

Kansas School Statistics.
 State Superintendent Lemon has issued a circular containing a summary of the common school statistics for Kansas for the year ending the 31st of last July. From this circular the following facts are gleaned: The Kansas school population is 311,310, the increase for the year being 44,734, or 33 per cent. more than for any other of the state's history. This increase of school population represents an emigration to the state of 160,000 to 175,000 people in one year. During the year the school enrollment increased about 30,000; the average daily attendance about 20,000. The average school term for the state was 34.6-10 weeks, this being a half month more than ever before. Sixty-six normal institutes were held last year, for a term from four to six weeks, in which 6,050 of the 6,707 common school teachers of the state received instructions. The school revenues for the year amount to \$1,878,563.02, of which \$1,052,699.16 was expended for teachers' wages. 414 new school-houses were built during the year at a cost of about \$300,000. At the close of the last fiscal year, June 30, 1879, the permanent school fund of the state in the state treasury was \$1,001,631.92, nearly all of which was invested in Kansas state and school district bonds, bearing from 6 to 10 per cent. interest.

How Miami County Land Responds—Fatal Accident.
 [Miami Republican.]
 We believe that in Miami county the farmer is as well paid for his labor as on any spot on earth. We have given dozens of illustrations. One more: D. J. Post, of Marysville, on a high upland prairie farm, planted 125 acres in corn last spring. He has gathered this fall, and has in his cribs, 7,500 bushels of corn. Many of his neighbors have done as well.

One of the most terrible accidents that has ever been our duty to record occurred on last Friday at the saw-mill of Mr. Harman Coolman, on the Marias des Cygne river, in East valley. Mr. Coolman was cleaning out the plow wheel that runs the carriage of his saw-mill, and inadvertently threw his arm against the saw, which was in motion. His arm was cut entirely off just above the elbow. Dr. Carpenter, of Lancaster, and Dr. Aldeman, of Paola, were sent for at once, but those present were unable to stop the flow of blood, and before the doctors could reach him he had bled to death, or was so far gone that it was impossible to save him. The accident occurred about 11 o'clock a. m., and he died in about three hours thereafter.

The Electric Light.
 [Topeka Commonwealth.]
 The papers for the past week have been full of the reported completion of the discovery by Edison making the electric light a success. It is said that he has been able to divide the light, which heretofore has been the stumbling block. If it proves the success it has been anticipated, all other plans for furnishing light will be superseded by this at but a trifling cost. It looks to an outsider as though there was a method (for what purpose we will not say) in the manner it was first announced. Simultaneously papers all over the country had from three to ten columns of cuts and descriptions showing how the new light was to work. We have refrained from copying or referring to the matter because it is promised that a New Jersey village shall be lighted on the 1st of January with this light at an expense of ten cents a month. The telegraph has informed us that stock in gas companies in this country and England has taken a great tumble downward. Somebody has bought this stock at the reduced rates. If it should turn out that Edison's plan don't work as is expected, gas stock will rise, and the question is, "who makes the money?"

Tribute to the Memory of a Dead Boy.
 [Troy Chief.]
 Charles N. Ege was born near Doniphan, Doniphan county, Kansas, February 16, 1864, and died December 17, 1879, at his mother's residence in Atchison, Kansas. Charlie was a bright, ambitious boy, active at work or play. One who loved him very dearly writes: "Charlie was the same patient sufferer unto the end. Even when enduring the most intense pain he closed his lips firmly that he might not give expression to his sufferings. When his physician told him that he could do nothing more for him he resignedly said, 'God knows best.' His pleasant smile and his courage won for him many friends during the months of his trial. Refined in his tastes, his love of the beautiful was manifest unto the last, turning from the delicacies sent him to tempt the appetite to the beautiful flowers that kind friends surrounded him with. His last words were, 'Mamma, I'm going home,' and death left no shadow on the dear face."
 His remains were taken from his home in Atchison and buried in St. Joseph.

