of two to one, to have his experience in selecting this site, than to accept a free ride from some young real estate agent whose last business was probably reading Blackstone or selling dry goods in some State wholly unlike this in topography and formation.

How We Big Men Differ.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—It is surprising how men differ. One of your correspondents says: "Plant your orchard on sloping ground;" another says, "Trees, like men, do not want wet feet;" and almost all horticulturists say sloping ground to the north, northeast, or northwest for an orchard. Now this is all nonsense. Go over Iowa, Missouri, or any other State, and you will see the majority of orchards on

side-hills; and as you go along you see many trees on one-half side full of apples, the other half dead from the ravages of the apple tree borer. The worm knows where to hatch his young. A side-hill is the best place, because the water soon runs off and leaves the ground warm and dry, just the place to hatch their young. And this is true of all other insects. Therefore, if one wishes to plant an orchard and spend all his time doctoring and resetting, plant on a side-hill. It pays the tree-man because you buy more trees.

I did not wish to be the one to attack this old theory, but I am getting old and others must take my place, and I want them started on the level, on the square, if you please, and not on a side-hill.

When I was a boy the best and largest hickory nuts grew on the islands that overflowed, and the world over the best wild fruit and nuts grow close to or in the bottom that sometimes—most always—overflows. In California, along the Sacramento river, there are bottoms that overflow by the action of the tides backing the river from two to four feet over them. Levees are built twelve feet wide out into them, and trees set in the center twenty feet apart; the ground is dry on the surface, but the flowing of the tide keeps the roots of the tree wet the year round. There is where you get peaches that are peaches. Talk about wet feet! A man and an apple tree are two very different beings (when you come to look at their feet through a microscope). One wants moisture and cannot live without it, the other can live without it so far as feet are concerned.

But some one says "late frosts in the bottoms." It may be so in some localities; then mulch heavily and trim lightly, as shade will keep them back as well as mulch. If you do not have bottom land, it is just as well in some localities. I care not how high your land is or how poor, you can have an orchard and a bearing one, if you just follow nature. If you are high and dry and poor, select the most level piece of ground you have, a perfect level is desirable; plow so as to keep all the water that falls there, even if it stands a day, (or a month in the dead furrows is all the better); you must not be afraid of too much water; (the danger is when not enough). If the ground is poor, you must make it rich, as near to bottom land as manure will make it. Sprinkle dry ashes around the trees after each heavy rain; mulch the trees as far as the branches reach, and plow the remainder of the ground deep. The deeper you plow the more and longer will the moisture escape, as it holds more water.

Worms do not like dry ashes, as it sticks to them and gets into their eyes and they miss the tree, or if they go under ground to get to the tree, the leaching of the ashes burns and eats sores into them, and they get out of that to a "side-hill" orchard on the upper side of the tree where the leaching does not trouble them. Don't take my word for all this, but try it for yourselves. Whenever the time comes for the different insects, sprinkle ashes around the trees, right up to them; if trees are young, just a little; if large, the more the better. Do not pile straw or hay up against the tree, as the hot weather scalds young trees when thus treated and kills them.

Let me differ about pruning trees. Never prune a tree in the late summer or fall or winter; only in spring—early spring. I think the best and only time is when the tree is growing the most; the stubs will then heal over more quickly. The ideal to cut off a large limb in the fall or winter, leaving it to catch cold and freeze all winter. It leaves a sore and kills the bark and sap, and thus leaves an inch or two of dead wood which will in time rot at the heart and thus into the tree of course.

And now, Mr. Editor, I have only outlined and hinted, hoping that my hints and suggestions will help those just starting out in life, or in the orchard business, not to follow old ruts and usages, but get away from them by close observation. Study nature and nature's methods in this beautiful and fertile land of ours, and you will have all the apples you want and to spare.

THOMAS S. PARVIN.
Maple City, Cowley Co., Kas.

Sweet Potatoes.

For seed and table. I have on hand a large lot of potatoes, six best kinds at low rates. N. H. Pixley, Wamego, Kas.

The Home Circle.

To Correspondents.

The matter for the Home Circle is selected Wednesday of the week before the paper is printed. Manuscript received after that, almost invariably goes over to the next week, unless it is very short and very good. Correspondents will govern themselves accordingly.

Unrest.

I envy those sweet souls that walk serenely On the still heights of being whence they span The pleasant, fruitful valleys lying greenly; In peace—that moonlight happiness of man. Calm as the wise stars over watching keenly, They walk content to know the things they can.

They heed no rush of storm clouds rolling under, Nor lightning tongues outleaping lips of thunder,

Nor pause astonished by a sunset wonder. Below those heights, above the warm, green valleys,

I grapple with each storm that crashes by; Each flying wind-cloud with my nature dallies, And sway it like an oak tree towering high; Nor heaven nor earth with my wild spirit tallies,

And nothing in them seems to satisfy. From Microcosm to Macrocosm still turning, I look beyond, beyond with mighty yearning, A restless heart within my bosom burning. All beauty seems to fade within my clasping; All strength seems weakness after it is gained; All spirit fineness, touched, seems gross and rasping.

All love, insipid, with self-loving stained; Nothing seems grand but lies beyond my grasping,

Naught noble, but the blessed unattained. The large, warm tears beneath my lids come creeping;

Child-like I weep, nor know for what I'm weeping, Something, dear God, beyond my human keeping,

Like a frail spider by a thread suspended, My soul swings through infinitudes unguessed; Strange inuendos dimly comprehended Disturb my being with sublime unrest; O little bird with quivering throat distended, One sweet, recurrent note contents thy breast. Only man craves the shocks of change that sever,

And hears the earth beneath him moaning never! The heaven above him chanting its forever.

—Lillian Blanche Fearing.

Our troubles are the rocks in narrow'd stream. Whereat we fret and chafe, and strive and weep;

But heaven sends rain, our stream grows wide and deep, The rocks lie hid, forgotten as a dream.

—W. Wilsey Martin.

If from society we learn to live

'Tis solitude should teach us how to die. It hath no flatterers; vanity can give No hollow aid; alone, man with his God must strive.

—Byron.

LIFE MISTAKES OF WOMEN.

Paragraphs from a sermon by Rev. Dr. Talmage, recently delivered at the Tabernacle, New York city.

My friends, you all want to be happy. You have had a great many recipes by which it is proposed to give you satisfaction—solid satisfaction. At times you feel a thorough unrest. You know as well as older people what it is to be depressed. As dark shadows sometimes fall upon the geography of the school girl as on the page of the spectacled philosopher. I have seen as cloudy days in May as in November. There are no deeper sighs breathed by the grandmother than by the granddaughter. I correct the popular impression that people are happier in childhood and youth than they ever will be again. If we live aright, the older the happier. The happiest woman that I ever knew was a Christian octogenarian; her hair white as white could be; the sunlight of heaven late in the afternoon gilding the peaks of snow. I have to say to a great many of the young people that the most miserable time you are ever to have is just now. As you advance in life, as you come out into the world and have your head and heart all full of good, honest, practical Christian work, then you will know what it is to begin to be happy. There are those who would have us believe that life is chasing thistle-down and grasping bubbles. We have not found it so. To many of us it has been discovering diamonds larger than the Kohinoor, and I think that our joy will continue to increase until nothing short of the everlasting jubilee of heaven will be able to express it.

Hear me, then, while I discourse upon some of the mistakes which young people make in regard to happiness, and point out to the young woman what I consider to be the source of complete satisfaction. And, in the first place, I advise you not to build your happiness upon mere social position. Persons at your age, looking off upon life, are apt to think that if by some stroke of what is called good luck you could arrive in

an elevated and affluent position, a little higher than that in which God has called you to live, you would be completely happy. Infinite mistake. The palace floor of Ahasuerus is red with the blood of Vashti's broken heart. There have been no more scalding tears wept than those which coursed the cheeks of Josephine. If the sobs of unhappy womanhood in the great cities could break through the tapestried wall, that sob would come along your streets to-day like the simoon of the desert. Sometimes I have heard in the rustling of the robes on the city pavement the hiss of the adders that followed in the wake. You have come out from your home and you have looked up at the great house, and covet a life under those arches, when, perhaps, at that very moment, within that house, there may have been the wringing of hands, the start of horror, and the very agony of hell. I knew such an one. Her father's house was plain; most of the people who came there were plain; but, by a change in fortune, such as sometimes comes, a hand had been offered that led her into a brilliant sphere. All the neighbors congratulated her upon her grand prospects; but what an exchange! On her side it was a heart full of generous impulse and affection; on his side it was a soul dry and withered as the stubble of the field. On her side it was a father's house, where God was honored, and the Sabbath light flooded the rooms with the very mirth of heaven; on his side it was a gorgeous residence, and the coming of mighty men to be entertained there, but within it were revelry and godlessness.

Hardly had the orange blossoms of the marriage lost their fragrance than the night of discontent began to cast here and there its shadow. Cruelties and unkindnesses changed all those splendid trappings into a hollow mockery. The platters of solid silver, the caskets of pure gold, the head-dress of gleaming diamonds, were there; but no God, no peace, no kind words, no Christian sympathy. The festal music that broke on the captive's ear turned out to be a dirge, and the wreath in the plush was a reptile coil, and the upholstery that swayed in the wind was the wing of a destroying angel, and the bead-drops on the pitcher were the sweat of everlasting despair. O, how many rivalries and unhappinesses among those who seek in social life their chief happiness! It matters not how fine you have things; there are other people who have it finer. Taking out your watch to tell the hour of the day, some one will correct your time-piece by pulling out a watch more richly chased and jeweled. Ride in a carriage that cost you \$800, and before you get around the park you will meet with one that cost \$2,000. Have on your wall a picture by Copley, and before night you will hear of some one who has a picture fresh from the studio of Church or Bierstadt. All that this world can do for you in silver, in gold, in Axminster plush, in Gobelin tapestry, in wide halls, in lordly acquaintanceship, will not give you the ten-thousandth part of a grain of solid satisfaction. The English lord, moving in the very highest sphere, was one day found seated with his chin on his hand and his elbow on the window-sill, looking out and saying: "O, I wish I could exchange places with that dog!"

Mere social position will never give happiness to a woman's soul. I have had wide and continuous observation, and I tell the young women that they who build on mere social position their soul's immortal happiness are building on the sand.

Young woman, have you anything to do in the way of making your father's home happy? Now is the time to attempt it, or leave it forever undone. Time is flying very quickly. I suppose you notice the wrinkles are gathering and accumulating on those kindly faces that have so long looked upon you; there is frost in the locks; the foot is not as firm in its step as it used to be, and they will soon be gone. The heaviest clod that ever falls on a parent's coffin-lid is the memory of an ungrateful daughter. O, make their last days bright and beautiful. Do not act as though they were in the way. Ask their counsel, seek their prayers, and, after long years have passed, and you go out to see the grave where they sleep, you will find growing all over the mound something lovelier than cypress, something sweeter than the rose, something chaster than the lily—the bright and beautiful memories of filial kindness performed ere the dying hand

dropped on you a benediction, and you closed the lids over the weary eyes of the worn-out pilgrim. Better that in the hour of your birth you had been struck with orphanage, and that you had been handed over into the cold arms of the world, rather than that you should have been brought up under a father's care and a mother's tenderness, at last to scoff at their example and deride their influence; and on the day when you followed them in long procession to the tomb, to find that you are followed by a still larger procession of unfilial deeds done and wrong words uttered. The one procession will leave its burden in the tomb and disband; but that longer procession of ghastly memories will forever wall, O, it is a good time for a young woman when she is in her father's house. How careful they are of her welfare. How watchful those parents of all her interests. Seated at the morning repast, father at one end of the table, children on either side and between, but the years will roll on, and great changes will be effected, and one will be missed from one end of the table, and another will be missed from the other end of the table. God pity that young woman's soul who, in that dark hour, has nothing but regretful recollections.

But alas! for those who depend upon mere personal charms. They will come to disappointment and to a great fret. There are so many different opinions about what are personal charms; and then sickness, and trouble, and age, do make such ravages. The poorest god that a woman ever worships is her own face. The saddest sight in all the world is a woman who has built everything on good looks, when the charms begin to vanish. O, how they try to cover the wrinkles and hide the ravages of time! When time, with iron-shod feet, steps on a face, the hoof-marks remain, and you cannot hide them. It is silly to try to hide them. I think the most repulsive fool in all the world is an old fool!

Why, my friends, should you be ashamed to be getting old? It is a sign—it is a *prima facie* evidence that you have behaved tolerably well or you would not have lived to this time. The grandest thing, I think, is eternity, and that is made up of countless years. When the Bible would set forth the attractiveness of Jesus Christ, it says: "His hair was white as snow." But when the color goes from the cheek, the luster from the eye, and the spring from the step, and the gracefulness from the gait, alas! for those who have built their time and their eternity upon good looks. But all the passage of years can not take out of one's face benignity, and kindness and compassion, and faith. Culture your heart and you culture your face. The brightest glory that ever beamed from a woman's face is the religion of Jesus Christ. In the last war 200 wounded soldiers came to Philadelphia one night and came unheralded, and they had to extemporize a hospital for them, and the Christian women of my church and of other churches went out that night to take care of the poor wounded fellows.

That night I saw a Christian woman go through the wards of the hospital, her sleeves rolled up, ready for hard work, her hair disheveled in the excitement of the hour. Her face was plain, very plain; but after the wounds were washed and the new bandages were put round the splintered limbs and the exhausted boy fell off into his first pleasant sleep, she put her hand on his brow and he started in his dream and said: "O, I thought an angel touched me!" There may have been no classic elegance in the features of Mrs. Harris, who came into the hospital after the "seven days" awful fight as she sat down by a wounded drummer boy and heard him soliloquize: "A ball through my body and my poor mother will never again see her boy. What a pity it is!" And she leaned over him and said: "Shall I be your mother and comfort you?" And he looked up and said: "Yes, I'll try to think she's here. Please to write a long letter to her and tell her all about it and send her a lock of my hair and comfort her. But I would like to have you tell her how much I suffered—yes, I would like you to do that, for she would feel so for me. Hold my hand while I die." There may have been no classical elegance in her features, but all the hospitals of Harrison's Landing and Fortress Monroe would have agreed that she was beautiful, and if any rough man in all the

ward had insulted her some wounded soldier would have leaped from his couch on his best foot and struck him dead with a crutch.

Again I advise you not to depend for happiness upon the flatteries of men. It is a poor compliment to your sex that so many men feel obliged in your presence to offer unmeaning compliments. Men capable of elegant and elaborate conversation elsewhere sometimes feel called upon at the door of the drawing-room to drop their common sense and to dole out sickening flatteries. They say things about your dress, and about your appearance that you know, and they know, are false. They say you are an angel. You know you are not. Determined to tell the truth in office, and store, and shop, they consider it honorable to lie to a woman. The same thing that they told you on this side of the drawing-room three minutes ago they said to some one on the other side of the drawing-room. O, let no one trample on your self-respect. The meanest thing on which a woman can build her happiness is the flatteries of men.

Again: I charge you not to depend for happiness upon the discipleship of worldliness. I have seen men as vain of their old-fashioned and their eccentric hat as your brainless fop is proud of his dangling fooleries. Fashion sometimes makes a reasonable demand of us, and then we ought to yield to it. The daisies of the field have their fashion of color and leaf; the honey-suckles have their fashion of ear-drop; and the snowflakes flung out of the winter heavens have their fashion of exquisiteness. After the summer shower the sky weds the earth with ring of rainbow. And I do not think we have a right to despise the elegancies and fashions of this world, especially if they make reasonable demands upon us; but the discipleship and worship of fashion is death to the body, and death to the soul. I am glad the world is improving. Look at the fashion-plates of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and you will find that the world is not so extravagant and extraordinary now as it was then, and all the marvelous things that the granddaughter will do will never equal that done by the grandmother.

I come to you, young women, to-day, to say that this world cannot make you happy. I know it is a bright world, with glorious sunshine, and golden rivers, and fire-worked sunset, and bird orchestra, and the darkest cave has its crystals, and the wrathliest wave its foam wreath, and the coldest midnight its flaming aurora; but God will put out all of these lights with the blast of his own nostrils, and the glories of this world will perish in the final conflagration. You will never be happy until you get your sins forgiven and allow Christ Jesus to take full possession of your soul. He will be your friend in every perplexity. He will be your comfort in every trial. He will be your defender in every strait. I do not ask you to bring, like Mary, the spices to the sepulchre of a dead Christ, but to bring your all to the feet of a living Jesus. His word is peace. His look is love. His hand is help. His touch is life. His smile is heaven. O, come then, in flocks and groups. Come, like the south wind over banks of myrrh. Come like the mountain light tripping over the mountains. Wreath all your affections on Christ's brow, set all your gems in Christ's coronet, pour all your voices into Christ's song and let this Sabbath air rustle with the wings of rejoicing angels, and the towers of God ring out the news of souls saved.

Household Facts and Fancies.

As the season is fast approaching for the semi-annual house-cleaning, I am tempted to offer a few suggestions dictated by my own experience. About this time, I begin to look over the mass of material which has accumulated during the winter. In my attic chamber stands an old cupboard which is a receptacle for all papers, magazines and pamphlets which have been digested by the various members of the family. Looking these over, I select such pages as contain choice stories, poetry, anecdotes, etc., and stitch them together in the form of a book, thus making a good volume to lend. Pictures and children's stories are carefully cut out, and as carefully packed away, until at some convenient time they can be converted into home-made scrap and picture books. From what remains, I take whatever will be useful for covering shelves etc.; and lastly, gather up the fragments and put

them into a large oil-cloth wall-pocket which hangs conveniently near the kitchen stove.

Next in order comes the large chest which holds the summer wardrobe. Each article is carefully examined and a decision made as to its future use. Garments to be altered, or made over, are put in a corner by themselves. Those needing repairs are placed in the mending basket. Such articles as are ready for use are smoothly folded and replaced. In this thorough manner I go through boxes, bureau and closets, always saving whatever will be of service, and destroying all that which is likely to attract moths and mice. I think that a frequent inspection of one's "possessions" is necessary to insure the safe keeping of the same.

