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# KANSAS FARMER



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**SHEEP FOR SALE CHEAP.**—Pure-bred Cotswolds, Shropshires and American rams at a bargain. Two pedigreed collie pups at half price. Write at once to Hague & Son, Rt. 140, Walton, Harvey Co., Kas.

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Pure-breds. Finest in Kansas. High-scoring birds for sale. Address H. T. Forbes, 703 Polk St., Topeka, Kas.

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At wholesale and Retail. All bred from the best and highest-priced stock in this country. Fifty Barred Plymouth Rocks, 50 White Plymouth Rocks, 40 Partridge Cochins, 30 S. L. Wyandottes, 45 Black Javas, 35 Light Brahmas, 60 Brown Leghorns, 50 White Leghorns, 25 Buff Leghorns and 25 S. S. Hamburgs. \$1 each or six birds for \$5, and \$9 per dozen, for a short time only. Send on your orders. **A. H. DUFF, Larned, Kansas.**

### SWINE.

**BOURBON COUNTY HERD BERKSHIRES.** J. S. MAGERS, Proprietor, Arcadia, Kas. Correspondence invited. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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For ten years winners at leading fairs in competition with the best herds in the world. Visitors say: "Your hogs have such fine heads, good backs and hams, strong bone, and are so large and smooth." If you want a boar or pair of pigs, write. I ship from Topeka. **G. W. Berry, Berryton, Shawnee Co., Kas.**

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Herd boars, Victor Hugo 41799 (sire imp.) Barkis 30040 (weight 800 lbs.), Price Jr. 17, from World's Fair winner. Forty-eight spring and summer pigs for sale. Also bred choice B. P. Rock chickens. Write. **Allen Thomas, Blue Mound, Linn Co., Kas.**

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Berkshire swine and B. Plymouth Rock chickens, Imp. Pekin ducks, and Pearl guineas. Eggs in season. Agent for Prairie State Incubators. 180 first premiums. An improved eighty-acre farm for sale. **M. S. KOHL, Farley, Sedgwick Co., Kas.**

## Mound Farm Herd of Poland-Chinas.

100 head. Foundation stock, Tecumseh. Boars in service, Tecumseh Joe 1344 S., Chief 13840 S. Butler Wilkes 1794 S., U. S. Tecumseh 17850 S. 15 fall gilts, 30 spring pigs, 30 summer pigs. Inspection and correspondence invited. **H. E. Bacheider, Fredonia, Wilson Co., Kas.**

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A choice lot of yearling sows for sale, sired by Ideal U. S. (he by Ideal Black U. S.) and King Dee (he by What's Wanted Jr.). Also some good young males large enough for service and young gilts ready to breed, sired by Ideal U. S. The yearlings will be bred to Tecumseh Chief, he by Chief Tecumseh 2d. Prices right. **WM. MAGUIRE, Haven, Kas.**

## BLUE RIBBON HERD PURE POLAND-CHINA SWINE

and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens. Tecumseh Short Stop 14750 at head of herd, assisted by Hadley Jr.'s Equal 15119 and King Tecumseh 16307. One hundred choice pigs for sale. Farm located three miles southwest of city. Calls or correspondence invited. **R. H. WHEELER, Lawrence, Kas.**

## Kansas City Herd Poland-Chinas

The future villa of Hadley Jr. 13314 O., the greatest boar of his age. I have pigs for sale now by Hadley out of Tecumseh Mortgage Litter 32649 S. Order quick and orders will be booked as received. Farm nine miles south of Kansas City, on Fort Scott & Memphis R. R. Postoffice Lenexa, Kas. **W. P. GOODE, Proprietor, Lenexa, Kas.**

## Verdigris Valley Herd Poland-Chinas.

125 head. The best individuals and most popular strains that money and judgment could buy and experience breed. Thirty choice spring pigs both sexes, by Black Stop Chief 16316 S., he by the great breeding boar Black Stop 10550 S., a son of the World's Fair winner, Short Stop. Write or visit us. **WAIT & EAST, Altoona, Wilson Co., Kas.**

## COUNCIL GROVE HERD POLAND-CHINA SWINE.

Herd boars are H's World's Fair No. 2 11930 and Don Wilkes 15475. Have fifty pigs for sale, strong in Tecumseh, Corwin and Wilkes strains. They are up-to-date in breeding and thrifty. Inspection and correspondence invited. **W. F. Shamleffer, Council Grove, Kas.**

### SWINE.

**M. H. ALBERTY,** Cherokee, Kas. Breeder of Registered, Duroc-Jersey Swine.

## Pioneer Herd Duroc-Jerseys.

N. P. CLARK, Prop., Monticello, Iowa. One hundred pigs of the choicest strains for the season's trade. Correspondence invited.

**J. T. LAWTON, BURTON, Kas.** (formerly of North Topeka, Kas.), breeder of Improved Chester White swine. Young stock for sale. Also Light Brahma fowls.

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Registered stock. Send for 44-page catalogue, prices and history, containing much other useful information to young breeders. Will be sent on receipt of stamp and address. **J. M. Stonebraker, Panola, Ill.**

**D. L. BUTON,** North Topeka, Kas., breeder of Improved Chester Whites. Stock for sale. Farm 2 miles northwest of Reform School.

## Wamego Herd Imp. Chester Whites and Poland-Chinas.

Mated for best results. Also Barred Plymouth Rock chickens and eggs for sale. Correspondence or inspection invited. Mention FARMER. **C. J. HUGGINS, Proprietor, Wamego, Kas.**

## SIXTEEN TO ONE HERD REGISTERED POLAND-CHINA SWINE.

Herd boars, Gold Standard Wilkes by Guy Wilkes 2d 17777 S. and Ideal Quality by Darkness Quality 2d 14361 S. Brood sows, Tecumseh, Black U. S. and Wilkes. Thirty spring pigs, both sexes, ready to go. Farm two miles north of Welda. **J. M. COLLINS, Welda, Anderson Co., Kas.**

## GOLD STANDARD HERD POLAND-CHINA SWINE.

Spring pigs of either sex. The leading strains—Black U. S., Corwin and Wilkes. Write for prices, tell what you want and I can probably suit you. **W. D. VAWTER, Prop'r, Carbondale, Kas.**

## MILES BROTHERS' HERD Registered Poland-Chinas.

Peabody, Marion Co., Kas. Seventy-five head. Forty-five spring pigs. Herd boars, Hadley Corwin Faultless 15562 S. and Miles' Look Me Over (Vol. XII S.), a son of the \$3,600 Look Me Over 25348 O. Our brood sows are specially selected ones. Inspection and correspondence invited.

## PLEASANT VALLEY HERD REGISTERED POLAND-CHINA SWINE

Westphalia, Anderson Co., Kas. Breeder of high-class pedigree Poland-China swine. Herd headed by Lambing's Ideal. Sixty spring pigs for this season's trade, sired by herd boars King Perfection and Tecumseh's Grand out of sows by Chief Tecumseh 2d, Free Trade, Black U. S., etc. Write. **E. A. BRICKER.**

## BAYFIELD FARM HERD POLAND-CHINA SWINE.

FOR SALE—50 GILTS, to be bred for March, April and May litter, sired by U. S. Volunteer 15836 S. by One Price 4207 S., and Bayfield Chief 17793 S. by Chief Tecumseh 2d 1915 S. Also a few good spring boars. **J. S. MACHER, Linwood, Leavenworth Co., Kas.**

## Mains' Herd Poland-Chinas

Headed by the three grand breeding boars, Model Combination—his sire was J. D. Model, he by Klever's Model 14964 out of McKelvey's Lass 42107; his dam Lady Chief 42919, she by Chief Tecumseh 2d 9115 and out of Ralph's Pet 42788; One Price Chief—his sire Chief Tecumseh 2d 9115, his dam Alpha Price 38785, she by One Price 4207; Kansas Chief 33615—he by Royal Chief's Best and out of Bell O. 74594. The sows are all selected and equal in breeding and quality to any. A few sows bred will be offered. Young males and gilts ready. Satisfaction guaranteed. **James Mains, Oskaloosa, Jefferson Co., Kas.**

## KLEVER'S 1st MODEL 18245 S.

Sired by Klever's Model 14664 S., the \$5,100 king of boars; first dam Graceful Maid (43851); second dam Graceful F. 3d (29670), litter sister to Old Look Me Over 9011, the \$3,600 boar. This gives Klever's 1st Model all that could be asked in breeding and sale ring backing. He is black as ink, low down, deep and broad, extra head and ears. His get follows the pattern perfectly. He will be assisted by other good boars in service on thirty matured sows of moderate type and breeding. I sell nothing but tops; keep my knife sharp for culis. Free livery at Roberts' stable. **F. W. BAKER, Council Grove, Morris, Co., Kas.**

### SWINE.

## 150 PIGS FROM PREMIUM CHESTER WHITE

stock; choice breeding, good length, bone and ham. Pairs and tris not akin from five grand boars and twenty-five sows. Special offering now of best breeding. Also B. P. Rocks and Buff Cochins for sale from best strains. Prices right. **J. C. CANADAY, Bogard, Carroll Co., Mo.**

## Nation's Poland-Chinas.

Fifty boars and gilts for this season's trade. My herd boars consist of Darkness Quality 14861, Princeton Chief 14545, Col. Hildebrecht 37247 and Standard Wilkes. My sows are splendid individuals and of the right breeding. Personal inspection and correspondence invited. **LAWRENCE NATION, Hutchinson, Kas.**

## 175 PEDIGREED POLAND-CHINAS.

Black U. S., Tecumseh, Wilkes, Free Trade. Bred for individuality and usefulness. Herd boars Miller's U. S. 14031 S., Windsor U. S. T. 12046 S. and Wilkes Boy 16570 S. Thirty fall and spring boars, thirty fall and spring gilts ready to go. Correspondence and inspection invited. **W. J. MILLER & SON, Windsor, Henry Co., Mo.**

## Royal Herd Poland-Chinas

and prize-winning Barred Plymouth Rock chickens—first premium at Kansas State fair—'95-'96-'97. Choice birds \$2 to \$5 each. For thirty days will sell choice pigs at \$15 per pair. My two herd boars and brood sows, including first premium sow, at a bargain, as I wish to close out my hogs before winter. **WARD A. BAILEY, Wichita, Kas.**

## TOPS! TOPS! TOPS!

One Poland-China boar fit to head any herd, sired by Nox All Wilkes 18179; price \$25. Some good young boars fit for service, \$15 each. Twenty-five last fall and spring young sows, bred and safe in pig, at low prices; sired by Silver Chief, Chief I Know, U. S. I Know, Claud Sanders and the great Nox All Wilkes. Two sows out of Bonnie Black U. S. and bred to Highland Chief by Chief Tecumseh 2d. Do not miss this opportunity. **DIETRICH & SPALDING, Richmond, Kas.**

## PURE-BRED POLAND-CHINA SWINE

Brood sows by Wren's Medium, Hadley M. Washington, Protection Boy and Darkness 1st 38752 in this herd. Tanner 19212, a son of Gen. Hildebrecht by the famous Hildebrecht, now heads my herd, and a finer breeder and individual is not in Kansas to-day. I need not comment on Tanner's breeding, nor on that of my brood sows. Pigs by One Price Medium 2d 18395. Prompt attention given to all inquiries. Prices reasonable. **J. R. WILLSON, Marion, Kas.**

### CATTLE.

## Bulls—Aberdeen—Angus.

Seven head of choicest breeding and individuality. Twenty to thirty-six months old. In the condition. Weights 1,200 to 1,600 pounds. Prices reasonable. **WM. B. SUTTON & SON, Russell, Kas.**

## SILVER CREEK HERD SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

Scotch and Scotch-topped, with the richly-bred Champion's Best 114671 in service. Also high-class Duroc-Jersey Swine. Can ship to Santa Fe, Frisco and Missouri Pacific railroads. **J. F. STGDDER, Burden, Cowley Co., Kas.**

## DEER PARK FARM.

**H. E. BALL, Proprietor.** Registered Jersey cattle. Young bulls and help for sale. Registered Poland-China swine. Young boars for sale. Farm two miles east of Topeka on Sixth street road. **T. P. CRAWFORD, Mgr., Topeka, Kas.**

## ROSE CREEK FARM JERSEY CATTLE and POLAND-CHINA SWINE.

Our SILVER WYANDOTTES and Mammoth Bronze Turkeys are from premium stock. Write us if you want the best. (Farm in Republic Co., Kansas.) **H. WOODFORD, Mgr., Chester, Neb.** (Breeders' Directory continued on page 18.)



### Agricultural Matters.

#### THE BUSINESS OF A WHEAT FARM.

By William Allen White. Excerpt from a paper in Scribner's Magazine.

When one is cataloguing the callings of men one says "the business man, and the farmer," never "the business man and farmer" or the "business man engaged in farming." In daily speech modern men and women pay unconscious tribute to the ghost of the old order—the order which seemed to decree that the farmer's existence depended upon brawn and not upon brain. This thoughtless slighting of the farmer's vocation—which is manifest in a score of forms in all departments of art, and in the conduct of material affairs—seems curious when one pauses to observe how deeply the farmer of to-day is involved in the meshes of commerce. The successful farmer of this generation must be a business man first, and a tiller of the soil afterward. In him must be combined many talents. He must be a capitalist, cautious and crafty; he must be an operator of industrial affairs, daring and resourceful, and he must play labor's part, with patience and humility. He is in business as certainly as the banker. And henceforth until the order changes, the farmer's success in business will quad-

farmer there is no such word as "hoe." The smallest implement upon a big wheat farm is a plow. And from the plow to the elevator—from the first operation in wheat farming to the last—one is forced to realize how the spirit of the age has made itself felt here, and has reduced the amount of human labor to the minimum. The man who plows uses his muscle only incidentally in guiding the machine. The man who operates the harrow has half a dozen levers to lighten his labor. The "sower who goeth forth to sow" walks leisurely behind a drill and works brakes. The reaper needs a quick brain and a quick hand—but not necessarily a strong arm nor a powerful back. He works sitting down. The threshers are merely assistants to a machine, and the men who heave the wheat into the bins only press buttons. The most desirable farm hand is not the fellow who can pound the "mauling machine" most lustily at the county fair. He is the man with the cunning brain who can get the most work out of a machine without breaking it. The farm laborer in the West today, where machinery is employed, finds himself advanced to the ranks of skilled labor, and enjoys a position not widely different from that of the mill hand in the East. Each is a tender of a machine.

This much concerning the industrial side of Western farm life seems to be

has little economic or sociological interest. They did not grow as a snowball grows, by accumulation, the big farms swallowing up the little ones. The land came to its present owners generally by direct purchase from the railroad corporations. It became the property of the railroads through government grants—a bonus for the construction and operation of the line. The railroad people interested capitalists, and the establishment of the farms came naturally. The "wheat kings" purchased their land at low prices. The improvements that have been made upon it—after the first breaking, have consisted largely of machinery. Only a small per cent. of the land is under fence, and the houses upon a farm are not at all expensive. Yet as the land of the nation has become occupied in the last quarter of a century, the price of land has increased. This rise of land values has put a price upon the acres of the big farms which has tempted many a bonanza farmer to reduce his acreage. Hence one finds the large farms gradually crumbling. In another generation, if land continues to rise in the market, the big farmers may follow the "troubadours and the mound-builders." At present land in the Red River valley is worth \$25 an acre. The improvements upon a first-class bonanza farm are worth about \$5 an acre. The average bonanza farmer operates from three to ten thousand acres. There are,

**HALL'S** Vegetable Sicilian  
**HAIR RENEWER**

Gives new life and vigor to the roots of the hair. It's like water to a drooping plant.  
No gray hair.  
No baldness.

and allowing forty feet to the car, the train which would haul the crop from the farm would be two miles long, and if it were to come charging down Fifth Avenue and Broadway in New York, the "rear end" brakeman would be craning his neck from the caboose to catch sight of the Vanderbilt mansion while the engineer and fireman were enjoying themselves bumping the cable car down by Union Square.

And the train-load would be the product of a lone farm. The money value of this crop would be what the old-fashioned books used to call "a king's ransom." If this crop had to go to mill



REAPING WITH RIGHT-HAND BINDERS.

Usually with three horses, but in wet seasons like the recent harvest, four horses are used. The covers are necessary to protect the horses from the sun & mosquitoes.

rate with the kind and quantity of brain he uses, and with the number of fertile acres under his plow.

Out in the West—where until lately land might be secured for the asking—farms of many acres are found. In the Dakotas and in California and in the far Northwestern States of the Union, these large farms are devoted almost exclusively to wheat-growing. In the vernacular of the wheat belt these farms are called "bonanza" farms. The best examples of such farms may be found in the valley of the Red River of the North, where the stream flows through North Dakota. Oddly enough, when the river crosses the Canadian border, the bonanza farms are not found in its valleys, and even smaller farms have not been established universally upon the rich soil, as they have been a few score of miles south in Yankeedom. In the valley upon the American side there is not a barren acre. Wheat stretches away from the car window to the horizon, over a land flat as a floor. The monotonous exactness of the level makes one long for the undulating prairies of the middle West. Yet the very evenness of the plain has a commercial value, and makes the location here of the great wheat farms possible. For in a rolling country there is waste land—here an "eighty" on a hill-top, there a "forty" in a swamp. But in bonanza farming every foot of land must be productive with the expenditure of the least possible amount of human labor upon it. In the lexicon of the Dakota

a necessary introduction to the elaboration of the scheme under which the financial business of the great wheat-growing plantation is conducted. From this brief explanation it may be seen that the problem which confronts the business man entering upon the extensive production of wheat is not entirely different from that which confronts him in any considerable producing enterprise. In the wheat farm the investor has the use of labor-saving machinery to increase the output of his establishment; his profits are large or small according to the caprices of his market. Here the parallel between the manufacturer and the bonanza farmer ends, for the farmer must produce to the full capacity every year. And he cannot estimate with much accuracy what its cost of production is going to be at any season. The rain, the hail, or the drought may cut his crop short 50 per cent. within a fortnight of the harvest. The weather, as an element of expense, finds a more important place in the ledger of the big wheat farm than is accorded to it in the books of any industrial enterprise. It may interest the reader to know that the season last past has been an exceptional one in the Dakotas, and that hundreds of thousands of acres of wheat in the bonanza country were damaged by rains just before harvest time. But usually the rains are sent to these fields with beneficent timeliness.

The big farms have been operating in the Red River valley for twenty years. The history of their early development

of course, scores of small farmers who have one, two and three sections under plow. They are not counted in the same breath with the more extensive wheat-growers. And it is with these latter only that there will be any concern in this paper, for they work upon a system of their own.

It is difficult to present the idea of the bigness of these farms to the persons whose preconceived notion of a farm is a little checker-board lying upon a hillside or in a valley. Seven thousand acres present the average bonanza farm. Generally these tracts are not divided. Yet distances across fields are so great that horseback communication is impracticable. Crews of workmen living at one end of the farm and operating it may not see the crews in other corners from season's end to season's end. And in busy seasons it is found profitable to feed the hands in the fields rather than to allow them to trudge through the hot sun to the dining halls for dinner. The dining halls—it will be explained later—are scattered over the farm at convenient points. They are frequently five or six miles apart, and many a noon finds the harvesting crew two miles from its hall. This illustration may give some sort of a rough conception of the bigness of these farms. Here is another point of view: Averaging twenty bushels to the acre—as many farms will this year—the total number of bushels in a crop on a bonanza farm would be 140,000; putting 500 bushels of that crop in a freight car,

the old-fashioned way, in two-bushel sacks on mule, the procession would stretch more than half way from Brooklyn to Buffalo, and would give every man, woman and child in Oklahoma Territory a ride to ride and pay them \$2 apiece for the work if the wheat should find a fair market. This year's crop of the Red River valley would put all the people in New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts on muleback and make a procession clear around the globe and back to the Klondike country.