An Ingenious Suicide.
 The Dodge City Globe gives the following account of a suicide at the fort. The ingenuity of the man is something wonderful:
 On last Sunday night at Fort Dodge Private Brown, of company I, 19th infantry, committed suicide by shooting himself through the top of the head with a 45-caliber needle gun. About 8 o'clock in the evening he left the company quarters, taking his gun with him. He went behind one of the out-buildings near the corral, deliberately tied one end of his necktie to the big toe of his right foot and the other end to the trigger of his gun. He then placed the muzzle of the gun in his mouth, fetched her a jerk with the toe-line, and blew off the top of his head. His brains were scattered about in a promiscuous manner, and he presented a shocking appearance. Up to within a few days ago Brown had been a clerk in the adjutant's office, but since cold weather set in he has been detailed on ice duty. This was a greater hardship than he could bear, and drove him to the rash act. The company sent to Topeka for a casket, which arrived this morning, and he will be buried in the Post cemetery to-day.

Sorghum Sugar—Met by Robbers.
 [Atchison Champion.]
 Dr. Colyer, chemist of the agricultural bureau at Washington, says: "If congress will give me ten acres of ground to experiment on next season I will return twenty tons of raw sorghum sugar or forfeit my reputation." If all Dr. Colyer wants is ten acres of ground there are at least 40,000 farmers in the country who will cheerfully let him have that amount for a year, and if he can by any patent process make two tons of raw sorghum sugar from an acre of ground there is nothing to hinder him from being the richest man in America. We see no occasion for calling on congress for aid in this matter.
 Mr. J. F. Burnes, a farmer living near Kencuk, started to town early yesterday morning to pay his taxes. About two miles this side of Huron he was stopped by two highwaymen, who leveled a revolver at Mr. Burnes's head and demanded his money or his life. Mr. Burnes had taken the precaution to hide his money, some \$240, by burying it under the corn in his wagon. The two men searched Mr. Burnes but found nothing of value upon his person. The men were on foot and were going westward. One of them was a raw-boned man with chin whiskers, and wearing a black, narrow-brimmed hat. The other was heavy set and wore a mustache.

Making Diamonds.
 [Leavenworth Times.]
 People who have invested in diamonds probably need not at once become panic-stricken when they hear that a Scotch chemist has learned how the precious stones might be manufactured. A great many other wise men have sincerely believed, in days past, that they had succeeded in unvelving in a similar manner one of the most dexterously hidden secrets of nature's laboratory, and still the diamond market has never been overloaded. It is of course possible that the Scotchman has done better than his predecessors, and has really discovered how to make diamonds as cheap as paving stones; but it will be worth while to await for proof of the fact before accounting natural diamonds as mere dirt.

Feeding Texas.
 [Lawrence Journal.]
 The dry summer cut short the crops in Texas to a great extent, so that her people have to look to the North for their breadstuffs. Kansas is next door neighbor to Texas, with only 300 miles of Indian territory between, and the M., K. & T. railroad is now fully employed in hauling corn and flour from Parsons and other points in Southeastern Kansas to feed our neighbors of the Lone Star. Parsons alone is shipping more than one hundred thousand bushels of corn per month and three car loads of flour a week.

Protecting the Quails.
 [Clay County Dispatch.]
 We, the undersigned citizens of school districts Nos. 26, 32, 68 and 85 in Clay county, Kansas, recognizing the great importance to the farming community, and therefore to the public at large, of the existence of insect-eating birds in the county, hereby agree, and form ourselves into an association, for the protection of their lives on our several premises, and to give warning to and prosecute any and all persons who hunt or kill any quail or other insect-eating bird or other game on any of our premises.

Mild Weather.
 [Coffeeville Journal.]
 We are having an old-fashioned Southern Kansas winter. Christmas next Thursday and yet not snow enough to fleck a black coat. Cattle were herded up to the first of the month and after; farmers have been plowing for spring work until within a few days; and it is not a month since some fields of wheat were sown within a few miles of town. This is certainly a favored spot.

Silk Growing in Kansas a Success.
 [Council Grove Republican.]
 The silk growers of Silkville, Franklin county, are much encouraged, and state that there is no doubt of silk-growing being a success in Kansas. Some cultivators have as much as 100 acres planted to mulberry trees, and say they are doing well.