I have never yet sewed together rags enough for a carpet, but usually save the best parts of worn garments until I have a nice collection of rags for some one who has time and patience to sew them. What is left I burn. This latter fate also overtakes old boots and shoes, and all rubbish that can be burned. For old tin cans, broken crockery, bottles, etc., there is a dumping place over the bank, where they "are left to sight, to memory dear." They quietly repose in the shade of the underbrush which skirts our little stream.

All this preliminary work is not accomplished in a day. It is done little by little, as time can be secured from other duties; but according to my experience, the real business of house-cleaning is materially aided by the development of this plan.

I lately received from "Phoebe Parmalee" her recipe for making yeast. It has been given to the readers of the FARMER, and perhaps others, as well as myself, have made a trial of it, and secured the same delightful result.

Has any one tried the new preparation called oat flake? We consider it greatly superior to the common oat meal, because it does not require over ten minutes cooking to make it palatable. M. L. HAYWARD.

"Woodland Scene in Winter" is the title of a poem kindly forwarded by a good friend. It is faulty in two respects—in meter and style, which perhaps the author overlooked. Shall we return it?—EDITOR.

Good Wages—A Dollar an Hour.

Enterprising, ambitious people of both sexes and all ages should at once write to Stinson & Co., Portland, Maine, learning thereby, by return mail, how they can make \$1 per hour and upwards, and live at home. You are started free. Capital not needed. Work pleasant and easy; all can do it. All is new and free; write and see; then if you conclude not to go to work, no harm is done. A rare opportunity. Grand, rushing success rewards every worker.

The Young Folks.

A Nightingale.

Deep in the quiet of an English vale,
One summer night, when through the tranquil sky
The full-orbed moon sailed down the west,
and I
Was left alone to watch her visage pale,
There came from some clear-throated nightingale
A plaintive music floating softly by,
And all the dreamy gales were hushed to try
To catch the words of the melodious tale.

And I, enraptured, held awhile my breath
To hear the music of this poet-bird—
The bitterness mingling with the sweets;
To me it seemed as though from realms of death
His soul returned, and, listening, I heard
Once more the mellow cadences of Keats.
—Frank Dempster Sherman, in *Cosmopolitan*.

If satire charms strike faults, but spare the man;
'Tis dull to be as witty as you can.
Satire recalls whenever charged too high;
Round your own fame the fatal splinters fly.
As the soft plume gives swiftness to the dart,
Good breeding sends the satire to the heart.
—Young.

Nothing exceeds in ridicule, no doubt,
A fool in fashion, but a fool that's out;
His passion for absurdity's so strong
He cannot bear a rival in the wrong.
Though wrong the mode, comply, more sense
is shown
In wearing others' folly than our own.
—Young.

That strain again—it had a dying fall;
Oh! it came o'er my ear like the sweet south
That breathes upon a bank of violets,
Stealing, and giving odor. —Shakespeare.

Open, ye heavens, your living doors: let in
The great Creator, from His work returned
Magnificent; His six days' work, a world.
—Milton.

EFFECTS OF TOBACCO.

Extracts from an address delivered before the State Board of Health, by President McVicar, of Washburn college, Topeka.

The term tobacco is variously derived. According to some, from the word "tabac," signifying the pipe or tube employed by the Indians in smoking when first discovered by Columbus. Others again derive the term from "Tabago," the name of a province in Mexico, where the Spaniards found the plant in cultivation.

In 1880 the total acreage of the cultivation of tobacco was 637,659 acres, of this amount had Kansas 334 acres.

	Acres.
Connecticut.....	8,666
Missouri.....	15,500
Pennsylvania.....	27,507
Ohio.....	34,679
Maryland.....	38,174
Tennessee.....	41,532
North Carolina.....	57,215
Virginia.....	139,423
Kentucky.....	226,127

The tobacco product of 1880 was 473,107,573 pounds, over 9 pounds for every man, woman and child in the United States, and as compared with 1870, an increase of 210,372,232 pounds.

In 1885 the tobacco product of the United States was 575,000,000 pounds; in 1886 the tobacco crop of the United States was 591,000,000 pounds. It is estimated that Kentucky produces 57 per cent. of the whole tobacco crop of the United States.

The amount of money expended and changing hands for the raw material of tobacco in 1880 was \$47,310,757.30. It appears from internal revenue reports that more than ninety-five million pounds of tobacco and one billion three hundred million cigars are consumed each year in the United States, at an expense of \$250,000,000. In New York city alone over 75,000,000 cigars are consumed annually, at a cost of over \$9,000,000.

These figures give some impression of the cultivation, production and consumption of this narcotic and the enormous expense attending its habitual use.

Setting aside various salts and acids, the virulently poisonous constituents of tobacco, as ascertained by organic chemistry, are three:

First—Nicotianine, sometimes called "tobacco camphor." It is described by Webster as "a concrete or solid oil obtained from tobacco. It smells like tobacco smoke, tastes bitterish and slightly aromatic, and is eminently poisonous." * * *

In the use of tobacco by chewing, the herb coming, as it does, in contact constantly with the moisture in the mouth at the normal temperature of the body, the conditions are such as by a process akin to distillation, to produce more or less this nicotianine in a soluble form.

Another characteristic constituent of tobacco is nicotine. * * *

This substance is described by Webster as "an oily, limpid, colorless liquid, having a weak taste of tobacco and entirely poisonous." It is sometimes called the "oil of tobacco." Its presence in tobacco ranges from 2 to 7 per cent.

The ordinary varieties in the United States running as high as 7 per cent. of nicotine—while the Havana runs at times as low as 2 per cent. This accounts for the large amount of raw tobacco imported into Havana—in order that it may be exported with native brands of Havana tobacco.

Nicotine is now regarded as one of the most poisonous substances known. It has been dropped in medical practice as too dangerous and uncertain for manipulation. One drop on the tongue of a cat causes convulsions and in two minutes death.

In addition to those mentioned, a third extremely poisonous constituent is found in tobacco called empyreumatic oil, so named from its resemblance to the oil produced by the burning of animal and vegetable substances in close vessels or pent-up areas.

"This empyreumatic oil of tobacco," says Benjamin Brodie, an eminent chemist, "is produced by the distillation of that herb at a temperature above that of boiling water." A certain quantity of this empyreumatic oil of tobacco must be always circulating in the blood of the habitual smoker, and we cannot suppose, he continues, "that the effects of it on the system can be merely negative."

As to the mode of action of tobacco on the physical system, the general impression is that as a narcotic, it acts through the nervous system upon the muscular tissues.

The use of tobacco, whether in the form

of smoking, chewing or snuffing, brings the poisonous alkaloids, easily soluble in the secretions of the mouth, into direct contact with the delicate membranes of the body, while some of the more dangerous constituents of the herb, are carried by respiration to the lungs and become absorbed in the blood.

That the use of tobacco has a deleterious effect on the physical system is a general impression of the people. It is a vigorous rule of athletic regimen that the oarsman must forego his cigar and the pugilist his plug, on going into the process of training for the contest. This is a striking admission that the use of tobacco, in any form, is incompatible with the best physical condition.

The effect of tobacco on its first use—by individuals—is a strong proof vouched for by general experience, that a poison has attacked the system. The paleness, the faintness, the nausea, the cold and clammy skin, the relaxed muscles, the feeble pulse, and in some instances convulsions, indicate the virulence of this narcotic in its onset upon the normal condition of the organs of the body. * * *

There is no doubt that the natural tendency of the use of tobacco is to ultimately break down the nervous system. This is seen in the tremulous hand of one who has long used tobacco. The director of the department of drawing at Annapolis remarked once that he never knew one "addicted to the use of tobacco who could draw a clean straight line." * * *

The increasing prevalence of typhoid and typhus fevers at the present day in rural communities, as well as in our over-crowded cities, with but little sanitary precautions, renders the increasing use of tobacco doubly alarming. The deleterious effect of tobacco on the heart is now generally conceded.

* * * * *
The records of the United States navy show that the most prominent cause of rejection of candidates for apprenticeship is what is called an "irritable heart," in other words, a heart of disturbed, enfeebled and irregular action, caused in most cases primarily by the use of tobacco. * * *

Still another effect resulting from the use of tobacco, is that it puts the physical system into what is called a carcinomatous or cancerous state. * * *

The use of tobacco by the youth of our country is now evidently on the increase. This arises in part from the influx of young men into our cities and in part by the extensive advertisement of the tobacco trade flaunted in almost every newspaper, in groceries, in drug stores, on the corner of streets and on fences along the highways.

Some time since a Boston journal made the assertion that of boys over 12 and 13, 75 per cent. used tobacco.

* * * * *

From a careful investigation of the subject in the public schools of our own city, the following statement has been kindly furnished me by Dr. Bloss, superintendent of the public schools of Topeka: Of an enrollment of 1,669 white boys of the ages from 7 to 20, 30 per cent. used tobacco. Of an enrollment of 429 colored boys of the same range of ages, 24 per cent. used tobacco. In the high school with an enrollment of eighty-one boys, 22 per cent. used tobacco. In one school, fifth grade, out of an enrollment of twenty-six boys twenty-three boys used tobacco. From these statistics, we are doubtless warranted in the inference, that of the whole enrollment of boys in the public schools of our city between the ages of 12 and 20, at least 50 per cent. use or have used tobacco.

It was found also by Dr. Bloss in his investigations that the large majority of boys using tobacco, use it in the form of smoking cigarettes, the very worst form in which it can be used, when it is considered that as a general rule cigarettes are made of the vilest stuff, with poisonous ingredients added.

These statements respecting the public schools of Topeka are applicable, no doubt, to the public schools in the other cities of our State.

As already intimated the effects of the use of tobacco are especially deleterious in the case of boys. While the physical forces of the body are active and taxed to their utmost in the processes of assimilation, for the upbuilding of bone and sinew and muscle, thus ministering to the growth and consolidation of the body, then it is that the

\$93 Sewing Machine Free!

We want one person in every village, town and township, to keep in their homes a line of our ART SAMPLES; to those who will keep and simply show these samples to those who call, we will send, free, the very best Sewing Machine manufactured in the world, with all the attachments. This machine is made after the SINGER patents, which have expired. Before the patents run out, this style machine, with the attachments, was sold for \$93; it now sells for \$50. Reader, it may seem to you the most WONDERFUL THING ON EARTH, but you can secure one of these machines ABSOLUTELY FREE, provided your application comes in first, from your locality, and if you will keep in your home and show to those who call, a set of our elegant and unequalled art samples. We do not ask you to show these samples for more than two months, and then they become your own property. The art samples are sent to you ABSOLUTELY FREE of cost. How can we do all this?—easily enough! We often get as much as \$2,000 or \$3,000 in trade from even a small place, after our art samples have remained where they could be seen for a month or two. We need one person in each locality, all over the country, and take this means of securing them at once. Those who write to us at once, will secure, FREE, the very best Sewing Machine manufactured, and the finest general assortment of works of high art ever shown together in America. All particulars FREE by return mail. Write at once; a postal card on which to write to us will cost you but one cent, and after you know all, should you conclude to go no further, why no harm is done. Wonderful as it seems, you need no capital—all is free. Address at once, TRUE & CO., AUGUSTA, MAINE.

poisonous constituents of tobacco attack with the greatest virulence and most lasting injury. * * *

If the use of tobacco has such an effect in lowering the general tone of vitality of the physical system, it follows as an incontrovertible conclusion, that correspondingly injurious effects are produced on the mental faculties. The statistics of the polytechnic school of Paris in France, have recently furnished some striking facts. Dividing the young men into two groups—those who used and those who did not use tobacco—it was found that those who used tobacco in the average were far inferior to the general average of the other class in competitive examinations and general scholarship. It is said that no one in the habit of using tobacco ever took the highest honor at Harvard.

At a meeting of the State Teachers' Association of Iowa, several years since, one of the ablest and most successful of the superintendents read a paper on "The Effect of Tobacco on School Work," in which he presented conclusions which experienced teachers are forced to accept as a plain statement of facts. This is his testimony: "Boys who begin the habit at an early age uniformly have become permanently stunted, mentally and physically, and especially their reasoning powers obscured, their memory treacherous, and zeal for study altogether lacking. Indigestion, impaired taste, defective eyesight, dull hearing, nervous affections, and diseases of the heart among the pupils under his care were traceable in a surprising proportion of cases to an inveterate use of tobacco, often unknown to parents and home friends.

In many instances boys who had been doing admirably in their studies showed a marked falling off in zeal, mental grasp and general success in scholarship, a change almost invariably traceable to the formation of the tobacco habit.

All the evil results mentioned do not, of course, appear concurrently in each and every boy that uses tobacco; but the benumbing and befoggling effect upon the intellect is nearly or quite universal.

Care for the Children

Children feel the debility of the changing seasons, even more than adults, and they become cross, peevish, and uncontrollable. The blood should be cleansed and the system invigorated by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"Last Spring my two children were vaccinated. Soon after, they broke all out with running sores, so dreadful I thought I should lose them. Hood's Sarsaparilla cured them completely; and they have been healthy ever since. I do feel that Hood's Sarsaparilla saved my children to me." Mrs. C. L. THOMPSON, West Warren, Mass.

Purify the Blood

Hood's Sarsaparilla is characterized by three peculiarities: 1st, the combination of remedial agents; 2d, the proportion; 3d, the process of securing the active medicinal qualities. The result is a medicine of unusual strength, effecting cures hitherto unknown. Send for book containing additional evidence.

"Hood's Sarsaparilla tones up my system, purifies my blood, sharpens my appetite, and seems to make me over." J. P. THOMPSON, Register of Deeds, Lowell, Mass.

"Hood's Sarsaparilla beats all others, and is worth its weight in gold." I. BARRINGTON, 130 Bank Street, New York City.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Made only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar.

KANSAS FARMER REPORTS

A SHORT, MILD, OLD-FASHIONED WINTER.

Spring Work Well Advanced--Seed for Early Crops Already Planted.

STOCK HAS WINTERED WELL.

Wheat and Rye in the Best Condition--Prospects Encouraging--Farmers Hopeful and Hard at Work.

The KANSAS FARMER this week publishes reports from a hundred and forty-eight special correspondents, in response to questions sent out concerning the weather during the past winter, stock, stock feed, wheat in the ground, farm work under way, spring crops, condition of the ground, crops successfully grown in the different counties--grains, grasses, fruits, etc., losses occasioned by exposure to cold weather, agricultural prospects, spirits of the farmers, immigration, railroads, etc., and the summing up shows a very encouraging state of facts. Every county is reported, in some cases by two or more correspondents. It is agreed by all that while there was some very cold weather in January, the weather then was dry, and no considerable losses of stock occurred anywhere by reason of it. In some of the counties cattle have been on the open range all winter, with very little prepared food of any kind. Winter wheat got well started in the fall, and it afforded good pasture nearly all winter. Not one county reports any losses on account of shortness of food, and many now have feed to spare. The universal testimony is that stock never wintered better. Wheat is in good condition--very good, well rooted, with good tops. Rye was sown pretty extensively in the newer counties, and like the wheat, it made good pasture and is now doing well. Spring work is far advanced in all the southern counties, oats sown, potatoes planted, and gardens begun. A great deal of fall plowing was done in the eastern and northern counties. Never before, in all the State's history, was so much and so good preparation on the first of March for the spring work. A largely increased acreage of oats and corn is promised, and in the newer counties west the farmers will grow immense areas of millet, sorghum, rice corn and Kaffir corn, and alfalfa is a favorite forage plant with many. Notwithstanding the fact that the last two years have not been prosperous ones generally in Kansas, the farmers are in good heart and everywhere report most encouraging prospects. And this feeling is general--everybody is hopeful and resolved to make the best of a good year. The ground is well saturated with moisture; wheat is in the best possible condition for this time of the season, and stock was never healthier or in better plight in early spring. The whole State is in good humor.

Allen county.--We have had a good stiff winter, but were well prepared for it, and there has been no suffering or loss. Stock has come through in good shape; there have been serious losses in swine by reason of the plague, imported from Kansas City stock yards, but no losses among cattle. A large quantity of feed was put up and it has not reached an unreasonable figure; we have not had to import any corn, though a large amount has been fed. Wheat is not grown in this county except in bottoms; wherever sown it looks well. On account of continued wet weather no spring work has been done yet; ground is in splendid condition. Corn, flax, broomcorn, oats, wheat (in bottoms), millet, clover, timothy, and all kinds of fruit suited to this latitude

grow well here. Farmers are in good spirits, confident of a fine crop this year.

Anderson.--The winter has been an exceptionally fine one, with less disagreeable weather than the average--just froze enough to put ground in good condition. Stock of all kinds are coming through in good shape--rather better than in former years. Stock feed sufficient for all purposes; plenty of corn to be had at 40 cents per bushel, and hay at \$3.50 per ton. Wheat in the ground is looking well. About 20 per cent. of the plowing was done in the fall; the short deep freeze has put the ground in splendid fix, frost is out of the ground, preparations fast being made for the plow, which will be ready to plant the first of next month. Corn, oats and flax in the order named are our stand by crops; timothy, blue-grass and clover do well; in short, sharp cold weather has discouraged the peach-grower, all other fruits do well. No loss whatever in this part of the county from severity of weather. The farmers are in fine spirits.

(2) The winter was open till January, cold to February, snow and sleet, nice to feed stock for three weeks, mud and rain. Stock looks as well as usual at this time of year; farmers have been more careful. Stock feed enough to get through with. Wheat in the ground looks well, but a small acreage sown. But little spring work done as yet; ground wet. Corn, wheat, oats and flax, timothy, clover, orchard and blue-grass, apples, pears, and all kinds of small fruits are successfully grown here. Agricultural prospects flattering, will put forth every effort for a large crop.