As a general thing the titles to these great farms lie in the names of individuals. The corporation is rarely found operating farm. Frequently the private partnership exists. Sometimes one of the partners is manager of the farm. But more often the land-owners live in the East. Many live in the smaller towns of Pennsylvania and New York. A well-known farm in North Dakota is owned by three brothers living in several States. They do not concern themselves with the active management of the farm, but hire a manager who is paid a salary equivalent to that of the Superintendent of an important railway division, and upon this manager rests the actual business of the farm—the sowing of the product and selling it.

This is important: First there is the land—about 7,000 acres of it. The raw land—if there were any raw land in this part of the world—would be worth about \$175,000. The improvements are worth about \$35,000. There are three divisions



of the farm, each division having its division superintendent. Upon each division is a large whitewashed dining hall and dormitory. In the front of this building is a smoking and loafing room for the men. The beds are clean—better than those in the average American farm house. The kitchen is not a large affair, but it is arranged with that nice economy of space which makes the dining car kitchen on the Pullman train a delight to housewives' eyes. Every kitchen utensil has its place, and two men cooks prepare the meals in it. At each division house there are stables and implement barns. In each division stable are about 100 head of horses, and it may be noted in passing that stable hands are employed the year around to look after the horses, and the men who work the horses in the field are never allowed to feed the horses. In the machine shed upon each division are ten four-horse plows, eight four-horse drills, half a dozen harrows, and seven binders of the new "right-hand-binding" pattern. There are three steam motor threshing machines on the place, but except while they are in use they are kept at the division nearest the manager's house. This is all the big machinery. But of course there are wagons, carts, wheelbarrows, and small farm tools in proportion to the number of large machines on the place. A blacksmith's outfit and a woodworker's shop are maintained on the place the year round.

Two elevators, one with a capacity of 40,000 bushels and the other with a capacity of 60,000, are located upon opposite corners of the farm by the railroad track which runs through the great field. A central office, wherein the bookkeeper and the manager conduct the business of the farm, is connected with the three division houses and with other important points on the farm by telephone. A handsome modern home is provided for the bookkeeper and a comfortable home of an older fashion shelters the manager and his family. A score and a half of cows furnish the milk for the workmen, and a half hundred pigs root in the feed lot. A room containing over a car-load of machinery repairs, and another room filled with staple groceries, purchased at wholesale, and a third room filled with harness, join the main office. A set of books, kept as carefully as the books of a bank are kept, and a telephone connecting the farm with a telegraph wire to the world's market complete the list of articles which may properly be called the tools of the business—the plant.

#### An All-Clover Meadow.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—Some time ago the Kansas Farmer requested information on an all-clover meadow, from farmers in counties in eastern Kansas. I have never had an all-clover meadow except alfalfa, yet I would not do without clover in my meadow. An all-clover meadow, in my experience, has too many objections.

If a hay crop is to be made, it will not only have to be cut early in the season when the corn crop demands all the time and attention, but will have to be mowed or put into the stack without rain, a thing almost impossible at that time of year. Out of the hundreds of acres all-clover meadows cut for hay this year in Brown county, scarcely a dozen tons good hay was saved. Especially was this the case when a seed crop was an object.

I have not, since my stay in Kansas, cut a second crop for hay or seed. I have always thought it more profitable for early or late fall pasture. I sow four quarts timothy and two quarts clover, clean seed, on an acre as early in the spring as the condition of the soil will permit. When a wheat stubble is to be put in meadow, the timothy is sown with the wheat in the fall and clover early in the spring. If clover is sown in the proportion of two quarts to four of timothy it will not lodge and will remain green and make good hay if cut when the timothy is ripe. I begin to cut and put up hay when the blow is off and the kernel has formed, before the seed is ripe.

For an all-clover meadow, either for hog pasture or hay, I prefer alfalfa. Alfalfa hay fed to hogs in the winter is a good substitute for grass. But I would not recommend a wholesale seeding down to alfalfa, especially for a beginner, as it requires the best of tillage to have a good seed-bed. For alfalfa I plow the land in the fall and use a disc and drag in the spring to prepare the seed-bed. The seed is then drilled in from three to four inches, at the rate of twenty-five pounds of clean seed to the acre, during the latter part of May.

Reserve, Kas. J. J. BURGER.

#### Alfalfa Inquiries.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—(1) Will alfalfa do well on sandy Missouri river land (bottom land)? (2) When should it be sown and how much to the acre? (3) Can it be pastured the first summer? Should it be sown with other crop or by itself. D. W. AULD.

Sibley, Mo., December 29, 1897.

(1) Alfalfa should do well on well-drained sandy Missouri river land. It is a rather slow curing clover to make into hay, and therefore somewhat liable to be damaged by rains in humid climates, but is excellent for pasture and makes the best possible hay if cut while in early bloom and cured without weather bleaching.

(2) Alfalfa should be sown about the time of sowing oats. The quantity of seed needed depends much upon the manner of covering. If ten pounds of seed can be properly distributed over an acre and covered uniformly to the proper depth, and conditions turn so as to cause three-fourths of the seed to grow, the alfalfa will be too thick. As usually planted, many of the seeds get into the ground so deep that the plants never come up, others are covered so slightly that only with the most favorable weather can the young plants survive the spring winds. It is, therefore, usually advised to sow fifteen pounds of seed per acre, and not a few sow twenty pounds. The writer has, for two seasons, secured very satisfactory stands with twelve pounds per acre.

(3) Alfalfa should not be pastured the first season. It should be mowed, however, as soon as it begins to bloom the first season, and often enough thereafter to keep the weeds down. After the first season a good stand of alfalfa will do its own weeding, or rather it will so absorb the powers of the land that no weeds can even start. It is safest to sow alfalfa alone on the land, although good results have in nearly all cases been reported from sowing it with oats, using only three pecks, or at most a bushel, of seed oats per acre.

#### Dock.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—Can some one tell me, through the Farmer, how to get rid of or keep from spreading the weed commonly known as "dock," without plowing up the pasture?

Oskaloosa, Kas. A SUBSCRIBER.

#### It is Easy to Tell.

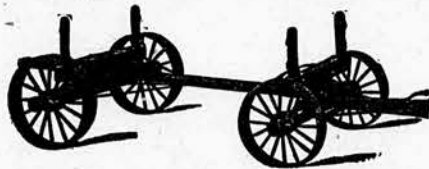
People are not apt to get anxious about their health soon enough. If you are "not quite well" or "half sick" have you ever thought that your kidneys may be the cause of your sickness?

It is easy to tell by setting aside your urine for twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is evidence of kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate, scanty supply, pain or dull ache in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder need doctoring.

There is satisfaction in knowing that the great remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, fulfills every wish in relieving weak or diseased kidneys and all forms of bladder and urinary troubles. Not only does Swamp-Root give new life and activity to the kidneys—the cause of trouble, but by treating the kidneys it acts as a tonic for the entire constitution. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists, price 50 cents and \$1. So remarkably successful has Swamp-Root been that if you wish to prove its great merit, you may have a sample bottle and pamphlet both sent free by mail. Mention Kansas Farmer and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The fact that this offer appears in this paper is a sufficient guarantee.

#### A Good Cheap Farm Wagon.

In order to introduce their low metal wheels with wide tires, the Empire Manufacturing Co., Quincy, Ill., have placed upon the market a farmer's handy wagon, sold at the low price of \$19.95. The wagon is only twenty-five inches



high, fitted with twenty-four and thirty-inch wheels, with four-inch tires, either straight or staggered spokes. This wagon is made of best material throughout, and fully guaranteed for one year. Catalogue giving full description will be mailed upon application to the manufacturers, who also furnish metal wheels at low prices, made any size and width of tire to fit any axle.

## The Stock Interest.

### THOROUGHbred STOCK SALES.

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

FEBRUARY 2, 1898—W. H. Wren, Poland-China brood sows, Marion, Kas.

FEBRUARY 8, 1898—Clifton George, Poland-Chinas, Lathrop, Mo.

MARCH 16, 1898—Jas. A. Funkhouser, Gudgell & Simpson, Herefords, Kansas City, Mo.

MARCH 17, 1898—W. T. Clay—H. C. Duncan, Kansas City, Mo., Short-horns.

APRIL 13, 1898—T. F. E. Sotham, Herefords, Chillicothe, Mo.

APRIL 15, 1898—Scott & March, Herefords, Belton, Cass Co., Mo.

### BEEF-MAKING IN KANSAS.

The report of the Kansas Board of Agriculture, recently prepared by Secretary F. D. Coburn, and devoted to "The Beef Steer," contains interviews with 100 of the most experienced and extensive beef-producers in the State. As typical of these and the views of their authors, the following from Col. J. W. Robison, of Butler county, who has spent a successful lifetime in the business, is excellent:

"Of my forty years experience in beef-production, seventeen have been in Kansas, which I most certainly regard as the appropriate fattening and maturing ground for cattle reared in the South and West, as well as our own. I buy nearly all the cattle I fatten, and think the breeds rank as follows for profit, viz.: Short-horn, Hereford, Red Polled, Angus and Galloway; the nearer full-blood the better in all cases. I prefer calves suckled, they being usually stronger and more vigorous than those hand-raised. I give the calves I raise most of their dams' milk, plenty of good grass in its season, allow them to glean corn, stubble and alfalfa fields, and, in fact, the whole farm, and keep them growing every month in the year. Castrate them at two to six weeks old, and dehorn quite young also; this should be done when there are no flies. Give some grain each winter, the quantity to be determined somewhat by the relative abundance and prices of forage and grains. Steers started thus are best disposed of at 2 to 3 years, though for a farmer with only a few, and lacking conveniences for fattening, it may be better to sell as stockers at 1 or 2 years. If prepared for it and he understands the business, a farmer should fatten whatever cattle he raises. There is a possibility of making a profit by fattening cattle when "feeders" and fat cattle are at the same price, but not unless corn is below 18 cents, or beef very high, and roughness very low. Under existing conditions two to four-year-olds, after four to seven months on full feed, are the most profitable for marketing. Three and four-year-olds from anywhere in the West or Southwest, preferably toward the north, may do well; a good deal depends upon their degree of docility, and they ought to be well bred.

"Cattle from central Texas should have a season on Kansas grass before fattening with grain; they need domestication as well as acclimation. Dehorning improves cattle for handling generally, besides making them worth 5 to 15 cents per hundred more on the market, the difference being the least with the more common butcher's beeves, and greatest with the better cattle suited for export. The shrinkage and cost of dehorning is sometimes as much as \$1 per head on young cattle, and \$2 on stags and old cattle, but they are worth fully that much more to put in a feed lot and will go to market one or two more in a car. My cautions about shipping are: Take corn away from cattle one feed before loading; give no water, but fill with hay the day they start if the run is not to exceed eighteen hours; move carefully, without scaring, running or pounding; and put 25,000 or 30,000 pounds, according to size of cattle, in a thirty-six foot car.

"I have handled a few spayed heifers; they fatten more rapidly than open heifers and equal to steers, though not becoming so heavy. Corn is my most profitable crop, and sorghum and alfalfa come next in the order named; corn and alfalfa require the best soil, while sorghum will grow on poorer land. Feed fattening cattle first snapped corn, then the husked ears broken in two, and finally shelled corn. Shredding, as I have seen it done by an ordinary thresher, seems an advantage, but I have not tried it. Have hired my grinding done at a cost of 5 cents per hundred pounds, and board and coal for the outfit (a fourteen-horse-power engine, with a mill grinding 600 to 1,000 bushels per day); but do not think it pays when corn is cheap and one has hogs to run with the cattle. Soaking corn has proven satisfactory in warm weather; not that it greatly increases the value of the grain, but frequently the cattle's teeth become sore

on hard corn and grass, and softening the grain induces a greater consumption of both. I use water-tight wagon box made of two-inch lumber, fill within six inches of the top with shelled corn dry, and level full of water, soak twelve to twenty-four hours, drain off the water by means of a plug at the end near the bottom, and haul to the feed lot. I have used wheat bran to mix with other feeds and consider it pound for pound equal in value to ear corn; cottonseed meal used in the same way is, I believe, worth more pound for pound than corn meal, as it fattens quickly and gives a soft, oily coat.

"My best gain was made on a daily ration of twelve pounds of soaked corn, four pounds wheat meal, and four pounds cottonseed meal, with timothy and prairie grass pasture. The cattle, 180 head of mixed grades, 3 and 4 years old, averaged 1,300 pounds at the beginning, May 1, and gained three and a half pounds per day for the next two months. Prairie hay and alfalfa are the best roughness for feeding with corn; sorghum and millet prove sometimes too loosening, and neither straw nor corn fodder seem quite satisfactory. Compared with prairie hay at \$2 per ton I would estimate the value of the other forage crops as follows: Red clover, \$3; alfalfa, \$3.50; millet, \$3; sorghum or Kaffir corn hay, \$2.50; same with seed, \$2; oat straw, \$2, and wheat straw, \$1.50; a good quality of these feeds is essential, even when cattle are on a full feed of grain. Alfalfa yields three or four crops per year, without irrigation, each crop making a ton or more per acre, but requires our best bottom land. In "roughing" I use it with sorghum, millet, shock corn, straw and prairie hay, and my two-year-olds usually gain 100 pounds during the winter. Kaffir corn has not given me as good satisfaction as sweet sorghums and the seed does not make as good meal as corn does.

"One to three weeks is time enough for changing cattle from pasture to full feed; in fact, I find it usually profitable with good cattle to give grain while they are on grass, to hurry them up to higher-priced beef; particularly in early summer or fall feeding give ten to twenty pounds of corn meal per day. Prairie grass pasture costs me 20 to 30 cents per month, per head, and is equal to tame pasture through May, June and July; later in the season it is not so good but can be supplemented quite efficiently with green corn just past the roasting-ear stage or older. I use barrel salt in the pasture and feed lot; keep "roughness" before fattening cattle all the time and do the same with grain, in self-feeders and open boxes, after they are on full rations. Feeding places should be well sheltered (timber, creek banks and dry, sunny places all in one lot preferred), as it makes 10 per cent. decrease in the food required and 10 more in time of feeding."

#### Experience With Sheep.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—I have not been a reader of the Farmer very long but like it.

I am a sheep-raiser in a small way, and would be glad to see more in the Farmer in regard to sheep-raising. I think sheep are among the best all-around farm animals for central or western Kansas. One can fatten them on grass fat enough for market, and they bring in returns twice a year—the wool in the spring and lambs in the fall. Lambs in this vicinity have been worth 4 cents per pound, and it don't take a very good lamb to weigh seventy-five pounds at 6 months old; which means \$3 per head; and say 75 cents per head for wool, makes \$3.75 per head each year for each good stock sheep kept at present prices, and prospects are good for prices keeping up for some time, according to my judgment.

Dwight, Kas. C. E. HAMPTON.\*

#### Organize the Stock-Raisers.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—In a recent issue of the Kansas City Drovers' Telegram I notice that there is a movement among the stockmen of this State to organize for the advancement of their interests. I think this should be pushed forward by every stock-grower and farmer in the State. By co-operation of those engaged in stock-raising, railroad and commission charges can be controlled. The sale of feeders, that is now largely done at the yards, can be done through the organization, thereby cutting off freight, yardage and commission charges.

Co-operative meat shops can be established in every town to sell direct to the consumer more meat for less money than is now being sold, doing the business on a strictly cash basis. The consumption will be increased at least a third, as the stockmen and farmers will be encour-



aged to use more fresh meat instead of salt bacon.

Co-operative feed yards can be established where the small stockman can weigh in his steers and hogs and can leave them in the care of skilled men where they will be finished in better shape for less money and sell at better prices, thereby giving the stockman more money and time for the home ranch. In Holland the Dutch farmers have co-operative smokehouses where they cure their pork and are making bacon that sells for higher prices than the American product, which is made by the immense packers of our country.

Now, if the slow-going Dutch farmers can make a success in this line by co-operation, why cannot the farmers of the Sunflower State better their condition by co-operation? Stockmen of Kansas, let us hear from you through the Farmer. J. C. WEATHERS.  
Howard, Kas.

The most complete work on "Diseases of Swine" which has yet appeared has just issued from the publishing house of Donohue & Henneberry, Chicago. The book contains 230 pages, prepared by D. McIntosh, V. S., Professor of Veterinary Science in the University of Illinois. In it the language is plain and the illustrations are used not so much for embellishment as to assist in understanding the subject.

#### Why She Smiles Sweetly.

Sparkling eyes, quick beating heart, and the rosy blush of pleasure on the cheeks make the strong man happy when he meets his lady love. That's the kind of a man whose very touch thrills because it is full of energy, vigorous nerve power and vitality. Tobacco makes strong men impotent, weak and skinny. No-To-Bac sold by druggists everywhere. Guaranteed to cure. Book, titled, "Don't Tobacco Spit or Smoke Your Life Away," free. Address Sterling Remedy Co., New York or Chicago.

#### Choice Improved Stock Farms

in southeastern Kansas ("the Stockman's Paradise") for sale at a sacrifice. Important business and valuable properties back East requiring my immediate personal attention, I will sell my highly improved stock farms at Kimball and Stark, Kas., at a great sacrifice if taken soon. Deferred payments may be distributed through ten years' time at 5 per cent. Never a failure of crops. Immediate possession. Printed descriptions. Thos. D. Hubbard, Kimball, Neosho Co., Kas.

#### Safety in Buying Seeds.

There is no other way to measure the value of seed than by the value of the crop. A good crop simply cannot come from poor seed. Second-rate seed will waste good land, good fertilizer and good labor, and the crop won't pay expenses. Now, as the practical farmer cannot afford to waste time testing seeds to find out whether they are true to name, sound and clean, it stands to reason that the only safe way to buy seeds is to seek the protection of a name that has stood for reliability in the past. The great seed house of D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., has sold seeds all over the United States and Canada for the last forty-two years, and the steady growth of the business is a sure indication that Ferry seeds have given satisfaction. Ferry's Seed Annual for 1898, a standard guide for farmers and gardeners, containing much valuable information, is sent free to persons writing for it.

#### The Union Pacific

Passes through the best cities and towns of Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, and is the best route to Denver, Cheyenne, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Portland and all Puget Sound points.

The advantages gained by traveling via the Union Pacific are quick time, unequalled service, magnificent equipment, double drawing-room Pullman palace sleepers, Pullman dining cars, free reclining chair cars, Pullman tourist sleepers.

For time tables, pamphlets descriptive of the country traversed, rates of fare, sleeping car accommodations, or any other information, apply to F. A. Lewis, City Ticket Agent; J. C. Fulton, Depot Agent.

For Home-seekers' Excursion dates via the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway, and information of their tourist sleeper arrangement, address G. A. McNutt, D. P. A., 1044 Union Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

#### KANSAS HORTICULTURISTS IN SESSION.

The thirty-first annual meeting of the Kansas State Horticultural Society was held in the Senate chamber, at Topeka, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week. There were present and still ready for active duty many of the old orchardists who have met with surprising regularity for nearly a third of a century. Their white heads and beards tell of advancing years but their minds seem unclouded by the mists of time and the years have not dulled their keenness at repartee nor their enthusiasm for the interests of horticulture. Only by their growing tendency to reminiscence, by their deepening tones of voice, by their gray hairs and by the wealth of their accumulating experience, do these veterans confess to their race with time. At this meeting more than at any of its predecessors the young crowd of horticulturists was represented. Indeed, of the few familiar faces missed from the ranks of the veterans, some, at least, were replaced by sons who were born on the fruit farms after their elders had assisted in organizing the State Horticultural Society. They have grown up in the business, have received the splendid educational advantages of the Agricultural College and other institutions, and they bring fresh energy into the society. While yet too modest to strenuously combat the fixed views of the gray-beards, the young members show that they are imbued with the progressive spirit and are possessed of knowledge which will well supplement and improve upon the experience of their fathers.

The meeting was called to order by President Wellhouse, and was opened with prayer by Rev. A. S. Embree, pastor of the First Methodist church of Topeka.

#### APPLES—BEN DAVIS.

The important question of the fruit list was taken up at the apple. The veterans expressed their views first as to the Ben Davis:

Holman—I vote for the Ben Davis because he is of large stature and good appearance; because he is long-lived, and because of his attractive appearance when presented on the market; because it is an early bearer; and, to sum it all up, because it is a profitable apple to grow.

