

# SPIRIT OF KANSAS

## A Journal of Home and Husbandry.

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NO. 48.

If republics are ungrateful, states are not always so, and with all its desire for economy, the late legislature preserved a sense of justice. It allowed to Col. Frederick, not all, but a portion of a bill long due, but a neater and nobler act was the returning to Judge L. D. Bailey the sum of \$800, which in former days he gave to the State Historical Society. He was then wealthy, and the Society and the state very poor. He has met with reverses and is now poor, while the state is rich. But rich or poor, Judge Bailey has ever stood by Kansas, and good citizens will say it was well to return to him the principal, although he did not ask it.

Cole McDougall, manager of the Holmes ranch in Rossville township, went out last Wednesday noon with a buggy and two horses to visit a neighbor on business. Not returning at night it was supposed that he had remained over night. The next day, Robt. Mason the assistant manager, instituted search and found he had started on his return about dark Wednesday evening. Search was continued until Monday morning a clue was found that led to his discovery in a small branch. He had feared to cross a larger stream in the dark, and had gone considerable distance out of the way. In approaching the creek the carriage was overturned and his neck broken. The horses became entangled, and unable to move. During Wednesday night's storm the creek rose and they were drowned. An inquest was held in Kingsville, Monday, by Esquire Dearborn, at which the facts were elicited.

The Topeka Democrat gives the following as coming from Ex-Gov. Glick. For once we can heartily endorse what he says.

"The legislature would far better have increased Chancellor Lippincott's salary from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per year than to have allowed him to sever his connection with the State university. He is one of the foremost educators of the country, and to his rare talents and executive ability is due the prominent place which the State university of Kansas now holds among the educational institutions of the United States. A man of Dr. Lippincott's abilities will not be permitted to go long unrecognized by other great institutions of learning that are in need of just such men as he is to successfully direct their affairs. I predict that he will not long remain the pastor of the Topeka congregation."

At the last moment Judge B. W. Perkins entered the ring. Never did valiant knight do better service. Plumb had defeated Oklahoma at every turn. It was too late to save the Springer bill. But a clause had been put into the Indian appropriation bill opening the territory to settlement, but not providing for territorial government. This, too, Plumb had killed. All hope was gone. It was then that Judge Perkins, of the conference committee, came to the rescue, and declared this provision must be restored or the whole bill must go. Perkins won his point and to-day is a bigger man than P. B. Plumb.

The thirty-fourth annual M. E. conference of the north eastern district met in Lawrence, Wednesday morning. Bishop Ninde presided, and 110 delegates out of 146 in the district answered to their names.

The topic which is apt to excite the most discussion and occupy the mind of every member of the conference is that of the reunion with the southern conference. This question was vigorously debated pro and con in the conference at Topeka a year ago, occupying a full half day's time in its consideration. Up to 1872 all Kansas formed one conference, but in that year the state was divided into two conferences, the north and south. Later these two were each cut into by a line running north and south just west of Manhattan.

K. C. Journal: Hurrah for the Cyclone Flambeau Club of Lawrence. The display of Greek fire made at Washington by the young men from the Athens of Kansas appear to have captured the judges at once. However, it should be borne in mind that Kansas City's crack flambeau club was not present to compete.

Just so. They considered discretion the better part of valor.

### Cyclones Triumph.

One of the most picturesque features of the outdoor ceremonies was the prize contest of the flambeau clubs. The soaking rain which had ceaselessly fallen during the day abated not a whit as night came on. The general pyrotechnic display which had been arranged to take place in the monument grounds in the early evening was necessarily postponed, but the contesting flambeau clubs, each determined to win a prize, braved the storm, and did several thousand spectators, and declared their readiness to proceed. All were on the grounds at 9:30 o'clock. The Atchison, Kas., Club was the first to test its skill. Their uniform was a long white canvas coat and helmet, and as they marched out of Seventh street into Pennsylvania avenue, and in front of the judges with their torches lighted, they presented a weird and striking appearance. At the word of command great tongues of flame leaped from every torch, lighting the surrounding buildings like a conflagration. And then came bewildering shower of rockets, blue, pink, red, yellow and white. Up and down the street they marched, in the center of an acre of fire. Loud reports like the explosion of shells followed each other in quick succession, and then the sky above the marching column seemed filled with myriads of meteors, tinted in every conceivable hue. The League acquitted itself with great honor and was lustily cheered. Next came the Cyclone Club, of Lawrence, Kas., with an entirely distinctive display in its peculiar line. Facing the judges' stand, at a given signal, a perfect cyclone of fire burst forth. Amid the rattle of crackers, the firing of roman candles, the hissing rush of the rocket and the tremendous concussion of a hundred bombs, the club started at a quick pace toward Tenth street. The atmosphere heavy with the clouds of smoke, left by its predecessors which was beaten down to the earth by the misty rain, turned red and blue and yellow. It fairly gleamed with opalescent color. A dozen great Catharine wheels spun in fiery circles, rockets hissed in anger, stars of a hundred hues laced the storm blackened sky. Red fire blazed in volcanic eruption. The title of the club "Cyclone" in glittering letters stood forth and finally the masterpieces were wrought. A score of rockets flew heavenward in parallel lines, and simultaneously a glorious constellation of colored stars assisting a gigantic American flag flowed in lines of fire up on the night. The Flambeau Club of Sedalia, Mo., was the last organization to take part in the competition. There were about seventy-five men in line. Clad in their white uniforms, which glistened brightly as the electric light gleamed white upon the canvas, the club was most attractive in appearance. It started off quietly without any display, save that of its brilliant torches. Evolving frequently in front of the judges' stand, the spectators assumed that it would rely more upon the perfection of its drill than upon the brilliancy of its display of fireworks to secure a favorable judgment. But in a few moments the heavens, bereft of their natural illuminations, were ablaze with the myriads of stars which the art of man had discovered. Blue green, yellow and red were they in hue, and the club being well drilled in its action, and every operator seeking a common center, the effect was gorgeous in the extreme. Then the starry serpents, wending their way through the heavy atmosphere and dying amid a burst of multi-colored fire excited the admiration of the beholders.