Atchison.--January cold and fine sleighing, February changeable, freezing and thawing, a big rain the 18th and 19th. Stock in good condition, except hogs; some cholera. Stock feed plenty. Wheat in the ground in good condition. No spring work done; ground very wet and frost not all out. All kinds of crops raised here. No losses from cold weather. Agricultural prospects good.

Barton.--Winter was one with few storms and none very severe; fore part very mild; February quite mild and many foggy, drizzly days; but little rain until the 18th, when we had a very fine rain. Stock was never in as good condition at this season of the year; horses show the lack of grain but are in good working condition; sufficient amount of stock feed to last until grass comes. Increased acreage of wheat in county looking a little brown, but all of it starting nicely; was pastured close but promises very well, better than for years. There will be a large amount of oats planted, and many have ground already plowed; farmers are sowing and have made a start, but are retarded by frosty nights; ground in fine condition. Wheat, rye, oats, barley, corn, millet, sorghum, potatoes, peas, beans, garden truck, etc., apples, plums and grapes are grown successfully. Grasses are but little sown as yet; alfalfa and clover are doing well; no losses from cold. Prospects of farmers were never better; immigration good; three railroads and more coming.

Brown.--The winter, with the exception of a few blizzards and some excessive cold, has been a pleasant one. Stock in splendid condition for this time of year; less disease than usual. Stock feed will all be needed, but enough to see us through to grass. Wheat promises an abundant crop. No spring work done yet; frost nearly all out of ground. Wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, clover, timothy, blue-grass, orchard grass, etc.; all the fruits adapted to this latitude are successfully grown. No losses of persons or animals from cold reported. Farmers are in excellent spirits.

Butler.--January was cold, 12 degrees below zero; February pleasant; some plowing. Stock in good condition; some hog cholera; stock feed scarce. Wheat is in splendid condition; ground in good working order. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, corn, oats, millet, potatoes and all kinds of fruit. Some sheep lost from cold weather. Farmers feel encouraged. There will be a large acreage of corn.

Chautauque.--The winter was mild and dry, 10 degrees below zero on January 21st; four inches of snow in December. Stock is wintering well; all sound; feed is scarce; none to spare. With an early spring all will come through. Wheat never looked as well at this time of the year. Some plowing was done in the fall and many are now plowing and sowing oats; ground in good condition. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, millet, Hungarian and clover. No losses of stock from cold, and people did better than common. Farmers are a little discouraged with results of the past year but all are at work.

Cherokee.--Continued but not excessive cold weather during the winter; lowest thermometer was 8 degrees below; two light snows. Stock wintered in good condition. Stock feed sufficient--corn and hay. Some winter plowing for oats and corn. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, cotton, tobacco and all kinds of fruits and vegetables. No losses from cold. Agricultural prospects better than for three years.

Cheyenne.--First snow and hard freeze October 25, snow and blow November 26,

snow twelve inches deep; dense fog November 28, 29 and 30; December 19, blizzard, very cold, 15 degrees below zero; December 21, snow and blow; December 25, snow; January 12, 13, 14 and 15, sleet, snow and 20 degrees below zero; the air was continuously cold from October 25 till January 20, since then very nice warm and pleasant. Plenty of hay and fodder; oats and corn scarce. Wheat in fine condition. Hundreds of acres of plowing for corn already done; some spring wheat sown; farmers have been breaking sod and other plowing for three weeks; ground in fine condition for plowing and seeding. Crops successfully grown are: Corn wheat, oats, rye, flax, potatoes, Millet, sorghum, peanuts, beets, melons, clover, alfalfa and all kinds of garden truck. No losses whatever from cold. Agricultural prospects good. B. & M. railroad already graded; Rock Island and Missouri Pacific expected during the year.

Clark.--About one month of very cold weather this winter, more snow than the past two winters together; some rain and weather warm after January. Stock in good condition; range cattle gone through without feed. Grain scarce, but plenty of roughness. Some wheat sown and looking well. Ground in good condition; some breaking done, and oats and potatoes sown and planted. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, rye, millet, oats, corn, cane, etc., timothy, clover, alfalfa and most all kinds of fruits. No loss of stock occasioned by cold to my knowledge. Agricultural prospects better than ever known; good immigrants coming in; several railroads building this way and chartered through the county.

(2) Live stock has gone through the winter better than for three years. The dry weather during the fall months left the grass well cured and unwashed. No losses on account of storms or disease; prices very low. Wheat sowed early looks fair to middling; much of it yet in the ground and unsprouted, the late rains and warm weather will do it all good; acreage small. Considerable plowing already done; some oats sown; ground in better condition than at this time last year. During one or two cold snaps of forty or fifty hours duration, domestic animals would have been better off with shelter. The drought of last season discouraged some settlers other than the old Kansan. Those that came into the county a year ago last fall and failed to make a crop last season, need some aid until a crop can be made this season. New comers almost every day. The Rock Island railroad and Santa Fe both built into and through the county last year.

Clay.--The winter was very cold from December 20 to January 15; nice weather all through February. Stock looks well for this time of year. Enough feed to winter through. Wheat looks well. Corn, oats and wheat have been a failure for the last three years; grasses hurt bad the last summer. No losses from cold. Agricultural prospects good.

Cloud.--Three weeks of cold weather, otherwise uncommonly pleasant; no severe storms and very little high wind. Stock in good condition. Rough feed in abundance; grain not very plenty. A very light crop of wheat sown; in nice condition; very little if any seeding done yet. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, oats and all root crops; common grasses all do well; all small fruits and apples and occasionally a good peach crop. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects good; farmers are in good spirits; over 100 miles of railroad in operation.

Coffey.--January cold and dry, February warm and showery; in all, a nice winter. Stock doing well--no disease. Feed enough till grass. Wheat doing splendid. Some plowing done last fall for spring planting. Crops successfully grown: wheat, corn, oats, timothy, clover, apples, and small fruits generally. No human lives lost from cold; a few head of stock, through carelessness of owners. Agricultural prospects good.

Comanche.--The winter was steady cold almost from January 1 to February 1; February has been fine weather. Stock has gone through the winter in fine shape, and are now in better condition than usual at this time; there has been but little stock fed on account of short crops. Wheat in the ground is the best I have seen for years at this time of the year. Spring crops are going to be put in the ground at once; oats will be sown before March 1, and corn planting as soon after as practical. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, wheat and oats; alfalfa and wild grasses and fruit trees of all kinds are doing well. No loss of stock or life occasioned by cold weather in this county. The agricultural prospect is good; Rock Island railroad is here.

Cowley.--The winter up to December 15 mild, to January 25 cold and dry, little snow, since January 25 weather splendid. Stock in fine condition, never looked better; feed plenty. Wheat looks splendid. Ground in good condition. Crops successfully grown: corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, millet, sorghum, clover, blue grass, orchard grass, timothy, apples, peaches, pears, apricots, plums, cherries. No losses from cold. Agricultural prospects flattering.

Crawford.--The winter has been very pleasant and dry with the exception of January, which was quite cold with some sleet. All stock in very good condition; stock feed abundant. Wheat generally looking well; not a great average sown. Very little spring work done yet; plowing just commenced; a good deal of fall plowing done; ground in very good condition. Crops grown successfully are: Corn, oats, castor beans, flax, and all crops grown anywhere will grow here; tame grasses of all varieties do well; also, fruits of all kinds. No losses of any

kind occasioned by cold reported. Agricultural prospects very good; farmers in good spirits so far as known; another railroad the coming summer.

(2) We have had a very pleasant winter; very little snow and no bad storms; lowest temperature 10 degrees below zero January 15, since then the weather has been mild and pleasant. Our crops were good except potatoes as the dry spell only lasted about four weeks. There never has been a failure of crops in this corner of the State since the country was settled.

Davis.--A mild winter, except January, which was very cold. Stock in fair condition. Rough feed in abundance, grain scarce. Wheat reported in good condition. Some plowing done for oats; ground in good condition. Nearly all kinds of cereals and fruits grown successfully. A very few head of poverty-stricken stock cattle died in January. Outlook in all very encouraging.

Decatur.--January cold with little snow up to 20th; after that very pleasant, warm and but little wind. Stock in splendid condition. Feed plenty to last till 1st of April. Some wheat sown, and ground in fine condition. Crops successfully grown: wheat, oats, corn, rye, sorghum, alfalfa, apples, cherries, grapes. No losses from cold that I have heard of. Good prospects, but some farmers have the blues.

Dickinson.--Three very cold weeks during past winter, rest moderate. Stock have come through in good condition. Plenty of feed in the south part of the county to supply the county. Very little spring work done; ground will be in good condition. No losses occasioned by cold. Farmers are happy over prospects.

(2) Below zero January 25, the coldest day of the winter; with that exception the winter has been a pleasant one. Stock doing well; no disease; in thriving condition. Stock feed abundant in north Dickinson; still plenty of cornfodder, oat straw, and hay. They raise all the cereals, fruits and vegetables common in this latitude. A few head of cattle were lost during the absence of the owners at the time of the blizzard. Prospects are good; two new railroads, four in all.

Doniphan.--The winter was snug, with considerable snow; very cold on January 15; 25 deg. below zero. Stock of all kinds in good average condition. Stock feed enough and some to spare. Wheat is in fine condition. Ground partly thawed out and very wet. Corn, fall wheat, barley, oats, rye, millet, timothy, clover, blue and orchard grass; fruit--apples, cherries, plums and nearly all kinds of small fruits. No fatalities on account of cold. Prospects for agriculture are good, and farmers are hopeful.

(2) The winter has been good, except the blizzard in January. Stock is in good condition, and all healthy except hog cholera in some parts. Plenty of feed of every kind and a good deal to spare. Wheat looking well. Corn, wheat, oats, sorghum, all the tame grasses, and all kinds of fruit in this latitude are successfully grown here. No losses from cold. Agricultural prospects are good, farmers in good spirits.

Douglas.--Winter not unpleasant. Stock is generally in fair condition. Feed plenty. Wheat generally looking well. Considerable amount fall plowing done; acreage of corn and oats will be largely increased; ground is getting in good condition for work. All crops can be successfully grown in this latitude except peaches. No persons and very small percentage of animals lost by reason of cold. Prospects good; farmers hopeful.

Edwards.--Stock in good condition. Stock feed plenty. Wheat in the ground is coming out in good shape. Ground in good condition. Corn, oats, barley, millet, sorghum, and flax are all grown successfully here. No loss in this county by reason of cold. Prospects good; farmers in good spirits.

Elk.--The winter has been dry and during January cold. Stock in good condition. Plenty of feed. Wheat is in good condition. The soil is in good condition. All the grasses and fruits of the temperate regions and all the clovers and grasses except timothy are successfully grown here. No losses from cold. Farmers are in good spirits; prospects bright.

Ellsworth.--Fore part of winter cold, but generally pleasant. Stock in good condition. Stock feed, generally speaking, enough. Wheat in splendid condition. Nearly all farmers are plowing and have been all the month. Wheat, corn, millet, sorghum, rye, oats, timothy, clover, orchard grass and alfalfa are all grown successfully here. No persons froze; a few animals died in January storms. Agricultural prospects good; farmers are in high spirits.

Finney.--The winter has been colder than usual for this section; had one blizzard of two or three days; 10 deg. below three or four days; very little snow. Stock is in fair condition; came through the winter with but a very small percentage of loss. Not a surplussage of feed, but plenty to carry stock to grass season. Wheat in excellent condition. Much plowing already done, and quite a good acreage of oats sown; a large amount of spring crops will be planted; ground in fine order. Wheat, oats, corn, millet, alfalfa, cane, Kaffir corn, apples, plums, apricots, strawberries, and other small fruits are all successfully grown here. Agricultural prospects good, best ever had here; farmers in good spirits, especially so in the range of irrigation.

Ford.--The winter was very mild, not over fifteen days' severe weather the whole winter. Stock is in good condition. Feed is getting scarce. Ground in good condition and farmers plowing and sowing oats. Corn, millet and sorghum, potatoes, grasses of all

kinds, are all successfully grown here. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects fair; farmers encouraged; four railroads and work begun on another.

Franklin.—Two weeks cold in January, 17 deg. below zero; favorable winter for cattle-feeding; before and since lovely. Stock wintered well, with few exceptions; in good condition generally. Hay supply short, fodder plenty; enough to go through. Wheat looks splendid. Ground in good condition; fall plowing general. Corn, wheat, oats, flax, castor beans, rye, millet, sorghum, clover, orchard grass, timothy, every variety of large and small fruits, are all successfully grown here. No losses except a very few cattle. Agricultural prospects good; spirits and courage of farmers at low ebb—no markets for what they have to sell.

(2) Early part of winter mild, January severe, February mild. Grain scarce, hay not plenty, and prices high; with favorable spring will get through all right. Wheat in very good condition. Some fall plowing done; ground well saturated with moisture. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects good; farmers hopeful.

Garfield.—Winter warm and pleasant, with but very few storms. Stock was never in better condition. Feed plenty—hay, millet and cornfodder. Wheat looking well; a large acreage sown. Ground in good condition. No losses occasioned by cold what-ever. Agricultural prospects good.

(2) Winter mild, with a few cold days; field work, plowing, etc., suspended about six weeks. Stock was on the range all winter but about ten days; some stock out all the time; stock is now in good condition and healthy. Plenty of all kinds of feed except grain. Some oats and potatoes are planted, also garden seeds; ground in good condition. Corn, oats, sorghum, rice corn, broomcorn, potatoes, millet, also vegetables, are all successfully grown here. I know of not a single case of personal suffering, or loss of property or stock by the cold. Farmers are looking for a big crop this year.

Gove.—The winter will average colder than last, but no storms. Stock generally are in good condition. Feed plenty and to spare. Spring work is well advanced. Corn, wheat, rye, sorghum, millet, fruits of all kinds that have been tried, are all successfully grown here. Agricultural prospects are best for years. Farmers are in good spirits.

(2) A very open winter. Stock in good condition. Feed plenty. Wheat looks well. No losses occasioned by cold.

Graham.—The winter was severe at beginning, but during the most severe spell we had plenty of snow to protect grain; latter part of January and February, to date, very pleasant. Stock looking well. Stock feed rather scarce for grain; plenty of hay and roughness. Wheat looking well. Ground in fine condition; some plowing. Wheat, rye, barley, oats, corn, broomcorn, sorghum, potatoes, millet, alfalfa, peaches, are all successfully grown here. The losses have been merely nominal. Agricultural prospects good.

(2) Winter, since middle of January very mild. Stock in good condition. Stock feed will be plenty. Wheat in good condition. Some plowing done. Spirits of farmers good.

Grant.—The winter cold, with but little snow from December 4 to January 20; mild and pleasant since. Stock in excellent condition; plenty of stock feed and to spare. Farmers plowing the past three weeks; ground works well. Millet, sorghum, corn, broomcorn, alfalfa, are all successfully grown here. I wintered 200 head of cattle on my ranch without the loss of a single head; others report loss light or none. The prospects for our county are good; the farmers are in good spirits.

Gray.—The winter generally mild; few wet days. Stock in good condition. Feed abundant. Wheat in good condition. Condition of ground good, better than ordinarily; considerable spring work done. All kinds of grain and wild grasses successfully grown here. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects good; spirits of the farmers excellent. A new railroad to be built.

Greeley.—The winter has been moderate. Stock has done well, and most of it is in good condition. There was a large quantity of feed raised, cornfodder, millet, and sorghum cane. Wheat looks well. The ground is in fine condition; spring plowing commenced; some oats sown. Corn, oats, wheat, rye, sorghum, broomcorn, potatoes, and all kinds of vines, are all successfully grown here. No loss except a few range cattle; not to exceed fifty in the county; reports of Eastern papers in regard to that are false. Farmers are in good spirits and are preparing to put out large crops.

Hamilton.—The winter was pleasant. Stock in good condition. Feed enough. Condition of ground splendid. Sorghum, corn, millet, broomcorn, alfalfa, oats, rice corn, and all kinds of vegetables, are successfully grown here. No losses occasioned by cold whatever. Agricultural prospects good.

Harper.—The winter has been favorable to wheat. Stock has done well. Feed has been plenty in north part of county, but scarce in the south part. Wheat is in good condition. Some plowing has been done; ground in good condition. Wheat, oats, corn, tame grasses will grow, fruits of all kinds, are successfully grown here. No losses occasioned by cold reported. Agricultural prospects are the best for several years.

(2) The winter lasted about six weeks, interspersed with many pleasant days; we had two or three severe cold snaps. Stock is in fine condition. Stock feed is plenty and to

spare. Wheat is in splendid condition. Farmers busy plowing; many are sowing oats; some are plowing corn ground; the ground is in the best possible condition. No losses of any kind occurred to persons, animals or property from cold weather. The prospects are bright for a good crop; farmers in fine spirits.

Jackson.—A few very cold days, but in general pleasant. Stock are generally in good condition. Enough rough feed. Wheat looks well. Crops successfully grown: corn, oats, wheat, rye, timothy, red clover, blue grass and orchard grass, apples, cherries, grapes and plums. No losses from cold. Farmers are in good spirits; prospect good.

Jefferson.—The winter was mild until January 15; then about three weeks of severe cold, since then mild to date. Stock healthy; in good condition generally. Feed a little short with some farmers; though generally enough to carry stock through. Wheat has thus far taken no injury whatever. Wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, flax, all the grasses, and all fruits of the temperate zone, in fact everything grow successfully here. No losses occasioned by cold. Railroads in every township in county but two (2) Winter mild; one month cold, balance warm and moist; coldest day 24 deg. below zero; last month warm and wet. Stock in good condition; no losses. Feed in good supply and condition. Wheat in good condition; a good acreage sown. Agricultural prospects good; three new railroads in course of construction.

Jewell.—First storm of the winter was on November 20; since then two storms; moderate fall of snow and hardly as much wind as usual. Stock has wintered well where fed reasonably. Feed is scarce, yet with careful feeding there will be plenty to carry cattle through till grass. The ground will be in splendid condition for spring work. Crops successfully grown: corn, oats, potatoes, rye, wheat, timothy, blue grass, red top, apples, cherries, grapes, peaches. No losses occasioned by cold worth mentioning. Agricultural prospects good. Everybody in good spirits.