Fish.
 [Ellsworth Reporter.]
 Hon. D. R. Long put 5,000 young fish in the Smoky river last night. He was obliged to break the ice in order to get them in. This makes 10,000 fish he has distributed in this county during the past few days.

Read, Everybody!

S. G. M'CONNELL,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
 Has opened at No. 75 Massachusetts street with the Best Line of

CLOTHS AND CASSIMERES
 In the city. Fresh


SPRING GOODS
 Just received.

First-Class Workmen and Low Prices.

Cutting done for home making, at lowest cash prices. Don't forget the place—No. 75 Massachusetts street.


STORY & CAMP'S
 Mammoth Music House,
 912 & 914 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

ESTEY ORGAN



DECKER BROTHERS' MATHUSHEK
 And other First-Class Pianos. Also the unrivaled
ESTEY ORGANS.
 Five hundred Instruments for sale (on easy payments), exchange or rent. Astonishing bargains.


Messrs. Story & Camp stand at the head of the musical trade of the West. Their establishments here and at Chicago are the two largest west of New York. The members of the firm rank high among our staunchest, most honorable and most successful merchants and manufacturers. They have built up one of the strongest and best mercantile houses in the country, and their establishment is an honor to themselves and a credit to St. Louis.—St. Louis Republican.
 W. W. LAPHAM, Gen'l Traveling Agt., Lawrence, Kansas.



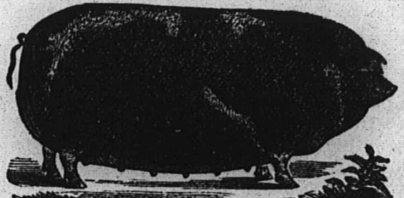
ROBERT COOK,
 Iola, Allen county, Kans.,
 Importer, Breeder and Shipper of
PURE POLAND-CHINA HOGS
 —AND—
SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

Pigs forwarded to any part of the United States at the following prices per pair, persons ordering pigs paying freight on the same:
 Eight weeks old.....\$22 00
 Three to five months old..... 22 00
 Five to seven months old..... 42 00
 Single Pigs, either sex, one-half above price.
 A Boar, eight months old.....\$25 00
 A Sow, eight months old, with pig..... 25 00
 Description of the Poland-China Hog: The prevailing color is black and white spotted, sometimes pure white and sometimes a mixed sandy color.
 All Pigs warranted first-class and shipped C. O. D. Charges on remittances must be prepaid.

FI. MENDARO HERD.



LEVI DUMBAULD.
 Hartford, Lyon county, Kansas,
 —BREEDER OF—
THOROUGH-BRED SHORT-HORN CATTLE
 —AND—
BERKSHIRE PIGS.
 Some of the most fashionable families represented in both classes of stock. Particular attention is given to producing animals of good form and quality. The premium show bull **KING OF THE PRAIRIE**, 47,468, at head of herd. Young stock for sale.
 Poland-China Hogs a Specialty.



A CHOICE LOT OF PIGS
 For this season's trade.

Address **HENRY MIEBACH,**
 Hiawatha, Brown county, Kansas.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,
 229 & 229 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

ORIGINAL WHOLESALE
GRANGE SUPPLY HOUSE
 SEND FOR PRICE LISTS.

1859. } FOR TWENTY YEARS { 1879.
 The Leading Fashion House in Every Respect!

MRS. GARDNER & CO.,
 LAWRENCE, KANSAS,
Hats, Bonnets and Elegant Stock of Notions.

N. B.—Ladies, when you visit the city call at Mrs. Gardner's first and leave your orders, so that your goods may be ready when you wish to return.

MRS. GARDNER & CO.
1,000 SEWING MACHINES A DAY!

THE BEST
 ALWAYS WINS
 IN THE
 LONG RUN.



BUY ONLY
 THE
 GENUINE!
 Beware of Counterfeiters.

No Singer Machine is Genuine without our Trade Mark, given above.
 THE SALES OF THIS COMPANY AVERAGE OVER 1,000 MACHINES PER DAY.