The judges retired immediately after the close of the contest, and in a short time announced their decision, awarding the first prize to the Cyclone Club and the second to the Sedalia Club, of Sedalia, Mo.

### Harrison's Cabinet.

President Harrison sent to the senate the following nominations for members of his cabinet, and they were promptly confirmed.

Secretary of State—James G. Blaine of Maine.

Secretary of the Treasury—William Windom of Minnesota.

Secretary of War—Redfield Proctor of Vermont.

Secretary of the Navy—Benjamin F. Tracy of New York.

Secretary of Interior—John W. Noble of Missouri.

Postmaster General—John W. Adams of Pennsylvania.

Attorney General—W. H. H. Miller of New York.

Secretary of Agriculture—Jereiah Rusk of Wisconsin.

### How he Escaped.

At the M. E. Conference on Wednesday, Dr. H. D. Fisher, by request told the story how he was saved at the time of the Quaker raid.

He began by describing his entrance into Lawrence; how he quarried the rock to build the foundation of his house, and dug the cellar, mixed the mortar, with the frequent aid of his wife. Later he came from the front with a boat load of sick soldiers to St. Louis. Then being ordered to Leavenworth, he was taken with quincy and came home. One day, being better, he walked down town and heard the people say that Quaker raid was coming. But they felt sure that he could not get into the town, which they thought was well protected. So the doctor went home and kept a lookout. The next morning heard the noise of horses' hoofs rapidly dying away as the riders were leaving the town. He dressed and looked about, but saw nothing suspicious. His wife went to the window and looking to the east said, "There is a party of soldiers coming." Dr. Fisher hurried to the window and saw that it was Quaker raid, who just then entered town and fired on Mr. Snyder.

With his wife and children the Dr. started for Mount Oread. But after a few minutes they turned back to the house. The soldiers were killing every man they met. Presently they came to the door and tried to kick it open. Mrs. Fisher told them that her husband had gone away when they first came into town. They insisted that he was in the cellar, where indeed he was, and they searched for him in vain, though within three feet of him until, as he said, he felt as though he "had quit living." Then they set fire to his house and went away. But his wife put out the flames and went to her husband and warned him that the band might return and kill him. "and if they do," she added, her voice breaking, "are you ready to die?"

The doctor told how a second party came on in the same day and also failed to find him, but the house was again fired and the fire raged within a few feet of where he lay. A drop of water came through a knot-hole and he then knew that his wife was again at work to save him. A third party came and again his wife by the aid of God preserved him.

Before Doctor Fisher had concluded the graphic and deeply interesting account of his escape from death there was not a woman and but few men whose handkerchiefs were not at their eyes.

Then someone in the audience wanted Mrs. Fisher to come forward, whereupon the doctor marched proudly down the aisle and brought forward his modest wife, who was greeted with loud and long applause.

Persons wishing to improve their memories or strengthen their power of attention should send for Prof. Lolette's prospectus, as advertised in another column.

In 1860, Henry Goethe, of Beaufort, S. C., wrote Dr. Shallenberger:

"I regard your Antidote a specific for chills and fever. It was used on the Charleston & Savannah R. Road last summer and autumn in the most sickly region, and under the most trying circumstances. Out of one gang of negro operatives, fifty were stricken down with chills and fever, and every one recovered by the timely use of Shallenberger's Antidote. You possess the GREATEST MEDICINE IN THE WORLD."

