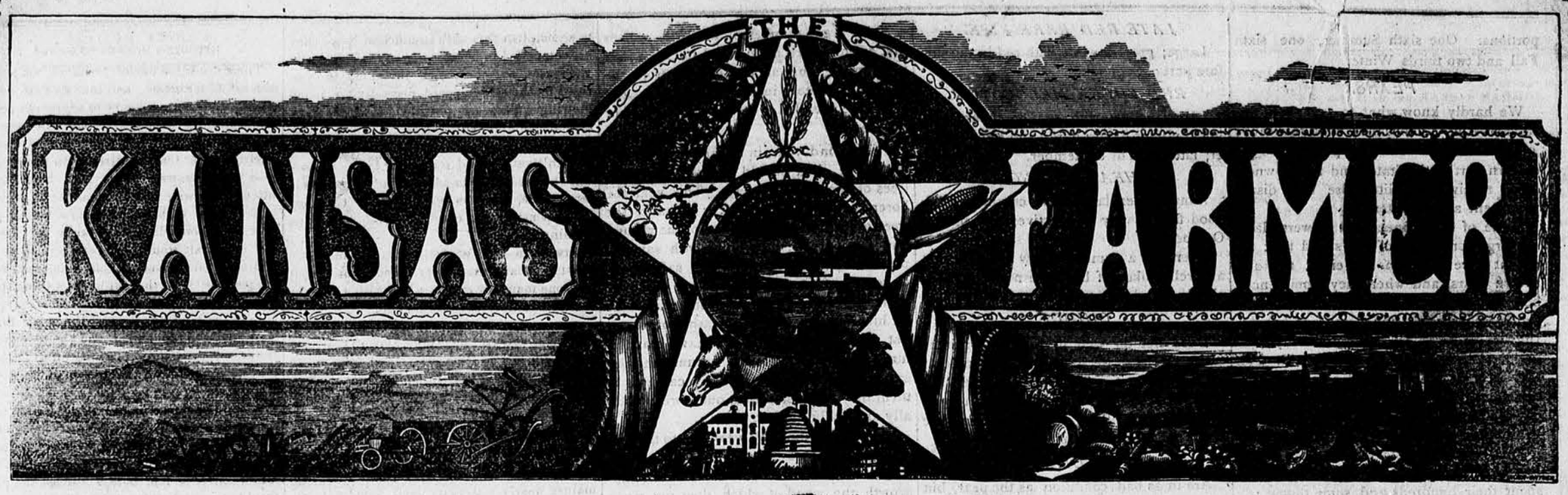

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PRIZE ESSAYS.

Written expressly for the KANSAS FARMER.

AN ORCHARD IN KANSAS.

How, When, Where, and What to Plant.

BY F. WELLHOUSE, LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS.

The Pioneer fruit growers of Kansas have had immense difficulties to contend with, from the fact that the experience of and rules laid down by no other State or county could be relied on either, as to varieties, cultivation, or treatment here, and in consequence, they were under the necessity of groping around in the dark until some light was thrown upon their pathway by the lamp of experience, since which they have made commendable progress. Yet to-day the science of fruit growing in Kansas is in its infancy, and any attempt to lay down rules for future use is extremely hazardous and may at any time be upset by the experience of coming years. And, what we may say in this paper we do not want taken as infalable, nor do we want it taken in all cases as an expression of our own views in time to come, as we expect to change our views, and practice as experience may dictate.

What we have to say is made up from our own experience and observation for the past fifteen years, and what we could glean from the experience of others.

The first thing to be considered on the subject under consideration, is the selection of a site for the orchard. In doing this, other things being equal, we would always choose the highest ground on the farm, if convenient to the house.

Many persons prefer a northern slope for the reason that it is later in thawing out in the spring, and in consequence blooms out later and is more likely to escape spring frosts. Some prefer a western slope, claiming that the sun gets up some distance before its rays strike the trees, and in consequence, the frosts are gradually and slowly dissipated, and do but little injury. Some prefer an eastern slope, and I have heard several express preferences for a southern slope; but practically I have never been able to see any material difference as to slope, although if I was to make a choice would take a northern, but would never sacrifice altitude for the sake of a slope. What I mean by high ground is, that it should be elevated compared with the surrounding lands.

In collecting fruits for exhibitions, I have invariably found the finest specimens and in the greatest abundance on the high elevations.

The reason given for the superiority of fruit on the high lands, and I think it is correct, is that the cold air on frosty nights, as well as the deliterious gasses, settle on the low lands and leave the elevations comparatively warmer and with a purer atmosphere. But do not give up planting an orchard because you have no high ground. There are a number of orchards in Kansas now growing and bearing abundant crops of delicious fruit on our low rich alluvial bottoms. I have even found persons who claim that our most productive varieties that are in the habit of overbearing do best on the bottoms. You probably will not succeed with as many varieties on the low lands, but I do not believe there is a quarter section in the State that cannot be made to produce an abundant and profitable crop of apples.

There is another thing that should not be lost sight of in selecting a situation for the orchard, that is in getting it near the house. There are many reasons for this. In the first place you want it handy so that when you have a spare moment you can step in and cut off a water sprout, pinch off a bud, straighten up a tree, dig out a borer, clean off the caterpillars, &c. Your trees will bear as much nursing and petting as your Berkshire pig or Durham cow, and show the result as well. Then you want it near the house so you can have a general supervision, and when the fruit ripens and you or any of your family or an invited neighbor should like to stick a tooth into one you want it near so you can pick it fresh. You also want to keep off thieving boys and depredating woodpeckers. So I say, put your orchard near the house, even if you have to give up elevation.

The character of the soil should also be considered in determining the location, although we have found but few, if any, that was seriously objectionable. That that has given the best results, however, is on our high prairies with the surface soil of moderate depth, with a stiff red clay subsoil, underlaid with lime stone, and in some few instances with sand stone.

To fence it with a good substantial fence is the next thing in order after we have settled the location. Do not plant your orchard in the open field, as stock is constantly liable to get in, and may in a short time ruin years of care and labor. I once had a thrifty orchard nearly ruined by some unruly cattle breaking down the fence and getting in and twisting off the trees with their horns, and this was done too in fifteen or twenty minutes.

After the fencing is done, the ground should be put in a good state of cultivation before the trees are planted. This should be done the summer before.

We are now ready for steaking off the ground where the trees are to stand. Now, to do this, it is first necessary to determine what distance the trees should be set apart. There is a vast difference of opinion on this point, ranging from twelve up to forty feet between the trees each way.

This is a difficult question to settle with the limited experience we have had here. Those advocating close planting say that the trees make wind breaks for each other, and economize ground, and that the fruit grown from the trees before they get large enough to crowd each other, will amply pay for the extra amount of trees. When they are old enough to crowd they cut out every alternate tree.

I think, however, from what orchards I have seen of this kind, that the trees are not as healthy and vigorous as those planted further apart. There is one orchard here, though, that the trees are twelve feet north and south, and forty feet east and west, in which the trees are as vigorous and thrifty as those planted twenty-five to thirty-five feet apart. This plan has some advantages.

First:—The trees being planted close, north and south, will soon shade the bodies of each other and prevent the sun scald on the south-west side, and at the same time will protect each other somewhat from the severe south and south-west winds that lean so many trees to the north; and being planted wide apart east and west, gives ample room for the root and top to spread out

If we were to recommend close planting in any shape it would be this one.

There is still another mode of close planting that has been successfully practiced in a few localities, and as far as my observation goes the trees have remained up to this time in a healthy and vigorous condition. I allude to the practice of planting the main orchard trees thirty to thirty-five feet apart, and then planting peach trees midway between the main trees. The peach being a short lived tree is grown and has performed its service and is ready to be cut down in its old age by the time the main orchard is grown enough to need the space.

We, however, doubt the advisability of any mode of close planting, and I think this will be more clearly demonstrated as the trees grow older.

Now, after you have determined the distance the trees are to stand apart, we will go back and see how we are to stake it off, so as to get the trees the right distance apart, and so they will range each way. If there is a surveyor handy and he does not charge too much, perhaps it would be well to get him to do it, but if he is not procured you can do it yourself. One plan is to take a rope, chain, or cord, and measure on it the distance you want the trees apart, then set a stake at each corner of your intended orchard, then let two hands take the cord or chain and measure off the distance from one corner to the other, setting a stake at the end of every chain, you standing at the corner stake and sighting through to the other corner and directing by motion of the right or left hand as surveyors do so as to get the stakes in line. Stake off all four sides in this way, then commence at one corner, you stand at the second stake and sight through to the second stake at the other corner, one of the men taking the stakes and setting them as you direct, the other man following up the stake driver and sighting through the other way, and directing him so as to get them in line that way; proceed thus until you get a stake set where you want each tree. If you wish to set your tees in a quincunx shape you must set two rows of stakes around the outside before commencing the interior.

There is another plan for laying off and planting an orchard that has been practiced successfully by some.

Take your team and plow and lay off a narrow land around where you want your row of trees, throwing the furrow out so that when you finish, the dead furrow will be where your row of trees are to stand, after having plowed a land and made a dead furrow for every row of trees. Turn and work it off crosswise the same as you would mark off corn ground, then plant the trees where these marks cross the dead furrows. With a steady team and a good plowman it can be laid off very straight, and as far as we were able to see, the orchards planted in this way looked and did as well as those planted with more care. This is a very expeditious mode of planting trees, and has one advantage; this dead furrow loosens up the soil the whole length, and enables the surplus water to pass off readily.

If there are any low wet places where your orchard is to stand, do not plant the trees until it is well drained, as trees will not thrive on such land; but generally there is but little land in Kansas that needs underdraining for an orchard.

We are now ready to dig the holes. This can be done as the trees are set, but should be done beforehand. When you get the trees they should be put in as soon as possible, and if the holes are dug you get them in that much sooner. To dig the holes take a good sharp steel spade and spade around the stake the size you want the hole so that the stake is as near the center as you can get it, then pull out the stake and dig out the middle and throw out most of the loose dirt, then drive in your stake again so that it will range with the others as it did before; dig the rest in the same manner.

It is not necessay to dig the holes any larger than just enough to receive the roots without cramping them; usually about two feet across, and one spade deep.

We are now ready to determine whether you will plant in the fall or spring. Our fruit growers are divided on this point also.

Those advocating fall planting, claim that the roots partially heal over during the winter, and the earth settles firmly around them so that they start to grow earlier in the spring than spring planting.

Those contending for spring planting say that it is difficult to get the earth well settled around the roots in the fall, and that they are liable to be damaged by freezing and thawing, and that the high winds will switch them about and loosen the roots before they start to grow.

We have not had experience enough to determine their relative merits as we have mostly done our planting in the spring, but if you have more time in the fall I would not hesitate to plant then, in fact you can plant with safety any time after the leaves are destroyed by frost in the fall, until they leaf out again in the spring if done when the ground is not frozen and you get the earth well settled around the roots.

Selecting the varieties you intend to plant will now claim our attention.

This is a most difficult problem to solve; one on which no two persons will probably agree; one may make out a list with ease that will give perfect satisfaction to himself, but will likely suit no one else; we will therefore confine ourselves to the characteristics of the different varieties that have done best in Kansas, rather than recommend a list that would probably please no person but ourself.

APPLE LIST.

We will commence with the early varieties, and take them up in the order they ripen.

EARLY HARVEST.

This is the earliest as well as one of the best of our early apples, is a rich golden yellow about medium size, tree hardy, moderate grower and a fair bearer and comes into bearing within a reasonable time.

RED ASTRACHAN.

Is rather above medium size, crimson red with deep bloom, very showy; fine flavor, but rather too acid, ripens from middle to last of July. This is a fine apple, but we would not plant too many of it as it is rather a shy bearer and is very late coming into bearing. The tree is a little tender and is sometimes injured by severe winters.

CAROLINA RED JUNE

Is a small red apple; a tremendous bearer, most excellent flavor; comes into bearing early, and ripens about the same time as Red Astrachan, or about a week or ten days after Early Harvest; this is a most perfect little apple, and the only objection to it is its size. The tree is liable to overbear and then the fruit is very small.

EARLY PENNOCK.

Very large and magnificient; yellow and red striped; rather coarse grained but fair flavor; bears heavy crops with fruit all large and marketable, but the tree has not proven as hardy as we could wish; ripens the middle of August.

COOPER'S EARLY WHITE.

This has proven to be the most profitable of all early apples; it comes into bearing very early; (we have had it bear at three years old;) bears enormous crops of large, smooth, marketable fruit, nearly every year; golden yellow; good flavor when fully ripe, but is rather too sour for most palates; one of the best for cooking; can be cooked from the time it is large enough. The tree is a vigorous, healthy, grower, but is generally crooked and hard to train into good shape; think it would be well to top graft it into some other tree. Middle of August.

MAIDEN'S BLUSH.

Large yellow, with a red blushing cheek; one of the most showy apples we have; bears fair crops, but not first-class flavor; tree, vigorous grower, and hardy; has a peculiarity of blooming for a long time; some twigs having small apples on, while others are in bloom, and in consequence, the fruit ripens irregularly; comes in bearing moderately early; September and October.

AUTUMN SWAAR.

Large yellow, with small dots or specks all over it; good flavor, but little or no acidity; sometimes called a sweet apple; tree, good grower; hardy, and reasonably productive; October.

FARMUSE.

Small; deep red; flesh white; spicy, good flavor; very productive; October and November.

FALL PIPPEN.

Very large, golden yellow, rich, delicious flavor, ripens in October; free, vigorous good grower, but comes into bearing very late, and so far has been a shy bearer, but it is hoped that as it grows older it will do better.

JONATHAN.

Medium, a brilliant, clear red; excellent flavor; is a great bearer and is growing into favor more every year. This is also classed with the winter varieties, and matures here in the Fall, but it keeps well till Christmas.

RAWLES JANET.

Medium; green or yellow with stripes of red where exposed to the sun; blooms ten days to two weeks later than most other kinds, and in consequence escapes the spring frosts; is very productive and will some seasons over-bear and produce small poor fruit, but when the trees are not too full it is fair size and fine flavored; is one of our best keepers.

BEN DAVIS.

Medium to large; bright striped red; fruit all fair size, smooth and marketable; flavor good but not extra; is good from fall until late in the spring; is enormously productive and bears nearly every year; has proved the most profitable of all our fruits and is growing into favor constantly.

The tree is extremely hardy and a vigorous and rapid grower; comes into bearing quite young and does well on high or low lands; we would plant more of this than any other.

WINE SAP.

Fruit medium; a lively deep red; rich acid vinous flavor; is one of the best of our keepers; is exceedingly productive; is liable to overbear when the fruit is small, and liable to scab; tree is a good grower and comes into bearing extremely early; is classed next to Ben Davis for profit, and by some is placed ahead of it.

GILPIN.

A small, red apple; not first-class flavor but is enormously productive, and is one of the best keepers, keeps till most others are gone; it has been a question for some time whether this should be classed with the favorites, but its extraordinary productiveness and excellent keeping qualities have carried the day in its favor.

There are many other apples that different persons would place on a select list, but to our mind the above embrace the cream of several thousand varieties.

There are also a number of seedlings such as Missouri Pippen, Kansas Keeper, Kansas Queen, Lores Delaware, Starnes Winter Greening and others that have good local reputation, but have not been tested extensively enough to warrant their being placed yet on a general list.

The proportions to plant of the different varieties will also require careful consideration. We do not want too many Summer or Fall apples, as they soon decay after arriving at maturity and can only be used or marketed for a few weeks, while the winter varieties are in use many months, and will nearly always cammand a better price, and in planting an orchard for family use we should have an eye on the prospects for a market, as some years you will likely have a surplus, and it does not come amiss to get good prices for a few hundred bushels. We would plant about these pro-

portions: One sixth Summer, one sixth Fall and two thirds Winter.

PEARS.

We hardly know what to say about this luscious fruit. Thousands upon thousands of pear trees have been planted in the eastern part of the State, and their owners have received but little else than disappointment and disaster.

Some of our pioneer fruit growers planted large orchards of pears and took excellent care of them for eight, ten and twelve years, and when they commenced bearing were the most magnificent sights we ever had the pleasure of beholding; whole fields full of large, thrifty, pyramidical trees, loaded down with fruit that at once delighted and astonished the beholder, were the pride of our fairs and captivated the people at the eastern fruit exhibitions; bnt alas! where are they now?

That insiduous destroyer, the pear blight, has made its rounds, and those who have spent their hundreds and some thousands of dollars, and planted, cultivated, pruned and toiled for years and years have nothing left but dead stumps to show for their pains and labor. So that the fruit men of the State are at this time sadly demoralized in regard to pear culture; we would, however, recommend the planting of a few trees, such varieties as the Bartlett, Rosteizer, White Dayonne, Seckel, Buffum, Duchesse De Angouleme, etc., but do not plant many until there is evidence that the blight has left us.

Our fruit men and our horticultural societies have spent weeks, months and even years in experimenting, investigating, and theorizing as to the cause of and remedy for this pestilential disease, but it has baffled them all, and we are as much in the dark to day as we were ten years ago, so that we can only bear and wait, hoping that it may leave us as it has many of the eastern States. This disease usually attacks the limbs or twigs, but will sometimes take hold of the entire tree and kill it to the ground in a single day. The first we see when it attacks a tree, is, the leaves wilt and soon turn brown and on examination we will find the limbs on which the leaves have wilted, dead and turned black.