Johnson.—The winter very cold at times—variable. Stock thin but wintering very well. Feed scarce, except hay. Wheat looks remarkably well. Nearly one-half the plowing done in the fall. All kinds of crops are successfully grown. Losses occasioned by cold, none to my knowledge. Farmers invariably look for good crops.

Kearney.—We had one month of unusually cold weather; since then it has been mild enough for plowing. Feed has been plenty and stock coming through in good shape with very little loss. Wheat looks well. But little of the tame grasses have been tried except alfalfa under irrigation; that has been a perfect success, yielding from one to two tons per acre the first year and from four to six the second, and the several pieces tried outside of irrigation are quite promising. Last year was the first to a majority of the prairie farmers and the second to the next largest part, and it has been close times with many; but have heard of no cases of suffering and want that have not been relieved by the neighbor. Think there has been no case of death from freezing.

Kingman.—December medium cold, January very cold, February pleasant. Stock in fine order. Six feed plentiful and in good condition. Wheat looks fine, growing nicely. A great deal of plowing done and lots of oats sowed. Crops successfully grown: wheat, corn, rye, oats, flax, millet, tame grasses, most all kinds of fruit. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects good.

Labette.—Wheat never looked better, but there is not much sowed. There will be the largest corn and oats crop put in in this county that ever has been. Weather is fine. (2) December cold, January very cold, February mild. Stock doing well; plenty of grain roughness, with some to spare; wheat is looking exceedingly well. A large percent of plowing done last fall; ground in splendid condition. The cereals, grasses, fruits and vegetables are successfully grown. Losses none whatever from cold. Bright prospects; farmers in good cheer.

Lane.—The winter was open. Stock in fine condition; feed plenty. Wheat is looking well. Considerable oats sowed; ground in good order. Fall wheat, oats, rye, millet and cane did well last year, and some very fine corn was raised. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects good.

(2) Winter up to January 20 cold and dry; thermometer as low as 20 deg. below. Stock has done well; have grazed most of the time on buffalo grass. Plowing commenced, ground rather dry. Sorghum and millet are the best crops grown. No losses of persons or stock because of cold. Agricultural prospects poor.

Leavenworth.—The winter during January was very severe, but before and since then has been reasonably fair. Stock in good condition; no diseases prevalent; feed is holding out well; wheat is looking fine for this time of year; the tops are killed but the roots are all right. Rye, wheat, corn, timothy, clover, orchard grass, potatoes and apples are the staple products. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects and spirits of farmers are good, although the two first dry seasons has been discouraging.

Logan.—We have had a very cold winter up to the first of this month, since, it has been warm and some good rains. Stock is in a good, thriving condition; there is plenty of feed to get everything through in good shape. Wheat looks well. Oats and wheat being sowed; some plowing done; ground in splendid condition. Has been no losses of either persons or animals from cold.

Lincoln.—The winter has been very mild, the coldest weather being in January. Stock in fine condition, although feed was not very plenty. Wheat looks very promising. Some plowing done for spring crops; ground is in excellent condition. Crops successfully grown: wheat, rye, oats, barley, corn, millet, apples, grapes, and plums do well, but are not very extensively grown yet; vegetables of all kinds do well. I have heard of no losses either of persons or property by reason of cold. Farmers are hopeful.

Linn.—Winter severely cold in early part of January; mild and open now. Stock has generally wintered well; feed supply is running low. Wheat in good condition. A great amount of fall plowing was done; ground in excellent condition. Crops successfully grown: corn, wheat, oats, rye, clover, timothy, red top, orchard grass, blue grass, and a little alfalfa; nearly all fruits suited to this climate except peaches. Do not know of any losses occasioned by cold. Prospects good for crops.

Lyon.—The winter has been unusually severe, but the periods of severity were only for two or three days at a time; 20 deg. below zero was our coldest day. Stock has done unexpectedly well. Stock feed is in good demand, and yet there will be a sufficient supply for all. Wheat is in fairly good condition. Crops successfully grown are winter wheat, oats, corn, rye, buckwheat, millet, timothy, clover, alfalfa, apples, peaches, cherries, grapes, and small fruits of all kinds. No losses from cold. Have never seen farmers in better spirits.

Marion.—The winter has been dry and cold; the people have not suffered, neither has stock. Stock has wintered well; have heard of no losses from severe winter. Plenty of rough feed. Wheat looks unusually good. Farmers plowing; frost all out of ground. Anything that will grow in the United States will grow in Marion county; some cotton raised. Agricultural prospects good—everybody looking forward to a prosperous year.

(2) The winter has been exceptionally good for all classes of farming. Stock has come through with less feed than usual and in better condition with little or no loss. There is more stock feed in our county at this date than was ever known before, grain excepted; ground in fine condition. Corn, oats, rye, millet, Hungarian, sorghum for feed, timothy, red clover, alfalfa and orchard grass are the main products. No losses occasioned by cold have been heard of. There is a good prospect and farmers are taking hold with spirit.

Marshall.—The winter was cold and dry. Little snow; favorable to stock, which is in good condition, better than usual. Feed supply abundant. Crops successfully grown: corn, oat, rye, wheat, and all the grasses. Have heard of but seven head of cattle lost. Farmers in excellent spirits.

McPherson.—Winter mild, except January, farmers working in the field all of February. Stock in first-class condition with very few exceptions, none lost for want of feed or proper shelter; plenty of stock feed to spare, oats, corn and hay being marketed largely at present. Wheat in excellent condition; some oats sown; farmers plowing. Crops grown: Oats, winter wheat, corn, millet, sorghum, timothy, grapes, apples, cherries, plums and peaches. No losses whatever occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects good; farmers are in excellent spirits.

Meade.—We have had a good winter; considerable snow, some quite cold weather, one or two severe storms, but generally steady winter; some plowing in each month. Stock came through in most cases in good shape. Except corn and oats, there has been plenty of feed; some farmers are selling, but most are buying. Wheat is looking well. Ground in good shape, plowing in all directions, some oats sown. Crops successfully grown are corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cotton, sorghum, peanuts, rye, garden crops, alfalfa, clover, Johnson grass, millet, Hungarian, tobacco, broomcorn, castor beans. There has not been a single person frozen in the county, or starved or gone to bed hungry, and there is no report of loss of stock of any sort. Prospects are good, farmers in good heart.

(2) Winter mild with few cold storms. Stock in good condition, no losses from any cause; hay plenty. Wheat is in good condition. Farmers busy plowing some oats sown. Crops successfully grown are: Oats, wheat and corn. No losses from cold, either persons or animals. Farmers are in good spirits and doing all they can to get in a good crop.

Miami.—The winter was of average temperature and moisture, with a sleet storm of unusual duration. Stock healthy, but rather thin in flesh. Feed rather scarce and high, with some hay and corn shipped in. Wheat looking well. Considerable fall plowing done. Crops successfully grown: all kinds of grain, grasses and fruits, save currants. Losses occasioned by cold, none whatever reported.

Mitchell.—Three weeks cold in January, the remainder of winter open and warm. Stock wintering well; the cold weather was dry and stock did not suffer. Feed plenty. A full stand of wheat and none killed. Ground in fine condition for crops. Corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, timothy, clover, blue grass, orchard and alfalfa, millet, apples, peaches, cherries, plums, pears and small fruits are successfully grown. No losses from cold.

Morris.—Winter was the coldest I have seen since I came here in 1878, but very little snow. Stock in much better condition than I expected; feed plenty. Considerable plowing done last fall; ground in condition to work now. All kinds of crops are suc-

cessfully grown. No loss of any kind this winter because of cold. Agricultural prospects good; farmers in best of spirits.

Morton.—The winter has been very fine with exception of one severe cold spell of about one week. Stock looks well; about one-half the feed raised is consumed and a large quantity sold in Eastern Colorado and other places; the farmers have plenty of feed for sale. There was a large acreage of wheat sown in the fall; prospect flattering. Farmers have already planted considerable oats and other small grain; a very large number of acres been plowed this spring; the farmers say the ground is in extra fine condition. Corn, wheat, oats, potatoes and everything consumed in Kansas grows well here; our orchards are not large enough to bear fruit; but trees look well. No serious damage from cold. Agricultural prospects are extremely good; the farmers are in good spirits.

Nemaha.—The winter has been cold and dry. Stock in good condition; feed plenty. Wheat looks well. Crops successfully grown are corn, oats, wheat, rye, barley, flax, sorghum, broomcorn, millet, timothy, clover, blue grass, orchard grass, etc., apples, pears, peaches—fruits generally. No losses heard of from cold. Agricultural prospects good; farming land in demand.

Neosho.—Winter cold but very favorable for feeding. Stock of all kinds in good condition; feed holding out very well. Wheat promises well, never better. Ground is in fine condition; a good deal of plowing was done last fall. Corn, wheat, oats, castor beans, Millet, flax, broomcorn, timothy, clover, blue grass and sorghum are successfully raised, and fruits of all kinds. Has been no losses reported from cold.

Norton.—The winter has been mild, with little snow. Stock is in splendid condition, and feed plenty. Some plowing done, some spring wheat sown, ground in excellent condition. Crops successfully grown: wheat, corn, rye, oats, flax, buckwheat, barley, tame grasses and fruits generally. No loss of persons, animals or property from cold. Agricultural prospects were never better; farmers hopeful.

Osage.—December nice, January cold, February warm with a few short cold snaps. Stock generally looks well; through in good shape. Feed with some is getting scarce, but there is enough in the county to carry us through. Wheat looks splendid. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, oats, millet and many other crops; clover, timothy and blue grass are the principal grasses, the last two seasons has been hard on grass; we raise apples, grapes, cherries and strawberries. The prospect for crops is good and farmers are in excellent spirits.

Osborne.—The winter was cold. Stock in good condition. Feed scarce. Wheat all right. Crops successfully grown: everything when we get rain. Losses occasioned by cold, not any.

Ottawa.—The winter, for the most part, was favorable for both stock and crops; but one day of excessive cold. Stock has done remarkably well; but a very small percent of loss. Feed is limited. Wheat never looked better at this season of year. Corn is the principal crop, but all cereals do well; clover and orchard grass seem to do best; all kinds of fruit. No persons have suffered unusually from cold and but few cattle.

(2) The winter was unusually severe through part of January, but during coldest weather ground was covered with snow. Stock generally in good condition; the green wheat as pasture helped supply the lack of corn. Corn fodder and hay enough to carry the stock through in most cases, with the help of the wheat and rye fields. Wheat in splendid condition. Ground in fine condition; farmers just starting with spring work. Crops successfully grown: winter wheat, rye, oats, corn, clover, timothy, blue and orchard grass, alfalfa, apples, peaches, cherries, strawberries, blackberries, grapes, etc. Losses occasioned by cold, not so much as usual. Agricultural prospects excellent.

Pawnee.—Winter steady but not severe; very little snow or rain; ground froze two feet deep in moist soil. Stock never looked better, no poor stock in sight; feed seems to be abundant. Wheat all looks well and healthy; plowing is going on every place; a few oats sown; ground in fine condition. All varieties of grain and forage crops are successfully grown, also potatoes and other root crops, also fruit large and small. No loss in stock of any kind been heard of. Prospects are very flattering for an abundant crop the coming season, and farmers are in good spirits.

Phillips.—As hard a winter as we have experienced in this county from middle of December until last of January; February very fine but dry up till the 18th, when a fine rain fell. Stock looks well, generally extra well. Not much grain, but plenty of hay, corn fodder and cane. Condition of ground splendid; some wheat sown. Losses from cold, none to my knowledge. Agricultural prospects encouraging.

Pottawatomie.—The winter set in cold about Christmas and lasted so for three or four weeks; since then we are having mild weather. Stock in good condition and rough feed plenty, with considerable hay to sell. The ground is very wet. All the crops of grain, fruits and vegetables that are adapted to this climate are grown successfully in this county. Have not heard of any losses occasioned by cold. The agricultural prospects here are good; farmers in good spirits.

Pratt.—The winter was very mild. Stock is in good condition and feed plenty. Good acreage of wheat. Just had a soaking rain; farmers in good spirits. Wheat, corn, oats, sorghum, millet, apples, cherries, and all kinds of small fruits are successfully grown here. No losses because of cold.

Rawlins.—The winter was fine, cold but dry; the finest winter in twenty years; no bad storms. Stock has done exceedingly well; those fed plenty of cane are fat—No. 1 beef cattle; feed plenty, such as fodder, hay, cane, etc.; hay for horses not so plentiful. Wheat looks very well; wheat and oats are partly sown; ground in good shape. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, wheat, oats, rye, etc., and millet, hungarian, and cane for hay. No losses whatever occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects were never better in western Kansas; the farmers are in splendid spirits.

Republic.—The winter was unusually pleasant up to December 20; very cold with two severe storms during the subsequent four weeks; since January 15, mild; on the whole a very fine winter. Stock never wintered better since 1870. Stock feed enough in this county; some townships are short of corn while others have a surplus. Crops successfully grown: Corn, broom-corn, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, millet, hungarian, timothy, clover, blue grass, sorghum, vegetables of all kinds that can be grown in this latitude; apples and small fruits especially fine. Losses occasioned by cold, none. Agricultural prospects good; conditions more favorable than for several years; farmers are in good spirits.

(2) The winter was cold in the beginning but fine of late. Stock is healthy and doing well; changing hands now at fair figures; feed equal to demand. Wheat looks well; average small. Crops successfully grown are: All kinds of grains, grasses and fruits except peach. Losses occasioned by cold were only a few pigs. Agricultural prospects good; farmers all in high spirits.

Rice.—First part of winter very pleasant; January cold; no damage to man or beast; February unusually favorable for wheat; ground in favorable condition for spring crops. Stock in good condition, much better than was expected. Corn fodder and hay plenty, with scarcity of grain. Wheat in good condition, better than usual. Crops successfully grown are: Oats, corn, wheat and all kinds of vegetables, with a fair supply of fruit.

(2) Mercury low as 18 degrees in January; snow below the average; more rain than common. Wheat in first-class condition. Farmers are plowing for oats. Agricultural outlook fine; farmers in good spirits.

Riley.—Stock is in good shape; plenty of rough feed; considerable corn imported by the feeders. Wheat is looking well. We raise anything that can be raised in the State. No losses occasioned by cold. Farmers think we will raise good crops this year.

Rooks.—The winter as a whole has been pleasant; cold during January. Stock is in fine condition; required but little feed where they had range for pasture; abundance of rough feed to spare. Wheat is growing nicely. Farmers plowing and sowing wheat and oats; ground is in good condition. We successfully grow wheat, rye, oats, corn, barley, apples, peaches and all small fruits of this latitude. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects were never better; farmers in good spirits.

(2) The winter was generally pleasant except a light blizzard November 26, and severe cold for a week in January. Stock is doing well, especially those that have the range of fields; there is plenty of rough feed; corn is scarce at 50 cents per bushel. Wheat is looking well; spring wheat and oats are now under way; ground in good condition. Crops grown successfully are: Oats, corn, wheat, rye, rice, corn, cane, potatoes and nearly all vegetables grown east of this, and millet and hungarian do well. Very little loss of stock and none of persons is reported for the county. Farmers generally are expecting good crops.

Rush.—Winter was unusually mild, thermometer registering not lower than 16 degrees, and but very few storms. Stock in good condition; feed rather scarce. Wheat is in splendid condition. Some farmers have completed oat sowing; ground in splendid condition. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, rye, corn, sorghum, millet, alfalfa, barley, and almost all the small fruits. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects the very best.

Russell.—Winter very pleasant and mild excepting about one month. Stock in very good condition, particularly sheep; stock feed abundant; grazing good; hay plenty and cheap, and much fodder in stock. Wheat is looking well. Oats now being sown. Crops successfully grown: Wheat, sorghum, rye, corn, etc., orchard and blue grass, apples and varieties of plumb. Only a few head of stock lost and those because of being poor or unprotected. Good agricultural prospects.

Saline.—About three weeks of severe cold weather this winter; as a whole it has not been severe. Young stock was never in better condition at this time of the year; stock has been wintered on corn fodder, of which there was a good deal cut, and green wheat. Wheat is all right. We grow successfully wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, broomcorn, sorghum, millet, clover and alfalfa. No losses occasioned by cold reported. Good agricultural prospects.

Scott.—The winter has been mild and of even temperature; considerable snow but no blizzard. Stock has wintered uncommonly well. Stock feed is plenty, farmers having more than they can possibly use, and a good variety of it too. Wheat is in excellent condition. Spring work among the farmers is well advanced, and the ground was never in better condition. Corn, wheat, oats, rye, cane, millet, potatoes and other vegetables, small fruits and all kinds of grasses grow here. Not a loss of life of any kind from any cause of cold or scarcity of feed. Prospects the very best.

Sedgwick.—A little more than an average of cold weather, mostly dry, but it came in the right time for a good crop season for 1888. Stock is generally in good condition; stockfeed plentiful in the north or middle part of county; in the south or more particularly in the southwestern, feed is rather scarce, but farmers report enough to carry them through until grass comes. Wheat is in good shape. Crops successfully grown: Corn, wheat, oats and some seasons timothy and red clover. No losses occasioned by the cold. Bright agricultural prospects; farmers in good spirits.

Shawnee.—The winter has been brief and cold, with more snow than usual. Stock in this county is well cared for and in excellent plight. Stock feed is plenty to supply the demand. Wheat looks well. Active spring work has commenced. All varieties of grain, grasses and fruits do well. No losses by cold. The outlook for this county and the city of Topeka indicates the greatest period of prosperity ever before known.

Sheridan.—The winter has not been very cold, only had one blizzard. Stock is in fine condition and run on the range almost every day this winter; plenty of feed. Wheat looks well. Ground is in good shape. Crops grown are, corn, wheat, oats, barley, cane, rye and millet, and vegetables of all kinds do splendid. No loss of persons, animals or other property caused by cold weather. Agricultural prospects are better than they ever were.