### "ROCK ISLAND ROUTE."

Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Ry. (C. M. I. and P. Ry. Co.) Leassee.)

Wishing to provide every convenience for the traveling public in addition to their City and Depot offices, have placed on sale, tickets to any and all points reached by the "Great Rock Island Route" and connecting lines at Postoffice building, North Topeka, intending travelers and tourists can obtain any information in regard to routes and rates, secure sleeping car berths and have baggage checked through to destination—North, South, East or West—upon application to:

JAMES NUNN, TICKET AGT. NORTH TOPEKA.  
JOHN SEBASTIAN, GEN'L. TICKET & PASSENGER AGT.

Charles Natten, the noted manufacturer of costume boots and shoes, has, owing to his large and rapidly increasing business, been compelled to seek a more commodious room and central location. By referring to his advertisement elsewhere in the News, our readers will discover that he is permanently located at 21 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, where he will be pleased to see his old customers and every man, woman and child in the city and surrounding country, who desire the best of shoe leather at the most reasonable rates.

### 233 PER CENT. PROFIT FOR GOOD

ON A POPULAR BOOK OF POEM, GALLIES and RONDEAUX, by an American author well known to readers of leading magazines. Full outfit, including copy of the book, confidential terms and list of other good books for agents mailed to any address for one-cent stamps.

CHAS. H. KERR & CO., Publishers, Chicago.

### SORGHUM

A LITTLE book that every farmer ought to have is the "Sorghum Hand Book" for 1889, which has had free, by addressing The Hygiene Iron Works Co., of Cincinnati, O. Sorghum is a very valuable crop for syrup-making, feed, and fodder, and this pamphlet gives full information about the different species, best modes of cultivation, etc. Send and get it and read it.

### SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE!

**CHEAPEST SEED HOUSE**  
In the WEST. Many packets of 3 cts. Quarts and pounds at wholesale prices. We pay postage. Free packets with every order. Ask for Gardeners' List.

**ROOT'S SEEDS!**  
NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS!

My brother farmers, why pay 10 or 20 cts. for a seed catalogue, probably more varieties and all new vegetables that are really valuable, for just NOTHING? It may have less paint about the covers, but great Scott, we are not after paint, but seed, fresh and true to name, such as will make with a master's hand its own picture all over our farms and gardens; send I am not afraid to W. A. BROWN, on the cover of my catalogue. Come, my fellow farmers and join the thousands, who for thirty years have been users of my seed; why, we were a goodly company and having pleasant times together before the great majority of the present race of seedmen (like the boys) had left their nurse's arms! Send for a catalogue.

**JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marquette, Mich.**

### Bless Your Souls!

My brother farmers, why pay 10 or 20 cts. for a seed catalogue, probably more varieties and all new vegetables that are really valuable, for just NOTHING? It may have less paint about the covers, but great Scott, we are not after paint, but seed, fresh and true to name, such as will make with a master's hand its own picture all over our farms and gardens; send I am not afraid to W. A. BROWN, on the cover of my catalogue. Come, my fellow farmers and join the thousands, who for thirty years have been users of my seed; why, we were a goodly company and having pleasant times together before the great majority of the present race of seedmen (like the boys) had left their nurse's arms! Send for a catalogue.

**JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marquette, Mich.**

### SEEDS

SEED POTATOES, largest stock, guaranteed, great variety, small price. Plants and trees. Catalogue Free.

**FRANK FORD & SONS, Ravenna, Ohio.**

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Everywhere to look up advertisements and show copies of them to the advertiser. Advertisements to be looked up everywhere in town and country in all parts of the United States. Steady employment, wages \$2.50 per day. Expenses advanced; no traveling required. Local work for all or part of the time. ADDRESS WITH STAMP TO:

J. C. EMORY & CO., Sixth and Vine Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

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you can, at your own home, by

**Dr. Richard S. Rosenthal's Meistershaft System**

Learn to speak fluently either Spanish, French, Italian or German.

Specimen Copy, Spanish, French, German or Italian, 25 cents.

All subscribers—\$5.00 for each language—become actual pupils of Dr. Rosenthal, who corrects all exercises, and corresponds with them in regard to any difficulties which may occur.

It is invaluable to all who desire to read Latin, and especially valuable for young men preparing for college.

**MEISTERSHAFT PUB. CO.,**  
Herold Building, Boston, Mass.

Gen. Robert's will not enter noon the duties of his office until the first of April.

Muddy roads keep farmers at home and the town suffers.

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To get a First-Class Watch is in our Co-Operative Clubs.

Fine Watches at the Lowest Cash Prices, ONLY \$1.00 A WEEK.