Robinson—I vote for the Ben Davis, because it is one of the most hardy, even, regular bearers; because it succeeds in a great variety of soils. Its attractive appearance draws the eye in every market.

Dixon—I vote for Ben Davis, because it is the most profitable variety to grow.

Lux—I will just add a word. It has a quality of sticking. It stays until we get ready to pick apples, as a rule. It gives us good returns for the investment of our money.

Maxey—I vote for it because of its large size and attractive appearance.

Holsinger—I vote aye.  
Bailey—Our apples in Sumner county have gone back on us in a great measure. The Ben Davis has been the most profitable with us. It is a good seller. It is very attractive and popular, on the same rule that governs a man when he marries—on account of its attractiveness.

A member—On account of its large size, attractive appearance and good market qualities.

Smyth—I vote for it because it is the best commercial apple on the market and on account of its favor in the European markets. Ben Davis sells for \$6 a barrel in Hamburg.

#### WINESAP.

Cook—I am strongly in favor of the Winesap. Would prefer it to any other apple that I grow.

Robinson—The Winesap is desirable because of its deep, rich color and its attractiveness and high flavor. One of its principal defects is that it over-fruit itself. It is a good marketer.

Holman—The excellence of the Winesap consists of its color, its keeping quality and its flavor, and when that is said all is said. I never would recommend it for a commercial apple. We have not lived long enough here to know the value of it as a commercial apple. I would ask the President to speak on this apple. I would recommend this apple for the family orchard but not for the commercial.

Gano—That is my view. I should never recommend it as a commercial apple. It is a very poor tree, a straggling grower and subject to insects and to ill effects of the winds. These make it not profitable in our orchards. As a family apple we can hardly dispense with it.

Dixon—The trees on my farm are twenty-five years old and last year yielded ten bushels of marketable apples

per tree besides culls. I would not recommend the Winesap as a commercial apple, as it is small generally.

Lux—I cannot help speaking a good word for the Winesap. It has a great many traits in its character that are against it as an apple of profit. Yet I would say that the Winesap should have a place in the commercial orchard. One of the traits against it is that it falls so early and has got to be picked early. But if the Winesap is planted on good, rich black soil it will as a rule do well. It is a peculiar apple in some years. When it does well we say it is a Winesap year, and we get a good price for it. The Winesap is a good apple to come in between. I cannot say we could make it a leading apple, but would keep it among our commercial apples.

Sharp—Would say that I have not had much experience with the Winesap. I have not planted very many of this variety but consider it a good apple for the kind of soil I have. I believe the Winesap is a good apple if planted in the right kind of soil, say a red clay soil, cool and moist. In this it grows to a good size and produces marketable apples. It wants a favorable location, but of course any kind of an apple does well under these conditions. With my experience this year with the Ben Davis apple I do not believe that it is a profitable apple. I am of the opinion that the Ben Davis has seen its best days.

Holsinger—From my experience this year I do not believe I would plant another Winesap except for our family use. I would place it about fifth or sixth on the list. We get one or two good crops then they generally play out. This year they were about the size of crab apples.

Robinson—I find that the Winesap in Butler county is the most prone to spur blight, and that in summer when the very hot sun comes the apples seem to dry up in clusters about the size of beans. As far south as we are they are not profitable. Further north they will do better. In Illinois, in one square of 200 Winesap trees, I gathered 3,000 bushels of apples the year of the Chicago fire.

Bailey—For family use I know of no better apple. In our [Sumner] county, in the low lands they are fine apples and produce well and of fair size. While the Winesap is a young tree it is as fine as I ever saw, but after the tree gets older it overbears itself and the fruit is small. I would not plant it for a market apple.

Cutter—I consider the Winesap good for our family orchards but it is so inclined to overbear when it gets old that it enfeebles the tree. While the tree is young it is about the best we have. It does not pay as a market apple.

Smyth—I think we ought to drop the Winesap from the commercial list. If I were planting 1,000 trees, I would plant 200 Winesap and no more. I prefer the Ben Davis. But we cannot all grow one apple. We want several varieties.

Whittaker—I do not know that there is any better apple. As has been said, when the tree gets old the fruit seems to run down in size. It is a very deceiving tree. It may look as if overloaded, but when we come to pick the apple there may be not so many.

Walter Wellhouse—My experience has been that in some grounds Winesaps grow well, especially in rich soils, but they will not grow in poor soils. I think that if the soil is suitable they are profitable, otherwise not.

Bohrer—I have noticed that it is not so much in the quality of the soil as owing to the amount of moisture. I have trees standing on high ground, and I put in an irrigation plant near one of them. I think the tree stood about ten feet from the reservoir, and I had fine apples. In the State of Arkansas, where the land is too poor to raise corn, the Winesap apple does well. But the Winesap will not grow well on high, dry soil. You have got to have more than an ordinary amount of moisture.

Secretary Barnes—Col. T. W. Harrison, of Topeka, has Winesap apples, grown seven or eight miles southwest of Topeka, that are larger than any I ever saw. I examined the trees. They are of fair growth, on high, rolling prairie. I would recommend those who desire buds to get them from Col. Harrison. He has seven or eight trees in his orchard. They are far ahead of any Winesaps I have ever seen.

McAfee—I know little about any kind of apples. It is true I have 145 Winesaps in my orchard and they are on high ground. They do reasonably well but are not so large as those of Mr. Harrison's orchard.

Lux—I somewhat understand the soil in Mr. Harrison's orchard. It lies a little below the first of a southern slope. It is very good orchard land. The soil is very loose. His Missouri Pippins are just as good in proportion as his Wine-



The most critical period in a woman's life may be properly called "Blossoming Time." It is the period when she blossoms from girlhood into womanhood.

At this momentous time the best medicine for a woman to take is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It acts directly upon the delicate and important organs that are to bear the burdens of wifehood and motherhood. It makes them strong, healthy and vigorous. It corrects all irregularities and displacements and stops exhausting drains. Taken during the period of expectant maternity, it banishes the usual annoyances and makes baby's coming easy and almost painless. It insures the new-comer's health and an ample supply of nourishment. It transforms weak, sickly, nervous, complaining women into happy, healthy wives. Thousands of women have told over their own signatures, the story of the marvelous merits of this great medicine. An honest dealer will not try to persuade you to take something different from what you ask for, for the sake of a few pennies added profit.

Mrs. Anna Ulrich, of Elm Creek, Buffalo Co., Neb., writes: "I was under doctors' care for two years with uterine disease. I was so weak that I could sit up in bed only a few moments. I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and when I had taken one-half dozen bottles I was up and going wherever I pleased, and have been very strong ever since—that was two years and a half ago."

The only constipation-cure that never causes discomfort—Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. At all medicine stores.

saps. All of his apples are good. If you have the right kind of soil and the conditions are favorable the Winesap will do well.

Morey—We have some 300 or 400 acres in Winesaps, Missouri Pippins and Genets. I would say do not discard the Winesap.

#### JONATHAN.

Bohrer—The Jonathan is probably the best apple that I grow. When grown fairly well it sells for the highest price per bushel in the general market. There are fewer culls on the tree than any other variety. It is not a very profuse bearer so far south as I am [Rice county]. It ripens too early and is affected by extreme winds.

Holman—The Jonathan apple is one of the most desirable as a commercial apple and for the family orchard. First, for its high quality and excellence as a desert fruit. Second, for its beauty, for its deep, bright red color. Third, for the fine constitution of the tree. It is one of the best quality that can be put on the market. It is sometimes called a fall apple, yet it is a fact that it can be gathered, put into cold storage and brought out with the latest, even in June, in good condition. I would place it third as a commercial fruit.

Gano—I think the general remarks will compare with my experience with the Jonathan. It wants to be picked early and placed in cold storage. I place it second on the list as a commercial apple.

Griffin—We consider it about fourth on the list as a commercial apple.

McAfee—It is about the second most profitable apple on the list in my orchard. It is a large apple. I find the trees to be longer-lived than any others in our county. Free from insects.

Sharp—The only objection I have to the Jonathan is its inclination to drop. I suppose that if they are picked before cool weather and put in cold storage they may be just as good in quality but they do not look so well.

Wellhouse—I think the Jonathan is probably declining some in demand among large dealers. Several years ago they sold for from 50 cents to \$1 a barrel above other varieties, but that is not the case now. In Minneapolis and Chicago the market seems to be good for them. But if I were to plant now I would not plant so many Jonathans as I planted five or ten years ago.

Whittaker—The Jonathan seems to sell with us better than any other apple. I have no experience with other markets. They have a good reputation. I do not think a better apple grows. They have to be picked early to save them.

Lux—I would place the Jonathan about fifth on the list as a commercial



apple. My experience is that they drop so early that they do not have time to color up well. These apples stand more abuse than any other apple we have, and if we gather them early they will stand long keeping, even outside of cold storage.

Bohrer—My experience corresponds with that of the gentleman from Morris county. I think the further west we go the worse the fruit gets. You have more rainfall in the eastern part of the State. It is one of the hardest trees I have, possibly more so than the Ben Davis. But it sheds its fruit so early. I think it is a good deal like the Winesap—requires a good deal more moisture than other sorts. When not exposed much to the winds it will do well. As the trees grow larger they require more moisture. But we have been having less rainfall and they are not doing so well. Since I have been irrigating some they do better.

Cutter—I live too far west for the Jonathan apple. It does not stand drought nor winds. It ripens too early, and the man who puts them in his cellar takes them out to the pigeon generally. It is a cold storage apple. I have seen the worst spur blight that I ever saw on them.

Smyth—It is a kind of wet weather apple. If there is plenty of moisture it does fine. I gather about the 10th of September and keep until the next spring. It should be placed about third on the list as a commercial apple.

#### MISSOURI PIPPIN.

Cook—I will just say that I am a warm friend of the Missouri Pippin and vote it second. It is a short-lived tree but brings returns that will pay for expense and trouble. While the trees are hard to take care of, they give us quick returns. The apple has a reasonably good flavor.

Robinson—The Missouri Pippin is reasonably hardy with me and one of the early, profuse bearers. I should place it about second on the list.

Holman—I have eliminated the Missouri Pippin from my family orchard and give it standing room only as a commercial fruit, and then I would rate it about second. It ought to be rated as No. 1 as a commercial fruit. There can be more money made from the Missouri Pippin in a short number of years than from any other apple that we have. It is the earliest bearing tree we have. It grows to be of good size, and in some portions of the country where they have become prejudiced they prefer the Missouri Pippin to the Ben Davis. The great merit of the apple is its early productiveness, good color, and marketable quality.

Gano—There is a great demerit about this apple that I am not in favor of. If it is planted in alternate rows with the intention of removing, it is all right. But to plant an orchard of this variety with the intention of letting them remain, I do not advocate. It is so apt to overbear, break to pieces and become almost worthless. With proper care and removing these trees when they become too thick, perhaps we can overcome this.

Griffin—The Missouri Pippin with me is my second best apple. I consider the Winesap the best, as it has paid me the best, and I am planting for winter profit nothing but these two. The trees die young with us but all apple trees do.

McAfee—I have no Missouri Pippins in my orchard.

Dixon—I place it second on the list.

Sharp—The Missouri Pippin up to this time has been the most profitable apple that I have planted. About four-fifths of the fruit has been marketable. As far as the trees dying young are concerned, I would rather get new ones than to wait on trees of other varieties that come tardily into bearing.

Wellhouse—In Kansas we will have to stick to the Missouri Pippin for a while yet. When anything like a good size it commands a good price and sells in advance of the Ben Davis.

Whittaker—I find that the Missouri Pippin is giving good satisfaction as a commercial apple. It bears early. Of course it has its faults. But then you can get good returns in eight or ten years and put out new orchards again.

Lux—I would place the Missouri Pippin second on the list as a commercial apple.

Cutter—The Missouri Pippin is the first for crop. It is a Western apple. The different varieties gradually die out, but it sticks right with us. The further west you go the better it is. It stands drought and wind better than any other apple. While it breaks off on the top it is not a short-lived tree at all.

Smyth—I would place it second on the list as a commercial apple.

#### GANO.

Gano—It is not supposed that I would be against my own namesake. I have found nothing yet that excels the old trees, but as far as I know the Gano is creating a sensation, more especially in the northern part of the State. They are taking the Gano in preference to the Ben Davis, and where it has been extensively planted and the early orchards are beginning to bear it is creating rather a sensation. While I have no interest in the world in it other than that the apple was named for me, yet I think we have something in the Gano that will stay. It is very much like the Ben Davis.

Holman—From what I know of the Gano I would class it and the Ben Davis as twins.

Sharp—I planted out 700 Ganos five years ago. This year I raised just five apples. Two of these you could not have told from Ben Davis. One of them looked very much like the Jonathan.

Cutter—I should put it up with the Ben Davis. It differs very little except in the color. Trees just the same and as good but I think a little earlier bearer. I got mine from Lee's Summit and paid \$5 per 100 for the grafts. I gave one tree to a man by the name of Kinney and this year his tree was the wonder of every one who saw it.

President Wellhouse—We have planted the Gano quite largely. We have seventy or eighty acres in Ganos. They were planted some five or six years ago. We have not had a dozen bushels from them. While the tree is very much like the Ben Davis, I can distinguish a difference in the apples. When I pile the two kinds of apples together I can see a difference, but when I pick out a Gano and put it in the Ben Davis pile I cannot tell the difference, and no man on earth can tell it from the Ben Davis. I do not know whether it is really a distinct apple from the Ben Davis or not. If it is the Ben Davis it is all right.

Gano—When it was first originated we found only one tree and that was in an orchard in Platt county, Missouri, and in that orchard there was also quite a number of Ben Davis trees. It may be that there has been some kind of a mix up in these varieties, but I do not believe any of you will be disappointed if you get a Gano.

President Wellhouse—In justice to Mr. Gano, we got our original trees from Tippey & Blair, at Wilder, and it is possible that they are Ben Davis. Before we planted, I went down to Lee's Summit three or four years in succession and investigated the original trees there to see whether we ought to plant them, and we came to the conclusion that we ought to plant, and that if they were not a new apple they would be Ben Davis, anyhow. We have got Ben Davis trees. We afterwards bought 1,000 trees from Butterfield.

Mrs. Moore—In the southern part of our State—Missouri—on a fruit farm where my husband and I are working, he handles a number of them, as he is in the commission business and he is very favorable to them, both in the orchard and in the market. He says they are not known as the Gano, but are spoken of as the Jonathan, and while he cannot pick them out of a pile of Ben Davis apples you cannot put your teeth in them and not know the difference.

#### YORK IMPERIAL.

Cook—I will just say that I have planted pretty heavily of the York Imperial. They are not yet in full bearing. They have given me good results. They are of a large size and appear to have enough of a growth to indicate that they will be strong bearers but not any surplus wood to throw away. They are rather of a twig formation. I would put them about sixth in a commercial list.

Holman—The York Imperial is an old apple. It is new to a good many of us because of its great and sudden popularity. It has been sent to Europe and holds its own with the Missouri Pippin and others. It is very large and a good keeper. We have known it for a long time in our [Leavenworth] county, and those who have it always seem pleased with it. It seems to be growing in popularity.

Sharp—I have about 500 or 600 trees. They have been planted about six years. This year raised about 100 bushels of apples. I think they are going to be a profitable apple. I planted on the recommendation of Mr. Wellhouse.

Wellhouse—I saw a gentleman in St. Louis who gathered about ten car-loads and he seemed to be favorably impressed with the apple. We have a good many trees bearing. It seems to keep pretty well in cellars but it does not seem to keep good in cold storage.

Lux—From what I have seen of the

tree I would place it about third on the commercial list.

Cutter—My York Imperials are just beginning to bear. It is not an early bearer. I think it is going to be a popular apple.

Holsinger—We find that they commence to bear while quite young. We have some trees that are twenty-two years old. This year they were full of apples but very small. Before this they were always of good size. This year the dry weather caused them to drop badly. I would class the York Imperial with the Jonathan. They come too early and fall off. But this year what few I put in the cellar kept very well.

#### GENET.

Cook—I have been acquainted with the Genet apple from boyhood, have planted a few, like them, but do not know that I have any use for them, for the reason that they overbear themselves and are hard trees for me to do anything with. Cannot get them in shape. Die quick.

Holman—I would recommend only a tree or two of the Genet for the family orchard. It has had its day in the West, being succeeded by more profitable apples.

Ferris—I would not plant them to sell. They are too subject to disease—bitter rot, etc.

Gano—I think it could be discarded altogether.

Sharp—Will not pay to plant them for the commercial orchard.

Whittaker—I believe that a few Genets will bring good prices. They are late keepers. We kept ours this year until we began to pick apples in the fall. I do not think it a good commercial apple.

Lux—I would place it on the retired list.

Cutter—I would recommend them only for family use. The tree overbears. Fruit is small.

Smyth—I would place it on the retired list.

#### SMITH'S CIDER.

A member—I have the Smith's Cider. I planted pretty heavily, which I regret. Find it blights pretty badly and the apple falls off. I think I shall replace it with the York Imperial.

Holman—The Smith's Cider deserves a place in the family orchard and a small place in the commercial orchard. They are fully as large as the Ben Davis. It is as great a bearer, but it does not equal the Ben Davis, as it has a tendency to fall from the tree sooner.

Sharp—We had 500 Smith's Ciders. Nearly all blighted and died. What are left have never paid me.

Whittaker—The Smith's Cider is a splendid apple, but blights, and do not think it will be very profitable.

Smyth—We should not drop it from the list. Think it a fairly good apple.

(To be continued.)

THE GENUINE "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" are sold only in boxes. They are wonderfully effective for Coughs and Throat Troubles.

#### Publishers' Paragraphs.

VIAVI.—The attention of housekeepers is called to the card in this issue, of the Kansas Viavi Co., a reputable Topeka and Kansas institution that is worthy the patronage of our readers.

Don't fail to observe the small advertisement of the Eclipse Manufacturing Co., of Quincy, Ill., who have a very extensive line of incubators, brooders, green bone cutters, poultry supplies, appliances and specialties.

The Selp Medical Company, of Rochester, N. Y., who put up the celebrated German remedy for piles, favor us with their "ad." this week. Sufferers from this painful disease may learn something of advantage from the company's booklet, which they offer to send free to all who write.

Corn cob smoke, hickory smoke or other wood smoke may be all right for the hams, but it is a tedious operation to properly cure your meat in the old-fashioned way. New inventions provide new ways. A new way to cure the meat is to use Wright's Condensed Smoke. See advertisement of E. H. Wright & Co. elsewhere in this issue of Kansas Farmer and write them at Ulysses, Neb., for further particulars. They recommend their process as being entirely right.

The announcement of the Youth's Companion for 1898 indicates that the fathers and mothers of the Youth's Companion families will look forward to its coming week by week as eagerly as the girls and boys. Indeed, every number of this delightful family paper contains matter addressed to the mature, reflective mind as well as to the eager, hopeful spirit of youth. All new sub-

scribers for the 1898 volume are receiving the Companion calendar. Those who have seen it say that it is the handsomest calendar of the season, and the most charming bit of color work yet produced by the publishers of this standard periodical.

BEAUTY, UTILITY AND VALUE—Are happily combined in Hood's Sarsaparilla Coupon Calendar for 1898. The lovely child's head in an embossed gold frame, surrounded by sprays of flowers in mosaic, the harmonious pad in blue with clear figures, and the Coupons by means of which many valuable books and other articles may be obtained, make up the most desirable Calendar we have ever seen. The first coupon article is Hood's Practical Cook's Book, a handsome, useful volume of 350 pages. Ask your druggist for Hood's Coupon Calendar, or send 6 cents in stamps for one to C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

SEEDS AND MONEY.—With this issue of the Kansas Farmer, Johnson & Stokes, the well-known seed firm of Philadelphia, make their first announcement for the season of 1898. These people have been before the public so long and are so favorably known as to need no recommendation from us. We observe, however, that they are making some remarkable offers to their patrons this season by way of cash premiums, the object being to introduce and secure names for some new vegetables they propose to introduce next season. This plan seems to us to possess certain advantages, for the grower not only secures a valuable stock of seeds of these new varieties if he is successful, but may also secure a valuable cash premium. In flowers their special offer, in connection with their Banner Prize Collection, should interest our lady readers. Probably nothing in the world adds so much to the beauty and attractiveness of a home at so little expense as flowers. Write them accepting some one of these propositions and thereby secure a copy of their "Garden and Farm Manual," which is a work of much value.