(2) The winter has been severe in the extreme, but very little snow. Stock has wintered quite well on the range, and what stock has been fed are in good condition. Rye and wheat is looking well. Farmers are beginning to plant. Rye, sorghum and millet are successfully grown in this county. A very few head of stock lost during the cold weather. Agricultural prospects promising.

Sherman.—Part of the winter was quite cold, although the average was moderate. An abundance of rough feed though out of the county, and not a few homesteaders have had corn to sell. Some fall wheat sown but the largest part of fall sowing was rye; ground in excellent condition; lots of snow and two nice rains this month; farmers all busy plowing and putting in spring crops. Crops successfully grown are: Rye, millet, corn, cane, oats, wheat, clover and alfalfa. No loss by cold.

Smith.—The winter with the exception of ten days has been mild and beautiful. Farmers commenced plowing the first of February. Stock never looked better; feed plenty. Wheat in excellent condition. Corn, wheat, tame grasses and all kinds of fruit except tropical grow successfully. No losses whatever from cold. Agricultural prospects never better; farmers feel good.

Stafford.—December fine until the 20th, January cold in fore part; February very warm and fine. Cattle in fair condition; hogs scarce but all healthy; sheep in good shape; horses in good condition; hay plenty, corn fodder in abundance and plenty of corn and oats. Wheat in fine condition. Large amount of plowing done for oats; ground in fair condition, hardly wet enough. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, rye, oats, barley, millet, timothy, alfalfa, apple, peach, plum, cherry, strawberry, grape and raspberry do well. No losses of any animals or persons or other property during this winter. Agricultural prospects very good; farmers in excellent spirits.

Stevens.—The winter has been pretty snug; no suffering in this county from the cold. Stock is generally looking well; no losses except some horses and mules; we have plenty of feed. A great amount of plowing is being done; ground is in fine condition. Cane, millet and vegetables are successfully grown. Prospects for crops are good.

Sumner.—The winter though severe was of short duration, and people suffered but little. Stock are in average condition for time of year; stock feed very scarce. Wheat in excellent condition; ground in fine condition, a great deal of plowing having been done this month; farmers now busy sowing oats. We grow most successfully of grain, corn, oats and wheat; of fruits, apples, grapes, pears, cherries, plums and blackberries; prairie grass being plentiful but little tame grasses have been sown. No losses worth speaking of occasioned by cold. Everything indicates a big crop and prosperous times; farmers in good spirits.

Thomas.—Winter pleasant; a few blizzards. Stock in good condition; feed enough. Wheat and rye in good condition; some wheat sown; considerable plowing; ground in good condition. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, rye, corn, oats, millet, cane, potatoes, broomcorn, alfalfa, Johnson grass and clover. No losses occasioned by cold. Good agricultural prospects.

(2) The winter was cold to January 1 with but little snow. Stock looks well; cattle grazed the longest part of the winter; since January 1 but little extra feeding has been done; there has been an abundance of roughness put up for horses and cattle. Winter wheat looks well; some farmers have sowed spring wheat and oats; ground is in best condition. We can grow most anything, corn, oats, wheat and rye does well, cane and millet for feed; crops good; alfalfa does well. There has been no loss of life or destruction of property in this county during the winter. Agricultural prospects were never better.

Trego.—Some severely cold weather in December and fore part of January; latter part of January and all February very mild; no snow to speak of during the winter. Stock of all kinds in splendid condition, never in better; stock feed plentiful. Wheat in nearly all instances looking first rate, though very few report some damage from freezing, being sown to late. Ground in fine condition; some farmers breaking sod; a very little oats already sowed. Crops successfully grown are: Oats, wheat, rye, barley, sorghum, corn and alfalfa; a few peaches, apples, strawberries, etc. No loss of persons from cold. The loss of live stock very much lighter than for several years—comparatively no loss. Farmers are in good spirits generally.

Wabunsee.—December pleasant, January 1 to 20 very cold, some severe storms; from January 20 to February 20 mild. Stock doing fairly well; enough stock feed in the county if properly distributed. Wheat is in fair condition; some spring plowing done. Crops successfully

grown are: Corn, wheat, oats, flax, sorghum, apples and grapes. No lives lost from exposure, but some stock died when not properly cared for, but the loss is light. Farmers are making extra efforts for the coming season.

Wallace.—Not much snow fell; winter colder than usual; since January 20 the cold has abated and February has thus far been mild and pleasant. Stock has wintered well and is now in good condition; but little feed has been shipped into this county this year, most people grew sufficient feed and have sold considerably. Wheat looks well; plowing is in progress and has been the past month; Oats and some spring wheat have been sown; the condition of the ground is very fine. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, rye, sorghum for feed, millet, vegetables and some corn; sugar cane for sugar and broom corn. No losses occasioned by cold in this county.

Washington.—Winter has not been unusually severe, excepting one blizzard which did not last long. Stock in good shape; plenty stock feed especially roughness. Wheat in good condition. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, flax, sugar cane, sorghum, fruits and grasses. No losses occasioned by cold worth mentioning. Agricultural prospects good.

Wichita.—One storm in November of three days; only thirty days very severe weather—December 18 to January 18; remainder of winter very mild. Stock in good condition; several hundred head wintered without any shelter very comfortably; stock feed plenty all winter, corn fodder, cane, millet and prairie hay, and plenty still on hand. Farmers are now plowing, many have sowed oats and some planted potatoes; ground moist and in fine shape for spring work. Crops successfully grown are: Wheat, corn, oats, rice, corn, broom corn, cane, millet, Johnson grass, clover and alfalfa; all kinds of garden vegetables. One man frozen attempting to walk twelve miles against a north wind; no live stock lost in this county, all lying reports in Eastern papers to the contrary, notwithstanding. A usual per centage of farmers have small means and will be compelled to sell out. The great majority are in good spirits.

Wilson.—The winter has been cold and severe with too much rain for the last four weeks. Stock has come through the winter in fine condition; feed plenty and to spare of all kinds and good quality. Wheat looks fine, made good growth and is well rooted. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, wheat, oats, rye, flax, broomcorn, sorghum, millet, timothy, clover and all kinds of fruits that are grown in Kansas. No losses by cold weather. Agricultural prospects are good; everybody is expecting good crops.

Woodson.—Winter ordinarily cold but quite favorable for feeding until February 1, since then muddy; roads bad all winter. Stock in fair condition; sheep mostly fattened and shipped; enough stock feed but not evenly divided. Condition of wheat 100; condition of ground good. Crops successfully grown are: Corn, oats, wheat, millet, flax, broom corn, sorghum, potatoes, orchard grass, timothy, clover, all root and vine crops, all ordinary fruit except peaches. No losses occasioned by cold. Agricultural prospects appear very good.

BEHAVIOR OF TAME GRASSES IN KANSAS.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—Let any one in the early settlement of a county in the State of Kansas, make an effort to advocate the desirability of every farmer doing his level best to develop its agricultural resources. Let him do this by experimental work, by public addresses in country school houses, by his pen, trying to reach the attention of every citizen, and urging them to plant trees for protection, trees for fruit, and tame grasses for his horses and cattle. Let him do this for the space of ten years, and he will find his labors amply rewarded in the changed face of the original landscape and increased wealth and comfort of its yeomanry.

We sometimes read in Eastern journals that "tame grasses are a failure in Kansas." In every case we conclude that the writer is woefully ignorant, or guilty of penning a willful falsehood. When we peruse the pages of the *Prairie Farmer*, the *Western Rural* or the *Farmers' Review*, we find Kansas farmers asking for information how to cultivate tame grasses, and where the seed can be obtained. Evidently these moss-backs are ignorant of the existence of the KANSAS FARMER, and of the fact that 500,000 acres in our State, are covered with timothy, 22,000 acres in orchard grass, 70,000 acres in blue grass, and 50,000 acres in other tame grasses. When I read these queries we are always reminded of a stranger we addressed on the State Fair grounds some years ago; after a few pleasant words, he turned himself around with right arm extended, and said: "Stranger, you don't mean to say that this large collection of fruit was grown in Kansas?" "I do," was my reply. "Oh, you cannot draw the wool over my eyes, I believe they were all grown in Missouri," was the quick response. "Where do you live my friend?" "Why, I live in Shawnee county, and have lived on the farm these twenty-five years." "You have an orchard at home I suppose?" "No, sirree; I never planted a tree in my life. What's the use, they wouldn't grow." We are sorry that we still meet with

farmers who insist and are sure that tame grasses are not a success in this State. We beg leave to insist however, that

TIMOTHY IS A SUCCESS IN KANSAS.
The rich and abundant growth of this grass for the past ten years, bear ample and conclusive testimony to its adaptability to the climate of our State, and in every case where cultivated intelligently, has given entire satisfaction. In 1872, Dickinson county had two acres in timothy; in 1876, one hundred acres; in 1883, 300 acres; in 1886, eight thousand two hundred and twelve acres. For the past thirteen years, (except the past two seasons) these meadows have yielded from two to three tons of hay per acre according to location. In 1875 we sowed a broad moist run with this grass, and every year we had large crops. The past year we turned it into a grazing meadow, and had good returns in rich golden butter. Last year I had to endure many a taunt, such as this: "We told you so, long ago; drouth injures timothy, chinch bugs destroy it; it is a failure." The same parties lost their wheat, corn and oats. Yet, they are at this writing making preparations to put in the same crops that failed last year.

Timothy has been largely sown in this neighborhood among winter grain, putting the small seed attachment upon the wheat-drill, and sowing at the rate of one peck of seed to the acre. Another plan which has produced good results, is by sowing the seed in a late corn field, after it has been laid by in July; the seed will germinate without covering. Our favorite plan is to lay down the meadow in the fall, alone, when a large crop of hay will be gathered the following summer.

BLUE GRASS.

Our fertile limestone soils are all right for this valuable grass, but it is a failure during the hot months of summer, unless irrigated. It can be cultivated successfully, however, on the cool bottom lands bordering our rivers and creeks. Its behavior was grand during the summer of 1886 on the uplands, and also during the fall of last year. What a rich pasture it afforded to the cattle, till winter set in. We recommend preparing the ground in the same way, and sowing at the same season of the year as for timothy. If the seed is fresh and good, two bushels per acre will make a good stand. After twelve years close observation of the behavior of this grass in low-lying moist soils in so many counties in this State, I have no hesitation in recommending its culture to all farmers whose farms are situated in those localities where moisture abounds in the soil.

Our experiments with tame grasses and forage plants extend over a period of more than forty years; and we have long ago come to the conclusion that no one species of grass is best for all purposes, or even for all localities in one State. Therefore, I call upon all intelligent farmers in every county to experiment and report their failures and successes.

We farmers ought to feel grateful that the great family of grasses are so widely diffused over the surface of the globe, and so well adapted to every diverse situation as regards latitude and elevation. They spread from the equator to the polar circle, and from the submerged marshy fens by the sea shore to the tops of the mountains. They are also suited to every soil; are found upon the rocky promontory, upon dry, gravelly knolls, upon the sea shore, upon the sand hills, defying the action of wind and waves. They thrive on the stiffest clays, and clothe with verdure the loose black soil of our vast plains.

J. W. ROBSON.
Union Stock Yards, North Topeka, Kas.
J. S. McIntosh, Live Stock Commission Merchant, makes a specialty of filling orders for all kinds of grade and blooded stock—horses or cattle. Highest cash prices paid for all classes of marketable stock. Parties wishing horses by carload will do well to call on me at the yards. Transportation, stabling and yard facilities unequalled.

Consumption Surely Cured.

TO THE EDITOR:—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Express and P. O. Address. Respectfully, T. A. Slocum, M. D., 181 Pearl St., New York.

KANSAS FARMER.

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W. A. PEPPER, MANAGING EDITOR.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

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Topeka, Kansas.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Reading notices 25 cents per line.
Business cards or miscellaneous advertisements will be received from reliable advertisers at the rate of \$5.00 per line for one year.
Annual cards in the *Directors' Directory*, consisting of four lines or less, for \$15.00 per year, including a copy of the *Kansas Farmer* free.
Responsible advertisers may contract for display advertising at the following rates:

	One inch.	Two inches.	Quarter column.	Half column.	One column.
1 week . . .	\$ 2 00	\$ 3 50	\$ 6 50	\$ 12 00	\$ 20 00
1 month . .	6 00	10 00	18 00	35 00	60 00
2 months . .	10 00	18 00	30 00	55 00	100 00
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6 months . .	25 00	45 00	75 00	135 00	225 00
1 year . . .	42 00	75 00	120 00	225 00	400 00

All advertising intended for the current week should reach this office no later than Monday.
Electros must have metal base.

Objectionable advertisements or orders from unreliable advertisers, when such is known to be the case, will not be accepted at any price.

To insure prompt publication of an advertisement send the cash with the order, however monthly or quarterly payments may be arranged by parties who are well known to the publishers or when acceptable references are given.

Every advertiser will receive a copy of the paper free during the publication of the advertisement.
Address all orders.

KANSAS FARMER CO.,
Topeka, Kas.

Arbor Day in Kansas is April 4, this year. Every man, every woman, every boy and every girl in the State is expected to plant, or have planted, at least one tree or shrub.

Beginning with the first issue in March the *KANSAS FARMER* publishes seven reports during the spring, summer and fall, showing the actual condition of things among the farmers of the State. This is a valuable feature of the paper, and is alone worth more than the subscription price—one dollar a year.

Blizzard! That word has an ugly look. It was imported into Kansas from Dakota. It means a cold, howling snow storm—just such as people in all localities are accustomed to every winter, but they are worse in some places than in others. The "blizzard" in Kansas last January was not nearly as severe as the simple "snow storm" of the last preceding winter. A Kansas snow storm is a tame affair compared with a Dakota blizzard.

There is still a good deal of public land in Kansas—more or less in each of fifty-three counties. Persons desiring information on this point may obtain it by addressing an inquiry to the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture at Topeka. There is, also, a good deal of school land, and information concerning that may be obtained in the same way. The Kansas division of the Union Pacific railway still has some land in Kansas, Mr. B. McAllister, Kansas City, Mo., has charge of it.

Out Them Down.

Our reports, this week, though occupying a great deal of space, are the most interesting feature of the paper. But the printed matter does not show more than one-half of what was written by the correspondents. We had to cut them down—nearly every one, in order to get all in, but we did not strike any important information except that concerning railroads. We cut out every word that could be spared, but not one fact of general interest except some about railroads.

FACTS ABOUT KANSAS.

Kansas has passed the experimental stage. Her development is a fact; her growth is recorded in history; her pre-eminence in all the elements of wealth is everywhere conceded; and her continued progress is shown by the incoming of three hundred and fifty thousand new citizens, by the settlement of twenty-three new counties embracing an area twice as large as Massachusetts, and by the building of four thousand miles of main line railway, during the last three years.

Kansas became a State on the 29th of January, 1861. Her history may be read in the following table:

Items.	1860.	1886.
Population	107,206	1,514,548
Counties	39	100
Acres land in cultivation	372,835	15,478,495
Domestic animals	242,182	6,304,212
Products of live stock	\$35,350,525
Value of farms	\$431,405,347
Taxable property of State (1861)	\$24,737,450	\$277,570,063
School children (1882)	13,976	497,785
Public school houses (1882)	953	6,791
Teachers employed	319	9,387
Money raised for schools by direct taxation (1882)	\$10,381	\$2,000,616
Railroad mileage (1887)	7,895

Wheat, corn, oats and barley grow to perfection in Kansas. The last two years some of our crops fell short of the average. In 1884 our farmers raised 48,050,431 bushels of wheat, and 190,870,686 bushels of corn; the wheat average being 21.47 bushels per acre, and the corn acreage 42 bushels per acre. In 1882 the wheat average was 22.29 bushels. Tame grasses, and all manner of fruits and vegetables, common to temperate latitudes are successfully grown here. Sorghum, the future sugar plant of North America, does well on Kansas soil, and rice corn, Kaffir corn, millet and alfalfa do well in all the western counties, and cotton and tobacco are good crops in all the more southern counties.

Kansas is peculiarly well adapted to stock-growing, as the actual numbers reported from year to year show. The native grasses are nutritious. Summers are long, winters are short and usually mild. In 1884 we had nearly a million and a quarter of sheep, and the wool clip was 5,000,095 pounds. The falling off 50 per cent. is because of low prices paid for wool. Horses and cattle have increased steadily. The last report (1887) shows 692,858 milch cows, 1,568,628 other cattle, and 1,847,394 swine.

Dairying has no better field, though it is not well established yet. Of butter made in the State, 27,610,101 pounds were reported for 1887, and 496,600 pounds of cheese. Dairying is fast coming forward as one of the chief industries of the State. The greatest measure of success among Kansas farmers will be realized in the manufacture of grass and grain into meat, milk, butter, cheese, wool and leather.

Manufacturing establishments in Kansas now number about one thousand. The number reported for 1886 was even nine hundred, with an aggregate capital of \$19,000,000, and turning out products valued at \$31,000,000. Milling is in the lead. There were three hundred and twenty-three flour mills in active operation in the State the beginning of the last year. Of these, 252 ground 16,626,891 bushels of wheat during the year. Topeka alone has four large elevators and flouring mills and seven smaller ones, with a capacity of 2,000 barrels daily. The great railway companies have established immense shops at Topeka, Atchison and other points, employing large numbers of men. Mining interest are extensive and growing. Coal lies under the whole State, and is found near the surface in the eastern counties. Fuel and water are abundant; wool, flax, cotton and sorghum cane are grown easily and perfectly within the State. Labette, Montgom-

ery, Wilson, Chautauqua and Harper counties have grown considerable quantities of excellent cotton. It will grow well in all the southern counties. The building of the first cotton mill in the State is now under contract at Topeka. There is no better wool growing region on earth, and we have only three small woolen factories. Flax grows well in every part of the State, and the fiber is wasted. Sorghum cane is peculiarly well adapted to our soil and climate; we have one sugar factory built, and three or four more will be built this year, the largest one at Topeka. Kansas is an open field as to all these great industries. Her farmers can raise wool and flax and cotton and sorghum and meat enough to supply a population of fifty million. Why carry the raw material outside her boundaries for manufacture when it might as well be done at home, saving to our own people all the benefits of home manufacturers and home markets?