Cutting off the limb below the diseased part was for some time practiced and was supposed to check it but that is now given up. Its attacks are usually in July, sometimes in June and August.

It often grapples with the apple trees, but here it finds its match, and after destroying a few twigs usually retires without doing much damage.

The cause by some is supposed to be the rupturing of the sap vessels, by some freezing, the winter previous. Others claim that it is a fungus, but the facts will not always bear out either of these theories.

PEACHES.

In making out our list of trees, we must not forget to put down a liberal supply of this delicious fruit, and at the same time we must not lose sight of the fact that it perishes very soon after maturity and cannot be shipped to any great distance with safety in order to find a market so that we must depend on home consumption and a home market for it and in consequence too many trees should not be planted unless you have a canning establishment near at hand or are prepared to can them yourself.

We have had great trouble, on account of liability to injury by severe freezing. The fruit buds will seldom stand a lower temperature than fifteen below zero, and if there are warm days enough during winter to start the buds they will be destroyed at a much higher temperature and frequently the trees themselves are killed to the ground.

This liability to injury by severe winter, and in cansequence the uncertainty of a crop, together with the almost total lack of keeping qualities in the fruit, greatly lessens the value of the peach orchard, yet the ease with which the trees can be raised, the rapidity of their growth, and the short time required for them to come into bearing, together with the delicious qualities of the fruit places it next in value to the apple.

We will now select the varieties we would plant.

COLE'S EARLY RED.

Medium in size; clouded and mottled with red; juicy, rich and delicious; last of July.

EARLY YORK.

Medium size; color green with dull red where exposed to the sun; good thrifty tree, and great bearer; middle of August.

CRAWFORD'S EARLY.

Large; yellow; very fine flavor; middle of August.

JAQUE'S RARE RIPE.

Fair sized; superb yellow; good bearer; last of August.

BERGEN'S YELLOW.

Very large; juicy; fine flavored; one of the best of yellow peaches; tree productive; fore part of September.

LATE RED RARE RIPE.

Large; greyish white with red in the sun; fore part of September.

RED CHEEK MELOCOTON.

Large; yellow with red on cheek; rich, juicy, vinous flavor; hardy and a good bearer; latter part of September.

HEATH CLING.

A magnificent late peach; cream colored; good flavor; very productive; fore part of October.

There are a number of new varieties that are well spoken of but have not been sufficiently tested here to recommend.

QUINCE.

Does not do well in Kansas for some cause. at least we have not been able to succeed with it. The tree grows well but does not bear. We have not seen a good specimen in the State, and at this time we could not recommend planting it.

PLUMS.

Are in as bad condition as the pear, but it is the fruit that is destroyed instead of the tree, by that little pest, the curculio, and unless some new variety is introduced that is proof against this insect, we would not plant any.

The Wild-goose plum comes well recommended but has not been sufficiently tested here.

APRICOTS.

Do reasonably well in some sheltered localities, but the fruit buds are so liable to be winter killed that we could not recommend them for general cultivation.

CHERRIES.

The Heart and Bigarrean have proved to be perfectly worthless here, but a few of the Dukes and Morelloes have succeeded reasonably well; the Early Richmond, an early red Morello cherry, has given good satisfaction; it comes into bearing quite early and bears large crops of fruit; we would plant but few of any other.

GRAPES.

Of this fruit we would plant none but the Concord. The Concord if properly set out and tended will bear an abundant crop the second year after planting and every year thereafter.

We would also while we are about it, select a few gooseberries, currants, strawberries, etc.

Now, having determined on the location, prepared the ground and made out a list of the kinds we want, we will now hitch up the team to the wagon and load on a good supply of wet straw, hay, or coarse manure and drive to the nearest reliable nursery and select good, thrifty, two, three, or even four year old trees, see to taking them up ourselves, pack them into a wagon as they are dug and pack plenty of the wet straw around the roots, and when we have them all on, drive home and into the intended orchard and commence at one corner and drive along as we set out, taking one tree out at a time, pull up the stake, set the tree in its place and draw enough pulverized soil into the hole to well cover the roots and proceed with another and so on until we have the trees all in the holes. Now we will gather up the empty rain or pork barrel and other vessels enough to hold a two horse load of water, and go to the creek, well, spring, or pond and load up with water and drive to the orchard and pour one-half to two-thirds of a bucket of water into the hole around the tree, then take hold of the tree and gently shake it up and down until we make a kind of loblolly of the water and soil, this will settle the earth evenly around the fibers and roots, now draw more earth in and fill up the hole, tramping it well and filling up so as to make a small mound around the tree, then proceed with another until all are served. We are now through with the planting.

Now, it is generally claimed that the top should be headed in until there is an equilibrium between the top and root when the tree is transplanted; what we mean is that as much of the top should be cut off as has been cut from the roots in taking up; but we have had the best success by leaving the entire top on, where they have been properly trained in the nursery.

The first summer after planting is a critical time for the trees, and they should receive great care. The ground should be kept clean and well cultivated the entire season, and no crop should be grown in it that will draw much moisture or substance from the soil. When dry, hot weather comes on, and the earth is well warmed up, if you have plenty of wet hay, straw, or coarse manure, put from four to six inches in depth of it for four or five feet all around each tree; then if the season should be very dry and the mulching should dry through and the soil underneath begins to dry, water should be nauled and the mulching and ground well wet.

In the fall some means must be taken to protect the trees from the rabbits; this can be done best by wrapping around them paper, straw, hay, or anything that is handy, and tying it with twine.

There are a number of kinds of washes that are highly recommended, but the safest is wrapping, this should extend from the ground up twenty inches, or two feet, and should be attended to every fall, for five or six years.

The second year, in the spring, all trees that have died should be replaced with trees of the same variety. This year the borer should be looked after; examine the trees around near the surface of the ground and if any are in, little holes with sawdust protruding will be found. The safest way to get rid of him is to dig him out with your knife. Some run a small flexible wire in after him and punch him to death, but we can not always tell waether we have reached him. If woodpeckers are around and the earth is cleaned away so they can get at them they will clean them out more effectually and skillfully than we can.

Clean cultivation this year, up to the first of July, is a necessity, after July the ground should not be worked, as it stimulates fall growth, the wood of which does not ripen well, and is liable to winter kill.

This year the system of pruning should be commenced; that is, we should begin this year to form or train the tree into the shape we want it. The head of the tree should be commenced from two to three feet from the ground and all buds or water sprouts that appear below that should be rubbed off as soon as they appear, and in forming the top do not I beg you get into a periodical spasm of pruning and get into your tree with saw and knife, but go around frequently during the growing season and wherever a bud appears where it is not wanted. pinch or rub it off; when a limb is getting too ambitious and trying to outgrow its neighbors and throw the tree out of shape, pinch off the terminal bud and its growth is checked; if limbs are coming out too thick, pinch off such as you do not want, before they get any size; but as far as possible let the top take its natural course and form itself as nature intended. Never cut off a limb unless there is some absolute necessity for it.

A perfectly pruned tree, to our mind, is one that has been trained into perfect shape and at the same time has no mark of saw, knife and chisel on it.

The same treatment in pruning and cultivation as recommended for the second year should be practiced each succeeding year, until the trees are well into bearing, then the ground can be sown in clover, this will particularly check their rapid growth, and throw them into bearing, but if at any time, the trees should show signs of exhaustion by bearing large crops of fruit, it should again be put in cultivation, and if necessary manured.

In planting a large commercial orchard of one, two, five, or ten thousand trees, we would plant but little or nothing else than apples, and only such of them as bear shipping well. An orchard of this kind is planted for profit exclusively, and a remunerative home market at all times cannot be depended on.

The very early apples, such as early Harvest, Red Astracan and Car Red June, are too tender and decay too soon to warrant us in planting many.

Cooper's Early White ships well, and as it comes into bearing very early and always bears heavy crops of large, smooth, saleable fruit we would plant largely of it.

Of Fall apples we would plant sparingly. At this season the markets are usually overstocked and the prices are low.

The Jonathan is a good shipper, bears large crops of fine, showy fruit and keeps long enough to get it into market without risk of decay, and can be planted largely with safety.

Rawle's Genet, Ben Davis, Wine Sap and Gilpin, should however comprise the main bulk of the orchard; they all bear large crops of good marketable fruits and are all good shipping varieties, and can be put on the market either in the Fall, Winter or Spring.

WIND BRAKES.

We have severe winds at times, that will switch the branches of the trees about and shake off a greatdeal of fruit and sometimes harms the trees. To prevent this, two, three or even ten rows of forest trees are planted all around the orchard. Cottonwood makes an excellent wind brake, as it is a rapid grower and grows high. These trees should be planted at the same time or before the orchard is planted.

GANG PLOWS VS. PLOWING.

HOW AND WHEN TO PLOW.

The question of how and when to plow comes up, and is being answered each recurring season by writers through the press and in books, according to their respective experience and theories, or by each farmer for himself, according to his judgment or necessity, and in these days of large farming, operations, favorable conditions are not always regarded.

Farmers do not always restrict themselves to the number of acres they can put in the best condition with the plow, but are sometimes ambitious to plant large areas; and to accomplish this with insufficient help they are compelled to begin early and plow late in the season, and their own judgment is overruled by the self-imposed necessity for much plowing. They are provided with planters, seeders, double cultivators, mowers, rakes, reapers, threshers—all the facilities for planting, cultivating, and gathering large crops—but the land must be plowed to render these serviceable, and it is fair to presume that they are responsible for much hasty, unreasonable farming.

Invention has been stimulated to the production of farm machinery to such an extent that one man now stands where two, three, or four would have stood years ago.

UNPROFITABLE PLOWING.

It is a singular fact that Gang plows have been more difficult to introduce, and have made their way more slowly in popular favor, than other more expensive and less important farm machinery. While the facilities for planting, cultivating, ond harvesting crops have been in recent years doubled or trebled, those for preparing the ground for the crops have remained nearly stationary; and this state of things is the occasion for much unprofitable plowing.

IMPROVED MACHINERY.

The Gang plow, too long neglected and unappreciated, has at length been brought to comparative perfection, and its advantages are becoming to be recognized by enterprising farmers, as is shown by the greatly increased demand for them the present season. California, the most successful wheat-growing state, employs more Gang plows than all the other states combined. Can they be profitably employed is no longer a question that admits of a doubt.

PREPARING THE SOIL.

A thorough preparation of the soil is conceded to be the first essential requisite to the production of a good crop, and without which the labor of seeding and cultivating is rendered more laborious and the yield decreased. The hot sunshine and drying winds, incident to our unprotected western prairies, dry out the soil rapidly; and, from too wet, the land soon becomes too dry and baked; so that the period is comparatively short in which the soil is in just the right "temper" to be pulverized by the action of the plow. All experienced farmers know the disadvantage of dry plowing; when the soil breaks up in lumps, and of wet plowing. when it forms into "pills,' rendering the labor to the man and team more laborious; and that, too, with the prospect of a poorer, instead of a better return. It may be well to remark that the comparative advantage of deep or shallow plowing depends much upon the nature and the kind of crops to be raised. No practical, observing farmer at the present day, no matter what his predilections may be, would be likely to recommend either deep or shallow plowing under all circumstances and conditions. The surface of all soils is doubtless richest in plant food, and all vegetation derives its chief nourishment from near the surface. It would follow, then, that to bury the soil deep and turn the subsoil on top, would not be conducive to the best results; but in plowing deep and allowing the subsoil to fall back into the bottom of the furrow as much as possible, would seem to be the best policy and more in accordance with the laws of the plant growth.

DEEP PLOWED LAND

will sustain a crop better through a drouth, and is also beneficial in a wet season; and the only objection that can be raised against it is the liability to bring to the surface the cold lean subsoil. Plowing year after year to a uniform depth is also objectionable from the fact that the pressure of the base of the plow, together with the tread of horses' feet in the bottom of the furrow, creates a hard-pan that is slow to absorb rains, and prevents the rise of moisture from beneath, beside arresting the downward growth of plant roots. But this is a subject too prolific to be discussed here, and we leave it with the remark that the success or failure of crops depends not so much upon the depth as upon plowing when the soil was in just the right condition to be mellowed and pulverized by the operation. These things being true,

THE GANG PLOW,

by enabling the farmer to do double the work in a given time, must be ranked in importance with those of the most valuable labor-saving farm implements, and one that will grow more in favor as its advantages are seen and appreciated. It is not our purpose here, to extol the merits of any particular style. The common sense of the farmer must be exercised in the selection. The quality of strength, the durability, facility for opporating to different depths, and widths, and ease of draft, are in this as in other machinery, the best evidences of value and economy of expenditure. It will not be out of place to discuss the

AMOUNT OF TEAM REQUIRED.

This depends, of course, upon the nature of the soil, and the depth and width of the furrow. In heavy soils, not annually disintegrated and mellowed by the action of the frost, four horses are considered ample team for two ten inch plows. Farther north the same team will draw two eleven inch plows, and in still more northern latitudes the same team will handle with comparative ease, two twelve inch plows at more than the average depth usually plowed with single plows, though it is not unusual to see three large horses performing the work satisfactorily. This leads us to speak of the manner of

HITCHING HORSES TO GANGS.

There are three modes practiced, viz: three abreast, four abreast, and four strung out in pairs. It is not necessary to argue the proposition that the existence of any side pressure increases the draft, and that the most natural position for a team is directly in front of the load to be drawn. Were four horses to be hitched to a wagon in the manner in which it is necessary to hitch them to a Gang plow when the outside one walks in the furrow, the side draft would be perceptible by the sliding of the wheels. This side-draft is not so perceptible to the sight in a Gang plow, but its presence is seen in the increased pressure of the land-side against the uncut furrow slice, its more rapid wear, and the tendency of the end of the tongue to swing off to one side, putting upon one of the horses the added labor of holding it to its place by the pole strap. It is not a sufficient answer to say that in Gang plows the points of the shares are set so as to counteract this tendency of the tongue to swing, and that they can be set so that with either three or four horses abreast the plows would take land without the aid of the tongue. The fact remains, that a load is being hauled hitched to one side of the direct line of draft, and to whatever extent this is done it adds to the pressure on the land-side and increases the draft. It is unnecessary to speak of the other disadvantages attendant upon hitching four horses abreast; such as their uncomfortable position in hot weather, liability to calking in turning, and other injuries incident to brood mares.

SUPERIORITY OF GANG PLOWS.

We have not alluded to the superior quality of work done by the better class of Gang plows, but this has demonstrated itself to all who have seen them work. The furrows are straighter, the depth more even, and the liability to balks less. Another important advantage and saving is in the fact that some of them cut and plow corn stalks in the same operation. Their advantages are so numerous and so great that the wonder is why they have not come earlier into general use. The ease and economy with which the labor is performed, the superiority of their work, the ability lo plow double the amount in a given time when the conditions are most favorable for producing the largest yield of the coming crop, would seem to make it an implement indispensible to every well equipped farm.

HOW TO GROW OSAGE HEDGE.

An Essay read before Ellinwood Grange No. 504, March 21st, by J. E. Robe.

SELECTION OF SEED.

Select the seed as early as April 10th, put them into a sack, and throw them into a creek or pond of water, a buffalo wallow will answer.

Let them remain in the water until the sprout makes its appearance. It is not best to delay planting until all are sprouted as the sprout is very tender and easily broken off; but I would recommend planting as soon as one-tenth show the sprout. This usually requires twenty days time. When ready to plant, take the seed from the water; mix enough dry sand in with them to separate them so they can be drilled in evenly and regularly.

Select well-pulverized ground to plant in. I would recommend that the corn-marker be used instead of the plow to make the rows as a shallow mark is best. Drill so that a peck will cover 100 rods of row. Cover with pulverized earth to a depth of one or two inches Do not put a sod or clod, as all space so covered will be a failure.

CARE OF PLANTS.

After the plants commence to grow nicely, the plow and hoe should be used, and if weeds make their appearance in the rows with the plants. hand-weeding will be necessary. Thorough cultivation is needed during the month of June. To protect from frost during the winter, take the plow and throw the dirt to the plants, or take the plants up and heel them in, covering up all the wood. It is necessary to have enough pulverized dirt among the roots to prevent them from dying.

PREPARATION FOR HEDGING.

Any one desiring to set a line of hedge next spring should break his lines this spring. The width should be not less than 12 feet, and during the fall, the line should be rebroke and harrowed. Just before setting, plow very deep, and harrow again. If the plowing has been done well, the depth of pulverized soil will be about 12 inches. In breaking the line, throw from the center. In plowing the last time, throw to the center. If the line to be set is level or slightly rolling land it need not be elevated, but if inclined to basin, then it should be raised, so that water will not remain on the line after a heavy rain.

MODE OF SETTING.

I have practiced two modes of setting plants both with success. One is by the use of a spade, the other is by drawing a furrow. Great care should be taken in getting roots well covered and the earth pressed closely to the plants after setting. The larger the better. Small plants if used at all, should be set to themselves.

Plants should be set from seven to nine inches apart. The row should be cultivated the first two years, and nothing should be allowed to grow near enough the hedge to shade it. If a hog fence is desired, it will be necessary to hack the plants at the age of four years, near the ground, and to lean them paral

lel with the line. Then the hedge will thicken up and after a few years be hog proof.