"The handsomest calendar of the year" is the prevailing opinion of those who have seen The Youth's Companion Calendar for 1898. It consists of three panels, each of which presents a charming Watteau design of figures in quaint, rich costumes. The twelve colors in which they are printed give a delicacy and softness to these pictures like that of water-color paintings. The three panels are surrounded by a scroll border embossed in gold. The entire Calendar is so delicate in design and coloring that it makes an attractive ornament for any home. This Calendar is published exclusively by The Youth's Companion and could not be sold in art stores for less than one dollar. Yet every new subscriber to The Companion and those who renew for the year 1898 receive it free. It is by far the richest souvenir of the season that The Companion has ever presented to its friends. Mr. Gladstone, the greatest of living Englishmen, has for the fifth time paid the Youth's Companion the compliment of making it the medium through which to address the American people. His article appears in the New Year's number. Full prospectus of the 1898 volume and sample copies of the paper sent free upon request.

#### Does He Chew or Smoke?

If so, it's only a question of time when bright eyes grow dim, manly step lose firmness, and the vigor and vitality so enjoyable now will be destroyed forever. Get a book, titled, "Don't Tobacco Spit or Smoke Your Life Away," and learn how No-To-Bac, without physical or financial risk, cures the tobacco habit, brings back the vigorous vitality that will make you both happy. No-To-Bac is sold and guaranteed to cure by druggists everywhere. Book free. Address Sterling Remedy Co., New York or Chicago.

#### Summer Land in Winter.

Southern California; the California Limited takes you there in 54 hours over the Santa Fe Route. Most luxurious service.

#### Tourist Sleeping Cars.

Commencing with the excursion of December 7, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway will inaugurate a system of tourist sleepers on their excursion dates between St. Louis or Kansas City and south Texas points. For further information, address, G. A. McNutt, D. P. A., 1044 Union Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Young men or old should not fail to read Thos. Slater's advertisement on page 15.

Kansas Farmer and Advocate and New both one year, \$1.50. Send money to office.



## The Home Circle.

### HUMAN LIFE.

Two little eyes, a blinking and blinking;  
Two little shell ears and ten little pink  
toes;  
Two little heels that keep clinking and  
clinking,  
And just the cutest little bit of a nose;  
A cry that rings out as sharp as a knife—  
And there we behold the beginning of life.

Two little arms, stretched straight to each  
other;  
Two little limbs that can scarce stand  
'gainst the wall;  
Two little feet, that each wait for the  
other;  
One's afraid to start, t'other won't go  
at all;  
But when a step is taken, the contagion is  
rife—  
And there we behold the first step in life.

Two little eyes, that resemble a saucer;  
One little mouth, away gaping wide;  
A face that just now looked very much  
crosser  
Than forty should look in this great world  
so wide;  
But when a hobby-horse he beholds, of heroes  
he's chief,  
As we see the wee man take his first ride  
in life.

So eager to be off, he can't eat his breakfast.  
How his ears do tingle as he hears the first  
bell.  
If he does not quite run, you may know he  
will step fast,  
Though why in such a hurry the young  
man can't tell.  
With eyes that glisten like a fish in a pool,  
You see him depart on his first trip to  
school.

A tall manly boy, with arms round his  
mother,  
An unbidden tear that wells up in the eye,  
One fond parting kiss—and still yet another,  
As he summons his courage to bid her  
good-bye.  
Oh, stern necessity, thy name is strife,  
That compels him to fight his own way in  
life.

Two little blushes that perch on each  
cheek,  
Three little words stammered out, yet  
were heard,  
Though monosyllables only, they seemed  
hard to speak,  
And yet by the listener were greatly preferred.  
From the lips—"I love you"—for in his  
heart love was rife,  
And thus he began the first courtship of  
life.

A-down the long aisles, where none should  
e'er falter,  
While music was swelling from the great  
organ wide,  
Came the bride and the groom, and met  
at the altar.  
And what God joins together let not man  
e'er divide—  
He then and he there took to himself a dear  
wife,  
And a most responsible step in this life.

Cares came thick and fast, but of joys  
there were plenty,  
For love in the home brings its own sure  
reward.  
The love of the aged should be more sweet  
than at twenty,  
And hearts long united beat in perfect  
accord.  
And thus he was standing by a loving  
wife's side,  
As together they drifted down life's ebbing  
tide.

A dark, gloomy day in the month of November,  
Dreary and bleak, without one cheerful  
ray.  
Sad though it will be, she will ever remember  
The day that she buried that loved form  
away.  
He's now passed beyond life's cares and  
its strife,  
And here we behold the closing scene of  
this life. JAMES A. BAXTER.  
Waveland, Kas., November 13, 1897.

### THE BLUE DRYAD.

Stoffles was her name, a familiar abbreviation, and Mephistophelean was her nature. She had all the usual vices of the feline tribe, including a double portion of those which men are so fond of describing as feminine. Vain, indolent, selfish, with a highly cultivated taste for luxury and neatness in her personal appearance, she was distinguished by all those little irritating habits and traits for which nothing but an affectionate heart—a thing in her case conspicuous by its absence—can atone.

We live in a comfortable, old-fashioned house facing the highroad. I say we, but in fact for some months I had been alone, and my husband had just returned from one of his sporting and scientific expeditions in South America. He had already won fame as a naturalist, and had succeeded in bringing home alive quite a variety of beasts, usually of the reptile order, whose extreme rarity seemed to me a merciful provision of nature. But all of his previous triumphs were completely eclipsed, I soon learned, by the capture alive, on this last expedition, of an abominably poisonous snake, known to those who knew it as the Blue Dryad, or more familiarly, in backwoods slang, as the "half-hour striker," in vague reference to its malignant and fatal qualities. This precious

reptile was destined for the Zoological Gardens.

Being in extremely delicate health at the time, I need hardly say that I knew nothing of these greswome details until afterward. Henry (that is my husband), after entering my room with a robust and sunburnt appearance that did my heart good, merely observed—as soon as we had exchanged greetings—that he had brought home a pretty snake which "wouldn't do the slightest harm"—an evasive assurance which I accepted as became the nervous wife of an enthusiastic naturalist. I believe I insisted on its not coming into the house. Fortunately, the weather was very hot, so that it was decided that the Blue Dryad, wrapped in flannel and securely confined in a basket, should be left in the sun and the farthest corner of the veranda during the hour or so in the afternoon when my husband had to visit the town on business.

He had gone off with a cousin of mine, an officer of engineers in India, stationed, I think, at Lahore, and home on leave. I remember that they were a long time, or what seemed to me a long time, over their luncheon; and the last remark of our guest as he came out of the dining room remained in my head as even meaningless words will run in the head of any idle invalid shut up for the most of the day in a silent room. What he said was, in the positive tone of one emphasizing a curious and surprising statement, "D'you know, by the way, it's the one animal that doesn't care a rap for the cobra." And, my husband seeming to express disbelief and a desire to change the subject as they entered my boudoir, "It's a holy fact! Goes for it, so smart! Has the beggar on toast before you can say 'Jack Robinson!'"

The observation did not interest me, but simply ran in my head. Then they came into my room, only for a few moments, as I was not to be tired. The engineer tried to amuse Stoffles, who was seized with such a fit of mortal boredom that he transferred his attentions to Ruby, the Gordon setter, a devoted and inseparable friend of mine, under whose charge I was shortly left as they went out.

I suppose I may have been asleep for ten minutes or so when I was awakened by the noise of Ruby's heavy body jumping out through the open window. Feeling restless and seeing me asleep, he had imagined himself entitled to a short spell off guard. Had the door not been ostensibly latched, he would have made his way out by it, being thoroughly used to open doors and such tricks—a capacity which, in fact, proved fatal to him. That it was unlatched I saw in a few moments, for the dog on his return forced it open with a push and trotted up in a disturbed manner to my bedside. I noticed a tiny spot of blood on the black side of his nose, and naturally supposed he had scratched himself against a bush or piece of wire. "Ruby," I said, "what have you been doing?" Then he whined as if in pain, crouching close to my side and shaking in every limb. I should say that I was myself lying with a shawl over my feet on a deep sofa with a high back. I turned to look at Stoffles, who was slowly perambulating the room, looking for flies and other insects—her favorite amusement—on the wainscot. When I glanced again at the dog, his appearance filled me with horror; he was standing obviously from pain swaying from side to side and breathing hard. As I watched, his body grew more and more rigid. With his eyes fixed on the half-opened door, he drew back as if from the approach of some dreaded object, raised his head with a pitiful attempt at a bark, which broke off in a stifled howl, rolled over sideways suddenly, and lay dead. The horrid stiffness of the body, almost resembling a stuffed creature overset, made me believe that he had died as he stood, close to my side, perhaps meaning to defend me. Unable to resist the unintelligible idea that the dog had been frightened to death, I followed the direction of his last gaze, and at first saw nothing. The next moment I observed round the corner of the veranda door a small, dark and slender object, swaying gently up and down like a dry bough in the wind. It had passed right into the room with the same slow, regular motion before I realized what it was and what had happened. My poor, stupid Ruby must have nosed at the basket on the veranda till he succeeded somehow in opening it, and have been bitten in return for his pains by the abominable beast which I now saw angrily rearing its head and hissing fiercely at the dead dog within three yards of my face.

I am not one of those women who jump on chairs or tables when they see a mouse, but I have a constitutional horror of the most harmless reptiles. Watching the Blue Dryad as it glided

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# GOLD DUST

### Washing Powder

that cleans everything quickly, cheaply and perfectly.

Largest package—greatest economy.

THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY,  
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across the patch of sunlight streaming in from the open window, and knowing what it was, I confess to being as nearly frightened out of my wits as I ever hope to be. I simply dared not speak or move a finger for fear of attracting the beast's attention to myself. Suddenly Stoffles, weary of patting flies and spiders on the back, appeared gently purring on the back of the sofa.

Stoffles, as I have said, was inordinately vain and self-conscious. Stalking along the top of the sofa-back and bearing erect the bushy banner of her magnificent tail, she looked the most ridiculous creature imaginable. She had proceeded half way on this pilgrimage toward me, when suddenly, with the rapidity of lightning, as her ear caught the sound of the hiss and her eye fell upon the Blue Dryad, her whole civilized "play acting" demeanor vanished, and her body stiffened and contracted to the form of a watchful wild beast, with the ferocious and instinctive antipathy to a natural enemy blazing from its eyes. In one light bound she was on the floor in a compressed, defensive attitude, with all four feet close together, near, but not too near, the unknown but clearly hostile intruder; and to my surprise the snake turned and made off toward the window. Stoffles trotted lightly after, obviously interested in its method of locomotion. Then she made a long arm and playfully dropped a paw upon its tail. The snake wriggled free in a moment, and coiling its whole length, some three and a half feet, fronted this new antagonist.

At the very first moment, I need hardly say, I expected that one short stroke of that little pointed head against the cat's delicate body would quickly have settled everything. But one is apt to forget that a snake can move but slowly and awkwardly over a smooth surface, such as a tiled or wooden floor. A snake that "darts" when it has nothing secure to hold on by only overbalances itself. This particular reptile, perhaps by some instinct, now wriggled itself onto a large and thick fur rug about twelve feet square, upon which arena took place the extraordinary contest that followed.

The audacity of the cat astonished me from the first. I have no reason to believe she had ever seen a snake before, yet by a sort of instinct she seemed to know exactly what she was doing. As the Dryad raised its head, with glittering eyes and forked tongue, Stoffles crouched with both front paws in the air, sparring as I had seen her do sometimes with a large moth. The first round passed so swiftly that mortal eye could hardly see with distinctness what happened. The snake made a dart, and the cat, all claws, two rapid blows at its advancing head. The first missed, but the second I could see came home, as the brute, shaking its neck and head, withdrew further into the rug. But Stoffles crept after it, with the air of an attractive carelessness which was instantly rewarded. A full two feet of the Dryad's body straightened like a black arrow, and seemed to strike right into the furry side of its antagonist—seemed, I say, to slow-going human eyes; but the latter shrank, literally fell back, collapsing with such suddenness that she seemed to have turned herself inside out and become the mere skin of a cat. As the serpent recovered itself she pounced on it like lightning, driving at least half a dozen claws well home, and then, apparently realizing that she had not a good enough hold, sprang lightly into the air from off the body, alighting about a yard off. There followed a minute of sparring in the air, the snake seemingly half afraid to strike, the cat waiting on its every movement.

Now the poisonous snake when provoked is an irritable animal, and the

next attack of the Dryad, maddened by the scratchings of puss and its own unsuccessful exertions, was so furious and so close to myself that I shuddered for the result. I could not have left my position on the sofa without almost treading upon Stoffles, whose bristling back was not a yard from my feet. At last, I thought—as the Blue Dryad, for one second coiled close as a black silk cable, sprang out the next as straight and sharp as the piston-rod of an engine—this lump of feline vanity and conceit is done for, and—I could not help thinking—it will probably be my turn next. Little did I appreciate the resources of Stoffles, who without a change in her vigilant pose, without a wink of her fierce green eyes, sprang backward and upward onto the top of me, and there confronted the enemy as calmly as ever, sitting, if you please, upon my feet!

Trembling all over with fright, I could not but observe that she was trembling, too—with rage. The last act rapidly approached, and no more strategic catastrophe was ever seen. For a snake, as everybody knows, naturally rears its head when fighting. In that position, though one may hit it with a stick, it is extremely difficult as this battle had shown, to get hold of. Now, as the Dryad, curled to a capital S, quivering and hissing, advanced for the last time to the charge, it was bound to strike across the edge of the sofa on which I lay, at the erect head of Stoffles, which vanished with a juggling celerity that would have dislocated the collar-bone of any other animal in creation. From such an exertion the snake recovered itself with an obvious effort, quick beyond question, but not nearly quick enough. Before I could well see that it had missed its aim, Stoffles had launched out like a spring released, and, burying eight or ten claws in the back of its enemy's head, pinned it down against the stiff cushion of the sofa. The tail of the agonized reptile flung wildly in the air and flapped on the arched back of the imperturbable tigress. The whiskered muzzle of Stoffles dropped quietly, and her teeth met once, twice, thrice, like the needle and hook of a sewing machine, in the neck of the Blue Dryad, and when, after much deliberation, she let it go, the beast fell into a limp tangle on the floor.

When I saw that the thing was really dead I believe I must have fainted. Coming to myself, I heard hurried steps and voices. "Great heavens!" my husband was screaming, "where has the brute got to?" "It's all right," said the engineer. "Just you come and look here, old man. Commend me to the coolness of that cat. After the murder of your priceless specimen, here's Stoffles cleaning her fur in one of her serene attitudes."

From the gland of the beast, as I afterward learned, they extracted enough poison to be the death of twenty full-grown human beings. Tightly clasped between its minute teeth was found a few long hairs, late the property of Stoffles.—G. H. Powell, in "Animal Episodes and Studies in Sensation."

### Wellington as a Wit.

An Austrian Princess once asked the Duke of Wellington, "How is it that we in Vienna speak French so much better than you English?" To which the Duke replied: "Well, Princess, if Napoleon had twice visited London with his armies, as he has Vienna, I have no doubt we should be much more familiar with the French language."

Louis Philippe, of France, introduced to the Duke of Wellington one of the French marshals whom he had beaten in the peninsula. The marshal partly turned his back to the Duke, who greatly displeased Louis Philippe, who apologized to the Duke for the marshal's rudeness. "Forgive him, sire," said the Duke, "I taught him to do that in the peninsula."—London Daily News.

Send \$1.25 for Kansas Farmer one year and book, "Samantha at Saratoga."



# The Young Folks.

## BLISSFUL IGNORANCE.

De tuhkey am a foolish bird, kase when I chop de wood, I drap de ax agin de log, an' dah she stuck and stood.

Dat tuhkey came erlong, he did—I skase could truse' de facks—

And' sot hisse' foh roostin' on de handle ob dat ax.

I told 'im, "Mister Tuhkey, yo' is actin' mighty fine.

Yoh done got pas' Thanksgibbin', but dahs Chris'mus day in line."

He jes' winked haughty-like an' showed 'is tall an' gogheous stacks,

An' sot hisse' foh roostin' on de handle ob de ax.

I sho'ley laughed, I did, to see dat tuhkey actin' so;

But human folks is like 'im, as we all hab cause ter know.

Dey prinks in high persitions wif a pride dat won't relax—

An' all de time a-roostin' on the handle ob de ax!

—Washington Star.

## DEATH OF KAA.

Kaa, the mighty python, who was within a cubit of the biggest pythons, boas, anacondas, rock snakes and their kind which nature manufactures, has just died at the Zoo. It is impossible not to wonder why, and how, such beings were created. The old question was put by Blake, the poet, when, after talking about the "Tiger! tiger! burning bright," he asks, "Did he who made thee make the lamb?" There cannot surely arise much pleasure of mere existence from being a python, and lying for three or four weeks together in hot roots of a jungle tussock, half the time tormented with the horns and hide and bones of the last victim abruptly swallowed. Five minutes of superb appetite, resulting in a period of furious indigestion and subsequent uneasy torpor, has the air of hardly making life worth the living. Nevertheless, how supremely well the great snake is planned and fashioned for this unpleasant and horrible form of existence! No artist could devise a concealment more complete for its purposes than those broad palletoes and lozenges of brown and russet which are scattered over his yellow and white skin. In the museum or the cage at the Zoo you would call the pattern loud and eye-attracting, but in his native thickets the huge reptile thus dressed wears the exact semblance of a log of wood or a knotted tree root, upon which fall the shadows of broad leaves, playing with white and yellow streaks of woodland grasses. And then every careful observer will have noticed the exquisite bloom upon the hides of these great snakes. It is a bluish purple luster, more delicate than the lilac glow upon an untouched plum, more tender in reflection of azure and bister than the light upon the stone called labradorite or the fluorescence upon a dark aquamarine. That trick of wasted loveliness, which no painter can imitate, finishes the cunning coloring of nature, which gives to her hideous Kaa herein just that sunlit touch upon his freckles and belts and shadowings which renders his "make-up" decisive in its disguise and surely entraps the unsuspecting animal upon which he will feed. "I will give unto these last even as unto thee"—such seems to be the terribly democratical equity of the creation. The victim has its quick feet, its keen senses, its spirit alert with love of life; the python has, with his sluggish slowness, his bulk, and his gloomy appetite, those aids from the subtle brush of nature which will assure him his meal. But what dark, heavy, brutal dreams must be those of that monstrous, chilly, speckled reptile in his African den! Why should he live, and what does he live for in a world which has the love-making of the silver doves, the glory of the peafowl, the rejoicing morning song of the lark, and the lavish, delicate beauty of the paradise birds and the humming birds?

Careless of all this, no doubt, and ignorant of the classic associations of his name, the great snake has lived and died in his glass house at Regent's park. The "python"—what an appellation that is for eighteen or twenty feet of reptile! It was the huge original Greek python, born of Goea, on the slope of Parnassus, which Apollo slew. And from that first edition and prototype of all mighty rock snakes and boa constrictors the pythoness of Delphi derived her august and awful name and duties. From the same ancient and primitive creature the Pythian games took their commencement; all of which probably does but indicate the natural horror that mankind has of these creeping, silent, deadly, incomprehensible beings, which love the darkness and brood over their murderous plans in the shadows, tinted like the

shadows—some of them slaying by venom hatched in the sweltering poison brakes; some of them by the grip of their segmented spine; all of them apparently hateful, malignant and living only to kill. Hardly can one blame old Omar Khayyam, thinking upon such uncanny fellow beings of this planet, for saying as he says:

Thou, who of suffering clay mankind didst make,  
And even in paradise devise the snake;  
For all these ills wherewith the face of man  
Is blackened, man's forgiveness give—and take!