Kansas is connected with the business world by a half a dozen great lines of railway leading direct to Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans, Galveston, Guaymas, San Diego and San Francisco and Portland. Nearly every one of her 106 counties is reached by one or more railroads. All the principal towns are in direct communication with the great cities north, east, south and west with corresponding advantages as to freight rates.

The educational advantages of the State are not excelled anywhere. Besides our 7,000 public school buildings, we have the State University at Lawrence, the State Agricultural College at Manhattan and the State Normal School at Emporia, at all of which tuition is absolutely free, and then there are a dozen or more private institutions of learning scattered about the State—Washburn and Bethany at Topeka. We are fast working into a graded system, reaching from the country district school to the State University.

Taxes in Kansas are based upon a 33 1/3 per cent. valuation—about that. In 1886 the rate of taxation in Kansas for State purposes was exceeded by that of seven other States; it was 4 1/2 mills on the dollar. For all purposes, the aggregate rate was 3.58 per cent.

Kansas laws are liberal. Women have equal property rights with men in all respects. What a man may do with property, a woman, under like circumstances, may do. A homestead of 160 acres of land in the country or one acre in town is exempt from forced sale except for taxes or in foreclosure of a mortgage legally given. A husband can not dispose of his wife's interest in any kind of property without her consent freely given, nor can he encumber it without like consent. As to property of every description man and woman stand precisely equal before the law, whether they are single or married. A large amount of personal property is exempt in possession and use of families—quite sufficient for the convenience of any ordinary family, and enough to conduct all the work about a farm as well as in the house. Mechanics have liens for the value of their work or materials in building or other permanent improvement, and a laborer's wages for three months is exempt from attachment, garnishment and execution, for the benefit of his family.

Kansas has banished the dramshop. Her people, at the last election, by a majority of more than forty thousand sustained the prohibition amendment and the prohibition law. Our children will grow up soberly. Strangers who come among us can raise up their children in temperance communities. Kansas climate is favorable to all the vocations of her citizens. A record of twenty

years kept at the State University shows an annual average of 198 days—more than six months—between severe frosts; an average rainfall of 34.66 inches; nine days when the mercury fell to or below zero; an average mean temperature of 52.93 deg.; an average minimum temperature of 12.6; an average maximum temperature of 100.6 deg.; an average of forty hot days—above 90 deg. The record of our achievements in agriculture and stock raising is conclusive evidence that our soil resources are unsurpassed, and the proverbial good health of our people is proof of a genial climate.

Kansas is a State with a proud, industrious, enterprising, persevering people who have builded wiser than they knew, with half her area yet to be improved, with a climate and soil well adapted to agriculture in its broadest sense, including all pursuits whose foundations are the earth and its products. She extends a royal welcome to every honest, sober, industrious persons who comes to cast his lot with us and help us develop the State to its utmost capacity. We have everything here needed to build an empire. Come, help us do the work and enjoy the fruits of profitable labor.

EXCURSIONS TO KANSAS.

Railroads leading to Kansas from the East, Northeast and Southeast, have arranged for a series of one-fare excursions to all points in the State forty miles west of the east line. The dates are March 21, April 4, April 25, May 9, May 23, June 6, and June 20, this year. One fare the round trip. Tickets will be good thirty days; that will afford plenty of time to look around and see any part of the State, to talk to the people and see what they are doing, to study our climatic and soil resources, to visit our schools and take notes of our social and educational advantages. Nearly every county in the State is now accessible by railroad.

Persons wishing to avail themselves of this excellent opportunity to see Kansas and study her wonderful resources, can obtain all desired information concerning details of the excursions by addressing the officers of any of the principal Kansas railroads at Topeka—the A., T. & S. F., the Southern Kansas, the Union Pacific, the Rock Island, the Missouri Pacific, or the St. Louis & San Francisco at Ft. Scott.

Oak Grange No. 16.

Capital Grange is holding a series of open meetings at Topeka for the discussion of matters interesting to farmers. The last meeting was held Saturday, when some very instructive and entertaining addresses and essays were given. Prof. Shelton, of the Agricultural college, spoke of "Mistakes of Moses Granger;" Hon. J. B. McAfee talked about "Improved Stock;" Mrs. J. C. Martin discussed "Bee Culture;" Hon. Wm. Sims delivered an introductory address, and Mr. J. G. Otis read a letter from the Green Mountain creamery. The proceedings were varied by excellent music.

Four more meetings for the immediate future are advertised: Grange social, March 3, 11 a. m., at Brother Thompson's; March 10, 1 p. m., regular meeting, conferring degrees—discussion on oats and grass seeds and seeding, with a dissertation on Bread-making, by Sister Clark; March 17, open meeting, when "Sorghum Cane as a Sugar Plant" will be discussed, and several papers will be read by ladies; March 24, regular meeting, when the State fair and other matters will be considered.

WHEAT AND WHEAT-GROWING.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—Wheat, as an article of food for man, stands at the head of all food plants in every civilized country of the world. The origin of wheat and when it was first used as food, we have no means of knowing.

Whether Adam, after his disastrous experience with fruit turned his attention to wheat-culture, we are not informed. But the mention of wheat in the Old Testament, and its introduction into China, in the year 2700 B. C., is ample proof of its antiquity.

This cereal, so important to man, has a very wide distribution, growing wherever man in any degree of civilization is found, but flourishing best in that zone where man attains his highest civilization and most perfect manhood.

The demand for wheat in the world, therefore, increases both with the increase of population and with the elevation of the race to a higher plane of civilization. The growing of wheat, in consequence, will forever occupy a prominent place in the farmer's curriculum throughout the world.

The wheat product of the world in 1886, in round numbers, was 2,000,000,000 bushels. Of this amount the Western continent produced about one-fourth, or 500,000,000 bushels. The Eastern hemisphere, the balance, 1,500,000,000 bushels. Of the 500,000,000 bushels grown in the Western hemisphere, the United States produced 457,000,000 bushels, Canada, Argentine Republic and Chili the balance.

The United States, for home consumption, used about 350,000,000 bushels, leaving a surplus of 107,000,000 bushels to find a market elsewhere. In addition to the crop of 1886, there was a surplus of former years in the granaries and elevators of our country, amounting to 120,000,000 bushels. But this surplus of wheat, like the surplus of money in the United States Treasury, is not a bad thing to have, and probably ought to be retained. But it is unwise, and in time will certainly be disastrous to the American wheat-grower, to allow its accumulation beyond a reasonable amount, and we seem to be moving in that direction now. For the last two years we have been overburdened with wheat, and could dispose of it only at a price which was almost ruinous to our farmers, and the indications are, that unless our crop is considerably shortened, prices will still go lower.

But why is this so, and what is the remedy? An inquiry into the causes of this depression in the wheat market, is not likely to develop anything at all encouraging to the American wheat-growers who are looking for a reaction, for the causes which have produced this depression in all probability are permanent. The cause is unquestionably found in the opening up of new and immense wheat areas in the Eastern hemisphere, notably so in India and Australia, and in like manner in South America—the Argentine Republic and Chili. The statistics of the world's wheat product brings this fact to the surface. And so far as India is concerned, it is further corroborated by a gentleman from our country, Mr. Book-walter, who spent considerable time in India studying this question. In one of his letters he tells us that while in Madras he learned that plows and improved implements, and machinery were distributed gratuitously by the English government among the native farmers of India, for the purpose of encouraging them in the use of improved machinery, and that it is the policy of the English government, both at home and in India, to cheapen railway transportation. After saying this, he goes on to say—"Large as has been the export-

tion of wheat from India, it is no doubt susceptible of still further increase simply by the extension of the railway system. Many sections of India that are favorable for wheat-growing have as yet no outlet." And still further on, he says: "Great Britain is the great food-consuming country of Europe, and is under the constant necessity of supplying the deficiency of her own product by purchasing abroad. In obedience to the law of self-interest, she seeks the most favorable market. As the case now stands, it is evident that India is her best market for the purchase of wheat, for she can buy it there most cheaply." And furthermore—"Their grain trade with India is in fact simply a development of one of the resources of their own empire." But why can England buy wheat for less money in India than in New York? Simply because the India farmer works for six cents per day and lives like our American Indian. "He lives," this writer says, "in a bamboo hut, has a few earthenware pots and brass utensils, eats a few cents worth of rice and coarse grain, such as millet and sorghum, and clothes in sunshine."

There you have it all in a nut shell. While the American wheat-grower had only the cheap labor of Europe to contend with, he was able to compete successfully with the wheat farmers of the world. But when he is obliged to compete with the pauper labor of India, he may as well withdraw his forces from the field. Australia is also a part of the British Dominions, and is moving in the same direction in the development of her wheat resources. We may as well look the truth squarely in the face, accept the situation, and govern ourselves accordingly. The situation is simply this: England and France who are the principal wheat-buyers of the world, are turning away from our market, and on strict business principles are getting their needed supplies of wheat in India and Australia, because they can buy them on more favorable terms. In all probability, it is only a question of time when these nations will be supplied with all the wheat they need from these two sources.

Now, if these are facts—and no intelligent man will dispute them—we are forced to the conclusion that the United States has practically lost the foreign wheat market, and will be confined to the home market in the disposition of her wheat. This means a reduction of her annual wheat product of from 80,000,000, to 100,000,000 bushels. There is an over-production of wheat in the world, and American wheat-growers are responsible for it; the burden rests on them. Australia and India can afford to grow wheat for the present market price and no doubt for less as the cost of transportation is lessened, but the American farmer cannot.

The agriculture of our country must needs be readjusted in accordance with this idea, in order that less wheat be grown, and the farmer receive for it a reasonable price. We need still more to diversify the industries of our country. We need to introduce and encourage new ones. The sorghum sugar industry, which seems to be crystalizing into a substantial and permanent one, promises great things for our country, and if it proves to be a success such as its friends would have us believe, we need not worry about the over-production of wheat, for many of our farmers will drop wheat and take up sorghum. But, however this may be, our farmers must reduce their wheat area. When the cost of production equals the market price for wheat, it matters not whether we have 1,000 or 10,000 bushels for sale, we are not ahead any. If the

farmers of our country would reduce the wheat area one-fourth, they would probably thereby advance the price 25 per cent.

This reduction, however, should not be uniform all over the country. In Pennsylvania and other Eastern States, and in Dakota, and other North and Northwestern States, where stock-growing is not specially profitable, and wheat is their principal money crop, there should be but little if any reduction. But in that broad belt of territory stretching from Illinois westward to the mountains, which is beyond a doubt the best stock-growing country in America, the farmers can well afford to very materially reduce their wheat area and give their brethren in the East, and in the North and Northwest, a freer field in that industry to which their sections are more especially adapted, aiming only to produce such an amount of wheat as may be necessary to meet demands for home consumption.

Coming home to our own State, we find the circumstances and general condition of things so different in different sections of the State, that it is impossible to lay down a general rule with respect to farmers applicable to all parts of the State. In the eastern part and westward probably, as far as to the central portion of the State, where the soil has been in cultivation for fifteen or eighteen years, and the period of most successful wheat-growing seems to have passed, the farmers generally are in a condition financially to stock their farms with improved breeds of cattle, hogs and horses, and wheat-growing of course should drop to a comparatively low place in their curriculum. But in western Kansas, where the soil is new and the farmers limited in circumstances, they will find wheat, because it is reliable, the most profitable crop they can grow. If he is far from market he should remember that no one is so far from market as he who has nothing to haul.

Kansas at the present time needs about 8,000,000 bushels to meet the demands for home consumption. That amount and more should continue to be grown in the State, and farmers generally, however they may regard wheat-growing for profit, will consider it good economy to grow a sufficient amount for their own bread, and generally more. There are several items which belong to the credit side of the wheat ledger which are usually overlooked on the part of those who oppose wheat-growing. One is the value of wheat as fall and winter pasture. Another, the value of wheat straw as feed and shelter in the winter. But, except on the frontier, we should not aim to make it the money crop; we should rather grow such grain and forage crops as can most profitably be converted into pork, beef, and the best class of horses; for in this compact form we can ship the products of the farm to any market in the world in competition with any State in the Union, or with any country in the world. Kansas City is located in the center of the best stock-producing country in America; her stock market is rapidly approaching that of Chicago, and in ten years it will probably be the best stock market in our country. There is, therefore, a magnificent field open here in the empire State of the West for all those who have business vim, industry and thrift to rise to distinction in the agricultural world.

M. MOHLER.

Osborne, Osborne Co., Kas.

Prof. Blake has resumed the publication of *The Future*, a very interesting and useful paper devoted to weather predictions. *The Future* will be published at Topeka hereafter.

Inquiries Answered.

LAW POINT.—Please answer the following: Suppose a man breeds two mares to a horse and takes the insurance plan on both, and one of the mares drops a dead colt two months before her time, does the man have to pay for the dead colt?

—Yes, unless there was a special contract that would relieve him. The colt was alive before it was dead.

FARMERS IN LEGISLATURES.—Will the editor please tell in the FARMER how many of our national and State legislators are farmers and how many of the other trades or professions?

—This question will be answered as soon as we can get time to look over the records.

BONDS.—(1) What is the amount of government bonds now outstanding? (2) What is the amount used as a basis for national banks? (3) What is the amount held by private parties not used as a banking basis?

—Our time has been so much occupied this week in getting out our big edition that we did not take time to look up the figures. The questions will be answered next week.

TARIFF DUTIES.—Are the following articles protected by a tariff; if so, at what per cent.: Wagons, furniture and farming implements?

—Wagons are not named on the list of dutiable articles, but parts of wagons, as hubs, spokes, etc., are subjected to a duty of 35 per cent., *ad valorem*; wagon tongues in the rough 20 per cent. Duties on manufactures of wood, loose pieces, are 20 to 35 per cent. Farm implements are not imported except by immigrants, and then they are free. Furniture is subjected to duties, 30 per cent. for unfinished and 35 per cent. for finished articles.

Topeka Weather Report.

Sergeant T. B. Jennings, of the Signal Service, furnishes the KANSAS FARMER weekly with detailed weather reports. We make an abstract for publication and file the copy for reference, should we ever need details.

Abstract for the week ending Saturday, February 25, 1888:

Temperature.—Highest at 2 p. m., 54° on Wednesday the 22d; lowest at same hour, 40° on Saturday the 25th. Highest recorded during the week, 56° on Tuesday the 21st; lowest, 24° on same day. Heavy frosts the mornings of 20th, 21st, 22d and 23d.

Rainfall.—Rain fell Sunday the 19th, with traces the 24th and 25th; total for the week, 32-100 inch.

A pumpkin, says an exchange, was put on exhibition in Orange county, New York, which was grown in Putnam county, and brings down the scales at 250 pounds. From the day of its blossom to being cut from the vine exactly twenty-eight days elapsed, and a companion growing on the same vine at the present time weighs fully as much. Curiously enough, these enormous pumpkins have all drawn sustenance from artificial sources. This pumpkin on exhibition is said to have absorbed for several weeks over one pint of milk daily. Near the pumpkin a root is sent out from the vine which, if unmolested, would find its way to the ground for sustenance. Experience has shown that by leading this root to a basin containing milk causes the material for first-class Thanksgiving pies to ripen much quicker and attain a larger size than by permitting it to feed from the earth. After a while no doubt the gardener will bring the cultivation of vegetables up to such a science that the pumpkin will absorb milk enough in growing to need none in preparing it for pies.

Real Estate Loans.

TO BORROWERS on improved real estate in the eastern half of Kansas, we furnish prompt money, no accepted application ever having waited a day if title was perfect. Lowest rates, interest paid at our office with no charge for exchange; minimum expense and every courtesy and accommodation to borrowers.

TO INVESTORS we offer our services in securing only conservative and carefully-placed mortgages. We give personal attention to every detail, know every security, and no investor with us has ever had to wait a day for principal and interest when due. After loaning over \$1,500,000 we have not a loan under foreclosure, or one that is not amply secured. A goodly and increasing number of our former borrowers are now loaning their own money through us. We are glad to serve the interests of local investors as well as our friends East.

T. E. BOWMAN & Co.,
Jones Building, Sixth St., Topeka.

Short-Horn Bulls for Sale.

Five extra good registered Short-horn bulls for sale cheap—on long time, if desired.
J. B. McAFEE, Topeka, Kas.

FROM CLARK COUNTY.

Actual Facts for the Careful Consideration of the Home-Seeker and Farmer.

Special Correspondence Kansas Farmer.