Thousands of the best \$25 Gold Watch ever made are being sold in our Co-Operative Clubs. The watches are American—Lever Stem Winders, containing every essential to accuracy and durability, and have, in addition, numerous other improvements found in no other watch. They are absolutely the only Dunt and Damp-proof movements made in the World, and are jeweled with Genuine Rubies. The Patent Stem Winders are the strongest and simplest made. They are fully equal for appearance, accuracy, durability and service to any \$75 watch in our Co-Operative Clubs, \$30.00—either cash down or \$1.00 per week.

An Apat Watch Insulator given free with each watch.

**Keystone Watch Club Co.**  
Main Office in Company's Own Building, 509 Walnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA. Agents Wanted.

**AXAX**  
Watch Insulator, \$1.00  
A perfect protection against magnetism. Price by mail on receipt of price. We refer to any Commercial Agency.

### HUMPHREYS' HOMEOPATHIC VETERINARY SPECIFICS

For Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Dogs, Hogs, Poultry.

500 PAGE BOOK on Treatment of Animals and Chart Sent Free.

CURE—Fever, Conception, Inflammation, Spinal Meningitis, Milk Fever, Strains, Lameness, Rheumatism, Distemper, Nasal Discharges, Cuts and Bruises, Hysteria, Coughs, Hoarseness, Pneumonia, Colic or Gripes, Bellows, Dropsy, Dropsy of the Bladder, Urinary and Kidney Diseases, Reproductive Diseases, etc., etc., etc., Diseases of Digestion.

Stable Case, with Specifics, Manual, Wash Hand Oil and Syringe, \$7.00  
Price, Single Bottle (over 50 doses) .60

Sold by Druggists; or Sent Prepaid on Receipt of Price.

Humphreys' Med. Co., 109 Fulton St., N. Y.

### AGENTS

100 ACRES OF GREENHOUSES TREES AND PLANTS

We offer for the Spring trade a large and fine stock of every description of FRUIT TREES and ORNAMENTAL TREES, including the following: Apples, Peaches, Plums, Cherries, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Currants, Gooseberries, etc., etc., etc. Also, a large stock of BLOOMING (PHENIX) NURSERY.

**MRS. LAUBE'S**

### MRS. LAUBE'S

DOUBLE STEAM BAKER AND MEAT ROASTER.

Desirable for roasting all kinds of meats, game, fish, coffee, etc., and for baking breads and cakes. It has no equal. Saves 50 per cent in baking and 25 per cent in roasting. Agents Wanted. Send for Circular giving full information.

**THE LAUBE COOKER CO., Park Ridge, N. H.**

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DR. TAPP'S ASTHMALIN never fails to cure. Any one who writes for it will receive a trial bottle free, and we will mail trial bottles to the TAPP BROS., Rochester, N. Y. FREE.







## Western Farm News.

### Tame Grasses in Kansas.

The following able paper was read at the last Farmers Institute, held in Lawrence, Saturday, March 2nd, by our friend Wm. Steiner. It is a timely article, and coming from the source it does, we can commend it to our farmer friends throughout the State. Wm. Steiner has had a great deal of experience with tame grasses and therefore knows just what he is talking about.

Seeding tame grasses in this State, has always been attended with many embarrassments and misfortunes. Were we privileged to give the experiences of hundreds of farmers in their first attempt to seed down a five or ten acre lot, in tame grass, our story would sound to the ear of the merchant or business man, like the tale of an Oriental priest. The first thing to be considered in seeding is to divest ourselves of all prejudices and preconceived notions about how our ancestors were accustomed to do many years ago, when we were farm boys, in the older States. Their notions were good and wholesome when we took the first lessons in farm economy and agricultural science, but a change of climate pre-supposes a change of habits, and necessarily brings around different results. To illustrate: Suppose we sow our seed when the earth is whitened with six or eight inches of snow, as many of us used to do in the older States; if we were in the southern counties we might, perhaps, hear from the seed in the Indian territory a few years later, or some of our adjoining neighbors may, perchance, get the reward of our labor.

The next and most important lesson to be taught in seeding down and raising grass or hay, for home or foreign consumption, is to know where we are; we must consider well the fact that we not only live in a country bounded on the north and west by an unbroken plain, stretching away to the mountains; but that every eight or ten years this State, like all others, is subject to intense drouths which takes two years to complete. The farmer who chooses these years to "seed down," will meet with successful failures.

Grass seeds, more perhaps, than others, need an over abundance of moisture from the time it is sown until the root has gained a foothold that will reach from one storm to another, and can overcome every obstacle that falls in its way.