Long Experience has proven the Genuine Singer to be
THE BEST MACHINE.
THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
 Singer Building, Fifth and Locust streets, ST. LOUIS.

ESTABLISHED 1873.
 GEO. R. BARSE. ANDY J. SNIDER.


Barse & Snider,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
 For the sale of Live Stock.

KANSAS STOCK YARDS, KANSAS CITY, MO.

Consignments solicited. Personal attention paid to the care and sale of all stock. We make all sales in person. Special attention paid to the feeding and watering of stock. Business for 1876 over three million (\$3,000,000) dollars.

W. A. ROGERS. **H. D. ROGERS.**

ROGERS & ROGERS,
KANSAS CITY STOCK YARDS.



We manufacture and keep on hand a full and fine assortment of
COFFINS, CASES AND CASKETS!
 Of superior quality at moderate prices. Our Warerooms are at the
 Corner of Henry and Vermont streets, Lawrence, Kansas.
HILL & MENDENHALL.

Horticultural Department.

STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Address of the President, Prof. E. Gale, of Manhattan, to the Thirteenth Annual Meeting, Held at Holton December 16, 17 and 18, 1879.

As we gather here to-night we have abundant reason to adore the Great Father for the sparing mercies of the past year. While we meet here, surrounded by the mercies and the tokens of divine care and love, we cannot remember without a shade of sadness that some who have often come to our convocations and cheered us with their earnest and eloquent utterances will meet with us here no more forever.

We should recognize the fact that many earnest and excellent workers have lately come into the horticultural ranks; and it is with the heartiest greeting we extend to them the hand of welcome. We welcome cordially those who have long dwelt among us and yet not identified their interests with horticulture until recently; and to those who have come from other states to root themselves, as it were, by trees, and shrubs, and flowers, and lawns, and parks, with the soil of Western Kansas, we give the most friendly greeting.

While we desire the co-operation of all earnest men in promoting the objects of our organization, we cannot expect this unless we set forth clearly the purpose which we have in view. In seeking to do this we must first state that we seek in no case to occupy ground or to do work which belongs to other organizations. From a very early period horticulture has been recognized as occupying a distinctive field, and as doing a work peculiarly its own.

We accept the fact that much of our work has to do with the question of profit and loss. When any department of horticulture presents itself to us as the means by which we hope to provide for our own necessities and that of our families it is primarily a question of gain or loss. But we are to remember that almost the entire range of horticultural pursuits go infinitely beyond the question of mere return in dollars and cents.

ries—those only who have wealth can afford to indulge in them—and yet they have an end in the culture of manhood that finite powers can scarcely measure. It is worth our while then to cherish beauty for beauty's sake. The love of the good and the beautiful is not something to be repressed but to be cherished. We want, then, to scatter far and wide among all our people the idea that one great purpose of this society is to encourage the making of beautiful homes, and at the same time to give our people to understand that true beauty is not synonymous with costliness.

In a young state where all our homes are new or yet to be made one of the live issues of the hour is how to make our homes beautiful. We have talked hitherto of flowers and shrubs and trees, as we must largely in the future, but we have seemed to forget that all these were only the units that go to make up that great sum, home, and that it mattered little how these were put together. These flowers and shrubs and trees are the alphabet of horticulture. For more than twenty years we have been studying this alphabet on the soil of Kansas and some may think us not very apt pupils if we confess that we do not quite know all of our letters yet; and it is not improbable that we might detect a decided upward turn of the corners of the mouth with those who are relying upon an experience gained in the East for success in a Kansas climate.

Another matter specially worthy of our constant effort is the securing of trees, fruits, shrubs, flowers and vegetables suited to the peculiar climatic conditions of this state. Individual enterprise has been turned in this direction for twenty or more years, and a large amount of valuable knowledge has been gathered in the costly school of experience.

Another interest that occupies a prominent place in the deliberations of this society is forestry. The unprecedented immigration that is filling up so rapidly the entire western portion of the state, where there is so general a lack of fuel and forest production, makes the culture of trees a question of primary importance.

against the few uncertain children of science. While the former may demand the attention of the skilled scientist, and must ever be carried on under his hand, the latter will command the attention of every thoughtful lover of good fruit and beauty.