Persons unacquainted with the history, settlement and rapid agricultural development of Kansas during the twenty-seven years that have elapsed since its admission into the sisterhood of States can scarcely give credence thereto even after a careful and painstaking investigation of the facts. If the stranger to the record will take the time necessary to examine the reports of 1876, 1880 and 1886 as made and issued by the Kansas State Board of Agriculture he will be forced to conclude that no section of equal area in the entire Union, that at the beginning promised so little and has done more or reached a higher degree of attainment in all that constitutes and contributes to man's material happiness and prosperity than has Kansas. Having arrived at this conclusion the question very naturally arises what were the causes that brought about all these great achievements within the confines of a district of country whose area is 81,000 square miles, and really without many of the great natural resources that tend, when combined, to make a people both happy and prosperous. It may be said that immigration to the prairie of Kansas was a forced march, as it were growing out of the rapid increase of population in the East. It is a fact, however, the more the subject is investigated it is discovered among other causes that practically free and low-priced lands whose fertile soil could be made, with no expensive outlay beyond that of actual tillage, as productive as any in the known world. A climate, too, that grants the agriculturist more sunny days in which to plant, garner and market the products of the farm than any of the older States east. Another thing that deserves more than a passing notice, and that is the cosmopolitan character of the people. The population being made up of people from every State and Territory in the Union while nearly every country in the civilized world has some representation. This state of affairs necessarily brings together a grand mass of different ideas and habits out of which combination emanates that proverbial go-aheadiveness peculiar to the adoptive Kansan whose endowments are energy, perseverance, prosperity, and usually success. The State's history teaches us that when men of that stamp, now known as the old Kansan, dared twenty years ago to venture with his plow beyond the eastern line of his State a hundred miles he was thought to be taking desperate chances for a livelihood in a country that would never become adapted to agriculture and farming therein, made a success. Another ten years rolled around, and that venturesome frontiersman found that the line had passed him and been

forced on nearly two hundred miles farther west. He saw, too, developing all around him fine farms, whose groves of timber, orchards and vineyards, far exceeded his former predictions. He knew, as did every new-comer, that but one thing could and would stay the mighty and irresistible tide of immigration, and that was that most dreaded of all dreads—the drought. That of 1874 sent back a recoil, but the venturesome old Kansan soon lost all recollection of it and again was at the head of the column until 1880 he halted only long enough to see the tenderfoot retracing his steps. Since 1880 the tide has passed the western line of Kansas and gone on a hundred and fifty miles into Colorado, nearly up to the foot-hills of the Rocky mountains. The settler who had the staying qualities in him found out "that nature will meet us half way, if we but go to her," and that the lesson taught by this old saying was just as applicable in a prairie as well as in a timbered country. This idea has been thoroughly demonstrated right here in Clark county, where the results of her three years' settlement is the pride of her prosperous citizens and a happy surprise for the new-comer. The county was created by act of Legislature in March, 1885, and permanently organized the following May. It is one of the southern tier of counties bordering on the Indian Territory, and contains 624,000 acres or 3,900 quarter sections of 160 acres each. There are now not to exceed 5,000 acres of vacant government land in the county. From Ashland, the county seat, to the Colorado State line, it is about one hundred and thirty miles. The surface of the county is generally level or rolling prairie, and by reference to an accurate map the reader will find but two counties in the entire State that are equally as well watered. By beginning, say in Pratt county, and coursing westwardly through Kiowa, Ford, Haskell, and other counties to the west line of the State, we find that the streams course northward toward the Arkansas and southward to the Cimarron river, showing a well-defined watershed. This divide, situated as it is between north Clark county and the Arkansas river, naturally causes nearly all the surface of the county to slope towards the south and out of the many breaks along this ridge on its south side hundreds of springs issue forth, forming the numerous, never-failing creeks that course in a southerly direction through the county. All through the dry season of last year, in a half of score of States east of Kansas, water trains were new on the railroads and stock driven miles and miles for water, while here there was no indication whatever of any diminution of water in the wells or creeks south of the divide. The altitude of the greater portion of Clark county being three to four hundred feet lower than is the Arkansas river at its nearest point, thirty miles north, accounts for the permanency of the never-failing water. The difference in altitude of three or four hundred feet

make a very appreciable difference of climate and very noticeable during the winter months. Prior to the summer of 1884 but few people had settled in the county, and what few were here were cattlemen, whose herds of thousands grazed on the open range throughout the year without shelter. During 1885 nearly one-half of the claims in the county were settled upon and an excellent crop of everything usually grown in southern Kansas was produced. The following year was a very prosperous one. Nearly all the desirable land remaining was taken and good crops were made. Ashland being situated on the crossing of the north and south and the east and west trails, over which thousands of settlers traveled on to the south and west, a good market was had for all surplus crops, particularly grain and feed stuff. The result was that when the dry weather during the season of 1887 had set in but little surplus grain was held throughout the county, and in some respects the people were not prepared for a drought. Some of the settlers became discouraged, especially those that had come into the county too late the preceding year to grow a crop. The past winter was one of the ordinary Kansas winters, with the exception that more rain fell during February than in the corresponding month for the past two years. Consequently the ground is in good condition for early spring cultivation. Live stock wintered with but little care or no feed except that on the open range. Mr. W. H. Weldon, whose farm is eight miles south of Ashland, informs me that his herd of 125 head of Short-horns and Polled-Angus have gone through the winter in excellent condition, he having lost but one animal, a calf, and that through carelessness. He states also that the cost of feed has averaged less than 40 cents per head for the winter. Other farmers make equally as favorable reports. The outlook for the coming season is much better than at this time last year, and the favorable indications are such that the farmers are already plowing and getting ready to put in the early spring crop. The drought of last year, instead of being local, but extending over about one-tenth of the vast agricultural field eastward, from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic ocean, has failed to discourage the old Kansan. It has been the history of nearly every county in the State since its first settlement to experience a drought about every six or seven years and during the year or that following, discouraged farmers would sell their land at low figures only to regret in the course of a year or two that they did not hold on to it. Seven years ago counties situated, say a hundred miles east of this, passed through the same experience, and land values were then just about what they are now here in Clark county. Improved lands that brought \$4 to \$6 an acre at that time east of this now sell readily at from \$15 to \$30 per acre. That the people here have faith in the future outlook of the country is to a great extent confirmed

by the class of improvements that have been made here in Ashland during the past year. Several brick blocks that would do credit to any city were built, and tasteful residences added to the adornment of the young city, aggregating in cost over \$150,000. A county court house, to cost \$30,000, is now under way and will be completed in time for the next June term of court. The building boom has not abated, and during the coming year thousands of dollars will be put into new buildings already under way and contemplated. The city of Ashland has all the advantages that any new western town of 1,000 inhabitants usually has, and her citizens very naturally think that they have the handsomest town for a distance of 150 miles along the border tier of counties. It is conceded by all traveling men to be the best business point on the border, and the volume of business done by the three banks and the freight receipts of the railroad company confirms this fact. Among the local enterprises is that of the Ashland Concrete and Plaster Manufacturing Company. Their concrete material is used for building purposes. The mill turns out 100 barrels per day of plaster that goes on the market in competition with the best New York plaster. Taking all the facts pertaining to Clark county and the possibilities from an agricultural view there has never been in all the history of Kansas' development a time when the man of ordinary means could get a permanent foothold for as little money as now in Clark county. The dry season of last year set in the weeding-out process at least two years sooner than it otherwise would have occurred, and it is safe to assert that in all human probability the time will never again occur when farming lands can be bought for so little money as just now. Two railroads were built into and through the county last year. The Rock Island in the northern part of the county and the Chicago, Kansas & Western, known as the Mulvane Extension of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, that runs centrally to Ashland and on west through the county. Now that the railroads have organized the old-fashioned excursions from the East, one fare for the round trip, gives every person seeking homes or investments in cheap lands, an excellent opportunity to visit Kansas. To see Clark county and learn more of its capabilities take the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and run out over the Mulvane Extension to Ashland. In case you desire to ride over the Rock Island run to Bucklin, then a two hours' pleasant drive by stage will carry you over a portion of Clark county to Ashland, the county seat, from whence you can radiate in any direction and get a very definite idea of the county, its resources and future possibilities.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad have announced that that road will sell tickets good for forty days, one fare for round trip, to all points reached by the Santa Fe in Kansas on the following dates, viz.: March 21, April 4, April 25, May 9, May 23, June 6, and June 20, 1888. This will give opportunity for excursionists to visit the country along the Mulvane Extension. For any further information concerning Clark county the Secretary of the Ashland Board of Trade informs me that he will take pleasure in answering all inquiries made by persons seeking homes, lands or investments in Clark county.

PROVISO.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO NORTHERN KANSAS.

For homes, whether in city or country, there is probably no section on the continent that affords better opportunities for choice locations than the beautiful Broad River Valleys of The Kansas, The Big Blue, The Little Blue, The Republican, The Upper Solomon and The Saline, and their many Tributaries. These streams flow through the region commonly known as

NORTHERN KANSAS, AN EMPIRE OF COUNTRY,

Wherein nearly every quarter section will make a good farm. Many of the readers of this paper, who have heard of Kansas, for years past, have only heard of a very limited portion of it, and **KNOW BUT LITTLE OF THE REAL KANSAS**, which occupies the valleys of the rivers above named, and the intervening prairies. This is because Northern Kansas has not been penetrated in its entire extent by railroads, as has the Southern portion of the State, and therefore, it has not been advertised as freely. A glance at any good map of Kansas, will show a great breadth of country along the upper waters of the rivers mentioned,

WHICH IS FERTILE AND WELL WATERED,

And into which the Great Railroad Systems of the State are just pushing their lines of road. It is just the time for you to get a **Good Location** in this **Garden of the World**, just ahead of the great influx of people that is destined to come to Kansas in 1888. The plan is now made for **EXCURSIONS** from all principal points in the Eastern States to Northern Kansas at **ONE FARE FOR THE ROUND TRIP**.

These Excursions will start on the 21st of March, 4th and 25th of April, 9th and 23d of May, 6th and 23d of June, 1888.

Enquire of your nearest Railroad Ticket Agent for particulars, and by all means, **COME TO KANSAS** on one of those excursions, and come so as to take a good look at the country. **Cheap Lands** will soon be a **Thing of the Past**. **Do You Realize this Fact?** Get a location now, and be sure you get it in **NORTHERN KANSAS**.

For further particulars, address either of the following named gentlemen, who are members of the Executive Board of the **NORTHERN KANSAS REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION**, who will cheerfully send you reliable information, free of cost; only send your proper address with the enquiry:

BELLEVILLE.....B. R. HOGIN.
BLUE RAPIDS.....JASON YURANN.
CLAY CENTER.....G. M. STRATTON.
CLIFTON.....T. M. DOLAN.
CLYDE.....J. F. RANDOLPH.
CONCORDIA.....E. E. SWEARNGIN.
CUBA.....C. E. TOBEY.

GAYLORD.....WEBB McNALL.
GREENLEAF.....J. W. BLISS.
HANOVER.....JOHN BUENTING.
JAMESTOWN.....D. McKELLER.
JUNCTION CITY.....A. C. PIERCE.
KENSINGTON.....ALLEN SANFORD.
KIRWIN.....J. L. TROUP.

LEBANON.....PERRIE GLENN.
LOGAN.....W. A. REEDER.
MANHATTAN.....H. C. CRUMP.
MANKATO.....J. B. REA.
MARYSVILLE.....W. S. GLASS.
NORTON.....L. H. THOMPSON.
OSBORNE.....W. W. WATSON.

PHILLIPSBURG.....H. S. GRANGER.
RILEY CENTER.....GEO. MORGAN.
SCANDIA.....A. B. WILDER.
SMITH CENTER.....J. W. WEYAND.
WAMEGO.....W. D. EMBLEY.
WASHINGTON.....E. N. EMMONS.
WATERVILLE.....CHESTER THOMAS.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, KANSAS.

is in the great Corn Belt of the West. That fertile region which has always produced an abundance of all the leading agricultural products and has known no failure of crops.

While the year 1887 was most destructive to the crop interest of the State generally, and especially to the Southwestern and Central or "Golden Belt" country tributary to the Smoky Hill, yet that part of Northern Kansas tributary to the Big and Little Blue produced sufficient to supply their own wants and to spare for their less favored neighbors of the West and South. The abundance of clear, pure water, the certainty of the crops, the stretches of timber that have grown up like magic along all our streams and rivers, affording fuel and shelter from the winds, has contributed to make A Paradise for the Farmer, Fruit-Grower and Stockman, and aside from the immense stock interests of our own people, it has invited the attention of the ranchmen, who have found here feeding ground for vast herds of cattle from Wyoming, and as well the "long horns" from Texas and the Territory.

Examine our State Crop Report for 1887 and you will find that The Valley of the Beautiful Blue, shows up almost like an "oasis in the desert," and reminds us of the remembrance of Providence for this favored region which has become The Banner Agricultural Country of the World, but in all the leading agricultural products Washington County is Queen of the Blue Valley. Located out of reach of the hot winds of the Southwest and as well the blizzards of Dakota and North Nebraska, making here a Delightful Climate, a Happy Medium of Temperature both winter and summer.

The city of Washington, the county seat, is a flourishing city of 3,000 people upon the Missouri Pacific and B. & M. railways, and within a year the Rock Island Air Line from St. Joseph to Denver will pass through Washington making this their trunk line to the mountains. The Kansas City, Lawrence & Nebraska will also build through our city, which will complete the link of a trunk line from the Gulf and South-eastern seaboard to the great cattle ranges of Wyoming and Montana.

The fine prospects for coal, gas, artesian well and salt beds which are rapidly being investigated and developed by our public spirited citizens will make of Washington the Manufacturing, Commercial and Railroad Center of Northern Kansas.

For information as to prices of land in county or of opportunities for business locations and manufacturing facilities, address

STEPHEN PICKARD,
President,

Or A. W. MOORE,
Secretary Board of Trade Washington, Kansas.

FACTS ABOUT RILEY COUNTY

THE NEW LAND OF PROMISE.

Rich Soil. Flourishing Cities. Near by Markets.
Low Railroad Fares.

EXCURSIONS

From all points East to

MANHATTAN.

Only One-Half Fare with Stop Over Privilege.

To those who are seeking homes, (and all persons from the crowded east should secure some of the cheap lands of the west before they are all taken up), we say come to Manhattan. You can ticket over either of the great lines. The Union Pacific, (Kansas Division), the Rock Island, (C. K. & N.), or the Santa Fé, (M. A. & B.) Ask your nearest ticket agent for rates. Remember the dates, 21st of March, 4th and 25th of April, 9th and 23d of May, 6th and 23d of June, 1888.

WE INVITE COMPARISON

of our people, soil, climate, water, timber, cities—everything which constitutes a prosperous community, with any other part of God's green earth, and

WE CHALLENGE THE WORLD

to produce a section more favored by the Great Architect of the Universe than this part of Northwest Kansas. We care not, however, to boast, only to assert, our just claims for recognition. We pride ourselves on our superior educational facilities.

THE KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,

with an endowment of over \$500,000, gives free instruction to all. Our public schools, all free, are superior to most, and the School of Language by the Episcopal church is a high grade literary institution.

For any other information, address the

BOARD OF TRADE,

Manhattan, Kansas.

Be sure you Ticket to Manhattan.

For reliable information in regard to
Real Estate in

TOPEKA AND KANSAS

Write to or call on

**Strickler,
Daniels
AND
Pounds,**

515 KANSAS AVENUE, TOPEKA, KAS.

They are exclusive agents for many of the best additions to the city of Topeka, and have a large list of desirable Farms, Ranches and tracts of land all over the State, and inside City Property.

Penna. Investment Co.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

CAPITAL, :: \$300,000.

Guaranteed 6 and 7 per cent. Western Mortgages. Interest coupons payable semi-annually at The Pennsylvania Trust Company, Reading, Pa., or at Central National, Philadelphia, at the option of the purchaser, and can be collected with the same facility as the coupon of a Government Bond.

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SEED OATS!

Northern-Grown Red Texas,
at **TOPEKA SEED HOUSE,**
304 Kansas Ave., Topeka, Ks.

THE MARKETS.

By Telegraph, February 27, 1888.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

St. Louis.

CATTLE—Receipts 1,100, shipments 400. Market 10a20c higher. Choice heavy native steers \$4 50a5 40, fair to good native steers \$3 90a4 60, medium to choice butchers steers \$3 10a4 25, fair to good stockers and feeders \$2 10a3 40.

HOGS—Receipts 2,500, shipments 1,600. Market active and 5a10c higher. Choice heavy and butchers selections \$5 40a5 55, medium to prime packing \$5 10a5 45, ordinary to good light grades \$4 80a5 15.

SHEEP—Receipts 2,100, shipments 300. Market firm. Fair to fancy \$3 60a5 20.

Chicago.

The Drovers' Journal reports:

CATTLE—Receipts 4,000, shipments 1,000. Market excited and prices 20c higher. Shipping steers, \$3 30a5 30; stockers and feeders, \$2 40a3 75; cows, bulls and mixed, \$2 00a2 60; Texas cattle, \$2 40a3 50.

HOGS—Receipts 9,000, shipments 4,000. Market stronger and 5a10c higher. Mixed, \$5 10a5 40; heavy, \$5 35a5 60; light, \$4 95a5 05; skips, \$3 20a4 70.

SHEEP—Receipts 3,000, shipments 1,000. Market stronger. Natives, \$3 50a5 40; Western, \$4 80a5 35; Texans, \$3 30a4 90; lambs, \$5 00a6 20.

Kansas City.

CATTLE—Receipts since Saturday 801. Market strong and active. Supply not equal to the demand. Values 10c higher for shipping steers and 10a20c higher for local butchers stuff. Excessive receipts would cause a break in prices. Sales ranged at \$3 20a4 65 for best steers.

HOGS—Receipts since Saturday 5,572. Market opened strong and about 5c higher, closing weak, and advance lost; generally steady at Saturday's price. Extreme range of sales \$4 00a5 50, bulk at \$5 05a5 20.

SHEEP—Receipts since Saturday 1,244. Market steady. No muttons on sale, only lambs. Sales: 500 mutton lambs av. 58 lbs. at \$4 90; 97 stock lambs av. 48 lbs. at \$3 00; 240 Colorado stock av. 62 lbs. at \$1 75.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

New York.

WHEAT—Firm. No. 2 red, 89½a90½c in elevator.
CORN—Quiet. No. 2, 59a59½c in elevator; 60½a60½c delivered.

St. Louis.

FLOUR—Quiet and firm.
WHEAT—No. 2 red, cash, 81a81½c.
CORN—Cash, 45½a48c.
OATS—Steady. Cash, 30a30½c.
RYE—Dull at 60c.
BARLEY—75a90c.
HAY—Unchanged. Prime timothy, \$12 00a16 50; prairie, \$8 00a12 00.

Chicago.

Cash quotations were as follows:
FLOUR—Quiet without change.
WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 75½a78c; No. 3 spring, 66a68; No. 2 red, 80½c.
CORN—No. 2, 48½c.
OATS—No. 2, 27½a29½c.
RYE—No. 2, 59c.
BARLEY—No. 2, 77a80c.
PORK—\$13 92½.
LARD—\$7 70.