Again, it is well to study the nature of the soil and its adaptation to the kind of grass to be sown upon it. Clover and timothy, after thirty years of successful trials has more than all other kinds of grass, met the wishes of Kansas farmers, and has been adopted everywhere throughout the State as the best for all kinds of consumption. These should be sown together; the former is a fertilizer, while the other is not. The two together, will hold an equilibrium that may not deteriorate the land for other crops. There is no crop that can engage the attention of farmers that will more readily respond to fertilization than tame grass, and this crop above all others, should be fertilized to its utmost capacity, before seeding down. It should also follow small grain the next March, or as soon as the earth is ready to receive the seed. The ground should be plowed in the fall, as fall plowing has a greater capacity for retaining moisture than spring plowing. The most important consideration in selecting seed, is the choice of that which has been raised in this country. Foreign seed has, in thousands of instances, caused a general failure, because it often strays off into sacks and bins and becomes old before it reaches its destination.

The agriculturists of this country have cause to rejoice that the importance of their industry has been recognized so far as to be accorded a place in the cabinet. It remains now to make all that is possible from this. The distribution of seeds throughout the country, which has been a great work, must be recognized as only a small part of the whole. The department must be broad and progressive in its methods and its workings. It must consider the development of all the agricultural resources of the whole country, favoring no individual and no section. Its object can be nothing less than the elevation of the agriculture of the United States to a higher plane than is occupied by any other country.

Kansas Farmer: The Douglas County Horticultural Society held their regular monthly meeting at Snow Hall, University grounds, last Saturday. It is the most energetic and vigorous society of the kind in the State; and that is nothing to the discredit of any of the other thriving horticultural associations, for it began many years ago, and its members have grown old in the work. The present officers are young men, but the members, many of them, have been more than half a hundred years.

Look carefully over your evergreen hedges for the basket worm, which may be noticed by the little baskets hanging from the limbs.

### The Use Of Salt In A Dry Time.

A correspondent of the Chicago Times says:

"I will give you a sketch of my experience with the use of salt in the garden and orchard. Young fruit trees can be made to grow and do well in places where old trees have died by sowing a pint of salt on the earth where they are to stand. After trees are set, I continue to sow a pint of salt around each tree every year. I set twenty-five trees in sandy soil for each one of seven years, and only succeeded in getting one in five, and that only produced twigs a few inches long in nine years. Last spring I sowed a pint of salt around it and limbs grew from three to three and one half feet long. In the spring of 1877 I set out twenty-five trees, putting a pint of salt in the dirt used for filling, and then sowed a pint more on the surface after each tree was set. All grew as if they had never been taken from the nursery. Last spring I set thirty more, treating them in the same way, and they have grown very finely. The salt keeps away insects that injure the roots, and renders the soil more capable of sustaining plant-growth.

"In 1877 my wife had a garden forty feet square. It was necessary to water it nearly every day, and still the plants and flowers were very inferior in all respects. In 1878 I put half a bushel of salt on the ground, and then tilled it under. It was not necessary to water the garden, which was greatly admired by all who saw it. The flowers were so large that they appeared to be of different varieties from those growing on land that was not salted.

"I had some potatoes growing from seed that wilted down as soon as the weather became very hot. I applied salt to the surface of the soil till it was white. The vines took a vigorous start, grew to the length of three feet, blossomed, and produced tubers from the size of a hen's egg to that of a goose egg.

"My soil is chiefly sand, but I believe that salt is highly beneficial to clay or common prairie land."

### How to make a Hotbed.

From the Floral Instructor.

In the first place select a southern exposure, high and dry as possible, so that no top water can run through the bed after it is made. Make it as long as you like—say 6 feet long, 3 feet wide, 2 feet high on the south side. Set posts at each corner, front ones 2 feet, back ones 3 feet; board up the sides and then the ends. Let the top of the ends slope down to the lower side. This gives it the slant to the south. Have a good, full load of fresh stable manure (be sure and have it fresh as it is not often warm enough otherwise) and fill up the hot bed about eight inches from the top. Then take a hoe and pound it down firm, then add more manure if it packs down much, so as to keep it about eight inches from the top. Cover up the manure with 4 inches of rich earth, composed of part sand and part rotten leaves from the woods. Put it down firm, and have it even depth.

Get 2 1/2 yards of Indian Head muslin; tack it to the north edge, then have a light piece of smooth board, 6 feet long, 1 inch thick and 2 inches wide. Tack the outer edge to this; bring the canvass down over the hot bed, smooth, leaving the ends free. Take a common paintbrush, proceed as if painting. Have 1 quart of boiled linseed oil; go over the canvass with the oil once, and keep it drawn down over the hot bed at night. Next day, roll back the canvass and see if the soil is warm, not hot, and if hot, wait until you see it is warm only.