As for this bygone friend of the public—the big python of the Zoo—we have of course nothing bad to say of him. For twenty-one years he did his duty zoologically, and as far as reptiles know, perhaps, even conscientiously by way of return for his "regulars" in the shape of rabbits and guineapigs. He may even have remarked in moments when his sleepy eyes opened that ladies nowadays carry purses and wear belts made of snakeskin—so that between his congeners and the human race it was "as broad as it was long." Yet still the tantalizing problem arises to perplex the inquiring mind, "Why were snakes ever created?"—London Telegraph.

## City Pigeons.

An outcome of the recent ornithological congress in New York will be the sending out of circular letters to all the principal cities of the United States, inviting them to follow the picturesque example of European municipalities in adopting feathered wards. In other words, it is hoped that the flocks of pigeons which, in Europe, are attached to so many public buildings may be made an American feature as well.

A prominent member of the ornithological congress said: "The matter may at first seem trivial, but on reflection one realizes what a delightful addition these pigeons make to the city landscape, how their white plumage relieves the dull and ponderous facades of the average public building. We have few enough birds in our cities, and the sight of the pigeons flying hither and thither or strutting about the streets would assuredly prove grateful. The question of expense need scarcely be taken into consideration at all. The citizens at large, both old and young, are pretty sure to look after that. In Venice the St. Mark pigeons are fed almost entirely by voluntary contributions.

"Some American cities already possess flocks of pigeons attached to their larger buildings; but I think that the civic governments ought to interest themselves in the notion. It is their duty to make the streets look as attractive as possible, and a step in the right direction would be a modest investment in a few pigeons. Pigeons are not to be scared away by great crowds. You can see them in London, picking about in front of the British museum, or walking hither and thither through the throngs in Trafalgar square. Somehow they seem to brighten up the dingy London afternoons, and, since every little helps, we are anxious to take this means of lending variety and color to our American streets."—Inter Ocean.

## Wonders of Hudson Bay.

Hudson's bay, the Mediterranean of Canada, the most striking geographical feature of North America, was the subject of a lecture and debate at the meeting of the McGill Science Graduates' Society Friday evening. It was a large subject. Hudson bay is half as large as the Mediterranean sea—it drains a vast territory, 3,000,000 square miles in area—vast rivers flow into it from the south, east and west; flowing from places as distant as the plains of Minnesota and Dakota. In its waters live undisturbed fish and oil-bearing mammals, along its shores are fine harbors, in the country surrounding it are rich mineral deposits and fine farming lands. But it is a portion destitute of human habitation. White whales, walrus big as elephants, and fur-bearing seals, disport themselves undisturbed in the water. On land there is wealth, with no one to take it away.

"But all this is the Arctic regions," you say. "Not a bit of it," says Dr. Bell, director of the geological survey. Moose bay is in a latitude further south than London, and the more northern portion of Hudson bay is at about the same latitude as the north of Scotland. The climate also compares very favorably with that of the same latitude in other portions of the globe. The bay does not freeze across in winter—the winter conditions there being similar to those of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and navigation is possible during four or possibly five months of the year. The Hudson bay route would bring the great North-

west as near to Europe as the city of Quebec. It offers perhaps the best route to the Yukon district, and is the national route to the great oil fields of the Northwest. Gold is there—specimens of gold-bearing quartz have been brought into the Hudson bay stations—pyrites containing gold have been found by the geological survey party, and alluvial gold has been found, according to Mr. William Ogilvie, in the valleys. Gypsum, iron, copper, silver and lead are abundantly indicated in many places.

Were the country within the Arctic circle the quality of the soil would be of no consequence. But there are scores of millions of acres upon which profitable stock-raising and farming may be carried on, and it is important to note that the soil observed is rich and productive. In the district south of James bay, in a district as large as all England, the total population at present is one Scotchman and thirty or forty families of Indians.—Montreal (Canada) Witness.

It is always very interesting to hear both sides of a story, especially when it is the story of a battle. Probably the only battle between white men and Africans which has been described by participants on both sides is the one that Stanley fought with the Bangala tribe. Harper's Round Table, under the title of "A Condensed Chapter," reprints a chapter from Stanley's "Through the Dark Continent" relating the story of the fight. This is the first of a series of extracts which the Round Table is pub-



HENRY M. STANLEY

lishing from important works of travel which, by reason of their expense, are beyond the reach of a good many readers. Following Stanley's account is printed that of one of the chiefs who was engaged upon the opposite side. He told it to the Belgian, Captain Coquilhat, who put it into his book, "Le Haut Congo," from which it has been translated by Mr. Cyrus C. Adams. The two versions side by side make very interesting reading.

## Proportions of a Perfect Figure.

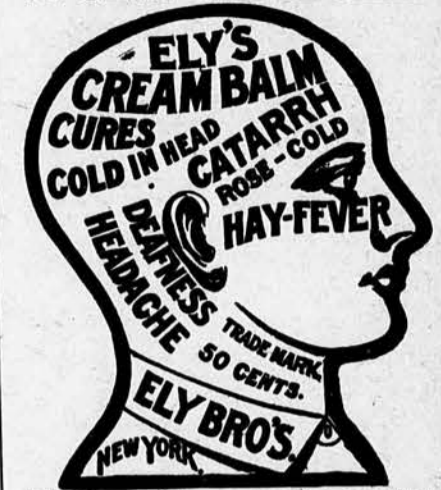
The height of a person with a "perfect figure" should be equal to the distance between the tips of the middle fingers of either hand, when the arms are fully extended. Ten times the length of the hand, or seven and a half times the length of the foot, or five times the diameter of the chest, from one arm-pit to the other, should also give the height of the whole body. The distance from the junction of the thighs to the ground should be exactly the same as from that point to the crown of the head. The knee should be exactly midway between the first named point and the ground at the heel. The distance from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger should be the same as from the elbow to the middle line of the breast. From the top of the head to the level of the chin should be the same as from the level of the chin to that of the arm-pits, and from the heel to the toe.—St. Louis Republic.

## The Deepest Fresh Water Lake.

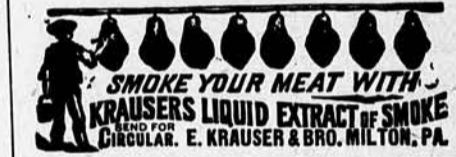
W. G. Steel has been engaged in sounding Lake Chelan, in Washington. A depth of 2,560 feet was found, but no bottom reached. The sounding in progress is being conducted systematically, starting from near Lakeside, and the bottom reached at regular intervals. Crater Lake, Oregon, was the last body of water Mr. Steel sounded, and it has been considered the deepest fresh-water lake in the United States until the present time, but Chelan now far surpasses it.—Correspondence Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

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# KANSAS FARMER

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

All advertising intended for the current week should reach this office not later than Monday.  
Every advertiser will receive a copy of the paper free during the publication of the advertisement.  
Address all orders—  
**KANSAS FARMER CO., Topeka, Kas.**

The American Wool and Cotton Reporter makes the following statement of new mills undertaken in the United States during each of the last four years: 1897, 155; 1896, 300; 1895, 337; 1894, 263.

The index to the Kansas Farmer for 1897, which formed a part of the concluding number, renders easily available the vast fund of information contained in the volume. It is proposed to make an index each year hereafter, and it will therefore be important to save your papers. A place to keep them and a little care will thus enable any subscriber to provide for reference a volume for which he would not take several times its cost.

The twenty-seventh annual live stock report of the Kansas City stock yards for the year ending December 31, 1897, shows that the total receipts for the year were 123,047 cars of live stock, which represent 1,817,526 cattle, 104,436 calves, 3,350,796 hogs, 1,134,236 sheep, and 37,006 horses and mules. The general receipts for the year of live stock are record-breakers for all classes of stock except horses and mules, which were largest in 1896. The average weight of hogs for 1897 was 218 pounds. The average number of head of stock received per day during the year was 17,655.

Our readers will regret to learn of the death of C. M. Gifford, of Milford, Kas., the veteran Short-horn breeder of Kansas. Mr. Gifford was born in Dutchess county, New York, October 23, 1817, and died of heart failure, December 28, 1897. Mr. Gifford was one of the founders of Irving, Marshall county, in 1859, and located his present farm on Madison creek, Riley county, in April, 1865, where he accumulated 2,000 acres of land and bought his first pure-bred Short-horn bull for \$500, of the Michigan Agricultural College, to use on a grade herd. He made a purchase of some Short-horns of Judge Chaffee, in 1873, and established the present large and well-bred herd in 1878. Mr. Gifford was a very successful and conscientious breeder and always retained the confidence of all who were acquainted with him. His sons will retain the herd and continue the breeding of Short-horn cattle.

The newspaper talk about F. D. Coburn for Governor is interesting. It will not be forgotten by the farmers of Kansas that Secretary Coburn is now in their service doing about sixteen hours of hard and efficient work in their interest every day. He will be fastened upon for another term of work as Secretary of Agriculture, not to be released therefrom unless and except his services as chief executive shall be demanded in tones not to be ignored. That his nomination would be the strongest that his party could make is universally recognized, and that he would make a broad-minded, energetic and capable Governor of the entire State, with which he has been so closely identified during all the years of his manhood, is certain. The Kansas Farmer seldom alludes to possible nominees for office and is entirely free from partisan bias and influences. It is not advised whether Secretary Coburn wants to be Governor. But its admiration for the work he is doing for Kansas suggests the above observations in the interests especially of the farmers of the State, whom it represents.

### BIG TRANSACTIONS IN REAL WHEAT.

The last day of December, 1897, saw at Chicago the close of one of the largest wheat deals ever enacted. Joseph Leiter and several smaller holders were at the close of the deal owners of about 9,000,000 bushels of wheat actually in store in that city. Mr. Leiter had bought the wheat at prices considerably below those prevailing when it was delivered and is likely to make a good profit on it. P. D. Armour was the seller of most of the wheat, and he preferred to deliver the actual grain rather than take chances of having the price run up on him at the last of the month.

It had been expected in many quarters that Leiter would continue buying even after Armour had delivered, and in the scarcity of sellers would run the price up to fancy figures. But there was no object in doing this after Armour and his crowd had demonstrated their ability to deliver all the wheat they had sold and were unwilling to obligate themselves to deliver more. Some had predicted that after having filled his contracts and presumably worried the buying interest to get money enough to pay for all this wheat Armour would depress the market by offering to sell still more wheat and at lower prices. But the experienced old packer of beef and pork had felt as much of young Leiter's mettle as he cared for and appeared willing to get out without additional risk, pocketing the losses already incurred. And indeed if Leiter should not want to go further he could suffer no loss on account of a speculative depression for he had the wheat he had bought and paid for. This deal is more in the line of legitimate speculation than are most of the operations of the wheat pit.

If the demand shall now exceed the supply outside of the Leiter holdings, as it seems likely to do, the young grain merchant will have an opportunity to add considerably to his already ample fortune by allowing the market to rise and then selling only as he may without causing a break in prices.

It has been suggested that Leiter has been buying with English money. It is reported that all the wheat he has shipped has gone to Liverpool. It is hinted that the complications which seem to be thickening in the East—in China in particular—have alarmed the English as to the possibilities of embargoes and consequent difficulty in obtaining bread supplies, and that these millions of bushels are to be shipped to England as rapidly as possible and stored against the day of trouble.

Readers of the Kansas Farmer will remember a paper by Prof. C. C. George, on "Farming as a Factor in National Prosperity," published in this paper July 8, 1897. Immediately this paper reached London attention was attracted to the showing it made of England's weakness in the matter of food supplies. Excerpts from it were published and discussed in the London Cable. The importance of establishing government reserves of bread stuffs has been strenuously urged, and it is not impossible that the Leiter wheat and many millions more will be used for this purpose. If such is the intention and the deal is English on the buying side, the long-headedness of that people has another illustration in the manner of buying largely at Armour's expense.

Wheat-growers who have profited by the support given to the market by young Leiter will feel a friendly interest in his future operations and will admire the manly way in which he stood the test and received and paid for all the wheat he had bought, and will be willing to see him make a fair profit on it, especially since a part of the profit comes out of the pockets of speculators on the bear side.

### A WELCOME REFORM.

Statistician Hyde, of the United States Department of Agriculture, shares the opinion which has been held for years by farmers and dealers who have paid any attention to the matter, that the work of the bureau of which he has been appointed chief needs reforming, and he has announced his intention of reforming it. Hereafter the energies of the bureau will be expended more largely upon the collection and dissemination of facts regarding crop areas than in guesses as to conditions and probable yields, which have been so notoriously inaccurate that they are a standing joke. It is not to be supposed that the collection and compilation of approximately accurate crop estimates is impossible, for the work of Secretary Coburn and his six hundred or more crop reporters in Kansas disproves it, and it is a matter of astonishment that the national bureau has not to this day sought out a statistician of such brain texture that he could with the ample means at his command obtain information from the

entire country, having the same characteristics of definiteness and accuracy as those which Secretary Coburn has obtained from his Kansas correspondents. But the fact remains that the government reports have been little that they should be and much that they should not be; and as there is no promise of improvement it is certainly as well that guesswork be relegated to the background and the energies of the bureau be directed into another channel.

Mr. Hyde is engaged at present in the preparation of a report which will be of very great interest just at this time to the business as well as the agricultural world. It is an estimate of the acreage of winter wheat. He has been very careful in the gathering of data bearing on this question, and he will exercise extreme care in the completion of the statistics at hand.

The high prices which have ruled for wheat during the last six months have stimulated the farmers to increasing their winter wheat acreage quite largely. It will be the aim of the department to show approximately the extent of this increase. Commercial circles are giving credence to all sorts of reports of increased area, and the findings of the department's statistician will be watched with concern. The report will be out early in January, not necessarily on the 10th of the month, which is the day upon which the regular crop bulletin is issued, but not far from that date.

### IMPORTED HEREFORDS FOR KANSAS.

One of the largest and best consignments of Hereford cattle ever imported to America from England arrived at Sunny Slope farm, Emporia, Kas., last week, the property of C. S. Cross, and are intended as part of the great offering at his two days' public sale, to be held at Emporia, March 2 and 3, 1898.

The importation consists of young bulls and heifers, and will form a great attraction, as they are grandly bred and a splendid lot of individuals. The Farmer representative who saw the importation will give particulars later.

### BLOCKS OF THREE.

Every present subscriber for Kansas Farmer who will send in two new subscribers and \$2 may have his own subscription extended one year without additional cost. We mean it; blocks of three—one old and two new subscribers for \$2. This offer is made for the purpose of greatly enlarging the Kansas Farmer's subscription list, and is confined strictly to the proposition as stated. It will be an easy matter for any old subscriber to get two new ones, and it is almost certain that after reading the "Old Reliable" for a whole year they, too, will become permanent members of the Kansas Farmer family. This is to the publishers the business end of this extraordinary proposition. Blocks of three—one old with two new subscribers—all for \$2.

### Annual Wool Statistics.

The Wool and Cotton Reporter presents in this week's issue its "Annual Wool Review" (page 1760), in which it gives complete statistics relating to the wool markets of the United States during 1897, showing the sales for the year, the stocks on hand at the close, the fluctuations in prices, the receipts of domestic wool at the leading markets, the importations from abroad, together with a great number of letters from the various States and Territories of the United States, giving the situation as seen from the local point of view.

A brief summary of these figures shows the present supply of wool in the United States, outside of mills, to be 223,719,296 pounds, against 219,641,788 a year ago. The amount in the three principal markets is 158,754,296, against 144,831,788 a year ago. The stocks carried over in Boston amount to 126,710,496 pounds, against 114,851,578 a year ago. The sales of wool in the three principal markets for 1897 have amounted to 527,055,574 pounds, against 244,211,300 pounds in 1896. The sales this year were nearly 71 per cent. larger than in 1892, which was an exceptionally heavy year. Sales in normal years average between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 pounds per week. In 1897 they have an average of over 10,000,000 pounds. The highest prices of the year have ruled in the last six months, ranging on wools other than carpet wools, 35 to 70 per cent. above the quotations in January. Fleece wools advanced approximately 50 per cent., and territory 60 to 70 per cent. The advance in Australian ranges from 35 to 43 per cent. The present quotations, however, are still considerably below those for 1892.

Kalamazoo, Mich., is famous for celery—also as the home of Thos. Slater, whose advertisement appears on page 15.

### BEEF PACKERS' VIEWS.

In preparing the recent volume issued by the Kansas Board of Agriculture, devoted to the "Beef Steer and His Sister," Secretary F. D. Coburn addressed to several of the more extensive packing concerns of the country a series of inquiries intended to discover their views upon a variety of subjects in which the beef-producers presumably would have much interest. As these slaughterers and packers are the men who invade the markets of all lands seeking cash-returning outlets for the meat products of American pastures and cornfields, and whose views must in many respects be from standpoints quite different from those of the producer, their observations cannot fail to be worthy of careful perusal.

Answers to some of the inquiries sent them, are as follows:

Armour Packing Co.—"Baby beef" has been very popular. On account of age, the quality is probably not so good as that of older stock. The consensus of opinion among retailers is that it can be cut to better advantage and there is less waste. It has probably not been in supply equal to the demand, and that has affected its price. Range men in the past few years have been putting a great many thoroughbred Hereford and Short-horn bulls in their herds, making it possible to produce good "baby beef" in short time, and the demand for it is growing continually.

Swift & Co.—We would hardly call cattle from 12 to 14 months old strictly "baby beef;" would consider "baby beef" to be that from animals 10 to 18 months old. We think that in a good many cases this class of meat would bring as much as beef from animals 6 to 18 months old.

Cudahy Packing Co.—Beef from cattle 12 to 24 months old, if well fattened, is in great demand and more highly esteemed than that from animals 6 to 18 months old. The reason for it is that there is not a great deal of it on the market, whereas there are numerous butchers doing a small business who do not want to handle a heavy carcass, especially during the hot weather, but who at the same time have a trade that demands good beef. It is very seldom that the market is overstocked with good, fat yearling steers or heifers, yet through a very large portion of the year they command as high a price as the 1,200 to 1,300-pound steers of similar quality.

Schwarzchild & Sulzberger Co.—Beef from well-fattened cattle 12 to 24 months old is as highly esteemed as that from cattle 6 to 18 months old, for some markets only.

Armour.—Steers would probably bring in the neighborhood of 50 cents per hundred more than spayed heifers. The latter are probably worth 25 cents more per hundred than those not spayed. They have a tendency to be more thoroughly finished, and there is a surety that she is not in calf.

Swift.—We think that 25 cents per hundred would at nearly all times cover the difference in price between spayed heifers and steers of the same quality, weight and fatness. Generally one or two spayed heifers in with a load of steers, if they are of as good quality and ripeness as the steers, sell at an even price with the steers. We do not consider spayed heifers worth any more than other heifers of equal quality not spayed.

Cudahy.—Steers are worth 35 cents per hundred more than spayed heifers of the same age, grade, and general quality. We do not consider spayed heifers worth any more than those of similar age, grade and general quality not spayed.

Schwarzchild.—If of approximately the same age, grade and general quality, spayed heifers would bring from 25 to 50 cents per hundred less than steers. Spayed heifers would bring 50 cents per hundred pounds more than unsplayed, if of the same quality and size. A spayed heifer will dress from two to four pounds per hundred more for live weight than if not spayed, if of equal quality.

Among other of their observations furnished by leading packers to Secretary Coburn of the Kansas Board of Agriculture and compiled by him in his December quarterly report, devoted to beef production, are these:

Armour Packing Co.—Hornless cattle are preferred, because there are less bruises on them, and the general result from slaughtering and disposing of them is better. It is difficult to establish any actual difference in the price. They have the preference at even figures, which probably means that they are bringing more. As packers we certainly prefer them.

Swift & Co.—We do not consider hornless cattle worth more than those of the same quality and fatness with horns, ex-



cept in rare cases where shippers would pay 5 cents to 10 cents more per hundred pounds for hornless cattle.