To the encouragement of all interested in this matter of new fruit it may not be amiss to say that the great mass of all kinds of good fruit have been propagated from chance seedlings. Let no one be discouraged then in regard to the production of new and valuable fruit because he has neither time nor skill for artificial fertilization. Plant seeds, then, we say, of valuable fruits, and replant, continue to plant, and still plant until the bright suns and delightful summers of Kansas shall bring into being a fruit better than anything now known.

Our special efforts should also be directed to secure a more general understanding of the peculiar hindrances in the way of horticultural success. There is a bright side to horticulture; a great deal of poetry is mingled with its sunlight and leafy beauty. But there is a dark side, and a good deal of very sober prose; and it is well to teach this. In this practical age men are disposed to laugh at science, but it is about time that we awoke up to the fact that the future triumphs of horticulture will have their basis in science. When we see our fruit decaying and falling from the tree; when we see it eaten and ruined by worms, or spotted with fungus, and the trees dying before our eyes; while we find one orchard fruitless by reason of frosts three times out of four while others scarcely ever fail to produce fruit in our helplessness we turn to science.

Another interest that occupies a prominent place in the deliberations of this society is forestry. The unprecedented immigration that is filling up so rapidly the entire western portion of the state, where there is so general a lack of fuel and forest production, makes the culture of trees a question of primary importance. There are not a few difficulties unquestionably in the way of entire success. There are some serious obstacles to be surmounted perhaps not yet fully recognized.

From whatever stand we view our work it should be viewed as a work for man. Let us as horticulturists set a fitting estimate upon our work. Let us be true to ourselves. Let the far-reaching scope of our work be recognized. And with a consciousness of our destiny let us go forward to make Kansas blossom as the rose.

The Household.

Making Hired Help Responsible.

A lady contributor to the Rural New Yorker says on this subject "that one of the rules of 'our house' is to make the 'help' both on the farm and in the house responsible for the loss and breakage of articles confided to their care and use. The result is that the breakage of crockery is almost nothing, and other losses in proportion. I think that 'help,' as a rule, like this method of arrangement much better than the fuss and scolding that usually accompany breakage. They learn a double lesson in this way—to be careful, and to know the cost and value of things. Of course the master and mistress can always make whatever allowance they think best in regard to accidents. Whenever I have occasion to introduce new help into my family service I inform her at the outset that what she breaks she will have to pay for, and the announcement is always good-naturedly received. Not long ago I overheard a new arrival in the kitchen remark to my housekeeper: 'Madam's rule is a good one about breaking dishes. I was at a place two years ago where there was the same rule, and where I broke some dishes. But, mind you, I haven't broke any since. Some girls slam the dishes round and don't care whether they break them or not. I guess if they had them to pay for they would be more careful.' I was quite of the same mind. It is well enough to know, sometimes, the opinions of hired help on household management."

Mr. E. Phinney, of Lexington, Mass., an enterprising and prosperous farmer a few years ago, made his hired workmen responsible not only for the things lost or broken on his farm but also for the trees injured by teams at work in his orchards, and even for weeds left in the fields by his workmen. The consequence was that he had only efficient and careful workers on his farm. He paid good wages, and had good help that conformed to his strict rules.

Letter from Aunt Helen.

DEAR SPIRIT:—As I look over your bright, clean pages my heart goes out toward the boys and girls who write for you, and promise myself time to say just a few words for my corner in "The Household" and to the dear little girl who away last summer wished "Aunt Helen would not forget us." My no! I could hug you all up, and kiss you too, for you all do better than—than even "Aunt Saffy," for she too forgets just a little.

Aye, welladay! how the weeks go by. Even the long hot summer that never seemed so hot before has gone, and Mr. Stevens never forgot to send THE SPIRIT. And now that's how I woke up; I caught an inspiration from that stray leaf from "S. A. B.'s" diary. It touched a chord in my heart as I read how she was made so glad. I'm always ready to march when I hear such an one strike a key-note. You see, girls and boys, she's in earnest. Yes, life is sweet with such women. And she feels the potent spell wrought by every other good woman who serve as teachers.