Make a furrow lengthwise at the rear for tomatoes, crosswise for cabbage, pepper, or any other low growing plant you may want, being careful not to sow too thick. Make rows three inches apart. When the plants come up, keep moist, but not very wet, and on fine days roll the canvass back and give the plants the sunshine. Pull out all the little weeds as you go along, and some of the plants—if too thick they will rot. Take more manure and bank up the north sides and ends. Keep the canvass down at nights and when raining, and if it should still be frosty, cover at night with a thickness of two or three old blankets or boards.

Milk becomes vitiated when its secretion is over-stimulated.

We want the milk room away from the influence of the odors of the farm yard, of the piggeries, or anything that will hurt the milk.

When the butter is made the fats are completely exposed to the air, and the greatest care must be taken to protect them from the bad odors.

Of milk, it is said it may mean a nasty compound, full of filth and poison, pregnant with disease and death, derived from steepings of brewers, grains and distillers' waste, or from fermenting, putrifying matter.

Milkers kick, whip and pound their cows till they get ugly and bad tempered, which changes the milk and spoils the butter. Pet heifers and coax the cows with a little sugar and salt every day, and a nice feed of something they like will keep them gentle while you are milking.

A good, smart dog to drive the cows takes away the milk and spoils what is left for butter, by exciting and heating the cows.

Too many milkers spoil a cow, reduce her milk and lessen the profits. A kind, gentle, good-natured milker is a treasure a dairyman cannot over estimate.

Poor food is a prolific source of poor butter; you cannot expect something out of nothing, nor fine butter out of poor worthless food.

It is just as necessary to keep salt from absorbing bad odors as cream. A sack of best salt standing where there is a smell of anything objectionable odor, will absorb the flavor and the butter will hold that flavor as long as there is a bit of it left.—J. S. Whitney, New York Exchange.

### Gathered in a Wide Field.

The milk business requires neatness, carefulness and promptitude. The work must be carried on with all the regularity of a clock.

Many farmers do not fully appreciate the value of bran as a feeding material. For growing animals it may form a considerable part of the rations.

Imagine the profit of sheep husbandry with the demand for mutton doubled, as it would be if good muttons was as easy to procure as poor mutton is now.

The commercial phosphate is made by dissolving bone meal with sulphuric acid, and potash is added in the form of muriate of potash, or other german potash salts.

Always incorporate the manure thoroughly with the soil in applying round the roots of trees. It is injurious to the roots to apply manure of any kind directly to them.

The largest known flower is the rafflesia, a native of Sumatra. It measures three feet in diameter, weighs fifteen pounds and has a calyx holding six quarts. The odor is offensive.

When fruit is stored in a fruit house it is desirable to have the temperature kept as near forty degrees as possible. Of course it is expected that it will vary somewhat, but the nearer it can be kept to this the better will be the result.

Either red clover alone or clover and orchard grass are the best to use in seeding down the orchard. But do not be in too much of a hurry to seed down unless the soil is rich and in good tilth and the trees have made a good, healthy growth.

The peach and plum are nearly enough related to be budded or grafted on each other. The plum endures the cold better than the peach, and the latter fruit grown on plum stocks can be much more easily protected than when grown on its own.

We venture the prediction that the man who begins right now stocking up the farm with good grade or pure bred cows and heifers and turns a respectable registered bull in at their head will in two or three years find fairly reap dollars for all dimes invested.

With a concrete floor in a basement where horses or cows are stabled all the liquid manure may be easily saved. The floor under the animals may be made of pine or hemlock plank, matched and grooved, and inclining toward the gutter in the rear. The cement should be the Rosendale grade on a ground work of gravel, where drainage is provided, and this overlaid by the best Portland cement for additional hardness. If a cement floor is to last long it must be protected from severe freezing.

There will be a change in the system of breeding and feeding swine in a few years, says an exchange. People are tiring of fat pork. They are calling for more lean and less fat, and corn will not answer the call. Other foods will need be fed, foods that will give growth and lean meat.

It takes the same kind of food to resist cold weather as is required to add fat to the body. As a consequence it is almost impossible to fatten an animal exposed to the cold blasts of winter. This winter being particularly mild, it is to be expected that cattle will be well ripened when properly cared for.

Do not allow the birds to be destroyed. They are of too much benefit in destroying insects, worms and pests that prey upon the fruit and trees. The cat-bird eats and destroys pear bugs; the woodpecker digs in and destroys the borer, while the jaybird, chickadee, wren, thrush, robin and the bluebird all do excellent work in the garden.

The farming of the future must be gradually contracted in the number of acres. Less hard work over broad fields and closer attention to special paying crops, on the fields that surrounds the house. More pasture, more stock and plenty of ensilage, this insures the purchase of less commercial fertilizer and the very best results from the contents of the barnyard.

If the hogs to be slaughtered are fed within twelve hours of their killing the food is wasted and the meat will be more disposed to sour, and it will be more difficult to remove the distended intestines and take from them the lard. Nor is it well to let the swine drink on the morning of the day they are killed. Hogs cannot be killed too quickly.—American Agriculturist.