The sides and top of the hedge should be sheared yearly, and not allowed to get wider than three feet, nor higher than four feet.

SOWING CLOVER SEED.

This important crop, improver and renovator of the soil, was formerly sown much earlier in the season than is now deemed expedient. There can now be no calculation made on what is called an early or late spring, and the chances are very greatly in favor, (if early sown) that a late frost will supervene and destroy the freshly germinated clover. The loss of a clover crop in the ordinary rotations of the farm, is one of the most serious which can occur, and to get the seed safely in the ground and exactly at the right time, requires the closest observation and judgment. It may be sown too early and also too late. In case of failure, a re-ploughing and re seeding of the field will become necessary, as there is no remedy for a lost clover crop.

Heavy and clean seed is always the cheapest, and six quarts to the acre is the proper quantity. Sow when there is no wind, so as to ensure even distribution.

It is surprising that Cahoon's seed-sower operated by hand, is so rarely used. It is one of the most valuable implements in the market.

Philadelphia is the largest clover seed market in the country, and large quantities are exported from this port to Europe. The best clover seed in the market is ordinarily of Pennsylvania growth.

The dry season of 1874 proved very injurious to the clover seed crop, not only reducing greatly its quantity but impairing its quality. As is always the case when the ground is sparsely covered with a cultivated crop, noxious weeds of all kinds spring up and take its place. Our best clover seed district, (the interior counties of Pennsylvania, where prime seed usually comes from) this season sends to market a very inferior article abounding in weeds, which it never pays to sow. We have not seen this season a single prime article of clover seed except a lot from Minnesota, and which will be found advertised in our columns and is free from weeds. Many of our farmers we know are very particular about their clover seed, and we would advise such to be supplied early with this superior seed.—*Practical Farmer.*

POTATOES.

I read with much interest J. T. Hartzler's experiment with potatoes, but I think he carried the thing as far to the extreme as it was possible with the 117 potatoes aggregating 1 lb. 5 oz. It is, however, of interest and value to the producing classes to go to the full length to ascertain practical results. This experiment moved me to offer you for your valuable paper the following result:

On the 21st of April, 1870, I commenced the following experiment with Early Rose potatoes. They were all treated alike in every respect, excepting their different divisions. They were planted the same day and hour, all dug August 16th. I took four potatoes, each weighing six ounces:

One planted whole which produced	..	3 lbs 7 oz
" cut into halves " "	...	4 " 7 "
" " quarters " "	...	6 " 12 "
" " 15 single eyes "	..	13 " 13 "

I then selected very small potatoes; so small that it required nine of them to make up six ounces. I planted nine whole which produced 10 lbs. 6 oz.; planted nine, cut into halves which produced 16 lbs. 7 oz.

Here I stopped, but regret that I did not proceed as I did with two larger sizes, in order to give a fuller report. Had I cut into quarters and single eyes it would have proved more satisfactory. The experiment, however, as far as it went, establishes the facts as above stated. That in every instance the largest bulk planted into a single hill the produce was the least, and the smaller the divisions the larger the product. And in every instance where the divisions were the smallest the tubers were uniformly larger; while where whole potatoes were planted the tubers were the smallest. These are facts established by this experiment. Although it may be at variance with the theories advanced by some gentlemen, it teaches us that we may as well accommodate ourselves to facts established by real results.

Allow me to throw out some suggestions on the above results. A large potato having many eyes, as a matter of course will push a proportionately large number of stalks, all requiring a certain quantity of fertilizing matter to bring the crop to perfection; this may not be within the range of the roots, and the result will be a number of small potatoes, for want of nourishment within the reach of the roots.

The prevailing theory is, that all our seeds should be selected from fully developed specimens, and this is certainly correct.

But just here the difference begins: While one may contend that only the very largest potatoes, or the largest ears of corn, etc., should be selected for seed, the question on the other hand will present itself, whether a potatoe of 2 ounces has not the same proportionate fully developed matter as one of a pound weight, and is in every way fully as proper for seed as the very largest sized, and certainly more economical, as the large has a more ready demand in market. So with corn. If the matter was chemically investigated the probable result would be that the 2 ounce potato would be composed of the same proportionate matter and as fully developed as the largest; and a seed of Indian corn grown on a 6-inch cob would be as fully developed and composed of the same proportionate matter, as a seed plucked from a 12-inch cob. It would therefore seem that it is not the mammoth size, but more the fully developed specimen seed or germ, that are the most desirable for planting. In conclusion, I will call the attention of your numerous readers to the fact that where rot makes its appearance on our potato crops that the largest always suffer more than the medium sized. However, we always feel a desire to raise the largest by a good supply of manure.

I have hastily dropped these suggestions to awaken a spirit of investigation on this and kindred questions by real experiments in the different departments of agriculture and horticulture.—*J. S. Keller, in Practical Farmer.*

TEACHING COLTS TO TROT.

The following practical suggestions upon this subject from the *Spirit of the Times*, may interest many of our readers who are horse men:

Presuming that the colt has become accustomed to the halter, and leads kindly, and stands quietly while hitched, and that he is acquainted and on friendly terms with his master, the bridle may be put on without the check-rein or other restraint. He will soon become familiar with the bit in his mouth. The next day a side-check, buckled to the surcingle, may be added,— care being taken not to draw it too tightly,—and soon thereafter an additional check rein, through guy-runners may be attached, and if not drawn to tightly the colt will soon learn that by raising the head and dropping the nose he will avoid pressure against the bit. While giving these lessons, the utmost kindness and consideration for his uneasiness should be shown him. He will come to you to have his check loosened occasionally, and should receive your caresses.

After three or four lessons of this kind, not to exceed an hour each, quietly lay the harness on him, permitting him to smell of it first. Let him feel the traces and straps against his side, flank and limbs. As soon as you are satisfied he is not afraid of it, attach diving reins to his bit, lead him around awhile, then drive him in front of you, gradually teaching him to rein to the right and left, and to stop when you command. Don't jerk or pull severely, but handle your reins with delicacy. The following day harness him by the side of an old, steady and reliable horse, drive together about half a mile, turn them often to the right and left, compel them to stop, stand and back at your command, then attach them to a sleigh or other noiseless vehicle, and in ninety-nine cases in one hundred he will go quietly and to your satisfaction. If his mouth don't get sore, have him driven every day for a week by the side of the old horse, changing sides occasionally. Light work, like the drawing of wood, muck, or manure, may enable you to utilize your time while breaking the colt to the advantage of other interests, provided that the old horse has the bulk of the load to draw.

These lessons may have consumed ten days, but your colt is now ready to drive single in the thills of your cutter, or two-wheel vehicle, with safety. Turn him to the right and left, that he may feel the thills. If he shows no evidence of fright, get in and drive him. Walk him at first, then trot him gently. Avoid exciting him; always be mild, gentle, yet firm, with him. If you have used good judgment, there will have been no need of chastisement. During these preliminary lessons he may be accustomed to the saddle, and a quiet, sensible boy may mount and sit on him in the stable or while being led. You have now given the colt much practical education. You have, not only taught him much that is useful, but by kindness and discretion you have prevented him from learning any thing vicious. You have his confidence and he delights to serve you. All vices and tricks are usually the result of fear or anger, caused by rough, unkind and unintelligent management.

All that the colt has thus far learned is essential, whatever his future calling may be, and now is the time to test his messenger qualties. You want to see him trot. Well, ask but a little, and don't expect too much. If his stride is long, his forward movements square, and he travels wide behind, with free stifle action, you have a right to hope, even if he fails to fold the knee or show you a six-minute gait. Presuming him to be an unpampered but healthy colt, eating plenty of hay with little grain, as is the case with the majority of farmers' young stock, great care should be exercised to avoid prolonged or too rigorous exertion at the outset, while his muscles are relaxed and his flesh soft.

Walk your colt about eighty rods, then jog him half a mile; coming to a smooth piece of road, urge him on at a good lively pace, (not his fastest, however,) for eighty rods, then walk him again, that the little excitement occasioned by his active exercise may subdue; then jog him another half mile; then urge him nearly to the top of his speed for eighty rods, but be very careful not to drive him to a break. Now walk him half a mile; and put him into the stable. This work has not heated his system; he is not exhausted, and if kept out of all draft of air, he needs no blankets or other special care of any kind. It has been simply a healthy and pleasant exercise, and yet he has taken his first lessons in trotting. Repeat this lesson every other day, if the weather permits,— speeding him every time at the same place,—and after a few weeks you may give him two spurts instead of one, always preceding the first with eighty or one hundred rods of sharp road work, with intermediate walking and jogging, to get his blood in circulation, and action easy and level. No horse can trot fast when first taken from the stable. When about to trot him fast, don't pull up your reins or take up the whip, or make any preliminary movements calculated to excite the colt, but bring him to his best gait very gradually. If by accident you should drive him to break, don't speak sharply, but pull him back with a slight "sawing movement," of the reins, until he catches his trot again, then steady him for some distance, until he gets settled in his stride and gets over the excitement occasioned by the break; then gradually ease up your reins, and let him go a little faster. Watch him closely, and if he gets to going too fast you had better pull him back a trifle than to permit him to go off his feet. If your neighbor, with an older or faster horse, drives up by your side, and is about to pass you, don't think of him, but keep an eye on your colt, or his ambition and your indiscretion will certainly teach him to break. Should this occur, do not, under any consideration or pretense, strike the colt. At this moment, above all others, be patient with him. If you do punish him, you can never rely on him in company afterward.

Be careful that you do not permit your colt to become a puller. In our Northern climate it will not be necessary to get the colt shod. He will not slip in snow-paths, as his hoofs are sharp, and you avoid calking. If, however, you are anxious to see a little more knee or stifle action, a set of shoes will accomplish it. Driving in winter on lightly fallen snow has a similar effect. With the approach of spring you will be able to form an intelligent opinion as regards the prospects of making a trotter of your colt, and it has cost you nothing but a little time in the experiment. The colt has increased in value from the education he has received, and there has been no interference with his plain, economical diet or growth, from excessive training.

He should have a few weeks' respite from this kind of exercise If however, you have any light farm work to do, and need his services, don't hesitate to put him at it; only be careful not to draw him hard or fatigue him.

Keep him in good spirits, cheerful and always growing. If you can find time to train him a little between spring time and haying, then rest him till fall, and finally take him up again a few weeks before your county fair,— you may be able to scoop the purse from more pretentious rivals, and eventually treble the value of your horse by thus ascertaining his trotting qualities.

The state tax last year was six mills. This year it will be five.

Patrons of Husbandry.

LIST OF DONATIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Commencing April 5th and ending April 10th, 1875, from the Relief Department of Patrons of Husbandry of Kansas.

	CASH ON HAND	$2,301.47
	RECEIPTS:	
April 5,—	Of Rural Grange No. 2, Indiana,	1.00
"	Of Roundtree Grange No. 764, Ill.,	12.00
April 6,—	Freight returned on two sks corn,	2.30
April 7,—	Of Houston and Herbermont Granges, Ind.,	2.00
April 8,—	Of the State of Kansas, for freight, on Vouchers and R. R. receipts	555.00
"	Of Otter Creek Grange No. 62, Ill.,	4.00
	For seed corn,	8.00
	Total,	$2,885.77
	DISBURSEMENTS,	
April 5,—	Paid freight on car to Johnson Co.,	$ 84.00
"	Paid freight on bl. to Ottawa Co.,	.70
"	Paid freight on 4 sks of corn for McCorkle,	2.30
"	Paid E. J. Dodge, on relief for Barton Co.,	10.00
"	Paid freight not before charged,	15.58
"	Paid for transfer of car at Atchison.	1.00
April 6,—	Paid for postage,	3.00
April 7,—	Paid freight on cars to Barton Co., for E. J. Dodge, as per order of A. P. Collins,	214.75
"	Paid on bill of C. W. Cross. for Rock Creek Tp.,	141.00
April 8.—	Paid for transfer of car at Atchison,	1.00
"	Paid freight on car to Butler Co.,	79.35
"	Paid freight on car to Franklin Co.,	87.40
"	Paid W. P. Popenoe, to purchase corn,	1,500.00
"	Paid for car of selected seed corn, 668, C., B. & Q., and cost of exchange,	245.00
April 9,—	Paid for switching car 668, C., B. & Q., for Osage Co.,	2.00
April 10—	Paid for telegraphing,	1.00
	Total,	2,888 08
	Balance on hand,	497.69

RELIEF GOODS RECEIVED SINCE APRIL 5, '75

April 5,— One car of corn for Johnson county.
" 2 sks corn for Milton Birch, charges $2.30.
April 6,— One box for Clay county.
" One bl. for Ottawa county.
April 7,— 7 bbls. and 2 sks sundries for Ottawa county.
" 3 cars seed for Barton county, E. J. Dodge, charges $214.75, paid as per order of A. P. Collins.
" 1 box sundries from Central Relief Committee, for Norton county.
April 9,— 1 car seed corn, 668 C., B. & Q., for Osage and Shawnee counties.

RELIEF GOODS DISBURSED.

April 5,— Johnson county one car of corn, A. Miller.
" 2 sks corn. delivered to Milton Birch, and charges paid.
April 6,— 4 sks corn from Alerton, sent to J. McCorkle, Harvey county.
April 7,— Ottawa county, 1 bl. relief goods, D D Hoag.
" Clay county, 1 box relief goods, J. L. Starkweather.
" Ottawa county, 7 bbl. and 2 sks. of sundries, D. D. Hoag.
" Norton county, 1 box mdse. M. J. Fitzpatrick.
" One car seed corn, one-half to Osage County and one-half to Shawnee County.
April 9,— 3 cars seed for Barton county, delivered to E J Dodge.
April 10—Goods on hand: One box for Susan Stone; 4 sks corn for E Chilson and 4 sks wheat at Burton & Pierson's mill.

JNO. G. OTIS,
Kansas State Agent. P of H.

COUNTY GRANGES.

BY THE STATE LECTURER.

Being instructed at the State Grange to obtain information concerning County Grange, I now report. As this conducting link between the State and Subordinate Granges has now been approved by the votes of the delegates of over twenty seven states, representing, over a million Patrons, we cheerfully submit to the will of the great majority; especially as that article of the Constitution of the National Grange was so unanimously approved by the Kansas State Grange in 1874. As Iowa first felt the necessity of the Pomona Grange, their officers seem to understand its objects and plans best and it will pay our officers to send for the constitution of a Pomona Grange, a complete set of blanks, etc. We expect to receive still farther information from the National Grange.

Their constitution is quite complete, and full, while that of Kansas is not, and hence, we shall have to draw our information from other sources. The intention of the Pomona Grange is to form a Grange of a higher degree that shall strengthen, and aid the Subordinate Granges, and whose initiation, when properly conducted, cannot fail to broaden the understanding, and cultivate the moral and intellectual natures of all who receive it. The knowledge and culture there gained will advance the best interests of the Order. This Grange is aimed to take especial charge of the educational and business interests of the Order, and must be made social and attractive by the co-mingling of the brothers and sisters as united laborers for the good of the order, and yet it is so arranged that any fourth degree member may visit and enjoy many advantages of the County Grange. Iowa requires a suitable room, all the scenery, paraphrenalia, regalia, jewels, printing, blanks, etc., etc. incident to a well regulated model Grange which shall take the lead and be an example to all the rest of the Subordinate Granges. Experience has shown that such a Grange costs money, and that it should be paid in advance as is required by the long experiences of all secret organizations, and their membership fee is $5 each; monthly dues 25cents per month. Then they will have money to transact some business, provide a suitable room, fuel, pay their agents salary, and see that the county lecturer can afford to instruct the Subordinate Granges. That which is worth nothing costs nothing, is a true business maxim, and we predict that all counties that organize with our minimum constitutional fees having only about thirty members to pay dues; for the first three months $7.50 second, more or less, and provided only for dry business operations, will at the end of the year have less ladies and less dues. And not getting a fund on hand when they organize, they will degenerate into the same state that many of our county councils have and from nearly the same cause. Had our Subordinate Granges been similarly formed, many of them would have been dead long ago. Pay a good membership in advance, organize thoroughly, and systematically, require strict discipline and modle work, then let matron and husbandman work with equal zeal, much being done by committee work between meetings. Start right, keep right, or do not start at all. If you cannot bid good bye to the loose *regime* of dry business council and are not willing to make the county Grange the best and highest in every sense in the county, wait till you are ready.

One of the requirements of all applications for membership is a thorough knowledge of the unwritten work of the four subordinate degrees, and that your character in the county be such that you will pass the ballot; three votes rejecting, either charter member or the regular applicant for initiation. Pomona Granges are organized similarly to Subordinate Granges. Each member is required to have the following credentials:

To the officers and Members of————

Pomona Grange No.——

This is to certify, that I————am a regularly elcteed delegate (Master or Past-Master etc) from———Grange, No.———and desire to become a member of your Grange, If found worthy, I promise to be governed by the rules and usages of the Order. I have not previously applied for membership in this or any other jurisdiction, (Signature)

I hereby certify, That———— has been duly elected by Subordinate Grange, No.—— and that this Grange is in good standing with the State Grange, and clear of the books of the same. ————Secretary.

{SEAL}

We the undersigned committee, appointed to examine————as to——knowledge of the Subordinate Degrees, would report that we find———— in the same, and recommend————

{ Examining committee.