Cudahy Packing Co.—While the horns on a steer are not usually worth within cents a pound of his price, we still do not think a buyer ordinarily takes that fact into consideration, and it is not probable that he would pay any more for hornless steers, other things being equal, than he would for those with horns.

Schwarzschild & Sulzberger Co.—Cattle of an equal quality, whether with or without horns, will realize the same price.

Armour.—Uniformity in color of any breed might influence the price, as it undoubtedly catches the eye, presenting a smoothness and evenness, as opposed to mixed lots.

Swift.—We do not consider that a lot of cattle of uniform color or breed (other than Holstein or Jersey) would bring any more than cattle of various colors and breeds equally as good; for instance, a prime load of half Short-horns and half Angus would bring as much as any equally choice lot all Short-horn or all Angus.

Cudahy.—The fact that a lot of cattle are uniform in color or in breed does not enhance their value in the eyes of the practical buyer. A bunch, however, all of one color might strike a buyer as being "pretty" and fool him into giving a higher price than they were actually worth on the market.

Hammond.—Color makes no difference as to the value of cattle for use in this country. For export, black polled cattle, reds, roans and those having the Hereford white faces are most sought.

Schwarzschild.—A bunch of steers well bred and of equal quality, but of various colors, will bring as much as if they were all of one color and breed; and yet those of one color, for instance, red, may be preferable to some buyers. White and yellow are objectionable to some.

Armour.—The damage to hides that could be avoided if cattle had no horns is probably slight. In most cases the damages would only occur to the beef by causing bruises, and would not really injure or penetrate the hide. Horn scratches, however, are the subject of complaint from tanners, and cause them to discriminate.

Swift.—A very small percentage of damage done to market value of hides would be avoided if cattle had no horns.

Cudahy.—On Texas cattle, about one-half the hides are damaged by horns to the extent of about 60 cents per hide. The hides of native cattle are not damaged in our judgment over one-tenth of 1 per cent. by horns.

Hammond.—If cattle had no horns it would change the market value of the hides very nearly \$1 each.

Farmers' Institutes.

The Agricultural College has already assisted in a number of farmers' institutes in different parts of the State, this winter, and has promised assistance to several other institute organizations. The following are the places, dates and delegations from the faculty for which definite arrangements have been made at this writing:

- January 4-5.—Madison, Profs. Cottrell, Hood.
January 12-13.—Independence, Profs. Burtis, Walters.
January 13-14.—Hutchinson, Profs. Will, Willard.
January 19.—Manhattan, Prof. Cottrell.
January 26-27.—Peabody, Profs. Cottrell, Winston.
January 28-29.—Overbrook, Profs. Burtis, Graham.
February 1-2.—Chanute, Profs. Hitchcock, Harper.
February 1-3.—Hiawatha, Prof. Faville.
February 3-4.—Berryton, Profs. Burtis, Fischer.
February 8-9.—Lakin, Profs. Graham, Harper.
February 10-11.—Seneca, Profs. Burtis, Clothier.
February 10-11.—Haven, Prof. Pearce.
February 10-11.—Gardner, Profs. Faville, Fischer.
March 3-4.—Arlington, Prof. Cottrell.

Why Subsoiling is Right.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—Subsoiling is right because it prepares the ground to take in the water when it comes, saves it from running to waste and from being evaporated by standing on the surface. It is right because it agrees with both reason and nature. It agrees with nature because all vegetation must have moisture to sustain life and produce growth, and nature will do her part by depositing abundance of wealth in your soil if you open the way for her to do so by loosening up the subsoil. Surely

it is the right thing to do and it is an easy job if you do not try to go too deep at one time. H.

Gossip About Stock.

C. P. Shelton, of Paola, Kas., formerly of Ohio, will offer his first public sale of Poland-China swine on February 17, 1898. Detailed announcements will appear later, when the catalogues are ready.

As O. P. Updegraff's sale comes on Wednesday, January 12, this is the last opportunity we have to call attention to it. See the advertisement in another column and attend the sale if possible; if not, send to him for a catalogue and mail some bids to either auctioneer.

Mr. Geo. Topping, Cedar Point, Kas., recently purchased of W. H. Wren, Marion, Kas., a young male to head the Belmont herd, the choicest pig of the best litter sired by Wren's Model 17400 out of Lady U. S. 30885 by Longfellow 12173. This is a very fashionably-bred pig and will make a notable sire for this herd.

J. A. Funkhouser, Plattsburg, Mo., breeder of Hereford cattle, writes: "I cannot near supply the demand for Herefords this winter. I have sold forty-two pure-bred bulls during the past two weeks, all that I can spare at present. A choice lot are reserved for my sale, March 16, which will be advertised in the Farmer."

E. T. Warner, of Princeton, Kas., sends another advertisement of the Franklin County herd of Poland-Chinas, and states that he has some extra yearlings and gilts for sale bred to Chief Editor 17995 and Tecumseh Short Stop 14750, having recently rebought a half interest in the latter sire, of R. H. Wheeler, Lawrence, Kas. Mr. Warner has also a number of other good things for present sale and invites the correspondence of purchasers.

Geo. F. Woodworth, Secretary, Maryville, Mo., writes: "You are hereby notified that the twelfth annual meeting of the stockholders of the Standard Poland-China Record Association will be held in Maryville, Mo., on Wednesday, February 2, 1898, commencing promptly at 10 o'clock a. m. Also, pursuant to resolution adopted at the seventh annual session, there will be an institute session of swine breeders held on Tuesday, February 1, 1898, to which you are cordially invited. Volume XII closes February 1, 1898."

The regular quarterly meeting of the Franklin County Swine Breeders' Association was held on December 21, at Ottawa, Kas. There was a good attendance and a good business session. A paper was read by J. R. Killough, "The Care and Feeding of the Sow from Time of Breeding to Time of Farrowing." This paper was thoroughly discussed by the members present. The Secretary was instructed to prepare a program for the next regular meeting, which will be held on March 8. J. N. Kirkpatrick, Secretary, Ottawa, Kas.

M. F. Tatman, of Rossville, Kas., writes: "Thanks to the help of the 'old reliable' Kansas Farmer, that goes into every nook and corner of this broad State of ours, the first day of January, 1898, found the Kaw Valley herd of Poland-Chinas with not a single animal old enough for service for sale. My sales have been the largest in all my thirteen years experience as a breeder, and most of the stock going out to old customers. Will say that I have sixty-five as fine fall pigs as I ever raised to sell to any one that wants to get on the ground floor for next year. Send in your orders. I have them good enough to use in any herd in the land, that I will sell cheap. Also young sows bred to Tat's Chief I Know, Tat's Model or Tat's Dream."

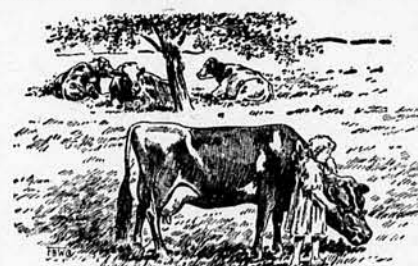
The attention of farmers is particularly called to the advertisement of O. P. Updegraff, on another page of this issue, where notice is given of a sale of fifty head of bred sows, twenty-five Poland-Chinas and twenty-five Large English Berkshires. These sows are not only good individuals, but are all pure-bred and choicely bred. They are either now registered or eligible to registry. They have been carefully bred to extra good and high-priced boars, and every one of them is guaranteed to be with pig. They have been prepared for this sale, but are not as fat as are generally sold at public auction, yet are all in a good, thrifty, healthy, hearty condition, and, as the catalogue says, "are full of life, vigor and pigs." There are some extra bred sows that will bring a fancy price, while "there are others" not quite so fashionably bred that will sell at very moderate prices and will return a large profit over their cost at this sale. We hope our readers generally will attend

but if you cannot, send for a catalogue, look it over and send in some bids on such stock as you would like, to either one of the auctioneers, in care of Mr. Updegraff, and you will be treated just as fairly as though you were there in person. Sale will be held under cover, at 514 Jackson street, Topeka, Kas., on Wednesday, January 12, 1898.

We call the attention of our readers to the new Poland-China advertisement of H. W. Cheney, North Topeka, Kas. This herd is in the pink of condition and the breeding of the sows is strictly up-to-date. The youngsters offered for sale, both sexes, are mostly sired by World Beater Gem 19378, sire World Beater; dam, Gem Sister 2d, a close relative of Mr. Cook's World's Fair winner, Gem. This herd is headed by Cheney's Chief I Know 19514, sired by the famous old Chief I Know, out of Miss Tecumseh Corwin 45676, making a combination of fashionable blood so much in demand at the present time. Mr. Cheney proposes to ship to his customers nothing but first-class, up-to-date stock, something that will please them and do them good. Topeka is the best shipping point in the State, with low freight and express rates.

J. R. Willson, Marion, Kas., has established during the past year a splendid herd of Poland-Chinas, and the Farmer predicts that this herd will become in a short time one of the notable herds of the West, as Mr. Willson is a very successful business man whose methods are such as will readily make him name and fame as a breeder. At the head of his herd is Tanner 19212, sired by General Hidestretcher by old Hidestretcher and out of Black Nell by Hoosier Boy. There is no better Poland-China breeding than the Hidestretcher strain, as is well shown by Tanner's pigs in this herd and that of W. H. Wren. They have a style and finish that is unexcelled. Among the brood sows in this herd are several of the right sort, including Darkness 1st by Protection Boy, and Darkness F. 3d by Graceful Index, Alice Medium 42623, Elsie 42621, Bertha W. 42620 sired by Wren's Medium 12387, also Anna Pesca 42619, Bertha B. 42617, Hattie Washington 42618, all sired by Hadley M. Washington 15544 by Hadley Jr. There is a splendid crop of fall pigs sired by One Price Medium 2d 18305. This splendid sire was killed last fall and these are his only pigs.

This little picture reminds us that the advantages resulting from dehorning cattle are so many and so far-reaching in their good effects that the day is likely to come when the cow with horns will be something of a curiosity. This is not an unreasonable view of the matter, for the horn is a needless appendage under present conditions and must go. It is simply remarkable how the removal of the horn changes the entire nature of



an animal, making the sullen and vicious tender and tractile in disposition. It makes animals contented, and any man of experience knows that only quiet and contented animals can lay on flesh or produce milk and butter. Every time a farmer cuts off a horn he makes money. There are several ways of removing horns. There is probably no better way than to cut them off with the Keystone Dehorning Clipper, made by A. C. Brosius, of Cochranville, Penn. Write for circulars, prices, etc., and say that you saw this in the Kansas Farmer.

B. F. Dorsey & Sons, of Perry, Ill., the veteran Poland-China and Berkshire breeders and invincible show yard masters, were visited last week by a Farmer representative. In this week's issue they advertise a public sale of sixty Poland-China brood sows. A careful inspection of the offering shows that it consists of a veritable lot of plums and as business-like lot of sows as was ever consigned to the auction block. It has always been the policy of Messrs. Dorsey & Sons that no animal could find a place in their breeding herd unless a prize-winner or an immediate descendant of prize-winners, and in this respect this herd is the most noted herd anywhere, and they have to their credit over 6,000 prizes, most of which were won at State fairs, including their World's Fair prizes, which was first on four animals the get of one sire, and that honor fell to Short Stop. In the

coming sale there will be four daughters of this great sire, probably the last of his get to enter a sale ring. The present offerings are the get of thirty-one different boars, among which are some of the most noted, living or dead. There will be eight spring gilts by Chief Tecumseh 2d, three of them out of Lady U. S., a granddaughter of old Black U. S.; five of them out of U. S. Girl, another granddaughter of Black U. S. These nine gilts will be sold open. The sow, Hadley Style, by One Price, one of the best producing daughters of this famous sire, Herald's Beauty. She is a blood sister to a sow that sold for \$800; also a sister to Royal I. X. L., that won first in class at Illinois State fair in 1897, and is now doing service in the Dorsey herd. The entire lot of sows are of that kind that at once attracts attention and will be money-makers for the men who buy them. They are safe in pig to Allerton's Tecumseh, the great show yard king of 1896, Short Stop, Ringleader, Dorsey's Hidestretcher and Royal I. X. L. Send for catalogue.

On February 2, 1898, W. H. Wren, of Marion, Kas., will hold his next annual bred sow sale. It will undoubtedly be the best offering in all respects ever made in the State. A representative of the Farmer recently visited this herd and was surprised to note the grand lot of tried brood sows and exceptional gilts that are to be included in this sale. No. 1 in the catalogue will be Wren's Model 17400, one of the herd sires and one of the best sons of the great Klever's Model. No. 2 in the catalogue will be Corwin Sensation, one of the very best show and brood sows in this herd. She will have four gilts in this sale out of the famous sire, Chief I Know, owned in Missouri. The offerings at this sale will consist of forty sows and gilts, mostly bred, and ten males old enough for service. Most of them will be bred to Wren's Model, What's Wanted Jr. and Miles' Look Me Over. Among the offerings are four good sows sired by One Price Medium and six fall males sired by Capper, a son of What's Wanted Jr.; four gilts sired by Hadley M. Washington, the famous son of Hadley Jr.; also three gilts by Hadley Corwin Faultless, another remarkable son of Hadley Jr.; four gilts out of His Lady U. S. by Longfellow. Among the tried brood sows which have been such successful breeders and done so much to make the fame of Cherry Orchard herd are Rosy Nell 29107, Lady One Price 2d, One Price by One Price Medium, Rosy Nell 5th by Hadley M. Washington and Golden Hadley 2d by Hadley M. Washington. The catalogues for this great sale are about ready for distribution and breeders generally are cordially invited to come to this sale and be the guests of Mr. Wren.

Attention is directed to the advertisement of the Rocky Hill herd of Short-horns, owned by J. F. True, Newman, Kas., twelve miles east of Topeka, which was recently visited by a Farmer representative, who found a splendid, up-to-date herd of typical Short-horns, consisting of ten females of pure Cruickshank and Scotch-topped heifers, the get of Linwood Lord Mayor 112727, which is conceded to be one of the very best sires in the United States. Among the females are the highest-priced ones sold at Col. Harris' dispersion sale in 1896. Among the get of this sire is N. H. Gentry's Victorious and Martin Flynn's Golden Lord, and Col. Harris is also using one of Lord Mayor's get for the head of his present herd. There are several daughters of C. C. Norton's imported bull, Salomis. In addition to the Scotch blood there is to be found the pure Bates blood from Waterloo Duke of Hazelhurst 11th, a handsome blocky red two-year-old bull, the breeding of Elberton Fall, secured at his dispersion sale last May, when the entire herd sold at public sale at an average of \$280. This combination of the best Bates and Cruickshank blood gives special prominence to his herd and a bright promise for the future produce, which are offered to his customers. The blocky and stylish heifers out of Lord Mayor's heifers and by his herd sires are animals that must be seen to be fully appreciated. There are about twenty-five October and November calves which will be recorded in Volume XLII A. H. B., that will be very much in evidence if only seen by the buyers, on account of their splendid individuality and superior breeding. The herd is uniformly red in color throughout and one can heartily recommend breeders who want some of the very best breeding in America to call on Mr. True, who is a thoroughly reliable breeder in every way.

Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers, Buckingham's Dye for the Mustache, Buckingham's Dye for the Eyebrows. Colors a beautiful brown or black.



Horticulture.

Horticultural Gleanings.

The Division of Pomology of the United States Department of Agriculture is devoting a great deal of work to the protection of farmers and horticulturists against fraud on the part of nurserymen with "new" varieties for sale. It is well known that a great majority of the "new" varieties of fruits sold every spring and fall at fabulous prices are old varieties under new names. It is extremely seldom that a really new and meritorious variety is developed, although thousands of dollars are expended annually for sorts with worked-over names that purport to be something new under the sun and an improvement on anything heretofore known.

"The exceedingly good price that has been paid this year for the Albemarle Pippin has aroused great interest in that variety of apple," said Major Brackett, last week. "The people of all sections of country have been sending to this division for information concerning this apple and a large number of growers have expressed a desire to try the species. It is a great mistake for people to think that the Albemarle Pippin will grow in any and all soils and climates, and I wish you would tell them that they should go slowly and study this variety of apple as to its fitness for the soil and climate in which they live, and not rush pell-mell into its cultivation. I am speaking from my own personal experience and also from the experience of others who have tried this fruit under different climatic conditions and in different soils. I tried to grow the Albemarle Pippin on my farm in Iowa in 1850, and it proved a failure there, as it did in a number of other places in the West. It will be a very great mistake if the people of that section of the country attempt to plant it now. An apple which is fast coming to the front as a market apple of the West is the York Imperial, grown especially in Illinois and Iowa. It is probably one of the best for market purposes, coming up very nearly to the Albemarle Pippin as an export apple."

It is worthy of note in this connection that Judge Wellhouse, of Topeka, whose fame as an apple-grower is national, is a strong believer in the York Imperial as a Western market apple. He expressed the opinion to the writer two years ago that it was the coming apple for the West, and it has formed a large share of all his recent plantings.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson is becoming alarmed at the rapid spread of the San Jose scale, and is considering the matter of establishing a rigid quarantine against it. The scale is a minute parasite that clings to the bark of fruit trees. It made its first appearance in the United States at San Jose, Cal., hence its name. The scale is reproduced rapidly, and it usually ruins the trees to which it becomes attached. It has been carried on California oranges to every part of the earth, and the German horticulturists are making vigorous protests against its introduction into their country. They complain that it threatens the prosperity of the fruit-growers of Germany and they have appealed to the government to establish an embargo against fruit, plants and trees of every kind from the United States.

That the sugar beet is not a success in Missouri is the conclusion reached by the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station after a series of experiments. Dr. J. H. Waters, Director of the station, advised that no money be invested in the sugar beet factories until after further experiments shall have been made next year. He says: "It is by no means settled that no portion of the State will ever prove sufficiently well adapted to the growth of sugar beets to support factories, but they do show that to engage in this enterprise at this time, in

even the most promising localities, would be fraught with unusual business risks." The results of several years experiments conducted under the direction of the chemical department of the Kansas Experiment Station were nearly in line with the results in Missouri. It was developed that, with proper cultivation, a large quantity of beets could be raised per acre, but the average sugar content was not sufficient to give great promise that the beet sugar industry could ever be made profitable in Kansas. The trouble seems to be that Kansas and Missouri are too far south. It should be stated, however, that the Kansas experiments were conducted under so many unfavorable circumstances that they are not to be regarded as conclusive.

Experience With Peaches.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—D. M. A., Pittsburg, Kas., makes some inquiries about growing peach trees from seed, etc. Having had some experience in that way, I am free to give the results of that experience.

As to planting seed where they are to grow, or in nursery rows, I find it much more economical and satisfactory to plant in thick rows, whether the object is to grow them as seedlings or for budding.

The peach is very easily transplanted and made to grow, and the gain in point of cultivation of the seedlings in close rows over orchard rows will far more than pay for the trouble of transplanting. I prefer transplanting at one year old, when growing seedling trees for fruit, but, if budded, would wait until the bud has one year's growth.

As to experience with budding, mine favors buying trees from the nursery, one year from bud, as I have failed several times to get good results either from my own budding or that done by others for me, and when budded after planting in the orchard, should the bud fall the tree grows up seedling, and unless closely watched with note book we fail to know what variety we have or whether the tree is one of those seedlings.

My experience with seedling peaches has been so satisfactory that I feel like giving it for the benefit of Kansas Farmer readers. About eighteen years ago, having the care of an orchard of budded peaches of excellent selection, I saved seed therefrom and planted the same fall, getting a good stand of trees in nursery rows, which I put in orchard 10x20 feet the spring after they were a year old, but owing to severe winters killing fruit buds, they bore none of amount until they were seven or eight years old—I think about twenty bushels from 300 trees in 1889. But the next year was favorable, and such an orchard of peaches I never saw, mostly very early to medium. The trees bent with fruit until it was difficult to drive a wagon between the twenty-foot rows. The fruit was exceedingly fine, more than three-fourths of it equal or superior to the trees from which the seed was obtained, both in appearance and quality. Neglecting to thin the fruit, I think the trees nearly destroyed themselves by overbearing, but we have had, I think, three partial crops since and many fine peaches.