There are few things that add more to the value of a farm and home, considering the cost, than a full supply of fruits, small and tree,

and a sufficient number of shade and ornamental trees to supply necessary shade and protection. Care should be taken not to crowd. Make calculations for growth, as it may be necessary to thin out later on. A better appearance can be secured by giving them plenty of room at the start.

Dr. Ward a distinguished New Jersey fruit-grower, finds that the Minnewaski blackberry ripens with him as early as the Wilson. The plant is hardy and prolific, fruit large and sweet. Mr. J. H. Hale, the well-known Connecticut fruit grower, suggests, in the Hartford Courant that this blackberry being hardy in New England, is likely to prove to be the early sort for which they have been so long looking.

We have no doubt that the future will show that the best fertilizers are not those which contain a certain form of potash, phosphate and nitrogen, even though provided in their highest priced and most soluble forms, but, rather, the fertilizers that furnish the constituents in many different forms all of which are available through the varying degrees, for the varying requirements, of the plants at different stages of growth.—Rural New Yorker.

Plant as soon as the ground is ready. Don't waste manure even if you have rich soil.

The lightning rod seems to have had its day.

Trim up your evergreens if you have not.

The twins trust should be unwound.

Interest in the Farmers Alliance is spreading.

Farmers should grow more small fruit and more garden vegetables.

Our friend N. P. Peering, of Orchard Hill, Lawrence, believes he has a cinch on the apple locust.

Of course a new secretary of Agriculture was to be expected, but a better man than Colman was not among the probabilities.

The potato has never been over-valued in this country, and will not be.

All kinds of stock is reported to be in good condition.

Salt is already known to be a good fertilizer. Like ammonia it was at one time supposed to poison vegetables, because it is too powerful to be used without judgment.

Me Pherson county shipped a quarter of a million dollars worth of horses last year.

In Southern Kansas, more or less ploughing has been going on all winter.

Give the laying hens linseed meal in their food. It is rich in nitrogen, harmless and very beneficial to them.

Early turnips can be sown after the ground becomes warm, but the main crop should not go in until later.

Force the hot-bed plants so as to have them well advanced when the season opens.

Nectarines and apricots can be grown any where the peach or plum thrives.

Borax is said to be a protection against ants on plants.

### Profitable Dairying.

A. L. CROSBY.

From the Floral Instructor.

Keep special dairy cows, either milk cows for milk, or butter cows for butter, but not the combined milk and butter cows. If you are going to sell milk, then get a cow that gives a large quantity of good milk. If you are going to sell butter, get a cow that gives a moderate quantity of very rich milk.

You can't afford to feed a cow for butter, that puts much water in her milk, because water in milk costs feed and the water is left in the skimmed milk; a waste. In selling milk, you sell the water too; at least 87 lbs. of water in 200 lbs. of milk. In selling butter, you only sell 10 or 15 lbs. of water in 100 lbs. of butter.

Therefore to make butter profitably you need the special butter cow. But whether you get a milk or a butter cow, be sure she has no beef points. You may have a butter cow that puts a little too much water in her milk and yet pays pretty well, but if you are counting on double profits, that is, a profit on butter or milk and another on beef, you will miss it.

Old cow beef is never in demand and never brings a good price, so it won't pay to look at the beef-profit side of dairying for the simple reason that there is none.

Dairying and beef making are two distinct businesses; the former pays the best, but it must be properly conducted to secure the best dairy products.

In dairying, beef comes under the head of waste products, same as skimmed milk—and the less you have of either the better for your pocket.

We welcome Mr. Crosby to our columns, and regret the shortness of his article, but wish to modify the extreme "Jersey" arguments. It seems evident that if one cow will make as much butter, (on the same food) as another and at the same time give more skim milk, it should certainly not be considered a drawback.

Indeed, in some countries the skim and the buttermilk is all that is paid for manufacturing the butter, and it is certainly worth more than is generally conceded by our farmers. However, we quite agree with Mr. C. that the main point in selecting cows should be to have one purpose in view, and that beef points should count as nothing in the judgment of a true dairyman, especially so in the Western States.

### Farming Notes.

It is a waste of time and labor to attempt to keep sheep on wet land. They should be pastured on the dry lands of the farm and given shelter, as dampness is more injurious to them than cold. Many failures with sheep are due to neglect in protecting them against storms, as they are subject to many diseases and quickly succumb thereto.

Just when the frost is coming out of the ground all stock should be kept off the fields, as a single day's occupancy of the fields by stock when the ground is soft will destroy the grass and leave great holes and bare places on it. The fields that are trampled never recover from its injurious effects except at the expense of much labor.