Past Master, should certify that they served out the full term for which they were elected, and Masters or Past-masters, then everything will stand on record correctly in writing and no errors will be committed.

The officer who organizes, must be in possession of correct blanks, ritual, and we submit the following plan which has been approved by the proper officers.

Examination of applicants in the four degrees, and their credentials.

Sighning application for membership, and collection of fees by the deputy.

3d, Balloting for applicants.

4th, Administering obligation, and explaining unwriten work.

4th, Explaining duties of officers and election by ballot, unless all are perfectly satisfied with a previous election.

6th, Installation; Opens the Grange in Fifth Degree: 7th, Instructions of the officers in the regular initiation, business, etc.

The regular closing.

Now the Deputy must have time to perfect himself in the work, be furnished with rituals, the proper report to the State Grange, hence all applications now sent into the Secretaries office amount to nothing.

We shall probably be ready to organize Granges best after we have had some experience, and have still further right and have kept right.

Ottawa, Kansas, April 6, 1875.

WHAT HAS THE GRANGE DONE?—From a speech published in one of our exchanges we make the following extract: It has caused business to be conducted on a more economical basis, and consequently has cheapened all goods bought for cash. It has brought producer and consumer nearer together. It has inaugurated in public sentiment a revolution in favor of a cash system. It will take years to complete it, but that revolution has commenced and millions have already been saved to the people. It has inspired the whole agricultural world with a spirit of economy. It has already begun to elevate farming as a profession and has drawn farmers nearer each other, socially and for business purposes. It has given impetus to intelligent farming everywhere. It has sown seeds that will ripen into a rich harvest of prosperity for the farmers, and consequently for all classes. It has inaugerated a reformation that will not cease until virtue and honesty once more bear sway where ignorance and corruption hold high carnival. It has put three millions of farmers to thinking. Are not these achievements enough for so short a time?

In answering an Advertisement found in these columns, you will confer a favor by stating you saw it in the KANSAS FARMER.

A Man of a Thousand.

A CONSUMPTIVE CURED.—When death was hourly expected from Consumption, all remedies having failed, accident led to a discovery whereby Dr. H. James cured his only child with a preparation of Cannabis Indica. He now gives this recipe free on receipt of two stamps to pay expences. There is not a single symptom of consumption that it does not dissipate—Night sweats, Irritation of the nerves, Difficult Expectoration, Sharp Pains in the Lungs, Nausea at the Stomach, Inaction of the Bowels, and Wasting of the Muscles. Address Craddock & Co., 1032 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa., giving name of this paper.

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Gov't Printing Office, Washington, April 23, 1873.

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RECENT TESTIMONY.

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BITTERS, BOGUS DOCTORS, AND LOTTERIES.

There is no stronger passion in the lower story of human nature, as we have heretofore remarked, than the desire to get something for nothing. This human trouble fills our jails and penitentiaries, with victims who are afflicted with this weakness in its intensest form. It is no wish of ours to sermonize on the depravity of human nature, or to repeat wise saws long since worn thread-bare with repetition. We have before us some letters from manufacturers of patent Bitters who want us to advertise them, and say that they are medicinal in their character, and good to have in the family. "The spirit moves us" to say, that of all cheap villainies for the plunder of diseased mortals, we think the whole list of Bitters exceeds in plain and unadorned swindling, even Lotteries and Bogus Doctors.

These compounds from Hostetter's, through the whole list to Dr. Walker's Vinegar Bitters, contain a large per cent. of alcohol. Many of them are poor whisky put up in log cabin bottles, with a fine display of printers ink and recommendations of wonderful cures. Acids and poisons of all kinds, are important ingredients, giving these healthful beverages body and tone. If tanglefoot whisky is necessary for any purposes whatever, it is probably safer to take it under its proper names, bourbon, rye, &c., &c. About the only recommendation we can give to any of the Bitters family, is, that as slow poisons, they outrank common forty-rod whisky. As an excuse for respectable temperance men, who would not touch common whisky, these Bitters afford a convenient subterfuge, and enable men to drink all the poor whisky they want under the guise of a medicinal preparation for the purification of the blood.

No, we don't think the FARMER a good medium for advertising Bitters.

Along with the class of humbugs above mentioned, comes that of the hundreds of doctors who are advertising themselves as specialists for the cure of private diseases, offering to forward medicines of the most villainous character by mail. Unfortunately they secure the use of the columns of the most respectable papers of the country, and are thus enabled to reach families with this worse than pernicious quackery. There are among these scamps, many who begin their advertisements with Rev. Cline, or Peabody, or some other fictitious name, having discovered a remedy for "nervousness and debility," offer to send the secret free. The applicant, of course, learns of a medicine that costs five dollars, &c.

This whole class of humbug doctors, address themselves to young men, who should shun them as they would a deadly enemy.

We now approach the last, but not least, of these easy methods by which many sharp, unprincipled people make fortunes upon the credulity of the people. There may be some lotteries honestly conducted, but all are based upon the mythical principle, of giving something for nothing; all are simply gambling games of chance, enabling the managers to reap a rich harvest from those who are so foolish as to take nineteen chances of failure to one of success.

We have just received from the Texas Mutual Benefit Association five tickets in its grand scheme for making everybody rich. Five hundred thousand tickets are to be issued at 50 cents each, prizes ranging from twenty-five thousand dollars, down to one dollar. The ticket says this drawing is "for public improvements." We suppose we are to give the thing a "puff" for the five tickets which were sent us. Here's at it. The Mutual Benefit Association, bears the unmistakable "ear marks" of a very thin fraud. It belongs to that large class of Gift Concerts and mutual benefit loteries which are expected to deceive people by a high sounding name. The concerts and drawings seldom ever take place and when they do, it is only to convince the ticket-holders that they have again made fools of themselves in the hope of getting something for nothing. Lotteries whether they are called charity concerts or mutual benefit associations, are gambling humbugs arousing false expectations to enable people to shirk honest labor. If this is not enough to pay for the five tickets sent us in this Texas humbug we will give another installment next week.

State News.

The Ft. Scott *Sentinel*, reports that corn in that section will be planted a month earlier than last year, which will place it out of the reach of chinch bugs, and that the young grasshoppers, though numerous, are doing no harm.

The Pleasanton *Journal* says the click, click of the corn planter was heard in Linn county as early as week before last. How is that, friends in Illinois and Ohio?

More oat meal is now sold in Manhattan in one month, than was sold in twelve, three years ago. The *Nationalist* advises its friends to buy it, for it makes brain.

Rev. A. J. White, a graduate of the State Agricultural College, has been elected pastor of the Christian Church at Manhattan.

The M. E. Conference at Manhattan passed a resolution, that a white man is as good as an Indian, and that prohibition for the protection of white men is as reasonable as for his red brethren.

There are five steam flouring mills in Osage county—one at Burlingame, one at Osage City, one at Lyndon, one at Carbondale, and one at Arvonia; and another one is now in course of erection at Quenemo. The aggregate capital invested in the milling business in that county is about $85,000.

As reported by the Peabody *Gazette*, winter wheat looks *well* in Marion county, and green grass, and peach buds ten days ago, attracted attention.

In Nemaha county, according to the Seneca *Courier*, a heavy rain fell on Tuesday night of last week, the first of any consequence since September. The ground is now in fine condition for seeding, and the prospect now is that a larger acreage will be planted this year than for some time past.

Reports come to the Columbus *Courier*, from all parts of Cherokee county, that the prospects for a good wheat crop are very flattering.

The *Courier* says grasshoppers are hatching in myriads in Cherokee county, but are doing little damage.

At the Zinc Works at Wier City, Cherokee county, a steam road wagon is employed, which, attached to wagons hauls eight tons of coal, moving gracefully at a speed usual to a good team of fast stepping horses.

Elk river, Howard county, was, last week, booming, more water in it than for a year before.

The *Ledger* says, wheat, in Howard county, does not look any better than it did last year; that would be all but impossible; but it looks as well, and there are twice as many acres of it growing. And the Solomon City *Gazette* says the wheat never looked in better condition in Ottawa county, than it does at present.

At the annual meeting of the Sedgwick county agricultural society held at Wichita on the 5th inst., Wm. Mathewson was chosen president, John Kelly vice president, R. L. West secretary and James H. Dagner treasurer.

If any one doubts the growing of blue grass in the Arkansas Valley, says the Wichita *Eagle*, we ask him to look inside the enclosure of Wm. Grieffensteen, J. R. Mead, J C. Fraker and others of our citizens. The grass from the seed sown a year ago looks splendid and in the instances named solid sods are formed.

The Blue Rapids *Times* reports the heaviest snow storm of the winter on Wednesday the 7th inst., and says it was worth its weight in gold to the wheat fields.

The *Reporter* counted sixty-five different varieties of wild flowers growing in the vicinity of Ellsworth last year, and says they are now modestly peeping up all over the prairies.

The Kansas Pacific Railway has contributed to the relief of the destitute people of the State, in the form of free transportation of supplies, about $25,000 The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad estimate the contribution of that road at $35,000.

The croakers are blue this morning. A glorious rain fell all of last night. The ground is thoroughly saturated and cisterns are full. The young grasshopper sits upon the ragged edge of a stone pile or projecting stump, and sighs for the good old dry times when he could bask in the sun and attack the farmer's corn. In fact we have had a splendid rain, and it has done an immense amount of good. Thus singeth the poet of the Lawrence *Standard*.

The Burlington *Patriot* says Mr. H. C. Wilcox, of Detroit, Michigan, has lately purchased the Gwin farm near that place, and taken possession of the same. He brought with him a coop of some dark Brahma fowls and three Plymouth Rock fowls, on which he paid $25 express charges from Detroit. The Plymouth Rock fowls are a very fine breed and took the first premium at Detroit and Buffalo.

The Iola *Register* remarks that the late rains have started the grass to growing nicely, and it will not be long now until the cattle will refuse to eat hay. As a general thing they are in much better condition than they were last spring.

In the District Court for Anderson county Judge Bassett has decided, upon an agreed case, that it is constitutional to issue county warrants under one of the relief laws passed by the State Legislature last winter. This decision is understood to be in conflict with the opinion given by Attorney General Randolph.

Col. Wm. Phillips, in his History of Kansas, written years ago, wrote down one of the streams of Kansas thusly: "Merodesin." That was before the revival of spelling matches.

Blue grass is pronounced by the Junction City *Union* to be a success in Kansas. After the drought and grasshoppers of last year, every one supposed their grass was completely killed out. Appearances justified this conclusion. This spring it is coming up from the roots, stronger and more vigorous than ever. The faint hearted will take courage; Kansas is as good a State as there is in the Union.

The recent rise in the Missouri river carried away large areas of land on the western side, in Atchison county. In some instances, whole fields were washed away from single farms.

A well known painter at Emporia, was discovered last week to be a burglar of the first water, and was arrested, having in his possession a large amount of stolen goods, and a select stock of tools in his line.

The Great Bend *Register* says grass in Barton county is growing finely at the rate of nearly an inch per day. Since the first of April, the new grass has been of sufficient growth to fatten cattle and other stock rapidly.

D. B. Powers, a gentleman of large capital, is making arrangements to purchase a farm near Salina, whereon he proposes to raise some of the best blooded stock in the country.

The Kansas editorial party arrived at Galveston Saturday evening and became guests of the city. They were called upon by Mayor Fulton and many prominent citizens Sunday, and were driven around the city, and Monday were treated to oyster bake, chowder, etc. A speech of welcome, was made by ex-Governor Lubbeck, and responses by several members of the party.

The New York *Tribune* recently contained an article on the water power of Kansas in which special mention was made of the Republican, Smoky Hill, Solomon and Saline as being reservoirs of immense capacity, maintaining their flow a greater portion of the year than the streams of any other country. It believes that Kansas can be made one of our foremost manufacturing States. Not one west of Massachusetts equals it in permanent and valuable water powers.

The New York *Commercial Bulletin*, in an article on the beef supply, says: "The condition of Kansas cattle this season, both in weight and flavor, is also better than last year's average grades, and the yield of tallow has averaged ten pounds more to the bullock."

Dr. Joseph Speck, a well known citizen of the State, died at Wyandotte on the 2d inst. He was assistant Surgeon of the 1st Kansas during the greater part of the war.

Articles of association of the Kansas State Agricultural society, have been filed with the secretary of the State.

The board of directors are: M. E. Hudson, Charles Robinson, F. H. Dumbauld, Wm. Sims, W. P. Popenoe, L. T. Stewart, A. P. Collins, S. N. Wood, W. H. Fletcher, G. W. Glick, D. B. Long, Levi Wilson, E. R. Halderman.

At a meeting of the board of directors, M. E. Hudson was elected president, S. N. Wood secretary, and E R. Halderman treasurer.

The Wichita *Eagle* says that millions of tons of gypsum underlie that section of Kansas. This is true of very many sections of our State. A factory for utilizing these immense deposits has been established at Blue Rapids, Marshall county. The gypsum deposits of Marshall, Washington, Republic and other counties in northwestern Kansas are inexhaustible.

A new coal company has been organized at Burlingame, Osage county, to work a mine about two miles south of that place, said to be the thickest vein of coal in the State. The company will built a switch railroad track to the mine, and propose to take out eight car loads per day.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad has carried this winter over its line four hundred cars, on which not one cent has been charged

Fewer cattle have died this season in Kansas than last year or the year before.

At Concordia, last week Monday, at about 5 p m the mercury stood at 82° above zero. During Tuesday night, it went down to 40.

There is a large colony of French people settled in Cloud county in this state.

The rain on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, was quite general throughout the state.

The Concordia *Empire* thus discourtheth: "To sum up for the first three days of this week, we have had high wind and low wind, dust "till you can't rest," a glorious rain. pelting hail storm, a furious snow storm, almost summer heat, and a decided chilliness of atmosphere. How is that? O, Kansas is the great unapproachable."

There are at the present time one hundred and twenty-five military prisoners at Fort Leavenworth, and it is proposod that they shall be employed to construct the state road from the Penitentiary to Leavenworth City.

G. A. Runyan of Spring township, Butler county, killed forty-five snakes on the 25th ult.; and it was not a good day for snakes.

John Stalter of Rock township, Cowley county has a flock of nine hundred merino sheep.

The *Gazette*, poetically says, the fall wheat in Butler county has emerged from the winter in all the greenness and verdency of youth, and promises an abundant harvest.

And the Winfield *Courier*, remarks that the prospect for a bountiful wheat crop never was better in any country, than it is at the present writing in Cowley county.

Geo. W. Ballou, of Grouse creek, Cowley, had a yoke of oxen burned up in a prairie fire one day last week, and several more head barely escaped.

Marking progress in Franklin county, the Ottawa *Republican* reports that the large cheese factory, which has been so long in contemplation in the mind of Mr. Bossiere, of Silkville, is about to become a reality, that operations at the silk farm are soon to begin and that that enterprise will be speedily rushed through to completion.

The works of the Austin dam company, Neosho county, were recently damaged by a freshet, to the amount of $3,000.

The Chanute *Times* and the Osage Mission *Journal* record the fact of the hatching of myriads of grasshoppers in Neosho county.

NcPherson and Saline counties will plant large fields of broom-corn this season. It has proven to be one of the most profitable crops.

The new water-power mill at Junction city is about completed, at a cost of from $7,000 to $10,000.

And the Olatha *Mirror* says; The grasshoppers are hatching out thick as fleas, and will soon be hobbling all over Johnson county.

A Philadelphia firm has shipped 120 bbls of Early Rose potatoes to the relief society of Butler county.

The Girard *Press*, Crawford county, also puts in its testimony thus: From every portion of the country we hear reports that some young grasshoppers are hatching out. The farmers are not alarmed, however, and are pressing their spring work with the utmost vigor. All unite in saying that as soon as the young hoppers can fly they will leave us, and until then they will do but little damage.

The Emporia *News* says: "On the 1st, of April, Mr. Price, one of the leading stock dealers of Lyon county, started his cattle to go out on the prairie, 22 miles from Council Grove, and 30 miles away from any hay or grain. He had plenty of hay, but says, the cattle which have been on the range out where he has now driven his, are in excellent condition, and seem to have done better than if they had been kept up. He sends his large herd out there with perfect confidence that they will do first rate on the prairie.

Among the few instances reported of the bad wintering of the wheat is the case of W. F. Baker, of Lyon county, who sowed 90 acres of fall wheat last year, and only some 30 acres are doing well. The rest he has plowed up and put in oats.

General News.

San Francisco had a fire on the 8h, at which some half dozen persons were killed and $500,000 worth of property destroyed.

Operatives are still striking, at Pottsville Pa., Fall River, Mass, and Hazelton, Pa.

At Omaha, the number of emigrants westward-bound at the present season is reported to be unprecedented; 9,300 have left since March 1st, and over 1,000 were sent out on a special train on the 9th, inst.

The grain inspector here has been suspended from his office, in accordance with the facts submitted to the Senate by the Senatorial committee appointed by the legislature of Illinois, to examine his books, and his chief deputy clerk, Porter, has temporarily assumed the duties of his office.