Our conclusions, based on a comparison with budded fruit, side by side, is that properly selected seed will produce fruit of equal quality and appearance but not with the certainty of variety. But where selected from budded trees, grown in clumps of each variety to itself, about three-fourths will so closely resemble the original as to puzzle experts to detect the difference.

In conclusion, were I planting a peach orchard for both pleasure and profit, with means to purchase budded trees of a reliable nursery, I should expect more both of pleasure and profit in getting the best selection of varieties to cover the season, from very early to very late, remembering that prices usually favor both very early and very late in a local market. If I did not have the means to buy the trees, I would select seed from the best I could find, expecting good peaches and plenty of them whenever budded trees bore fruit in the neighborhood. We have been able to see little difference in hardness of either tree or bud between budded and seedling trees.

CLARKSON HODGIN.

Dwight, Kas.

In answer to inquiries the Kansas Farmer will shortly contain full directions for making hot-beds, as prepared by the Horticultural department of our Agricultural College.

R. H. Paton, 613 Walton Avenue, New York City, writes: "I have used Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup for years and find it the most efficacious remedy for coughs, colds and laryngitis I ever tried."

CANDY CATHARTIC
Cascarets
CURE CONSTIPATION
REGULATE THE LIVER
10c. 25c. 50c. ALL DRUGGISTS.

It is foolish to say that such or such a man "has immortalized himself," when the belief is almost universal that God does that for everybody!

"Lessons of the elections" have been innumerable since they occurred; but one lesson has not been mentioned: It's not going to be unanimous next year!

High-priced competitors disregard a well-established law of physics when they buck against Salvation Oil. It's the best and cheapest—25 cents.

There are no bankers or business men in our country who would object to an employe being religiously inclined, but if he persisted in wearing it on the outside of his coat sleeve instead of making it a basis of character, he must not marvel if he is "stood off."—Exchange.

How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Proprietors, Toledo, Ohio.

We the undersigned have known F. J. Cheney for the last fifteen years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out all obligations made by their firm. WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.

Excursions to California

Every day in the year via Santa Fe Route. Choice of luxurious Pullman palace sleepers or comfortable and modern Pullman tourist sleepers. Apply to agent A., T. & S. F. Ry. for literature and particulars of service. Remember this is a daily service.

Passengers arriving at Chicago by the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway can, by the new Union Elevated Loop, reach any part of the city, or for a five cent fare can be taken immediately to any of the large stores in the downtown district. A train will stop at the Rock Island station every minute. These facilities can only be offered by the "Great Rock Island Route." Address John Sebastian, G. P. A., Chicago.

Every man should read the advertisement of Thos. Slater, on page 15 of this paper.

We PAY FREIGHT full 12 Challenge Points—the sell the most trees. Then, we will not cut quality no matter how LOW our price. If interested in trees or fruits drop postal for STARK FRUIT BOOK new edition; finest, most complete yet issued sent free. STARK BROS., Louisiana, Mo. Stark, Mo. Rockport, Ill. Dansville, N.Y.

REID'S TREES
ARE RELIABLE.
Everything grown in Reid's Nurseries is healthy, well-rooted and true to name. Every effort is made to save expense to customers. We sell direct and ship direct, saving fifty per cent. on Trees, Shrubs, Vines. Write for catalogue, estimates or suggestions. Try Star Strawberry, Eldorado Blackberry. REID'S NURSERIES, Bridgeport, Ohio.

YOUR BUSINESS
is to make the most out of your ground with the least expense. The PLANET JR. Hill Dropping Seeder, Single Wheel Hoe, Cultivator, Rake and Plow is as necessary to your complete success as sunshine and rain. From the dropping of the seed to the finishing touch of cultivation this marvellous implement does the work better, quicker and easier than any six men you ever hired. There are many other Planet Jr. tools covering many uses—there is an illustrated book that tells you all about them in an interesting way. It is really worth a price, but this year it's free. S. L. ALLEN & CO., 1107 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

STAR STRAWBERRY
Large, perfect shape vigorous, prolific, drought-resisting. Best varieties Strawberry Plants; also Asparagus Roots, Peach, Apple and Plum Trees. Peaches grown from natural seed in section free from scale and yellows. Write for latest catalog—FREE. HARRISON'S NURSERIES, Berlin, Md.

STANDARD VALUE
Counts for more in the selection of fruit trees than almost any other place. Why? Because fruit trees are bought on faith. We have the standard kind of all the leading varieties. Fruit Trees, Heavy Plants, Evergreens, etc., etc. Strong, healthy trees free from Black Knot, Yellows, Blight, Scale, etc., etc. Do not place your spring order until you get our catalogue and prices. Sent free; write to-day. J. W. MILLER CO. Box 260, Freeport, Ill.

2,000,000 Strawberry Plants at \$1.50 per 1,000 and up; 12,000 Peach trees 1 1/2c. and up; Osage Orange Hedge \$1 per 1,000; Ash Seedlings 75c. per 1,000. A large supply of all kinds of exceedingly well-rooted, true to name and strictly first-class nursery stock. Write for price list to BOHEMIAN NURSERIES, Reynolds, Neb.

Ferry's SEEDS
grow paying crops because they're fresh and always the best. For sale everywhere. Refuse substitutes. Stick to Ferry's Seeds and prosper. 1898 Seed Annual free. Write for it. D. M. FERRY & CO., Detroit, Mich.

\$200 FOR A NAME
for this New Tomato and a New Beet which we shall introduce in 1899, to those wishing to test them this season and compete for name prizes we will send a packet of the seed of each, also seeds of our NEW WHITE PRIZE ONION NEW WINTER QUEEN CELERY NEW CINCINNATI MARKET RADISH. All for 10c. in stamps or silver, together with 1898 GARDEN AND FARM MANUAL. JOHNSON & STOKES Dept. 27 217 Market St. PHILADELPHIA



## In the Dairy.

Conducted by A. E. JONES, of Oakland Dairy Farm. Address all communications Topeka, Kas.

### The New Year.

Another year, eventful with nature's most lavish gifts to man, has just closed, and the glass that records the flight of time is again inverted and discloses in numerical order the figure 8.

A New Year's greeting is customary, even in seasons of misfortune and privation, but with what stress should the fruitage of 1897 be tabulated in the grand finale, that no doubt shall remain as to the possibilities of Kansas soil under favorable conditions. Unmarked by disasters of any note, the year just terminated stands out conspicuously with an agricultural production far in advance of any season in the State's history.

An era of unmistakable fellowship and contentment exists in all sections of our commonwealth, denoting that better times go far in allaying the feeling of discontent and unrest. All classes share in the wealth of the farm and field; the home circle is made more cheerful, educational advantages are more easily obtained and sought after—giving a better understanding of our physical and humanitarian laws, as well as those that relate to the production of crops and domestic animals.

With our returning prosperity manufacturing enterprises are being established, the hum of the spindle and loom is heard, our rivers are being spanned with magnificent bridges, our railroads have resumed their wonted activity, and our oil, salt and minerals are drawing capital from other States.

In the arid sections of our State forests are being planted, irrigation plants established, and forage adapted to such climates is being grown with good results. Commensurate with our improved conditions comes a desire for better tillage, better cattle, hogs and sheep, and a more thorough understanding of the principles that underlie the social and political questions of the day. Sanitary measures for the benefit of man and beast are being dispensed by the State and nation, thereby promoting more healthy conditions from year to year. It is said that money is the root of all evil, but certain it is that without money the morals of the people would never be improved; the church, the school house and the refining influences of a higher civilization are all conducive to the betterment of the human race, and can only be obtained with money or its equivalent.

The few unsettled problems that have led to differences of opinion among certain factions, it is hoped, will be speedily settled to the relief of all concerned. Anything detrimental to society should be driven out by public sentiment.

In keeping with other lines of progress, the dairy interest has been a close rival. Although early in the season prices were low, for the past three months higher figures have ruled than at any time in the last two years. Foreign demand and the high quality of Kansas butter have placed us in the front rank as a dairy State. Better cows, better knowledge of feeding, more skillful butter-makers, a better understanding of the commercial requirements in the butter markets, and a more perfect system of refrigeration in creameries and over transportation lines, have been the means of putting Kansas on an even footing with many of the older dairy States.

It is gratifying in this connection to be able to report that much of the burden of debt has been canceled that encumbered so many of our Kansas homes, and with another year as favorable as the one just passed many of our people will be lenders instead of borrowers.

The Dairy department of the Kansas Farmer hopes to so improve as to keep pace with the times, and in the future, as in past years, keep up an uncompromising fight for honest butter and the enactment of an anti-color law at the next session of the Legislature. With this issue of the Kansas Farmer we wish all our readers a happy and prosperous New Year, the betterment of society, a higher knowledge of ourselves, more benevolence to each other, and "Ad astra per aspera."

For hoarseness, loss of voice, and all affections of the vocal organs, the favorite remedy with many clergymen, singers, actors, auctioneers, and public speakers is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. As an anodyne-expectorant its beneficial effects are promptly realized.

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### "A Contrast."

Under the above heading the New York Produce Review of December 15, editorially sizes up the meeting of the State Dairy Association that met at Cortland, recently, in the following language, which is very interesting to Western dairymen, coming, as it does, from so high authority:

"Although the convention of New York State Dairymen's Association, at Cortland, last week, was adjudged to be a very successful one in comparison with the previous meetings of the association, we think it may be useful to compare it with similar meetings which we have attended in some of the Western States, because it affords a fair example of that conservatism and lack of enthusiastic progressiveness which has been partly the cause of New York State's loss of her relative position in the butter industry of our own country, and of much of her importance as a cheese producer in relation to Canada.

"In the first place, the financial condition of the association, which necessitated the assistance of the Farmers' Institute to enable it to hold its meeting, even in a form which involved a comparatively trifling outlay, is in itself a sad commentary on the interest taken by the New York dairymen in that progress toward better methods which is certainly essential to the maintenance of their business, and which might easily regain for them, at least a part of their lost prestige. Certainly the membership of the association is shamefully small for a State whose importance in the dairy world is as great as that of New York, and its financial support is utterly inadequate. This is not because the dairy industry of the State is not manned by those who are abundantly able to place the association on the highest plane of excellence, but because of a lack of appreciation of its importance. There are, of course, progressive and broad-minded dairymen in New York—men who are willing to devote time and means for the public welfare—but for some reason the rank and file do not seem to understand that the small expense necessary to fully support their dairy association, and to enable them to attend its meetings in earnest, is anything more than money thrown away.

"Let us contrast the last convention of the State Dairymen's Association with that of Iowa, for instance. At Cortland there were perhaps one hundred and fifty visitors from other parts of the State, most of whom were producers of milk. With the exception of the address of Prof. Wing, a political talk by Mr. Thornton and a discussion of the cheese situation by Mr. Gilbert, the papers read were all directly applicable to milk production. Little or nothing was presented with especial reference to improving the methods of factory management, or in detail as to improvement in butter or cheese making. There were no exhibits of butter or cheese and only two items of dairy appliances were shown—two makes of separators and a couple of milk coolers.

"When the representative of this paper reached Cortland on the morning of the first day of the convention he asked a bus driver at the station at what hotel most of the visitors stopped who were attending the State Dairymen's convention. The man did not know; he did not even know that a convention was to be held there at all!"

As a further comparison with the Iowa meeting, at Charles City, where the convention was held—"a town half the size of Cortland—gave in the first place \$200 to have the association meet there. Many of the townspeople decorated their stores in honor of the occasion. There were nearly six hundred visitors from all parts of the State, including milk-producers, butter-makers, creamery proprietors and officials, supply men and transportation men. The papers read and the following discussions were upon subjects of especial interest to all classes of dairymen. Besides the hall where the meetings were held a separate building was devoted to the exhibition of dairy and creamery machinery and supplies where the members could inspect the latest novelties, and another for the competitive exhibition of butter in which the product of more than a hundred factories was shown. Nearly \$900 was secured from sources outside of the membership dues with which to defray the expenses of the meeting and afford prizes to exhibitors of dairy products.

"In drawing this comparison we do not wish to be understood as belittling the quality of the material offered to the State Dairymen's Association by their officers and by those who were secured to address them.

"But we do criticize, in all friendliness, the slowness and apathy of the dairymen

of New York in failing to rally in earnest support of the association, and the conservatism of management which has failed to attract to the association some of the most important branches of the dairy industry—a conservatism and apathy which has already cost the dairymen of New York much of their prestige in the dairy world and which, if continued, cannot fail to land them well in the rear in the race for supremacy and prosperity."

### Judge McMahon Upholds Michigan Anti-Color Act.

A decision upholding the Michigan law against oleomargarine was reported in the Detroit Tribune, recently, as follows:

"Judge McMahon yesterday granted the application of State Dairy and Food Commissioner Grosvenor for a mandamus to compel Police Justice Sellers to entertain complaints against dealers in imitation yellow butter. On October 15 last a written complaint was laid before the Justice, which he refused to entertain on the ground that it charged no offense against the laws of Michigan. In rendering his decision Judge McMahon said:

"This is a case of great public interest and I regret exceedingly that I lacked time and opportunity to spend several days upon it. In his answer to the petition for a mandamus, Justice Sellers gives several reasons for his refusal to entertain such complaints. One of them is that the complaint in question was not made by the Commissioner himself, as required by law. Another is that the act is unconstitutional because it embraces more than one object, and still another that the act is class legislation.

"The intent of the act was to prevent deception and fraud in the manufacture and sale of imitation butter. Justice Sellers holds that all such complaints must be made by the Commissioner in person. This opinion is evidently derived from another legislative act, fixing the duties of the Commissioner. The act we are considering nowhere indicates that complaints can be made by no one else. Without express legislation to prevent it every citizen can exercise the fundamental right to make complaints against public evils. It is doubtful if even the Legislature can take away this right. It is not claimed that ordinary citizens cannot make complaint for violations of the liquor laws. The Dairy and Food Commissioner has a very wide territory to look after and it would be an impossibility for him to personally cover it all.

As to the contention that the act is unconstitutional, I cannot appreciate the force of the objection, because I have been unable to find that it embraces more than one object. That object is plainly to prevent fraud and deception in the sale of imitation butter.

"The same is true of the contention that the complaint did not charge that the article sold looked like imitation yellow butter. I have been unable to find that the act requires the insertion of any such charge in complaints.

"The contention that the act is class legislation is somewhat ambiguous. It is not the province of courts to criticize Legislatures. Their occupation of their own field is exclusive. Courts cannot legislate. If they pass acts that are regarded as oppressive, courts have nothing whatever to do with it. There is no doubt but that Legislatures should not oppress any legitimate business, that they should not pass acts to help butter producers to the injury of the manufacturers of other pure foods, but the act we are considering does not do that. It was framed for the sole purpose of preventing deception and fraud. This the State has a perfect right to do. It has been so decided many times by the courts, and is so well established as to be beyond controversy.

"The Supreme courts of Massachusetts and the United States have passed on an act precisely like the one under consideration, even to punctuation, declaring it to be constitutional. Their opinions should carry more weight than those of a Police Justice or of this court. There is no question but that the State has a perfect right to prevent deception in food products, even though they may be wholesome. There are

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many people who would not buy or use oleomargarine or imitation butter under any circumstances, if they knew it, and they have a right to protection. If some one is incidentally injured in enforcing this act for the general good, there is no redress. Some burdens may be imposed, but it is in the exercise of a large State policy, and they must be borne.

"It therefore follows that a mandamus must be granted, as prayed for."

### Wisconsin Cheese-Makers.

The sixth annual meeting of the Wisconsin Cheesemakers' Association will be held in the Assembly chambers of the State capitol, Madison, Wis., January 13, 14 and 15, 1898. A splendid program is being prepared and an effort made to secure some of the very best cheese authority of Canada, New York and Illinois to take part in the proceedings.

### War on Butterine Dealers.

The special Elgin letter in a recent issue of Hoard's Dairyman contains the following: "James Younger, a member of the Elgin Board of Trade, and an extensive manufacturer of creamery butter, has commenced war against all dealers of butterine at Freeport, Ill., of which Mr. Younger is Mayor. He will prosecute every dealer who violates the recently-passed anti-color bill, and it is said that the dealers will be backed by the manufacturers in fighting any suits which may be brought against them.

### Dairy Industry in Manitoba.

In 1894 the estimated value of Manitoba's dairy products was \$34,000. In 1896 it was \$245,000, and it is expected that this amount will be largely increased this year. In Manitoba the development of the dairy industry is undertaken by the provincial government under the direct supervision of Mr. C. C. MacDonald, Dairy Superintendent. In 1894 there were only three creameries and thirteen cheese factories in operation, while in 1897 there were twenty-nine creameries and forty-nine cheese factories in active operation.

### A Wonderful Churn.

I have been in the dairy business all my life and have many times churned for an hour before butter would appear, so when I heard of a churn that would churn in a minute I concluded to try it. Every day for a week I used it, and not only could I churn in a minute, but I got more and better butter than with a common churn. This is very important information to butter-makers. The churn works easily and will churn an ordinary churning in less than sixty seconds. I have sold two dozen of these churns in the past month. Every butter-maker that has seen me churn in less than a minute has bought one. You can obtain all desired information regarding the churn by addressing Mound City Churn Co., St. Louis, Mo., and they will give you prompt and courteous attention.

A DAIRYMAN.

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### The Apiary.

Conducted by A. H. DUFF, Larned, Kas., to whom inquiries relating to this department should be addressed.

#### How Far Will Bees Go for Honey?

I am situated about three miles from good alfalfa fields, and some alfalfa is as near as two miles from my place. Now, can I keep bees successfully that distance away? Or how far will bees go for honey and secure a good crop? How many colonies of bees would 1,000 acres of alfalfa support, or how many can I safely keep that distance from the clover?

The matter of how far bees fly in search of honey has been pretty thoroughly investigated and discussed by leading apiarists. Some of our best apiarists claim that bees fly in search of honey and gather it from three to six miles away, from choice. Others that are more reserved say they prefer to gather and do gather the bulk of the honey crop within three miles of the apiary. As for myself, I like to be as close to good bee pasturage as I can get, and if possible get right beside it, or right in it. But it frequently occurs that, as in your case, this cannot be done, and the next best thing to do is proper.

I believe the locality and climate has something to do with this matter. I believe that bees will not succeed as well in going long distances in a prairie country where winds are prevalent as they would otherwise. It may be to some extent imagination with me, as I have not thoroughly experimented in that line where I am now located, but it seems to me that my bees, here in central Kansas, do not go as far in search of honey as they did in Ohio, where I formerly kept them. In this I shall have to say "in general," for I know of an exception. During last spring my bees visited a peach orchard, when the trees were in full bloom, eight miles from the apiary. But of course this was a very fine, calm day, and I do not hesitate to say that if it were not for the prevailing winds of this country bees would go farther, and make a success of gathering honey much farther away than in hilly countries.

I am firmly of the opinion that bees will secure a much greater crop of honey if they can get it within a mile or two from the apiary; at the same time they will get a good paying crop within three miles. Being situated three miles from alfalfa fields, the advantages would depend somewhat upon the direction you are located from the same. If the frequent winds come from the direction of the alfalfa, so that the loaded bees would come with the wind, it would be much better than if it were the other way. It takes a pretty strong wind to check the flight of honey bees if not laden with honey or pollen, but, on the other hand, when they are heavily loaded with honey or pollen they cannot make much headway in the wind.

One thousand acres of alfalfa might support two or three hundred colonies of bees, but it would depend upon the manner in which the clover is handled. If harvested before or just at the time it comes into bloom, it would not be safe to risk any great number of colonies, unless there be other forage for the bees to live on outside of alfalfa. I am very glad to see that alfalfa-growers are somewhat changing their minds in regard to harvesting so early, and that now thorough blooming has the preference.