The age of boys and girls far overreaches that of man's estate. Theirs give to them such a bright and happy future no colorist ever found tints half so fine, no luminous art ever wrought out such illumination, as crown the brains of every boy and girl, giving them grand ideas of what their future will be. Then work away in this mellow youth-time, and bring yourselves to verify believe you live only in the very best of times, bringing yourselves to the very threshold of a noble manhood and womanhood, to take the place of those who will have drifted past the place just waiting for you on to a future in the great unknown, neither sighing as the gray and somber shades are left to the sear and withered leaves.

AUNT HELEN.

The yolk of eggs binds the crust much better than the whites. Apply it to the edges with a brush.

Second Chapter from My Diary.

To-day we rejoiced in the warmth and pleasure of a bright sunshiny day, reminding us of the hazy Indian summer weather of a few weeks ago.

Kit, my horse, has learned to recognize a school-house, and trots up to the door without my drawing the rein. We find the room filled with boys and girls busily learning their lessons, but they are not sufficiently accustomed to visitors nor so deeply absorbed in their work but what our entrance makes a little commotion. A strain of interest passes around; often a friendly smile of recognition greets us, especially if we have visited them before. The teacher is a lady past her youth, who has been successful in her vocation, but who has been out of the school-room for several years. She keeps good order—the children are studying industriously—but she tells me she feels that she has grown rusty. She has been so situated that she has not been able to take educational papers nor to attend normal institutes nor meet with other teachers to discuss the work, and it surprises her to find how fast the world is moving on. Methods and books are constantly changing, and one must be up with the lark and study late would he keep pace with the new world of thought and of action.

In the evening we held an educational meeting. The house is filled with an attentive audience. The neighboring districts are represented; but when reports of the schools are called for we find the teachers backward in responding. They only give a few statistics, and complain that they do not know how to write anything; that they have nothing to say. Yet they talk to me most elegantly about their work; tell me how they try to get better attendance, how the absence and tardiness interferes with their plans and prevents them from reaching those results which they so earnestly desire. All unite in saying that no other one thing gives them so much trouble as this non-attendance. It prevents them from classifying their schools as they would like; it doubles their work and diminishes their results. Now these are the very questions which we wish brought up for consideration; but they feel timid, do not know how to do it. They are not accustomed to write out their thoughts; it is a labor to arrange them clearly and pointedly. I am glad, however, to see that a new departure is being made in the schools, and that the children are to be taught to write; and I sincerely hope the next generation will do it more easily. I should be glad to see teachers enter into this work heartily. Is it not true that too many of us lack enthusiasm? We go through our daily routine of work, consecutively, it may be but mechanically; we fail to exert any influence in our several districts; do not enter heartily into any plans for self-improvement, for the elevation of ourselves or others.

These meetings were planned for the purpose of coming to a better understanding of our school work. It is a many-sided question. We want to hear from the teachers—the troubles they meet with, the results they are aiming for. We want to hear from school officers; and we would like to hear from the people, the patrons of the schools; and so by hearing all sides we shall come to a better understanding of each other's positions and be able to work more in harmony.

S. A. B.

CONTINENTAL Insurance Company OF NEW YORK.

Cash assets January 1, 1879, \$3,327,774. LIABILITIES. Unearned reserve fund, and reported losses, 1,289,369. Capital (paid up in cash), 1,000,000. Net surplus over all, 1,038,405.

The undersigned is the only authorized agent of the Continental Insurance Company for the city of Lawrence and county of Douglas. Farm and other property insured at the lowest adequate rates. JOHN CHARLTON, Office over Leis' drug store, Lawrence.

\$300 A MONTH guaranteed. \$12 a day at home made by the industrious. Capital not required; we will start you. Men, women, boys and girls make money faster at work for us than at anything else. The work is light and pleasant, and such as any one can go right at. Those who are wise who see this notice will send us their addresses at once and see for themselves. Costly outfit and terms free. Now is the time. Those already at work are laying up large sums of money. Address TRUE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