The third annual sale of short-horn cattle from the Linwood herd, owned by James H. Foodman, occurred at Dexter Park, Chicago, on the 9th. Among the sales were the following most notable: Illustrious the Third, to H. Pearce & Son, of Tolula, Ill., $1,000; Third Solan of Linwood, to Geo. Uttley, of Neponsett, Ill., $1,100; Eighty Mozurka, of Linwood, to Ed. Iles, of Springfield Illinois, $1,600; Miss. Witey, to A Crane, of Durham Park, Kansas, $1,200; Orphan Girl, to Geo. Uttley, $1,650; Lady Fairy, to A. W. & W. Pickerell, of Mechanicsburg, Iowa, $1,000; Queen Charlotte 16th, to Geo. Uttley, $900.

The above sales were cows and heifers. Among the bulls the only remarkable sale was of a Kissinger breed, Plate, to Ed. Iles, for $2,200. In all, thirty-seven cows were sold, at an average price of $592, and the bulls averaging $715. Total amount of the sales are $54,662.

In the poligomy case now on trial at Beaver, Utah, Judge Breman charges that polygomy commatted prior to 1862 is punishable new, that bipamy is continuous crime, and that the statute of limitation does not apyly. This is directly opposite to the charge of Judge Emerson.

President Grant is to atttend the centennial celebration of the battle of Lexington, on the 18th inst.

Major C. B. Comstock, of the corps of engineers, of the U. S. army, in addition to his present duties, has been detailed to report upon the depth and width of channel secured and maintained from time to time in improving the South Pass of the Mississippi river under the plan of Jas. B. Eads.

Charles Tappan, the last surviving member of the well-know anti slavery family, died in Washington on the 8th, aged 90.

The railroad pro rata bill has been defeated in the N. Y. Assembly to-day.

Prof. H. B. Norton, of this State, has accepted a position in the State Normal School of California, and will leave Kansas in June next.

The Burlingame *Chronicle* says that the wheat crop in that vicinity has been quite seriously damaged, especially that plantrd late. The recent rains, however, have had a tendency to revive the partly injured plants, and there are hopes of a fair average crop.

The floods from the breaking up of the ice in the eastern streams continued into April. At Williamsport, Pa., a ten foot rise on the 1st carried down immense quantities of saw logs. At Lewisburg the people were driven from their houses. Grand river, Michigan, broke up at the same date. One wooden and four iron bridges were carried away at Lansing, involving a loss of $50,000.

Labor troubles have again broken out in the east. Operatives are on strikes at Great Falls, N. H., Lowell and Newburyport, Mass., and at Pottsville, Pa.

Governor Pennington, of Dakota, now in Washington, states that a treaty with the Indians for the Black Hills country will be accomplished within thirty days.

Depredations of organized bands of robbers from Mexico have of late increased in frequency and atrocity to an extent which threatens the depopulation of the Lower Rio Grande country in Texas.

Isaac T Gibson, agent for the Osages, advertises for bids for breaking 3,000 acres of land, and the hauling from the timber of 75,900 rails and stakes. Why does he not induce the civilized red-men to do their own breaking and hauling?

The Ohio State Grange will apply the loan from the National Grange and a further sum of $5,000 from the State Grange to furthering the work of the State Purchasing Agent.

The Chase county (Mo.) *Courier* wonders why the State Grange cannot make its ex-Treasurer, M. Quisenberry, disgorge some of the $30,000 that the he embezzled and apply the money to relieving the necessities of suffering Patrons in the State, instead of begging alms of the Legislature.

Four or five bridges were swept away by the ice and high water on the Elk Horn river Nebraska by recent freshets.

Notes of the denomination of $5 of the Traders' National, First National and Merchants' National of Chicago, are being redeemed rapidly, owing to the existance of well executed counterfeits.

Reports at the office of the Illinois state board of agriculture from the fall wheat growing districts, though not yet complete, are all to the tenor that the crop looks well, and though not as thick on the ground as in some years past, at this date, is yet strong and hardy.

A terrific storm visited the vicinity of Little Rock, Ark., on the 7th inst. Three miles below the city the tornado uprooted trees, unroofed houses, and played havoc generally. A Mrs. Jones was killed, and her two daughters were seriously injured. Seven houses were destroyed.

The Independence *Tribune* reports a larger breadth of corn ground plowed and more corn in, this season, than in any former year at this date.

The Scotia Iron Company, of St Louis, has made a sale of 7,500 tons of charcoal iron to the following parties: Pennsylvania steel-works, Harrisburg 3,000 tons; Joliet Iron and Steel company, 3,500 tons; Bethlehem Iron campany, Pa., 1,000 tons.

On the 6th inst., a whirl-wind, about 100 feet wide, blowing in a northeasterly direction, struck the Platte River bridge, in Schuyler, Neb., lifted four spans thereof from their places, dropping them in the river, and leaving nothing but the piers. Several houses on the south side were blown down. Damages estimated at $20 000.

The existing amount of outstanding legal tenders is $379 226,900.

The president has appointed J. Madison Wells surveyor of customs at New Orleans, and C W Ringold appraiser of merchandise at the same place.

Foreign News.

The amount of gold exported from Melbourne Australia, including New Zealand gold exported via Melbourne, during the year 1874, exclusive of the month of December, was 914,043 ounces. The value, in round numbers, was $18,000,000. Since the year 1831 there has been a steady falling off in the exports.

Fifty thousand dollars in specie was shipped from London to New York on the 6th.

A report that the emperor of Brazil proposes to abdicate is untrue.

The government of Spain has decided to send 15,000 soldiers to Cuba.

Fourteen officers in a body recently abandoned the army of Don Carlos.

The French government in anticipation of coming events, has sent instructions to its consuls to summon for the last time all citizens abroad liable to military service to have their names registered at the various consulates

King Alfonso has already on his hands a serious conflict with his ministry and with the professors in the National University.

In regard to the U. S. Centennial Exhibition, the French Minister of Commerce informs Minister Washburne that the French government cannot remain indifferent to the grand occasion at Philadelphia. He says; "My predecessor decided that it was necessary for France to participate, because he was persuaded that the exhibition would result in the development of French relations abroad."

Cardinal Manning opened the Cabille College at Kensington, on the 9th, with an address, in which he said he believed the Catholic church was approaching a contest the most fiery for three hundred years.

Nearly 14,000 Sunday scholars and teachers were present at a special service for their benefit, conducted by Messrs. Moody and Sankey, at Victoria Hall, Liverpool, on the 24th ult.

During the stallion show in Paris on the 5th, Goldsmith's Abdallah was instantly killed while going around the track. He was met by his full brother, John Bright, and the shaft of his sulky entered his breast and came out near the top of the shoulder, causing death in a few minutes. His loss is greatly deplored, as he was considered one of the best horses in the United States. He was valued at $30,000.

General Concha late Captain-General of Cuba, has addressed a petition to the King of Spain accusing General Jovellar, his predecessor in the Captain-Generalcy, and the new Minister of War at Madrid, of being the cause of the lack of discipline in the Spanish army in Cuba; also censuring the conduct of General Jovellar as Minister of War.

The Virginia State Senate the other day by a vote of 24 to 9, adopted a resolution expelling State Senator G. W. Graham for alleged complicity in the sale of a naval cadetship.

Colonel Frobel the government engineer is about to resume his survey of the rivers along the proposed line of the Great Western and Atlantic water-route; His report will indicate a singularly favorable water communication connecting the Mississippi River with the Atlantic Ocean, commencing at Cairo, Ill., and ending at Darien, Ga. The entire distance is nearly 1,000 miles, 900 of which are navigable rivers. Only 100 miles of artificial water-ways are therefore required, and no engineering difficulties are presented.

Gen. Sheridan has gone to New Orleans on account of the Mexico Texas troubles.

The President has appointed A. C. Barstow, of Rhode Island, to be a member of the Board of Indian Peace Commissioners, under an act approved April 10, 1875.

The French government has issued a decree prohibiting the importation of American potatoes in sacks or barrels in which they had been packed. This is done to provide against the introduction of the Colorado beetle.

The infant emperor of China is said to be extremely wretched in his new exaltation, which separates him from his companions and parents forever. It is announced that he will continue in mourning three years.

EXPLANATIONS ARE IN ORDER.

We take the following from the *American Agriculturist*. We believe much exaggeration will follow the short comings of Kansas relief agents. It is at best a most thankless task to solicit and to disburse goods for the relief of the destitute. Doubtless many who have performed such onerous work with the purest of motives, and with the greatest faithfulness, have been distrusted and have received little but censure and reproach for their good services. Yet there have been many impostors to whom strictures like the following might be well applied:

"Mean enough to steal the cents from a dead pauper's eyes," has been used to express

THE HIGHTH OR DEPTH OF MEANNESS,

but there are people in Kansas meaner than that; they steal bread from their starving, and coal from their freezing fellows. There is some one at Holden, Kansas, actually mean enough to trade on the sufferings of the people to carry on a swindle. We have in hand two letters received by two of our friends in this city, which set forth in the most harrowing manner, the sufferings of the writer's wife and children for want of food and fuel. The recipient of one letter was so affected as to send some money. These letters are both dated Holden, Kansas, are written in the same hand, and one is precisely in wording and bad spelling the copy of the other, but one letter is signed B. Boyd, and the other H. Brown, in the same hand. Here is evidently a swindle of the meanest kind. Holden is too small a place to have its population given in the Gazetteer, and no doubt the postmaster knows personally every one who gets his letters there. If a fellow comes for letters for H. Brown or B. Boyd, he should not be allowed to have them, as either one or the other of these names is assumed for swindling purposes, and the law makes it the duty of the postmasters to refuse such. The rascal if caught should be kept on a diet of grasshoppers and be made to read his letters before each meal.

RESOLUTIONS FROM CAPITOL GRANGE.

The following resolutions were adopted by Capital Grange, at its last meeting:

Resolved, That Capital Grange is opposed to the organization of County, or Fifth degree Granges. And,

Resolved, That Capital Grange protests against the organization of such Granges and refuses to send delegates thereto.

Poultry.

THE WESTERN NEW YORK POULTRY SHOW.

What Mecca is to the devout Mussulman, Buffalo is the poultry fancier. Every one expects to make a pilgrimage thither some time in his life. It may be asked what there is in the Buffalo Show that makes it so important an affair. Well, several things. First, it is a kind of International Show. The leading fanciers in the Cannadian provinces are there as exhibitors. Secondly, it is emphatically an Inter-State Show; nearly all the prominent breeders east of Indiana are there as competitors. Thirdly, the American Poultry Association, which embraces most of the poultrymen in the States and Canada, hold their meetings at Buffalo, in connection with the exhibitions of the Western New York Poultry Society. Fourthly, the above considerations make it the best place in the United States to meet and form the acquaintance of poultrymen. All matters of importance to the fraternity at large are brought up and discussed at these meetings. The most important of all these questions is the formation and adoption of a Standard which shall be recognized as a guide in breeding and judging poultry. So it may easily be shown why the Buffalo Show is so interesting to fanciers.

The show was a grand affair. The entries amounted to 1265, and the number, but for the severity of the weather, would have reached at least 1500. Specimens are entered and judged singly here, which is different from other shows in the country, where they are entered and judged in pairs or trios

In this exhibition, as in all others, the Asiatic class, including the Brahmas, Light and Dark, and all the Cochins, constituted the leading feature in point of numbers. In this class there were 201 entries. Of light Brahmas there were some of the finest specimens we have yet seen. In markings alone they were no better than we had seen; but taking markings, style, ond size together they were superior. Of dark Brahmas the showing was fine, and and the best specimens excelled in penciling any we had seen before, but only in this particular. Among so many fine birds is a difficult task to make the awards, though after they were made, there was a pretty general acquiescence, and no bad feeling was manifested,

The judging is done differently here from most other shows. Each fowl is judged by the standard, and is rated according to the number of points of excellence it possesses. The standard of absolute excellence or perfection for any variety is 100 points The comb, beak, head, wattles. &c., count so many points; the plumage, wings, tail, breast, legs, feet, &c., so much, until the whole fowl is gone over.

The scale of points is differently arranged for the different breeds, but the aggregate number is the same for each, and always is 100. For an illustration of the method of judging, let us take a White Leghorn pullet. The perfect bird according to the standard must have. *Beak*, yellow, rather long and stout. *Comb*, bright red, large, single, and drooping to one side; serrated, and free from side sprigs. *Head*, short and deep. *Eyes*, large and full; iris, red or bay. *Ear-lobe*, pure opaque white, rather pendant, thin fitting close to the head, smooth and free from wrinkles. *Wattles* bright red, thin, and rounded on the lower edge. *Neck*, long and graceful. *Breast*, full and round. *Body*, deep, broader in front than rear. *Wings*, large and well tucked up. *Tail*, large and full, carried very upright, feathers broad. *Thigs*, rather long and slender. *Legs*, bright yellow *Plumage*, pure white, the more free from yellow tinge the better. *Carriage*, upright and pleasing.

The numerical standard is then made out as follows:

Symmetry	15
Size	10
Comb	12
Ear-lobe	18
Beak	5
Breast	5
Legs	5
Tail	5
Plumage	15
Condition	10
	100

Judges are furnished with a card ruled and printed as follows:

	STANDARD.	OFF.	SCORE.
Symmetry	15	1	
Size	10	0	
Comb	12	0	
Ear-lobe	18	6	
Beak	5	2	
Breast	5	0	
Legs	5	0	
Tail	5	1	
Plumage	15	0	
Condition	10	4	
	100	14	86

In an examination of the pullet she will be found to be not perfect in symmetry and will be marked one off. She is full size for a Leghorn, and there will be nothing off. Her comb is supposed to be perfect and there is nothing off. Her ear-lobe is faulty, and she will lose, say, six points off; and so on to the end, each part undergoing examination separately, until all have been scrutinized and the "offs" recorded, when her defects will aggregate, say, 14 points, "off" making her score 86 points. By the rules of this show, this pullet, though she might be the best in the class in the exhibition could not be awarded the first premium. A bird to be entitled to a first prize must figure 90 points; 85 for second, 80 for third, and 75 for fourth. When the judgment is done with care as it generally is, it takes a very fine fowl to win first, or even second premium. From the foregoing it will be seen that the judging of such a show is a big job. Each bird must be gone over separately and "figured" on its own account. An expert can select the best and second best birds by his eye, but his report will not be accepted unless it be figured out as above described and signed by him. The card furnished him contains only the standard of points required for a perfect specimen. The column headed "off" is filled in by the judge; he then substracts the aggregate of the "offs" from one hundred, which gives the "score"—*Practical Farmer.*

The same paper says too, that winter wheat in Vermillion township, Marshall county, is not uniformly good. Some of the best farmers of the township complain that the dry cold weather of March was too severe on it M. L. Moore reports a large portion of his killed. Messrs. Hodges, Keyes, Hugh, Trosper and others, speak of the condition of their crops as excellent. Those who, like Major Parsons of Vermillion, sowed "too early"—in August, have good wheat.

Agriculture.

ALFALFA.

One of the greatest difficulties in the successful culture of this plant, is the myriad weeds that take complete possession of the soil. In gardening out upon the prairies, one is scarcely prepared to believe, that beneath the dull gray of its upturned sod, there slumbers all the "colors of Eden," and yet it is so. The "shining share" has only to be driven, and the miracle of vegetable growth is renewed before our eyes. Modest floweret and noxious weed spring up in joyous competition, and jostle each other in friendly rivalry upon the road. Weeds are part of the "primal curse," and as in matter of most curses, Kansas has more than her share. This don't suit alfalfa. It spends its first summer preparing to stay during a term of years. Its fibre wants toughening, its texture and tail, both need hardening, it has to go through summer sun and biting frost unscathed or lose its character. It may have to bore for water upon "artesian" principles, or die of thirst. It wants all the air, moisture and sunlight it can get. To keep down the weeds, and give it these essentials, we sow grain with it. Of all the grains barley is best. I sowed mine with wheat, because I had no barley. The first week in April I do not believe too soon to sow. The first of May will do. It should not be put in deeply with a harrow. A brush perhaps is best. More grass seed of all kinds is lost by putting in too deep, than too shallow. If we knew when one of those curiosities an "April shower." was coming, I would sow just before it, and then let it alone. I intend to sow some this coming fall; early enough to catch the first rains, and, feel satisfied it will get growth enough to pass it over the winter, and then it will stand in advance of all weeds in the spring. It might be well to sow it on sod broken this spring, and cross plowed, and well harrowed next spring. It would have good seed bed, and but few if any weeds. We can only prove our theories of practical value by actual experiment, they may mostly fail, but they leave us possessors of advanced knowledge. It seems to me more valuable for hay and for "soiling," than for pasture. For hay it should be cut green, and only wilted in the sun, and then cured in the shade putting it in "cock" All stock eat it cured. Green it is valuable. Hogs grow fat on it. When made into hay in California it is steamed and fed with corn to hogs. It will revolutionize both the stock hog and porker in time. Horses stay fat upon it in its green state without grain, unless hard wrought. When pastured and eaten close it sends out lateral or side shoots, close to the ground, that render it hard to mow and gather, the upright stalk is favorable to heaviest yield and the greatest facility in gathering. So meadows should be kept by themselves and grazed cautiously if at all. I would not graze at all. The top protects in winter; if a little too heavy, run the harrow over in the spring and it starts green and early. It will stand much tramping by stock and live, but I do not believe it will yield a large bite of grass when grazed constantly. I would like to sow about 15 pounds per acre if I could afford it, and about the 1st of April—not after May 1st, on any account. Mine has now begun to grow rapidly. Deep plowing, fine soil, freedom from weeds, plenty of seed with early sowing, seem the principal points in raising it successfully. Alfalfa is identical with "Lucerne" and has been grown for centuries in France and Germany as a soiling plant. Carried from thence to South America it comes to us as "Chili clover" or "Spanish alfalfa." The laws of vegetable growth are not arbitrary. There is elasticity in the constitution of plants, as well as animals, whereby they adapt themselves within certain limits— to altered conditions of climate and soil. I can readily believe that "alfalfa" from the high table lands of Chili and the Pacific slope, is better suited to our peculiar climate conditions, than that produced in a low and humid country like Holland, whose air must necessarily be moist, reclaimed as it has been, from the Dominion of the Sea.—*E. R. Switzer, in Saline county Journal.*

SHEEP RAISING.