#### Three Classes of Workers.

In every well-organized colony of bees, and during the season that all departments are carried on, there are three classes of worker bees, each one of which operates its own part of the machinery. These three classes are divided as follows: The honey-gatherers, the wax-workers and the nurse bees. The oldest bees of the colony are the honey-gatherers, and in this they are divided as to age. The youngest bees are the nurse bees. They prepare the food and feed the young larvae in the cells. They perform this work, or begin to perform it, when about one day old, and prepare the food from honey and pollen, these being partially digested by them before being used. They continue this work until about ten days old, at which time they turn their attention to wax-working. They now manufacture wax and build comb, and at this time are beginning to take daily exercise on the wing, coming out of the hive almost in a body, like a swarm of bees, and during the middle of the day. They begin to gather honey when about twenty days old, or a little earlier, ow-

ing to the condition of the colony. All of this work may be performed by old bees, but only in case of emergency.

#### You Don't Have to Swear Off,

you don't have to swear off yansun says the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture in an editorial about No-To-Bac, the famous tobacco habit cure. We know of many cases cured by No-To-Bac, one a prominent St. Louis architect, smoked and chewed for twenty years; two boxes cured him so that even the smell of tobacco makes him sick." No-To-Bac sold and guaranteed by druggists everywhere. No cure, no pay. Book free. Sterling Remedy Co., New York or Chicago.

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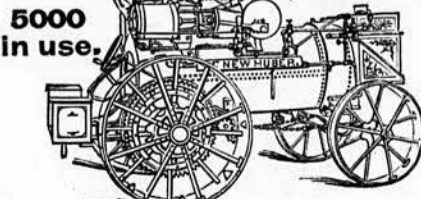
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MARKET REPORTS.

Kansas City Live Stock.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 3.—Cattle—Receipts since Saturday, 7,912; calves, 299; shipped Saturday, 452 cattle; no calves. The market was steady to strong as a rule, with exceptions 10c higher. The following are representative sales:

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include shipping and dressed beef steers.

WESTERN STEERS.

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include Tex., Ind., and osm. steers.

NATIVE COWS.

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include various cow types.

NATIVE FEEDERS.

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include feeder types.

NATIVE STOCKERS.

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include stocker types.

NATIVE HEIFERS.

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include heifer types.

Hogs—Receipts since Saturday, 9,980; shipped Saturday, none. The market was strong to 5c higher. The following are representative sales:

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include various hog types.

Sheep—Receipts since Saturday, 2,103; shipped Saturday, 713. The market was steady to strong. The following are representative sales:

Table with columns: No., Ave. Price, No., Ave. Price. Rows include various sheep types.

Horses—Receipts since Saturday, 191; shipped Saturday, 54. There was a fair supply on the market to-day. Buyers are scarce as well as good horses. The mule trade continues at a standstill.

St. Louis Live Stock.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3.—Cattle—Receipts, 6,000; market steady for Texans, with natives 5 to 10c lower; fair to fancy native shipping and export steers, \$4.25@5.10; light and dressed beef and butcher steers, \$3.45@4.75; stockers and feeders, \$2.50@4.20; cows and heifers, \$2.25@4.60; Texas and Indian steers, \$3.20@4.00; cows and heifers, \$2.60@3.05.

Hogs—Receipts, 4,500; market 5c higher and active; light, \$3.50@3.60; mixed, \$3.45@3.65; heavy, \$3.65@3.72.

Sheep—Receipts, 500; market strong; native sheep, \$4.00@4.50; lambs, \$5.00@5.75.

Chicago Live Stock.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—Cattle—Receipts, 14,500; market strong to 10c higher; beefs, \$3.85@5.40; cows and heifers, \$2.00@4.50; Texas steers, \$3.25@4.25; stockers and feeders, \$3.25@4.25.

Hogs—Receipts, 26,000; market active, 5 to 7 1/2c higher; light, \$3.45@3.65; mixed, \$3.50@3.72 1/2; heavy, \$3.40@3.72 1/2; rough, \$3.40@3.45.

Sheep—Receipts, 19,000; market weaker; lambs steady; native, \$3.00@4.70; western, \$3.60@4.45; lambs, \$4.00@5.85.

Chicago Grain and Produce.

Table with columns: Jan. 3, Opened, High'st, Low'st, Closing. Rows include Wheat, Corn, Oats, Pork, Lard, Ribs.

Kansas City Grain.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 3.—Receipts of wheat here for three days were 219 cars; a week ago, three days, 241 cars; a year ago, two days, 44 cars.

Sales by sample on track: Hard, No. 1, nominally 84c; No. 2 hard, 1 car 61-lb. 84 1/2c, 3 cars 60-lb. 83 1/2c, 1 car 59 1/2-lb. 83 1/2c, 3 cars 59-lb. 81c, 1 car 59 1/2-lb. 82 1/2c, 6 cars 59-lb. 82 1/2c, 1 car 59-lb. 82 1/2c, 6 cars 58-lb. 82c, 3 cars 58-lb. 81 1/2c; No. 3 hard, 1 car 82 1/2c, 2 cars 58-lb. 81 1/2c, 1 car 57-lb. 81 1/2c, 5 cars 57-lb. 81c, 2 cars 81 1/2c, 2 cars 56 1/2-lb. 80 1/2c, 3 cars 56-lb. 81c, 4 cars 56-lb. 79 1/2c, 3 cars 55 1/2-lb. 79c, 6 cars 55-lb. 78 1/2c, 2 cars 78c; No. 4 hard, 1 car 56-lb. 79 1/2c, 1 car 79c, 1 car 55-lb. 77 1/2c, 1 car 53 1/2-lb. 76c, 1 car 52-lb. 76c; rejected, 2 cars 77c, 2 cars 74c, 1 car 73c. Soft, No. 1, nominally 90c; No. 2, 1 car 88 1/2c; No. 3, 1 car 57-lb. 87c, 1 car 56 1/2-lb. 86c, 1 car poor 57-lb. 84c; No. 4, nominally 84@85c; rejected, nominally 77@80c. Spring, No. 2, 1 car 57-lb. 80c; No. 3, 1 car 59-lb. white 80c, 1 car 55 1/2-lb. 78 1/2c, 1 car mixed 80 1/2c; rejected, 1 car 75 1/2c.

Receipts of corn here for three days were 291 cars; a week ago, three days, 260 cars; a year ago, two days, 222 cars.

Sales by sample on track: Mixed, No. 2, 7 cars 24 1/2c, 10 cars 24 1/2c, 12 cars 24c; No. 3, 2 cars 23 1/2c; No. 4, nominally 23 1/2c. White, No. 2, 3 cars 24 1/2c, 1 car 24 1/2c, 1 car 24 1/2c, 2 cars special 25c; No. 3, 2 cars 24c; No. 4, nominally 23 1/2c.

Receipts of oats here for three days were 24 cars; a week ago, for three days, 48 cars.

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The Safest, Best BLISTER ever used. Takes the place of all liniments for mild or severe action. Removes all Bunches or Blemishes from Horses and Cattle. SUPERSEDES ALL CAUTERY OR FIRING. Impossible to produce scar or blemish. Every bottle sold is warranted to give satisfaction. Price \$1.50 per bottle. Sold by druggists, or sent by express, charges paid, with full directions for its use. Send for descriptive circulars. THE LAWRENCE-WILLIAMS CO., Cleveland O.

Sales by sample on track: Mixed, No. 2, 3 cars 21 1/2c, 1 car 21 1/2c; No. 3, nominally 21c; No. 4, nominally 20 1/2c. White, No. 2, 1 car 22 1/2c, 2 cars 22 1/2c, 3 cars 22 1/2c; No. 3, 2 cars 22 1/2c, 1 car 22 1/2c, 1 car 22c; No. 4, nominally 21 1/2c, 21 1/2c.

Receipts of hay here for three days were 110 cars; a week ago, for three days, 91 cars; a year ago, two days, 34 cars. Quotations are: Choice prairie, \$7.50@7.75; No. 1, \$7.00@7.25; No. 2, \$6.50@6.75; No. 3, \$6.00; choice timothy, \$8.50@8.75; No. 1, \$8.00@8.25; No. 2, \$7.00@7.25; choice clover, mixed, \$6.50@7.00; No. 1, \$5.50@6.00; pure clover, \$5.50@6.00; packing, \$5.00.

Kansas City Produce.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 3.—Butter—Extra fancy separator, 18c; firsts, 16c; seconds, 14c; dairy, fancy, 15c; choice, 13c; country roll, 12@13c; store packed, 9@12c; fresh packing stock, 7@10c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh, 20c per doz. Poultry—Hens, 5c; medium springs, 6c; roosters, 12 1/2@15c each; ducks, 5 1/2c. Geese, 5@6c; turkeys, 8c; pigeons, 50c per doz.

Apples—Jonathan, \$5.00@6.00 in a small way; Bellefleur, in car lots, \$4.50@5.00 per bbl.; fancy Missouri Pippin, \$3.75@4.00; fancy Ben Davis, \$2.75@3.25; Winesaps, \$3.75@4.25; Willow Twigs, \$3.75@4.00; Huntsman Favorite, \$4.00. In a small way varieties are selling at 40@65c per half bu.

Vegetables—Cabbage, northern stock, \$1.00 per 100-lb. crate. Beets, 25@40c per bu. Tomatoes, Texas, \$1.00 per 1/2 bu. Green and wax beans, \$2.50@3.00 per crate. Onions, new Spanish, \$1.00@1.25 per crate; others, 65c@1.00 per bu. Potatoes—Greeley stock, fancy Rural, 75c per bu.; choice Pearl, 68c per bu.; Iowa, 55@60c. Sweet potatoes, 50@60c per bu.

McINTOSH & PETERS, Live Stock Commis'n Merchants

252-253-254 Live Stock Exchange, KANSAS CITY, MO.

Correspondence and consignments solicited. Market reports furnished free on application.

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Costs a little more than some others, but is strictly first-class in all respects, and is guaranteed to grind more corn and cob, shelled corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley or Kaffir corn in a given time, and to please you better than any other sweep mill on earth.



I also have the "BOSS" sweep mill and a full line of power mills. Write for descriptive circulars and prices. A. G. BODWELL, Agent, 1218 Union Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

THE STRAY LIST.

FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 23, 1897.

Cherokee County—T. W. Thomason, Clerk. PONY—Taken up by J. W. Alsenz, in Spring Valley tp., December 1, 1897, one bay pony mare, 7 years old, thirteen bands high, star in forehead; valued at \$15.

Woodson County—W. O. Eades, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by C. H. McKinsey, in Eminence tp., November 23, 1897, one red yearling steer, white face, four white feet, slit in right ear; valued at \$20.

Lyon County—M. Q. Starr, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by W. H. Phillips, in Reading tp. (P. O. Reading), December 17, 1897, one red steer, white on belly and face, and marked with notch in left ear and crop off right ear; valued at \$20.

Marshall County—E. E. Woodman, Clerk. HOGS—Taken up by Perry Hutchinson, in Marysville tp., November 1, 1897, twelve shoats, black with white spots, age about 4 months, seven males and five females; valued at \$2 each.

Wilson County—T. D. Hampson, Clerk. MULE—Taken up by F. E. Vining, in Fall River tp., December 10, 1897, one mare mule, mouse color, wire cut on right fore foot, 3 years old; valued at \$20.

FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 30, 1897.

Butler County—S. G. Pottle, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up by Wm. Newman, in Pleasant tp. (P. O. Iowaville, Sedgwick county), one sorrel horse, 5 years old, white spot in forehead, a few small white specks on right side and some roan on upper part of neck and hips, both hind legs white half way to hocks; valued at \$21.

Sumner County—Chas. Sadler, Clerk. MULE—Taken up by H. S. Ridenour, in Walton tp., November 15, 1897, one mare mule, thirteen hands high, dark brown, collar marks on top of neck; valued at \$20.

Lyon County—M. Q. Starr, Clerk. HEIFER—Taken up by J. F. Bamsberger, in Americus tp. (P. O. Americus), November 25, 1897, one red and white heifer, 3 years old, indistinct brands; valued at \$15.

Pawnee County—James F. Whitney, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by G. L. Eddy, in Pleasant Ridge tp., September 23, 1897, one black yearling steer, no marks or brands; valued at \$23.33.

Chase County—M. O. Newton, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by P. B. McCabe, in Bazaar tp. (P. O. Bazaar), November 10, 1897, one steer, 2 years old, no marks or brands distinguishable.

CALVIN HOOD, President. L. A. ALLEN, Vice President. H. S. BOIOE, Sec'y and Treas. T. J. EAMAN, Sec'y and Treas.

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CHARGES: YARDAGE, Cattle, 25 cents per head; Hogs, 8 cents per head; Sheep, 5 cents per head. HAY, 80 cents per 100 lbs.; BRAN, \$1.00 per 100 lbs.; CORN, 60 cents per bushel.

NO YARDAGE CHARGED UNLESS THE STOCK IS SOLD OR WEIGHED. C. F. MORSE, E. E. RICHARDSON, H. P. CHILD, EUGENE RUST, V. Pres. and Gen. Manager. Secretary and Treasurer. Assistant Gen. Manager. Gen. Superintendent. W. S. TOUGH & SON, Managers HORSE AND MULE DEPARTMENT.

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### The Poultry Yard

#### Hens of the Farm.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—My farm consists of eighty acres in Harvey county, one of the leading wheat-growing sections of the State. In spite of this fact, I have for several years directed my efforts towards the profitable keeping of chickens, having in view principally egg production; not with the result that one-half of the farm is now devoted to poultry, but that I have learned many things which only experience can demonstrate.

"The Poultry Yard" department of the Kansas Farmer is of much interest and value to me. The fancier and poultry breeder for points need not advise me to subscribe for a poultry paper, as I am supplied in that line, having three volumes bound and close at hand for reference.

Why can't this "Poultry Yard" be made more of a medium for exchange of views bearing on the profitable handling of poultry, from a farmer's standpoint? Nearly all items there found are from pens of professionals, who keep their fowls in enclosures and must work and feed differently from the farmer whose birds range at will. It is asserted by many that the agriculturist is situated most favorably of all for profitable keeping of chickens, on account of the liberty they may enjoy. From practical experience I know that the birds will abuse this liberty by persistently following up the trail of the great fatterer, Indian corn.

There are many different opinions as to the wisdom of feeding corn to laying hens; but as corn is heating and fattening, and as fat hens are generally admitted to be unprofitable as layers, it may well behoove the farmer to question himself as to whether or not they are eating too much of it, thereby furnishing fewer eggs than might otherwise be obtained. There are undoubtedly many individuals in an average flock which, as egg-producers, are expensive. The proof of this assertion I herewith submit:

On February 6, 1896, I had on farm 140 pullets and hens, most of them quite fat. Believing that my hennery was too small to accommodate so many, I sold off that day ninety-five head, picking only sluggish and fat birds. The egg receipts for three days previous to sale had been twenty-one. The number gathered during the three days following was twenty. Similar results were obtained the year previous. Admitting that the last three days record approached nearer the time when all fowls lay, and also that the weather was warmer, there still remains evidence to show that I did not dispose of the layers. In retaining birds for this particular purpose, other points than mere absence of fat were made to govern. G. B. RUTH.

Halstead, Kas.

#### Health Precautions.

The question of health preservation is perhaps the most vital issue which the poultryman may at times be called upon to face. In our Northern climate the roup is probably the disease most dreaded, and, it may be confidently asserted, the most easily avoided if proper conditions of housing are met. We have seen flocks in quarters so little protected that a breeze was perceptible inside whenever the wind was up; yet the free air was a dry air, and the fowls had become gradually acclimated to their conditions as the cool weather advanced, and there was no sign of disease. Again, we have seen others in basements so close and reeking with dampness, though agreeably warm, that it was a source of wonder that they should thrive, as they apparently were doing. Either flock suddenly transported to the others' quarters would certainly incur a dangerous change of environment. Of two such flocks, those most carefully secluded from the cold air would lay the most eggs and at the same time be the most susceptible to danger from exposure to cold air. The flock in more open quarters would be most liable to harm from exposure to a storm which would wet their feathers, followed by cold weather. The one becomes by habit inured to a warm, moist air; the other to a cold, dry air. A medium between these two extremes is to be desired; and stock intended for breeding especially should not be subjected to an unnatural spring during winter. To paraphrase an old saying, a grain of disinfectant in the drinking water is worth a ton of subsequent attempts to cure. A piece of copperas (or sulphate of iron) size of a grain of wheat to a gallon of water is sufficient, and is both tonic and disinfectant.—F. W. P., in Fancier's Review.

#### Poultry Questions.

Editor Kansas Farmer:—I have a few questions I would be pleased to see answered in the "Old Reliable": (1) How large a room is needed to winter one dozen ducks; also how many of such a flock should be drakes? (2) How many turkey hens is it best to place with one tom; how many geese with one gander? All our poultry have free range. (3) Is renewal of blood as necessary with ducks and geese as with chickens? (4) What special tools are needed for caponizing, and where can they be procured? M. H. McWHINNEY.

Colby, Kas.

Mrs. Mattie A. Kimmel, of Kansas City, who carried off a goodly number of prizes on her Buff Cochins at last week's Kansas City poultry show, told a reporter how she handled her chickens for exhibition. "My chickens go into training about six weeks before they are exhibited," she said. "I have separate coops built, where each chicken is given my individual care. I feed, water and care for each one separately. I wash him and brush him off and dose him with medicine if he catches cold or gets sick. There are no roosts in my coops. My chickens learn to lie down on straw beds just as human beings do. Roosts injure the breast bone of a Buff Cochin and that disqualifies him. Then I must be very careful about his foot feathers. Much of a Buff Cochin's beauty depends upon his foot feathers. They must not be broken or thin, and walking in straw or soft, deep stuff makes them so. I keep my coops clear of any such substances except at night when my chickens go to bed."

Dr. Shields, an eminent physician of Tennessee, says: "I regard Ayer's Sarsaparilla as the best blood medicine on earth, and I know of many wonderful cures effected by its use." Physicians all over the land have made similar statements.

Santa Fe Route--California Limited Leaves Topeka Sunday and Thursday at 11:33 a. m. and arrives at Los Angeles in fifty-four hours. Its equipment consists of luxurious Pullman palace sleepers, buffet smoking library car, and dining car through. A limited train in every sense of the word. Particulars and literature may be obtained from agent A., T. & S. F. Ry.

#### Notice of Final Settlement.

The State of Kansas, Shawnee county, ss.: In the Probate court in and for said county. In the matter of the estate of Wm. G. Souther, deceased. Creditors and all other persons interested in the aforesaid estate are hereby notified that I shall apply to the Probate court, in and for said county, sitting at the court house, in Topeka, county of Shawnee, State of Kansas, on the 8th day of January, A. D. 1898, for a full and final settlement of said estate. M. C. SOUTHER, Administrator of the estate of Wm. G. Souther deceased.

#### The New Union

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**The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Station.**

Passengers arriving in Chicago can, by the new Union Elevated Loop, reach any part of the city; or, for a 5-cent fare, can be taken immediately to any of the large stores in the downtown district.

All Elevated Trains will stop at the "Rock Island" Station. Train every minute. These facilities can only be offered by the "GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE."

If you will send a 2-cent stamp for postage we will mail you at once a new bird's-eye view of Chicago, just issued, in five colors, which shows you just what you want to know about Chicago and the new Loop and Elevated System. This map you should have, whether you live out of the city and expect to come to it, or whether you now live in Chicago and you or your friends contemplate making a trip.

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A small Poultry Farm is Better than a Gold Mine If you know how to run the business. There's \$ Millions \$ in it, but nine out of ten fail in it because they do not know the secret of Success with Poultry or how to get it. The Money in Hens. Do you know how to get it? Our New Poultry Book will tell you how. It tells you all about poultry and explains why some (a few) succeed and others (the many) fail. This invaluable Book given Free as premium with our Farm and Poultry paper WAYSIDE GLEANINGS, 8 months for 10 cents. Address P. B. WAYSIDE PUBLISHING CO., Clintonville Conn.



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The natural way to stop tobacco is to get a distaste for it. Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away and go on suffering from nervous troubles that make strong men weak, impotent and unable to do the right thing at the right time, all because the blood is tobacco poisoned.

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