Kansas City.

WHEAT—Receipts at regular elevators since last report, ... bushels; withdrawals, 3,900 bushels, leaving stock in store as reported to the Board of Trade to-day, 301,083 bushels. On track by sample: No. 2 soft, cash, 81c.

CORN—Receipts at regular elevators since last report, ... bushels; withdrawals, 10,062 bushels, leaving stock in store as reported to the Board of Trade to-day, 128,077 bushels. On track by sample: No. 2 mixed, cash, 44c; No. 2 white, cash, 47c.

OATS—No. 2 cash and February, no bids nor offerings. On track by sample: No. 2 mixed, cash, 30c; No. 2 white, cash, 32c.

RYE—No. 2 cash, no bids nor offerings.
HAY—Receipts 19 cars. Market steady; fancy, \$9 50 for small baled; large baled, \$9 00; wire-bound 50c less; medium, \$7 00a8 00; poor stock, \$4 00a5 00.

OIL-CAKE—Per 100 lbs. sacked, f. o. b., \$1 25; \$1 10 per 1,000 lbs.; \$2 10 per ton; car lots, \$20 00 per ten.

SEEDS—We quote: Flaxseed, \$1 25 per bu. on a basis of pure; castor beans, \$1 05 for prime.

FLOUR—More inquiry, firm. Quotations are for unestablished brands in car lots, per ½ bbl. in sacks, as follows: XX, 90c; XXX, \$1 00a1 05; family, \$1 15a1 25; choice, \$1 50a1 60; fancy, \$1 65a1 70; extra fancy, \$1 75a1 80; patent, \$2 05a2 10; rye, \$1 40a1 60. From city mills, 25c higher.

BUTTER—Receipts of roll large and market weak. We quote: Creamery, fancy, 27c; good, 22a25c; fine dairy in single package lots, 16a20c; storepacked, do., 13a16c for choice; poor and low grade, 8a9c; roll, good to choice, 14a16c.

CHEESE—We quote: Full cream, twins, 13c; full cream, Young America, 13½c.

EGGS—Receipts moderate and market firm at 15½c per dozen for strictly fresh.

POTATOES—Irish, home-grown, 70a80c per bus.; Colorado and Utah, \$1 20 per bus. Sweet potatoes, yellow, 75c per bus.

BROOMCORN—Dull and weak. We quote: Green self-working, 4c; green hurl, 4c; green inside and covers, 2½a3c; red-tipped and common self-working, 2c; crooked, 1c.

PROVISIONS—Following quotations are for round lots. Job lots usually ¼c higher. Sugar-cured meats (canned or plain): Hams 10½c, breakfast bacon 10c, dried beef 9½c. Dry salt meats: clear rib sides \$7 20, long clear sides \$7 15, shoulders \$5 75, short clear sides \$7 45. Smoked meats: clear rib sides \$7 90, long clear sides \$7 80, shoulders \$6 50, short clear sides \$6 15. Barrel meats: mess pork \$14 00. Choice tierce lard, \$8 87½.

FACTS ABOUT SMITH COUNTY!

Smith Centre is the County Seat of Smith, one of the most beautiful and fertile Counties in the state, and stands at the head in point of bushels per acre and is unsurpassed as a stock-raising country. But on account of having no railroad facilities (until within the past sixty days the Denver line of the Rock Island has been completed through Smith Centre), her farming lands, ranging from \$7 to \$12 per acre, are perhaps cheaper than in any other County in the State. Her lack of railroads heretofore, seems to have been the cause of her escaping the eyes of the speculators as well as the actual settler; and the land is principally owned by the homesteaders, many of whom are restless and shiftless as in all new Counties. And for this reason alone, Smith County undoubtedly presents the best fields of operation, for all kinds of speculation and general business, of any in the State of Kansas. With 17,000 population, it is an astonishing fact that 750 is the largest town. Her high but gentle rolling prairies (with beautiful running streams, on whose banks stand native trees) bear the marks of both the thrifty and shiftless with alternately a good frame house and an old sod. Smith Centre stands in the geographical center of the County with a beautiful command of the surrounding country. And with the advent of the great Rock Island comes the Santa Fe railroad, which is to be built to Smith Centre by September 1st, 1888; and a strong probability that the B. & M. will do likewise. Her future is destined to be one of the greatest cities of Northern Kansas. Already the importance of her location is being discerned by the sagacious observer of movements. Excellent opportunities are open for all classes, trades and professions; and to anyone desiring to locate a grist mill, canning factory, egg and poultry house, foundry and machine shops or go into the dairy business, no better field can be found, and her citizens will gladly welcome and do all in their power to assist all enterprises. Smith County has 150,000 acres of good unimproved and unoccupied lands, and her taxes all told only average three mills per annum. There is no County in the State better adapted for stock-raising and for wheat, corn, potatoes, rye, buckwheat, sugar cane and all kinds of vegetables, there is none better. The general drought of last year, which covered many of the States and Territories, caused the first partial failure of crops since the grasshoppers of 1874. Her climate is unequalled. Farmers began plowing as early as February 1st, 1888, while her sister States north and east were suffering untold misery and death from the extreme cold. Being the medium of extremes, Northern Kansas is bound to be "The Garden of the World." The Rock Island railroad will be completed to Pueblo, Colorado, by August, 1888, at which place are the largest and most inexhaustible hard and soft coal mines in America—with the deposits of Anthracite and bituminous coal varying from thirty to forty feet in thickness; and mountains of iron in sight. Hence, when this road is completed, hard and soft coal and iron ore can be had cheaper in Smith County than in the city of Chicago; besides furnishing a good western market, only 200 miles away, for all she can produce.

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In very cold weather great care should be exercised to see that the calf is not calved anywhere except in a warm box-stall, and even in the warm months if a cow gives evidence of calving during inclement weather and when a storm is threatening it is a wise precaution, which should never be neglected, to have her put under proper shelter.

Take half a drachm of nitrate of lead, dissolve two drachms of common salt in a pint of water, pour the two solutions together, and allow the sediment to subside. The clear fluid which may then be poured off will be a saturated solution of chloride of zinc. A cloth dipped in this solution and hung up in the loft of fowl house will sweeten the atmosphere instantly.

A very narrow perch makes it necessary to bear the weight on the breast bone, mainly in one spot, and thus it becomes bent on one side. This deformity is caused, in many instances, by roosting on the chine of a barrel, or in the small limbs of trees. Old fowls have their bones hardened so that they will stand the pressure without bending, but all should have wide perches.

The *New England Farmer* says: A flock of young mammoth bronze turkeys often average twelve and a half pounds each, while forty-pound toms are to be met with by all successful breeders, and in a three-year-old form they sometimes reach the enormous weight of fifty pounds each. A cross of a pure-bred tom with common hen turkeys will increase the young stock from three to six pounds each.

The farmers of Prince Edward Island fatten their hogs largely on potatoes, having a large surplus of this product which they can thus advantageously dispose of. They do not feed the potatoes raw, but boil them till done, then a mixture of wheat bran and ground barley is mixed with the boiled potatoes and all mashed together. Two gallons of bran and barley are sufficient for two bushels of potatoes. But this pork, though more excellent in quality than corn-fed pork, cannot compete with it in cheapness.

There are probably few men who have fed sheep for fifteen or twenty years who can say that they in every case found them profitable, says the *Wool Journal*, and yet more men could probably say this of sheep than could say it of either hogs or cattle. Fat sheep never advance to the extreme values occasionally reached by other fat stock—but at the same time they are less apt to go to an extreme the other way. In fact, taking a term of years together, no other stock shows as great uniformity in its quotations. The man who commands the fleeces and the carcasses of a nice bunch of wethers every year finds sheep profitable.

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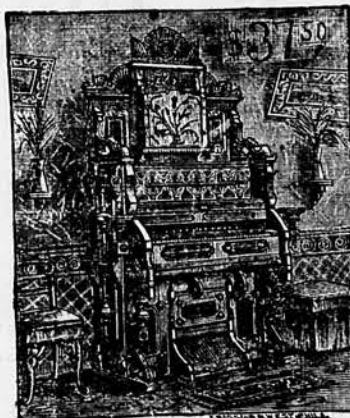
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The Veterinarian.

[The paragraphs in this department are gathered from our exchanges.—ED. FARMER.]

SWOLLEN HOCK.—My horse has been lame about three weeks. She was all right at night and in the morning she was lame. The leg is swollen on the inside of the gambrel joint and a little in the front. I have bathed it with water three times a day, but it does not help it. Please tell me what to do. [Apply warm poultices of linseed meal twice daily, and after removing poultice bathe for half an hour with warm water, then rub in a little of the following liniment: Tincture of camphor, two ounces; tincture of arnica, one ounce; water, one pint.]

SPRAIN OF THE STIFLE JOINT.—I have a yearling bull that is very lame in one of his hind legs. It is very much swollen at the thigh joint and he seems to be in much misery all the time. He has no use of that leg at all. I don't think that he was hurt any way as he has been tied in a barn all the time. He seemed to be but slightly lame at first but gradually got worse. What would you advise me to do for him? [We would advise that you should turn the bull (untied) into a shed with a level floor on which he will not be apt to slip. Then apply twice a day the following liniment: Camphorated spirit, six ounces; sulphuric ether, two ounces. Mix. You do not mention any symptoms which would indicate displacement of the patella. In such an accident the hind leg is stiffly dragged behind the animal, and he is unable to bend it, but the sprain, though it may occasion considerable lameness, does not draw the leg into the position mentioned.]

LAME SADDLE-HORSE.—My saddle-horse has been lame for three years, and seems to be getting worse. Lameness seems to be in his shoulders. When he moves forward he has a rocking gait, and keeps his feet rather wide apart. When backed, he drags his front feet. There seems to be no fever in his feet or legs. Has not been used for three years to amount to anything. Would setons in the lower part of his shoulders or breast do any good? Have had them in the upper part of his shoulders, and while running, they seemed to give him relief. [Setons would have to go the whole length of shoulders to do any good. I would advise you to shoe him with wide webbed shoes, file hoofs thin all around the top from hair down three-fourths of an inch, then soak feet three hours a day in warm salt water for a week, and apply golden blister; then in a week begin to soak again three days a week, and repeat blister in twenty-eight to thirty days.]

PARALYSIS IN A SOW.—I have a very finely-bred sow which got down about two months ago, and she was so bad that she could not get up for about a month. I thought at first it was kidney worm, and blistered her back with turpentine; also used a liniment of Spanish flies, olive oil, and turpentine; also carbolic acid, bicarbonate of soda, and nux vomica in milk. I gave her the best of care. I think it is paralysis of the back and legs. I feed her cooked wheat, potatoes, and shorts. She is able to walk a little now, but will not get up unless compelled to. As she walks her hind cleats contract and retract. I may mention I have used a great deal of medicine, both externally and internally, in treating her. [The symptoms described appear to be those of paralysis. Considerable care is required to distinguish between lameness or want of power produced by rheumatism and lameness or want of power produced by paralysis. In the former we are apt to have the disease associated with fever, especially in the beginning, and in handling and moving the joints of the legs the sow evinces pain and uneasiness. In the paralytic form of disease, however, there is very generally an absence of pain, and the principal and most important symptom is the loss of power in the affected parts. We think the sow's diet is laxative and nutritious, and is well adapted for her case. We would advise continuing the administration of the nux vomica, and laying all your other remedies aside. Nux vomica is a spinal stimu-

lant, and must be used with great care. In such a case it would be advisable to give the sow five grains three times a day, and to obtain benefit from this treatment it might require to be continued six weeks or two months. When too much of this medicine is being given the legs become rigid and the animal grows nervous, excitable, and fidgety. Of course the development of such symptoms is an indication to suspend the use of the medicine until those symptoms subside, and then to continue its use in diminished doses.]



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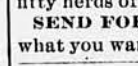
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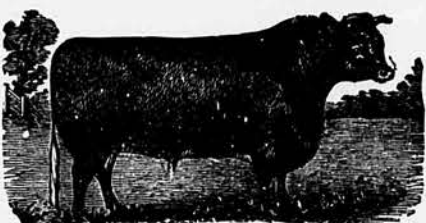
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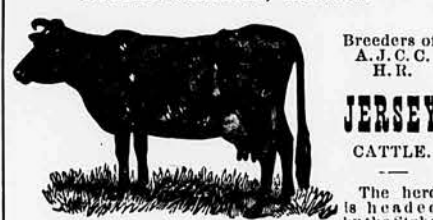
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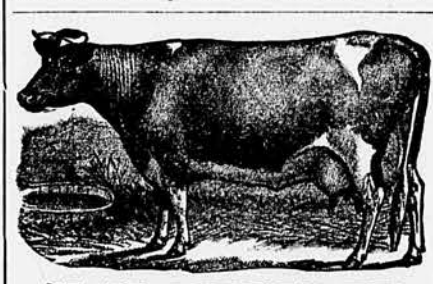


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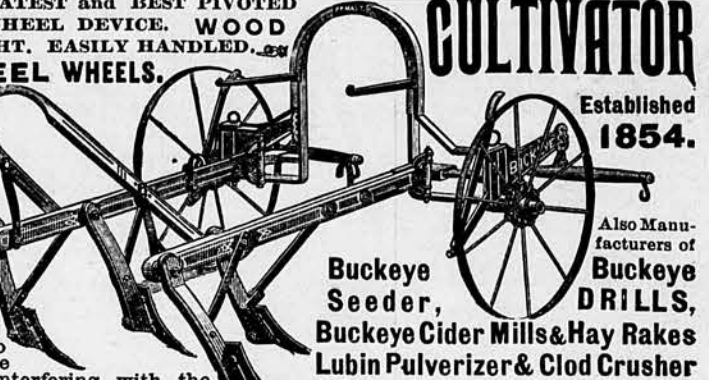


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(Continued from page 1.)

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SHORT-HAND WRITING—Taught by teachers of fifteen years practical experience as official court reporters. Send for circular. W. C. Sandifur, Wichita Short-hand School, Wichita, Kas.

WANTED—To crop with some farmer to raise Brocomcorn and manufacture into brooms, or will rent small farm; everything furnished; no crop will pay as well. S. Pottenger, Kankakee, Ill.

HEREFORD BULLS FOR SALE—Three very choice animals, 18 months old, sired by Beau Red 11055 A. H. R. Also a few choice Heifers. Prices low. Address Thos. J. Higgins, Council Grove, Kas., breeder of thoroughbred Herefords.

FOR SALE CHEAP—The Holstein-Friesian Bulls No. 2235, Vol. 7, imported, and No. 92, Vol. 1, Holstein-Friesian Herd Book. Also one full-blood Bull Calf from imported dam. John Schwab, Cherokee, Kas.

FOR TRADE—Farm of 159 acres; 50 acres under cultivation; 145 acres tillable; in Cowley Co., Kas. Will trade for blooded horses—Norman or Cleveland Bays preferred. Address B. L. Wilson, Atlanta, Kas.

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STALLIONS FOR SALE—Three Clydes and one Norman. Acclimated and good breeders; broken to drive. Will give time if desired. Every stallion guaranteed as represented. R. I. Blackledge, Salina, Kas.

FOR SALE—Two Stallion Colts, coming 2 years old. Sired by imported Cleveland Bay stallion President, out of trotting-bred mare. No. 1, 15½ hands, weight 1,130 pounds; No. 2, 15½ hands, weight 950 pounds. Both bays. Also one Stallion—three-fourths Clyde; 16 hands; weight 1,500 pounds; bay; coming 8 years old. Address Wm. Roe, Vinland, Douglas Co., Kas.

FOR SALE—One Percheron Stallion, 8 years old, weight 1,600 pounds, bright bay. One Jack (Mammoth), 10 years old. Good breeders. Jacob Martin, Coffeyville, Kas.

FOR SALE—Half-blood Cleveland Bay Stallion Colt; by imported Cleveland Bay horse, dam by Thoroughbred; weight at twenty and a half months, 1,085 pounds; 15½ hands high. Geo. Roe, Vinland, Douglas Co., Kas.

IMPORTED CLYDESDALE STALLION FOR SALE—Low, or will trade for land or stock. W. H. Vanatta, Nortonville, Jefferson Co., Kas.

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WANTED—A good Jack. Address Jesse W. Cook, Leoti, Wichita Co., Kas.

STRAYED—A bay mare, 14½ hands high, star in forehead, branded 838 on hind quarter and 3 on cheek; has one white hind foot. Mare has been gone four months. Address C. Chivers, 415 Kansas Ave., Topeka.

KANSAS ECONOMY INCUBATOR—Capacity of 250 eggs, sold for only \$20. My new book reduced to only 25 cents. It tells how to make and use the incubators, how to make a good brooder to mother the chicks and how to manage the chicks until ready for market; also, how to make hens lay all winter; also, how to cure Roup and Cholera. Langshan eggs sold for \$2.50 for 13. Address Jacob Yost, Topeka.

FOR SALE—Light Brahma Chickens of the celebrated Felch strain. Call on or address Mrs. Emma Brosius, Topeka, Kas.

200,000 RUSSIAN MULBERRY SEEDLINGS—One-half to one foot, per 1,000, \$1.50; one to two feet, per 1,000, \$4; two to three feet, per 1,000, \$10. Also Catalpa, Ash and other forest trees, one or two years. B. P. Hannan & Co., Arlington, (on C. & N. R. R.), Reno Co., Kas.

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TRY IT!—This column for cheap advertising. It is worth five times the price asked.

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FOR SALE—Gooseberries, 2 to 3 years old, per 1,000, \$8; also grape vines, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries and rhubarb. M. Crumrine, Junction City, Kas.

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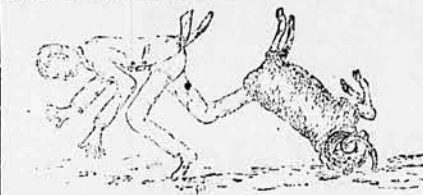
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