LARNED, PAWNEE CO., KAS. February, 1874.

* * *

SIR—Agreeable to promise I will give you a few facts and figures in regard to my flock of sheep, now located 3 miles north of this place. I started from Vernon Co., Mo., last July, for Colorado, but owing to the long hot summer we made slow progress, and arrived at this point late in the season, and after having met with several men from Colorado, all giving an unfavorable report in regard to keeping stock, we concluded to take up winter quarters in this country.

My sheep were wintered in Missouri, last winter. We commenced feeding grain on the first day of November, 1873, and fed until April 1st, the following spring, making five months feeding. During that time we fed to 1500 sheep 15 bushels of corn a day, which would make feed bill as follows:

15 bush. corn per day, 150 days,	2,250
2,250 bush. corn at 40 cts,	$900
300 bush. oats, at 25 cts,	75
75 tons hay at $3,	225
Total,	$1 200

This winter, so far, we have fed 24 days, or about 12 tons of hay, at $6 per ton, $72. We have fed no grain on account of its high price.

Our sheep seem to thrive well after we stopped traveling, and I think have done as well during the fall and winter, here on the range, as they did in Missouri, last winter, fed on hay and corn. January was a hard month on stock. We had two of the worst days I ever saw. Our sheep were in a sod correll during the bad storms, with no covering—nothing but a wind break.

We had built good comfortable sheds, but had not got moved to them when the storm came on. During the last month, from the effects of the storm, we have lost about 51 head of sheep, including several late lambs, which were not very stout. I am satisfied our loss this winter will not be as heavy as it was last winter.

I see nothing to hinder this country from being a good sheep country. The grass is short and very nutritious, and, although dry in winter, seems to have nearly as much nutriment for stock as in summer.

There is high rolling prairie sufficient to afford the best of herding range for sheep. They certainly can never be subject to foot rot here, as the soil is sandy and dry.—*N. Barber, in Larned Press.*

The people of Coffeyville, are preparing to utilize the water in the Verdigris river by means of a tank or a wind-mill, with the proper appliances for conducting it to the city.

WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY.

In selecting a guide to the correct spelling and pronunciation of words, the student, the teacher, the professional man and the intelligent family need a dictionary which is a standard authority. Such is acknowledged to be Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. It is the standard in the government printing office at Washington, and in the government military school at West Point. It is accepted as the guide, in by far the largest number of the literary institutions of the country. It is to be found in nearly every leading newspaper office in the land. We take it as our standard authority in the FARMER office and, consistently recommend it for the use of all. We refer to the advertisement in our columns for the publishers exhibit of the merits of the work.

Apple Trees and Grape Vines.—I have a fine lot of two and three year old apple trees which I am offering at five and six dollars per hundred, as I wish to close out the three year old trees this season; also some two year old Concord grape vines. LUTHER PALMER.

A fearful tornado passed over Edenboro Ill., on the 8th inst. Five dwellings were blown down and the Christian Church blown to atoms. A rehersal, preparatory to an exhibition to be given that night, was being held in the church when the wind struck it. Some twenty young ladies, gentlemen and children were in the church, nearly all of whom were more or less injured. The following, so far, have been removed from the ruins: Miss Mary Prater, both legs broken; Richard Greenwood, one leg and one arm broken; Miss. Sanders one leg broken; J. B Eaton, Wm. Blake, Carrie Stewart, and several others, were severely cut and bruised. Lee's elevator was also badly damaged.

What the cheese factories of Frankfort Blue Rapids, and Beattie need this spring says the Blue Rapids *Times*, is about two hundred cows apiece additional to what they have. The price of cows is going up, but they can still be bought five or six dollars cheaper than usual, owing to the scarcity of money.

The statements contained in the monthly report of the Bureau of Statistics at Washington show that for the year ending December 31, 1874, the excess of our national exports over imports was $46,969,497; while for the corresponding period of 1873 the exports exceeded the imports by only $192,250.

New Advertisements.

500,000 ACRES OF Michigan Lands FOR SALE.

The Lands of The Jackson, Lansing & Saginaw R. R. Co.,

ARE NOW OFFERED FOR SALE AT

LOW PRICES AND ON LONG TIME.

The Railroad is constructed and in operation from Jackson to Gaylord, a distance of two hundred and thirty-six miles, and will soon be completed to the Strait of Mackinaw, a further distance of about fifty-five miles

Particular attention is called to the large tracts of the best *White* and *Norway* pine timber along the line of the road, and upon the Au Sable, Cheboygan, Muskegon, and Manistee Rivers, the most important logging streams in the State.

The farming lands of the Company include some of the most fertile and well watered hard-wood lands in the State. Especial attention is called to the farming lands in Crawford, Otsego, and Cheboygan counties, which are high and rolling; timbered mainly with the finest hard maple; soil, black sandy loam, and abounding in springs of the purest water. These counties are being rapidly settled, and the lumbering business in the vicinity will afford to farmers a first-rate market for produce for many years.

TERMS OF SALE.

For pine lands, one-fourth down, and remainder in three equal annual payments, with interest at seven per cent. For farming lands to settlers, longer time will be given if desired.

For title of lands, further information, or purchase, apply to

O. M. BARNES, Land Commissioner, Lansing, Mich.

NOTICE.

U. S. Internal Rev. Special TAXES.

MAY 1, 1875, TO APRIL, 30, 1876.

THE REVISED STATUTES of the United States, Sections 3232, 3237, 3238 and 3239, require every person engaged in any business avocation or employment which renders him liable to a SPECIAL TAX. TO PROCURE AND PLACE CONSPICUOUSLY IN HIS ESTABLISHMENT OR PLACE OF BUSINESS a stamp denoting the payment of said Special Tax for the Special Tax Year beginning May 1, 1875, before commencing or continuing business after April 30, 1875.

The Taxes Embraced within the Provisions of the Law Above Quoted are the following, viz.

Rectifiers	$200 00
Dearlers, retail liquor	25 00
Dealers, wholesale liquor	100 00
Dealers in malt liquors, wholesale	1,250 00
Dealers in malt liquors, retail	25 00
Dealers in leaf tobacco	25 00
Retail dealers in leaf tobacco	500 00
And on sales of over $1,000, fifty cents for every dollar in excess of $1,000.	
Dealers in manufactured tobacco	5 00
Manufactures of stills	50 00
And for each still manufactured	20 00
And for each worm manufactured	20 00
Manufacturers of tobacco	10 00
Manufacturers of cigars	10 00
Peddlers of tobacco, first class (more than two horses or other animals)	50 00
Peddlers of tobacco, second class (two horses or other animals)	25 00
Peddlers of tobacco, third class (one horse or other animal)	15 00
Peddlers of tobacco, fourth class (on foot or public conveyance)	10 00
Brewers of less than 500 barrels	50 00
Brewers of 500 barrels or more	100 00

Any person, so liable, who shall fail to comply with the foregoing requirements will be subject to severe penalties.

Persons or firms liable to pay any of the Special Taxes named above must apply to Geo. T. Anthoney, Collector of Internal Revenue at Leavenworth, and pay for and procure the Special Tax Stamp or Stamps they need prior to May 1, 1875, and WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE,

J. W. DOUGLASS

New Advertisements.

PUBLIC SALE OF THE

EXCELSIOR HERD.

110 HEAD OF

Short--Horn Cattle,

AT DEXTER PARK, CHICAGO, ILL.,

Saturday, May 22d, 1875.

The above mentioned herd comprises representatives of the most fashionable families that are now being bred in the Short-horn world. The herd was started with the best animals, selected both for their breeding and individual excellence from the best herds in the United States and Canada. Among the families are

Princesses, Mazurkas, Constances, Young Phyllises. Young Marys, Etc., Etc.

Every animal in the herd is in the prime of life; in fruitful condition, and choice show animals. Considering the number and quality of the herd, we confidently believe that it is as attractive a lot as has ever offered at public sale to the breeders and all classes of buyers.

TERMS OF SALE.—Six months' time, with satisfactory note bearing interest at six per cent. per annum. Five per cent off for cash.

For catalogues address

J. R. SHELLY, Shannon, Ill.

COL. J. W. JUDY, Auctioneer.

This is the last of a grand series of Short-Horn sales, covering the entire third week of May, at Dexter Park, which, on the whole, is the largest and most attractive list ever dispersed at one time and place on this continent.

ATTENTION, OWNERS OF HORSES.

Ask your Harness Maker for the ZINC COLLAR PAD. They are warranted to cure any sore neck on horse or mule, or money refunded, if printed directions are followed. Send 75c. for sample. Zinc Collar Pad Co., Sole Manuf'r's, Buchanan, Mich.

SHEEP.

50 head of sheep for sale. Address CHARLES MOXLEY, Madison, Greenwood Co. Kan.

$50 Reward.

Strayed or stolen from the subscriber, living in Silver Lake township, Shawnee county, on or about August 1st, 1874. One light bay filly 2 years old past, near 15 hands high, hind feet white nearly to hocks, blaze face, light spot in right side of lower lip. This animal shows marks of good blood The above reward will be given for the return of the animal, or any information that will lead to her recovery.

M. M. STANLEY, Kingsville, Kansas.

Bro. Stanley asks of the granges of the State to have this read in the grange.

Jersey Bulls For Sale.

One five years old, the other two years old, both registered in Herd Book. For sale, cheap, apply to CHARLES KEARNY, Wathena, Kansas.

FISH

N FISH E FISH T FISH S!

30 feet Seins	5 feet deep	$ 6 75
40 " "	6 " "	9 50
50 " "	7 " "	13 00

Best Material. Ready for use, all sizes. Pricee Lists low to Trade. Send for Price List. RUDOLPH & CO., St. Louis Mo.

T. L. MILLER, Beecher, Illinois, Breeder and Importer of HEREFORD CATTLE and Cotswold Sheep. Correspondents Solicited.

IMPORTANT SERIES —OF— SHORT-HORN SALES! —IN— CENTRAL ILLINOIS, APRIL 27th, 28th & 29th,

THE Subscriber is authorized to announce the following important series of Public Sales, embracing about two hundred and fifty head of Short-horn Cattle, among them representatives of many of the most popular and valuable families of the day.

Messrs. J. H. PICKRELL of Harristown, Ills., and T. M. TAYLOR, of Decatur, Ills., will sell about 45 head of First-class Short-horns, the top of both herds, at the MACON COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, adjoining the city of

DECATUR, ILLINOIS, TUESDAY, APRIL 27th, 1875.

Mr. Pickrell will also sell at the same time and place, his entire flock of Southdown Sheep, and the greater portion of his herd of Berkshires.

Messrs. W. R. DUNCAN, Towanda, Ills., WM. M. SMITH, and NOAH FRANKLIN, Lexington, Ills., A. C. FUNK, Bloomington, Ills., and C. M. NICOLLS, LeRoy, Ills., will sell about one hundred and thirty head of high-class Short-horns at the McLEAN COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, adjoining the city of

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28th, 1875.

In consequence of the number to be sold, the sale will commence at 10 A. M

Messrs. J. H. SPEARS & SONS, of Tallula, Ills., will sell their entire herd of high class Short-horns, embracing about forty head—the dispersion of which has become necessary in consequence of the ill health of Mr. J. H. SPEARS—at

BLOOMIOCTON, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, APRIL 29th, 1875.

This is the most important series of sales ever announced in Central Illinois, whether considered with reference to the number of animals offered or their quality. It will embrace without doubt *the best lot of stock ever offered in the West.*

They have been arranged with especial reference to the convenience of purchasers in reaching them all.

The usual terms, as to time, interest and discount will be made.

For Catalogues, address the parties as above.

NOW BEING PREPARED FOR PRESS.

TO BE ISSUED IN SEPTEMBER FOR THE YEAR 1876,

Hudson's New and Complete. SYSTEM OF FARM ACCOUNTS.

This new work is the most complete, simple and accurate system of keeping Farm Accounts which has yet been presented to the farmers of the country.

It is provided with a year Calendar, important tables for computing interest, measuring fields, stacks, cribs, tables showing amount of seed, plants, trees per acre, forms of notes, receipts and bills. Stock register for births of all kinds of domestic animals etc., etc. This work will not only be an account book showing profit and loss on crops and business of the year in the farm, but also be a convenient and ready reference book, such as the practical experience of the Author upon the farm has pointed out as necessary and essential to keeping the affairs of the farm in a systematic and business like shape.

This book will be issued yearly and forwarded to any address at the low price of ONE DOLLAR PER COPY. This work is copy-righted and published only at the office of the KANSAS FARMER.

Market Review.

OFFICE OF THE KANSAS FARMER. TOPEKA, KAN., April 7, 1875.

Topeka Money Market.

BONDS.

	Offer.	Ask
Kansas Pacific Gold Sevens, May and Nov.	65	
Kansas Pacific Gold 7's, L'd Gr. Jan'y, June	60	80
Kansas Pacific Gold Sixes, June and Dec.	62	
Kansas Pacific Gold Sixes, Feb. and August	61	
Kansas Pacific Income Sevens, No. 11,		
Kansas Pacific Income Sevens, No. 16,		
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe First Mortg'e	75	
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe L'd G'nt Bonds	60@65	

LOCAL SECURITIES.

Kansas 7 per cent Bonds	98	City Script	35
Kansas 6 per cent Bonds	90	Dist. School Bonds	80@85
State Warrants,	par	Money on ap'd sec. per month	1½
County Warrants	par	County 10 per cent Improvem't B'ds	92½
County 7 per cent railroad Bonds	50		

Topeka Grain Market

Corrected weekly by Keever & Foucht.

Wholesale cash prices from commission men, corrected weekly by Keever & Foucht.

WHEAT—Per bu: Spring, for seed	.90
Fall, No. 1	1.00
" No. 2	.90
" No. 3	.85
" No. 4	.75
CORN—Per bu; Mixed	.87@ .90
White, No 1	.92
Yellow	.87@ .90
OATS—Per bu. No. 1	66 to 70
RYE—Per bu	1.50
BARLEY—Per bu	1.50
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs—Fall, No. 1	3.00
Fall, No. 2	2.60
" " No. 3	2.30
Low Grades	2.25
CORN MEAL—Per 100 lbs	2.00
Corn Chop	1.60
Corn and Oats Chop	1.65
Wheat Chop	1.70@1.70

HIDES, SKINS AND PELTRY.

Corrected weekly by Hartsock & Gossett, and Bickoff & Kranss, Dealers in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.

HIDES—Green	.06@.06½
Dry Flint	.16@.17
Dry Salt	.13@.14
Green Salt Cured	.08
Calf, Green Salt Cured	.11
Kip, Green Salt Cured	.09
Sheep Pelts, green	1.00@1.35
TALLOW	06½.07
SKINS—Timber Wolf	1.50@1.75
Prairie Wolf	75 .85
Otter	4.00@6.00
Mink	1.25@1.50
Raccoon	.40@.60
Badger	.20@.25
Wild Cat	.20@.25
Muskrat	.10@.15
Skunk, Black	1.00@1.25
" Small Striped	.50@.60
Opossum	.05@.10
Deer, dry, per lb	.30@.40
Beaver, dry and clean, per lb	1.00@1.15

Topeka Produce Market.

Grocers' retail price list, corrected weekly by Davies & Manspeaker.

APPLES—Per bu	1.50@2.00
BEANS—Per bu—White Navy	$2.00@2.75
Medium	2.60
Common	2.00
Castor	1.40@1.50
BEESWAX—Per lb	.25
BUTTER—Per lb—Choice	.30
Common Table	.15@.20
Medium	.08@.10
Common	.06@.12
EGGS—Per doz—Fresh	.20
HOMINY—Per bbl	5.25@6.00
VINEGAR—Per gal	.20@.25
POTATOES—Per bu	1.40
POULTRY—Chickens, Live, per doz	8.50
Chickens, Dressed, per lb	.10@.12½
Turkeys, " "	.10@.12½
Geese, " "	.05@.10
BACON—Per lb—Shoulders	.12½
Clear Sides	.14
Hams, Sugar Cured	.17
Breakfast	.14
LARD—Per lb	.16½
CABBAGE—Per head	.10
ONIONS—Per bu	1.50
SEEDS—Per bu—Hemp	1.00
Millet	
Blue Grass	1.60
Timothy, prime	3.50
" common	3.00
Clover	7.00@7.50
Hungarian	1.25
Osage Orange	7.00
Corn	80—85
Oats	65—70
Onion Sets per lb	30

Kansas City Market.

KANSAS CITY, April 14, 1875.

GRAIN.

The following are wholesale cash prices from commission men.

WHEAT—Per bu—Spring Red	.95@1 00
Fall, No. 4	96—1.00
Fall, No. 3	95@1.05
Fall, No. 2	1.00@114
CORN—Per bu—New White	75@.80
Yellow	.73@.80
Mixed	.73@.80
OATS—Per bu	.58@.64
RYE—Per bu—No. 3	.75
No. 2	1.00
BARLEY—Per bu—No. 3	1.00
No. 2	1.25

PRODUCE.

APPLES—Per brl	1.50@2.50
BEESWAX—Per lb	.25@30
BUTTER—Per lb—Choice	.20@.30
Medium	.15@ .20
BROOM CORN—Per ton	150.00@200
CHEESE—Per lb	.14@ .15
CIDER—Per bbl	10.00@12.00
EGGS—Per doz—Fresh	.14½@.15
Pickled	
FEATHERS—Per lb—Mixed	.30@.40
Prime Live Geese	.45
FLOUR—Per cwt—Rye	3.00
XX	2.00—2.25
XXX	2.40 2.50
XXXX	2.35 2.50
CORN MEAL—Per cwt	1.75 1.80
Kiln dried, per bbl	3.80 4.00

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—Extra, av. 1,300 to 1,500	5.25 5.75
Prime, av. 1,200 to 1,350	4.75 5.25
Fair to Good, av. 1,100 to 0 1,250	4.25 4.75
Native Stockers, av. 1,000 to 1,150	3.75 4.25
Medium Native Stockers	3.25 3.62½
Good butchers' cows	4.00 4.50
Medium butchers' cows	3.25 3.75
Texas Cows, fat, av 800 to 900	3.00 3.50
Corn fed Texans; fat av 1,00 to 1,200	4.00 4.50
Colorado Texans	3.75 3.25
Common Texans, av 800 to 1,000	2.00 2.20
Calves, each	5.00 10.00
HOGS—Good butchers	6.25 6.50
Fair	6.75 7.00
Yorkers	5.75 6.00
Stock, av 75 to 125 lbs	5.00 5.50

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, April, 3.

GRAIN—Per bu. Wheat, No. 3 Red	$1 18@1.20
No. 2	1 20@1 20½
Corn, New mixed	69½@75
Yellow	
White	
Oats, No. 2 mixed	66@66½
Barley, choice	1 23
Rye	1.00@1.02

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—Native steers, per cwt.	$6.00@6.½12
Texans	3.75@4.50
HOGS—Packers, per cwt	7.00 7 50
Stockers	4.50@5.25

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL SESSION OF The Kansas State Grange.

We publish proceedings of the late State Grange in pamplet form, at the following rates, postage paid.

1 COPY 15 CTS. 2 COPIES 25 CTS.

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

SPELLING.

It is a very old American notion, that if a person does not know how to spell, he does not know much of anything; and it is a *fact* very familiar to all who have had much intercourse with writers, that comparatively few, even among literary and professional people are good spellers. Putting this and that together, providing the notion were a true one, we must be a nation of egregious knownothings. But the longer we live the more thoroughly we become convinced that many persons may know a great deal, and yet be poor, or at least, indifferent spellers.

For instance, if when young, they are not apt at learning by rote, and if as they grow older and leave the spelling book behind, their perceptive faculties do not develope sufficiently to enable them to see quickly and accurately the forms of words and the number of letters they contain, and they learn by "plodding" anything of the natural sciences, they *must* be poor spellers, for when had they time to learn to be *good* spellers? And by a good speller we do not mean one that can spell five or six thousand words, but one that can spell one or two thousand of the commonest words of our language. Words may be selected upon which any class of professors may soon be "spelled down." But the recent revival of spelling schools as an amusement, has developed the fact, that people of all callings are usually spelled down on less than a dozen words, taken at random from literature in every day use.

Mr. Taylor, of the Wyandotte *Gazette*, is agitating the subject for this part of the country, of holding a phonetic congress in Philadelphia, at the time of the Centennial Celebration, in which the friends of a reform in our system of spelling, may take some practical steps toward that end. These friends constitute a much larger class than most people think. Our best educators almost without exception, and learned men in all professions, realize the urgent need that exists for such a change, and see the folly of spending years of time in learning to spell according to arbitrary and exceptional rules, when, if we spelled by sound, as soon as a child had sufficient understanding to discriminate between the different sounds in a word, and had been taught the alphabet, he would know how to spell intuitively; and would have all the time usually devoted to the spelling book, in which to learn something intrinsically valuable. The old fogy idea that children must study something practically useless, to discipline the mind, is exploded, and teachers agree that that discipline can be just as well gained in acquiring useful knowledge. If English and American people have not the good sense to break away from such a barbarous way of spelling, after having its inconsistencies pointed out by a race than whom they consider themselves so much superior, the Chinese, they certainly cannot be very consistently called the progressive people of the world.

It is a well known fact that all foreigners find our spelling the most difficult part of our language to learn; and although the use of one word to express several different meanings, and our irregular verbs are serious impediments, they are trifling, compared with the glaring inconsistencies, and the unreasonableness of our spelling, and we hope the day is not far distant when intelligent people will realize that we may save our children a vast deal of labor and enable them to possess a much greater proportion of useful knowledge than we do; by adopting a system of phonetic spelling.

RAG CARPETS.

I would like to give my experience in carpet making, for the benefit of our younger sisters, not that I think I know all about it yet, but because I met with disappointment in my first attempt, and have had better success since, which emboldens me to a few words of advice.

In the first place, cut the rags smooth and evenly; cut them the same thickness not the same width remember. You can judge of the thickness by rolling the strips between the finger and thumb.

Do not cut bias goods that will ravel easily, as the ends will stick up and look rough. Do not use harsh goods, such as stiff alpaca, it will cut the skein; save such pieces for mats or rugs.

If you make your carpet hit and miss, do not have your strips over one-half to three quarters of a yard long. If you make with a stripe, have a large ground and a large stripe About twelve to fourteen inches is right for the ground. The stripe should be about two-thirds as wide, if you have bright rags enough.

Commence your stripe with a positive color; half an inch of yellow on each side is good, (a little yellow brightens, too much throws all other colors in the shade,) it divides the stripe completely from the ground. Shade toward the centre. Have a color in the centre, that you have not already in the stripe. I like half an inch of white with blue on each side. Do not divide bright colors too much, as their brightness is lost.

It is very important to have the warp just right; if you have too much, it will cover the rags; if too little, the carpet will be rough and not wear well, and it will take more rags to fill it. I like tolerably fine, doubled and twisted chain, woven in the three hundred reed.

AUNT MARY.

For the KANSAS FARMER

A WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE IN CHICKEN RAISING.

For the majority of farmers that wish to raise poultry for profit, I would recommend the old-fashioned Dominique. They are hardy and easy to raise. Select the large and well developed fowls. The hens should be one and two years old, the males two or three years old, and one to every fifteen hens; let them have access to water and the waste of the premises and to run over the farm at will, that they may pick animal food for themselves.

White-wash the hen-house inside and out, and make nests on the ground around the walls, they should be covered over, and made so that when the hen is setting, she can be shut in, and not be troubled by the rest; the nest can be opened after four o'clock, for her to come off if she wishes to feed. When one hen begins to set, if there is a prospect of more getting ready in a few days, keep her waiting until you can set two, three, or even four, and give the chicks when hatched all to one hen, and coop her up in a good sized coop, for a week or ten days until the chicks can gather strength to run. Then turn out to run at large, and feed in a general coop that the hens cannot get into. You can set all the same way with a view to giving the chicks to one hen only.

Save all the pullets of the earliest broods to take the place of the two year old hens, and sell the old ones, or eat them. Do not keep them, for there is no profit in them after they are two years old, nor in the males after three years, if the fry is a good price, sell them if not keep them, until the holidays, to sell. There should be a few late broods to make winter fries, as they are nicer in cold weather than in warm. If the people in cities and towns would use them instead of in hot weather as is commonly done, they would soon learn that the late ones were the best. Should some of your hens insist on setting up off the ground, remove the straw and put paper in the bottom of the nest, and then replace the straw again, and remove all the straw from nests that have been set in, and replace with clean straw.

Clean out the house as often as once a week, throw the litter and refuse nest straw in a place where it can rot, to apply to the garden. Always select the largest eggs to set, for they will bring larger and hardier chicks. Hens should not set in the three hottest months, for neither they, nor eggs, or chicks, will do well. September is a good month for profit.

Feed the hens well while setting, and not allow them to hunt for food and let their eggs cool. And again, for eggs in winter, they should be fed animal food, such as cracklings, or scraps of refuse meat, and grain. Keep them indoors of very cold and bad weather, and you will have eggs to sell, when they range the highest in market.

When properly cared for, there is a great deal of profit in them, but they must have care.

As for high priced breeds, they will not do for farmers that wish to raise eggs and chicks for table use. Therefore, touch lightly, and if fancies can sell at such fabulous prices let them. But farmers will do best on the common stock, for profit at present.

HARRIET P. MILLION.

HOW SHALL I GET THROUGH?

BY MRS. M. F. BUTTS.

The morning was very hot and Mrs. Brown rose late. The baby was fretful, the children were disobedient, and Mr. Brown found fault. It seemed as if breakfast never would be ready. The distance from the pantry to the stove was never so long, so many things never needed doing at one time before, and when at last Mrs. Brown tied the baby in his high chair and seated herself along side the coffee-pot, she had a splitting head ache and a general feeling of despondency and lassitude almost impossible to bear. "How shall I ever get through this day?" she asked herself, mentally, as the "men folks" straggled carelessly in and took their places at the table.

"Mother," said Mr. Brown, "we must have breakfast in better season. We've been waiting a full half hour."

Mrs. Brown said nothing, but poured out the coffee, and prepared some bread and milk for the baby in silence. No body noticed that she ate no breakfast, so busy were they in disposing of the cold corn beef, the delicious brown bread and mealy potatoes, and in talking of the wall they were going to run through the east meadow befor night. They were not long in eating, and men and boys shoved their chairs back from the table and went out, leaving the mother with the breakfast dishes, the 'milk things," the sweeping, the dinner the baby, and various other delicate bits of work not necessary to mention. Out into the fresh air and through the daisied meadows went the men, laughing and talking gaily; in the hot kitchen sat the woman surrounded with her monotonous work.

Wearily Mrs. Brown rose from the table, took the baby from his chair and put him in his cradle, surrounding him with the clothes-pins, the dinnerhorn, and such other utensils as he couldn't injure; then she turned to the task of dish-washing She had carried part of the dishes to the sink, when the baby screamed. He had fallen out of his cradle in reaching after something he had dropped, and, freightened and hurt, he loudly demanded his mother's attention. There were tears of thorough discouragement in Mrs. Brown's eyes when she took up the child and began soothing him by walking up and down the room.

"How shall I get through to-day?" she asked herself again; and a succession of just such days arose in the future, each one asking her "How will you get through me?" and "How will you get through me?" until she felt ready to give up the conflict and never try again. While she walked up and down, brooding and forlorn, a bright, determined-looking little woman walked in at the door. It was Mrs' Hart, the wife of the new minister.

"Don't mind me, Mrs. Brown," she said, taking off her hat. "I've come over to help you. Don't say one word," as the housekeeper attempted to remonstrate. I'm going to wash these dishes, and I want you to sit down and get baby to sleep while I do it. Then we'll have a little talk."

Mrs. Brown yielded, as everybody yields to the persevering woman, who went at the half-cleared table as if it were a fortress to be taken. In a surprisingly short space of time every dish was shining high and dry on the pantry shelves, the sink was clean and dry, and the dish-cloths floated like banners from the lilac bush at the back door.

"There, now," said Mrs. Hart, seating herself triumphantly, "wasn't that quickly done?'

"You have some spirit," said poor, pale Mrs. Brown. "It hasn't all been dragged out of you by hard work."

"Pre-ci-se-ly," said Mrs. Hart; "that's just the point I want to talk to you about. The wife and mother who lets herself get used up so that she has no spirit to put into her duties, commits a great wrong against herself and every one connected with her."

Mrs. Brown looked up in amazement, mingled with resentment.

"I know you think you are doing right,' continued the intrepid preacher, "but I know that you are fatally mistaken. Your first duty is to keep your soul and body in a healthy condition; unless you do that you must utterly fail in all other duties."

"But I cannot, with all this work."

"You ought not to attempt to do all this work. That is the first error."

"I can't help it."

"I beg your pardon, dear Mrs. Brown, but you can help it. You could have a good girl in a week if you should use the power in your hands. Nobody has the right to make you over work yourself. If you act as a true woman should, a woman who respects herself as a child of God, as a a mother of children, in whom is reposed a sacred trust, you will not overwork yourself. You will hire a servant for the servant's place, and save your energies for their proper use. In the course you are taking now, you run every day the risk of depriving your children of their mother. Can you afford to do this?"

Mrs. Brown's eyes began to flash. "You are right,' she said.

Mrs. Hart laughed. "I knew you were of the true stuff, or I shouldn't have undertaken you. Some women are born to be drudges. Let such fulfill their destiny; but let no woman capable of being a real wife and mother, dare to destroy these functions with a servant's work. There are cases where overwork is inevitable; but these cases are the rare exceptions in our prosperous country."

Mes. Hart stayed all day, and the minister came over and took dinner with them. Mrs. Brown "got through" very nicely, and in less than a fortnight a stout-armed servant was installed in the farm kitchen. Mr. Brown was as much the gainer as his wife, and fell in love over again with the fresh, happy, neatly-dressed woman who presided at his table; and as for the little Browns, they had a mother, and not a tired dispirited drudge to guide and mold them; and this statement tells its own story.

CHILDREN BADLY TRAINED.

Is it not apparent that cruelty is often encouraged, by parents in early training, or neglect of training? Nothing is easier than to make a child fond and careful of its pet kitten or puppy, yet who has not often seen a wretched little kitten at the mercy of a mere baby, whose chief amusement consisted in throwing it on the floor or pulling out its fur, encouraged by "mama," who would really only think it funny?" The chief of police of New York says: "Boys are much better than the careless parents, who, seeing habits of cruelty in their children. have never given it sufficient consideration to reprove or correct them." I remember once hearing a mother, tired of the teasing and crying of a spoiled boy, tell him to "run away and stone the little lame chicken in the yard." Now, what could be expected from a child brought up under such precepts? Now that the subject of animals' rights. for they have rights, although disregarded, is being agitated throughout the civilized world a great reform may be looked for and realized, especially from the system of introducing humanity in schools and among the young, as a part of education. Surely the lesson is more easily impressed in the earlier stage of youth, and to whose part should it most naturally fall than to parents, to impress this lesson of gentleness and kindlines toward the weak and helpless, in the hearts of their children, influencing their after lives by the infusion of sentiments of mercy and refinement of feeling, which is the true essence of manliness, and without which woman loses her greatest charm?—*Mentor, in Georgia Constitutionalist.*

CARPETS.

There is no question but the bare painted floors of a German or a Swiss home make the air of a house much more healthful to breathe, than the thickly-carpeted English or American ones.

Think of the accumulation of a year's dust under, or in, the substance of a carpet; rising in an imperceptible cloud at every foot-fall, to be inhaled by the lungs of all the dwellers of the house.

Few housekeepers think of raising their carpets more than once, or at most, twice a year—and under the prevailing fashion of covering every jog and corner of the floor, and nailing the whole down with a firm, solid line of tacks, it is too formidable a task to undertake, except at those heroic periods of a woman's history yclept *house cleaning*.

Of course in this climate we cannot do without our warm carpets, not to speak of the fact that we have become accustomed to the furnished look which a carpet gives, and could not easily renounce it. Clearly we must have them, but a carpet would answer all requirements of warmth and color, without covering every inch of floor, and without being nailed down.

A square of carpet which leaves bare a foot, or two feet of space along the sides of the wall—for the chairs and furniture, is quite as nice in effect, and has the advantage of being easily handled and shaken.

Such a one, for an ordinary sized room, can be taken out of doors weekly or fortnightly, and hung up on the line, or laid upon the snow, or grass, for a good sweeping or beating, and brings in with it a sense of cleanliness, when it is again laid down, which is highly refreshing.

The writer of this, adopted this plan some ten years ago, and finds such comfort in it, that she feels impelled to state some of its advantages.

Firstly then; there is the wholesomeness.

Secondly, saving of labor; a room covered with a square of carpet being much more easily kept clean than one entirely covered.

Thirdly, economy; as the amount of carpet which usually covers one floor, will, in this case, nearly cover two.

And fourthly, the deliverance from annual or semi-annual house-cleaning, which is so dreaded and so necessary in every household where carpets are nailed down, and must be "taken up."

Of course the space of the floor which is left uncovered should be painted, and it is a very good plan to paint it in stripes, to imitate the floors laid of alternate pine or oak and black walnut.

When the planks are of uniform width, this effect can be produced by painting the half of every board (longitudinally) in dark brown, leaving the other half the natural color; if it is then oiled, a very poor floor will look well, and be easily taken care of.

For ordinary rooms, a binding finishes the square of carpet sufficiently but where something in the way of ornament is desired, a black yarn fringe of woolen cloth cut in strips or a border of carpet of some other color than the square central piece, answers the purpose well, and gives the look of a large rug, which is the thing to be desired.

Every ingenious, intelligent woman will see how possible it is to make nice central rugs from carpets which are very much the worse for the wear, by taking the unworn edges and putting them together and using the worn parts for fringes and borders. A painted floor, such as I have discribed above, is in the summer pleasant and cool looking without even a square of carpet.—*American Grocer.*

COFFEE.

The best coffee is Java; it has a large, full, yellow berry, while that of the Rio is smaller and of a greenish tinge. The difference in essential properties is derived from the difference in climate, that of Java retaining the bean to ripen more perfectly than it is left to do in Brazil, where it is raised chiefly by unskilled slave labor. The best coffee for family use is made by mixing the two—Java affords the most fragrance, and Rio the most stimulation against chilliness and damp. Very much depends upon the parching of coffee. This should be done slowly at first to expel all the moisture, and rapidly at last, stiring constantly, so that it will be browled, and not burned in the least. When it has an oily appearance, and is of a light brown color, it should be removed at once from the fire and put in a close vessel. There are a great many kinds of coffee-pots: but for family use we have never found anything better than a good block-tin pot, and the white of an egg to cleans the beverage. Grind two table spoonsfulls to a person, put it into the pot, add the white of an egg and sufficient cold water to moisten the whole; stir it together and let it warm on the stove, and then let it boil two or three minutes only, unless those who are to drink it have been exposed to cold or damp, or anticipating such exposure. In that case, it should remain over the fire fifteen or twenty minutes, long enough to extract some of the bitter principle, which is of the nature of quinine in its effects on the system. Coffee grounds should never be allowed to remain in tin, but should be poured out and the pot carefully cleansed as soon as used, else the flavor of the next beverage prepared in it will be impaired. Soft water is much preferable to hard for making coffee, as the mineral salts in the latter often combine unpleasantly with the constituents of the coffee and give it an acrid taste There is no good reason why our tables should be so frequently disgraced with muddy, bitter, roily coffee, when a little care and skill can furnish a beverage aromatic, exhilerating, and delightful. To this we add the following advice: Never use ground, browned, or prepared coffee, for there is room for deception that ought not to be risked.—*The Housekeeper.*

To keep apples from rotting.—Place them in a dry cellar with a family of children.

A WORKING TABLE.—An old housekeeper says: "I have a table in my kitchen, 25 inches high. I can sit while I iron, or bake, and do a variety of other work which I could not do standing, on account of a lame back. I know many others thus afflicted, who, while doing these chores, stand in misery; if they had a low table their burdens would be eased.

POACHED EGGS.—Have ready a sauce pan of boiling water. Drop fresh eggs carefully into the water so as not to break the yolks. Let them stand where they will keep hot, but not boil, until the white sets. Toast slices of bread and lay in a dish, and pour over it a gill of hot cream with a little salt; then take out the eggs with an egg-slice or tablespoon, and put on the bread, with parsley if you like

GELATINE CUSTARD.—One quart of milk, one half box gelatine, two thirds cup of sugar, and three eggs. Soak the gelatine in a little water for half an hour. Beat the yolk of the eggs, and add to the milk with the sugar and a little salt. Let it come to a boil, and pour hot upon the gelatine, then beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth and add to the other, when nearly cool, beating briskly together. Flavor with almond.

SWALLOWING COIN.—If a child swallows a coin, need danger be feared, and should physic be given? *Ans.*—Generally when a coin is swallowed there is little or no danger. If it happens to be a bronze, then there may be chemical changes that will cause copper poisoning; otherwise, do not worry, for what will pass into the stomach will pass through. Avoid physic, it empties the bowels when they should be kept full by coarse food, as coarse bread, or something to distend and enlarge the digestive tube.—*I. B.*

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The Patrons Mutual Insurance Association.

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A membership fee of $1 50
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Total cost of insurance for 3 years $9 00

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Membership fee $1 50
Premium for first year 1 25
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SYNOPSIS OF THE STRAY LAW.

How to Post a Stray, the Fees, Fines and Penalties for not Posting.

Broken animals can be taken up at any time in the year.

Unbroken animals can only be taken up between the 1st day of November and the first day of April, except when found in the lawful inclosure of the taker up.

No persons, except citizens and householders can take up a stray.

If an animal liable to be taken, shall come upon the premises of any person, and he fails for ten days, after being notified in writing of the fact, any other citizen and householder may take up the same.

Any person taking up an estray, must immediately advertise the same by posting three written notices in a many places in the township, giving a correct descriptio of such stray.

If such stray is not proven up at the expiration of ten days the taker up shall go before any Justice of the Peace of the township, and file an affidavit, stating that such stray was taken up on his premises, that he did not drive nor cause it to be driven there, that he has advertised it for ten days, that the marks and brands have not been altered, also he shall give a full description of the same, and its cash value. He shall also give a bond to the State in double the value of such stray.

The Justice of the Peace shall within twenty days from the time such stray was taken up, (ten days after posting) make out a return to the County Clerk, a certified copy of the description and value of such stray.

If such stray shall be valued at more than ten dollars it shall be advertised in the KANSAS FARMER in three successive numbers.

The owner of any stray may within twelve months from the time of taking up prove the same by evidence before any Justice of the Peace of the county, having first notified the taker up of the time when, and the Justice before whom proof will be offered. The stray shall be delivered to the owner, on the order of the Justice, and upon the payment of all charges and costs.

If the owner of a stray fails to prove ownership within twelve months after the time of taking, a complete title shall vest in the taker up.

At the end of a year after a stray is taken up, the Justice of the Peace shall issue a summons to the householder to appear and appraise such stray, summons to be served by the taker up, said appraisers, or two of them shall in all respects describe and truly value said stray, and make a sworn return of the same to the Justice.

They shall also determine cost of keeping and the benefits the taker up may have had, and report the same on their appraisement.

In all cases where the title rests in the taker up, he shall pay into the County Treasury, after deducting all costs of taking up, posting and taking care of, one half of the remainder of the value of such stray.

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the state before the title shall have vested in him shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall forfeit double the value of such stray and be subject to a fine of twenty dollars.

Fees as follows:

To taker up, for each horse, mule, or ass,	$ .50
" " head of cattle,	.25
To County Clerk, for recording each certificate and forwarding to KANSAS FARMER,	.35
To KANSAS FARMER for publication as above mentioned for each animal valued at more than $10.00,	.50
Justice of the Peace, for each affidavit of taker up,	.25
" for making out certificate of appraisement and all his services in connection therewith,	.35
For certified copy of all proceedings in any one case	.40
The Justices' fees in any one case shall not be greater than,	1.50
Appraisers shall be allowed no mileage, but for each case,	.50

THE STRAY LIST

Strays for the Week ending April 14.

Atchison County—C. H. Krebs, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by E. T. North, Lancaster Tp, Nov. 5, 1874, one steer, white, red spots about head and neck, 2 years old, Appraised at $20.

STEER—Also one steer, red, white back, few white spots on hind quarters, 2 years old, Appraised at $20.

STEER—Taken up by Peter Buckels, Lancaster Tp, Nov. 30, 1874, one steer, pale red, indistinct brand of two letters on left hip, 2 years old. Appraised at $12.

Brown County—H. Leely, Clerk.

STEER.—taken up by A. H. McCracken, of Mission Tp. March 10, 1875, one Texan steer, 4 years old, dun, white face, white spots on hips and sides. Appraised at $16.

Linn County—F. J. Weatherbie, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by James Grooms, Lincoln Tp. Jan. 25, 1875, one small, brown, pony mare, 5 years old, no mark or brand. Appraised at $25.

STEER—Taken up by David Manlove, Lincoln Tp. Feb. 18, 1875, one brindle steer, 3 years old, half upper crop in right ear, left ear torn. Appraised at $15.

Osage County—W. Y. Drew, Clerk.

STEER—taken up by H. O. Smith, Burlingame tp. about Nov. 17, 1874, a gray steer, supposed to be 3 years old last spring, no marks or brands visible. Appraised at $16.

MARE—Taken up by Laban Gilyes, Agency Tp. about March 10, 1875, one bay mare pony, 12 hands high, black mane and tail, 8 years old, Appraised at $35.

MARE—A dark iron-gray mare pony, 13 or 13 hands high year old. Appraised at $25.

COLT—A gray horse colt, star in forehead, hind feet white, heavy build, 2 years old this spring. Appraised at $30.

Rice County, W. T. Nicholas Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Oscar N. Dexter, Farmer Tp. on March 12 1875; one horse pony, 13 or 14 hands high, white with red spots, no marks or brands. Appraised at $15.

Riley County—W. Burgoyne, Clerk.

COLT—Taken up by Joseph Cottrell, Bala Tp March 16, 1875, one bay horse colt, 2 years old, white stripe in face. Appraised at $30.

Stray List for the Week ending Mar. 31.

Allen County—

COLT—Taken up by Isaac Martin, of Osage Tp one dark iron gray horse colt, 2 years old, medium size, star in the forehead, strp of white running down face to nostrils, left hind foot white up to fetlock, Valued at $30.

Bourbon County—J. H. Brown, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by J. W. Sampson, Pawnee Tp., one black mare, about 10 years old, 15½ hands high, white spot in forehead, right fore foot white to paster joint, left hind same, white spot on weathers, caused by saddle, harness marks on sides, collar marks on neck. value $40.

Greenwood County—L. N. Fancher, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by M. Y. Phelps, Salt Springs Tp, on Feb. 8, 1875, one bay mare, 3 years old past, black mane and tail, yellow spot on left hip. Valued at 20.

Leavenworth County—G. Diefendorf, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by Geo. Lenhart, Delano Tp, March 15, 1875, one red and white cow, with white in forehead, crop off each ear, six or seven years old, Valued at $15.

COW—Also one blue roan cow, with a nick off each ear 9 years old, Valued at $15.

COW—ALSO one red cow, star in forehead, white belly, 5 years old, valued at $15,

Linn County—F. J. Weatherbie, Clerk.

MULE—Taken up by S E Ewing, Lincoln Tp. Jan. 22nd 1875, one black horse mule, 2 years old, 14½ hands high, had on a yoke, valued at $15.

HORSE—One iron gray horse, about 3 years old, 14 hns. high, valued at $15.

FILLEY—One bay filley, about 14 hands high, star in forehead, valued at $15.

FILLEY—One bay filley, 3 years old, 14 hands high, valued at $15.

Marshall County, J. G. McIntire Clerk.

CALVES—Taken up by Jacob Mohrbacher, Elm Creek Tp, Feb. 18, 1875, one roan heifer calf, and three red steer calves, no marks or brands. Valued at $24.

Marion County—Thos. W. Bown, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by W G Bates, Centre Tp, one bay mare pony.

FILLEY—Also one bay, yearling filley, no marks or brands mentioned in returns.

Lyon County—J. S. Craig, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Lewis Brown, Americus Tp, Feb. 25, 1874, one light bay mare pony, 3 years old, medium size, valued at $30.

COLT—Taken up by Wm Burdict, Americus Tp, same date, one horse colt, light brown, 1 year old, no marks or brands, valued at $20.

PONY—Also one dark bay pony, four white feet, white face, medium size, no artificial marks Valued at $20.

Miami County—C. H. Giller, Clerk.

COLT—Taken up by D H Heflebower, Wea Tp, Feb. 20, one bay colt. 2 years old, with some white hairs about his head and neck, sway-backed.

Pawnee County—T. McGarthy, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Nancy Baker, Garfield Tp, Mar 5, one light grey mare, 14 hands high, 9 years old, blind in right eye, value $20.

Shawnee County—P. I. Bonebrake, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by A C Haskell, Dover Tp, Mar. 1, '75. One sorrel mare, 3 years old, about 14 hands high, left hind foot white, no marks or brands, valued at $12.

Strays for the Week Ending Mar. 17, 1875.

STEER—Taken up by W G Sargent, Rock Creek Tp., Dec. 29th, 1874, one red yearling steer, with white belly and end of tail. Appraised at $10.

HEIFER—Taken up by Jacob Meisner, Rock Creek Tp. Feb. 9th 1875, one deep red 2 year old heifer, no marks or brands. Apprrised at $18.

COW—Taken up by John Griffin, of Rock Creek Tp., Feb. 9, 1875, one dark red cow, left horn broken off, nine or ten years old. Appraised at $12.

COLT—Taken up by John Hayes, of Richmond Tp., on Feb. 4th 1875, one eark bay horse colt, black mane and tail, right hind foot white, white spot on forehead. Appraised at $40.

COLT—Taken up by Chas. Fasholt, Washington Tp., on Jan. 11th 1875, one horse colt, dark bay, 1 year old, medium size, dark mane and tail, a few white hairs in forehead Appraised at $30.

MARE—Taken up by Francis Riley, Red Vermillion Tp., Jan. 16th 1875, one bay mare. 3 years old, no marks or brands, small size. Appraised at $50.

COLT—Also one bay horse colt, with a bell on, left hind foot white, small star in forehead, no marks or brands, two years old. Appraised at $30.

FILLEY—Taken up by Patrick Reilley, Red Vermillion Tp., Jan. 1875, one bay filley, two years old in the spring, small star in forehead, left hind foot white, no other marks or brands. Appraised at $25.

Information Wanted.

Two brothers left home near Xenia, Bourbon county, Kansas, on the 11th day of Dec. last. Rufus E. Camp, blue eyes, light hair and very fair complexion, 15 years old. Seth F. Camp, blue eyes, auburn hair, a piece broken off of one upper front tooth. Since their departure I have lost one child by death, and have a very great desire to know their whereabouts.

MRS. E. W. CAMP,
Xenia, Bourbon Co., Kansas.

$50 Reward.

Will be given for the return of the following animals, **1 Chestnut Brown Horse Colt,** 3 years old, white face, three white feet medium size. 1 bay mare colt same age, star in forehead. 1 bay colt 16 hands high, 3 years old, three white feet, little star in forehead. 1 dark iron gray horse 4 years old white strip in face, one side. 1 three year old mare light gray, slight scar on nose, above nostril. 1 three year old mare, black, small white stripe on nose, trim built, medium size. These animals strayed last October or November from 6 mile Creek on Burlingame road, Shawnee county.

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A Beautiful bay Stallion, 15 hands 3 inches, high is very fast; his style and fine action, together with his unbroken pedigree, render his stock very desirable.

PEDIGREE--American Stud Book.

BILLY STRANGER was got by Stranger out of a black Southern mare, Cherry Belle; she was by imported Glencoe; he by Lance; her dam, Waxlight, by imported Leviathan; his dam by Whip Lance, full brother of Ariel, by American Eclipse, a sorrel horse by Duroc; dam by Miller's Damsel by Messenger Whip, imported, brown horse, 15 hands 3 inches high, etc.

BILLY STRANGER will make the season three miles south of Rossville, south of the Kaw river. Mares will be well provided for and receive the best of care, but all accidents will be at the owner's risk, Owners from abroad, and vicinity, can apply at the farm, or by mail at Rossville, Shawnee county, Kansas to B. V. HOLEMDEN.

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LET US SMILE.

A prominent Detroit Universalist, some months ago, married a red headed widow with four children, and last week remarked to a friend: "I was blind when I believed there is no hell. I see now."

Alabama barbers have fine feelings. One tried to shoot himself the other day because a customer asked him why he didn't use a crowbar to shave with. He couldn't b'ar to be talked to in that way.

An aged colored individual stepped into a store on Woodward avenue, and asked how the thermometer stood: "A hundred and forty nine degrees below zero!" replied one of the clerks. "Is dat a fax?" exclaimed the old man; "then I've lossed two dollars. I jist made a bet it war a hundred an' fifty.

Nevada brides won't stand much foolishness at a wedding. Recently one of them, while going up the aisle of the church, stopped short and kicked all the skin off the shins of a groomsman who trod on her trail.

The greatest discovery at Pompeii, is that of a woman making a fire in a cook stove while her husband is in bed asleep. She was a noble woman.—*Boston Journal.*

It is said that nothing will cure a poet's affection for his idol sooner than to catch her at the dinner table, excavating the kernel of a hickory nut with a hair-pin.—*Brooklyn Argus.*

The slender youth who opens the grocery store across the way at 5 o'clock in the morning, desires to be ranked among the (early) rising young merchants of this town.—*Danburian.*

A widow was weeping bitterly at the loss of her husband, and the parson tried to console her. "No, no," said she; "let me have my cry out, and then I shan't care anything more about it."

Business seems to be dull in San Antonia, Texas, just now. The *Herald* says: "Times are so hard that, when the boy who goes out on Saturday to collect bills for a leading dry goods establishment, comes home with seventy-five cents, and has the ceiling of his pants worn out by the boots of the customers from whom he has collected it, the proprietor regards it as a good day for collections."

This is the season of the year when the farmer tells his son John, that if he will sort over ten bushels of potatoes, feed the stock, repair that fence, and re-shingle the corn-crib he may have the rest of the day to go rabbit hunting.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Apropos to the spelling mania, it may be of interest to know that a lady of Providence, R. I., during leisure moments, has spelled six hundred and fifty words out of the word "congregationalist," and in no case repeating a letter in the formation of a word.

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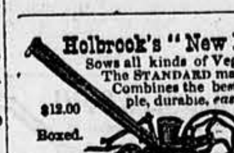

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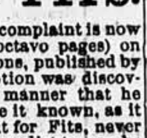

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