The old peach blow potato is still grown in some sections, and is considered fully equal to any of the newer varieties. It has no superior in keeping qualities, and is excellent in appearance and size. It has the peculiarity of delaying the productions of tubers until the vines have completed their growth.

If a peach tree shows sign of decay and has not been attacked by the borer, cut it back almost to the main trunk, leaving the tree to form new branches from the young shoots of this season. If the trunk is sound a new tree can be produced, and one that will be nearly as good as a younger one.

It is suggested that the seed balls of potatoes be cut off when the plants are growing in order to divert the energies in the direction of the tubers, as the production of seed and tubers at the same time is a double task. It is an experiment that every farmer can try, even if only on one row.

Young colts will soon learn to eat oats when in the stalls with their dams, and an excellent way to make the young lambs grow is to keep ground oats where they can eat whenever they so desire, but the food should be so placed that the lambs can get to it while the old sheep cannot reach it.

It is estimated that every bushel of hardwood ashes is worth at least 25 cents, and they therefore partially remunerate for the cost of the wood. The ashes should be stored in a dry place and covered, as they draw moisture from the atmosphere.

The Bartlett and Clapp's Favorite pears are considered the best of all varieties for quality, and the Seckel the surest crop producer. Crab apple trees are now being planted by fruit growers, they being in demand in the fruit season for preserves and jellies.

The rose can be grown indoors in pots, and is used for a greater number of purposes than any other flower. The young plants should not be set out too early. Trim off the surplus branches of the old bushes, and then cut back some of the old wood.

The plum tree will need jarring in order to prevent the work of the curculio, no matter which variety may be used. There is no curculio-proof plum; but the crop pays well if the trees are carefully jarred and the curculios swept up and destroyed.

Apple trees will induce any amount of cutting back, and the work should be done now. Too many limbs not only prevent the warmth of the sun but also cause a greater drain on the tree to mature more fruit than it should bear.

It is surprising how few farmers fully understand the making of good butter. They may have all the appliances necessary but it requires skill as well and the younger members of the family should be educated in the art.

In selecting cantaloups do not forget that the best flavored are the netted citron and Jenny Lind varieties, which are small but early. The large ones are late and lack in quality that which they gain in size.

The sooner an animal is matured the sooner it will be ready for the market and the cost of production diminished. The quickest growth is when the animal is very young. It should be forced at the beginning.

When shipping eggs do not overlook the color. Philadelphia and Boston customers prefer dark shell eggs, while New York buyers will pay a little more for an egg that is pure white in color of shell.

Watermelons seem to thrive better and produce more when grown on ridges instead of hills. Use plenty of manure on the ridges, with the ridges six feet apart and the plants ten feet apart in the rows.

If a lawn is to be made, an important point is to have it made as smooth as possible after seeding. The better this is done the more easily the lawn mower can be used over the plot.

A blanket for the horse is a cheap article compared with the food it saves and colds and sickness it avoids. It is indispensable in well-regulated stables.

Do not delay burning the dried rubbish. Clear up all the decaying weeds, and get rid of all the refuse matter that may interfere with spring work.





**Indigo.**  
The indigo plant is a half shrub, half vine, growing two or three feet high, the coloring principle being contained, not in the pale-red flowers, but in the dull, bluish-green leaves, and is brought out by its oxidation as the leaves are dried, or is developed by submitting green leaves to a process of fermentation and oxidation.

The seeds are sown in April, in a light soil, well harrowed in and after a few showers, the plants completely cover the ground looking like a sweet potato patch more than anything else, except that even the most hardy weed declines to grow with indigo. Before the plants have reached their full height, the leaves are cut, always early in the morning while the dew is upon them, and are carried at once to the factory. Here they are laid in a stone cistern, twenty feet square and three or four feet deep. Heavy weights are then placed upon them, and heavier beams placed across these, the object being to keep the leaves down when they swell. Water is then admitted, and fermentation soon commences. In the course of ten or twelve hours, according to the temperature and the condition of the plants, the liquor is in great commotion as if boiling; frothy bubbles rise to the surface, and their color,—first white, becomes gray, blue, and then deep purple, and finally a copper-colored scum covers the entire surface. When the agitation subsides, the liquor is drained off into a lower vat, the beams and weights are removed from the upper one, the steeped plants are taken out to be dried for fuel, and the vat is prepared for another charge.

Several men enter the lower cistern and beat up the liquid with paddles, till the coloring matter begins to appear in small atoms. This process requires an hour or two, the appearance of a precipitate, fine as sand, leaving the water clear above—indicating favorable progress.

The beating is then discontinued, and the vat is left a few hours for the indigo to subside, the liquor is then run off from an upper vent, and the indigo left in the bottom, then gathered up.

Sometimes lime is added, or various gums, to hasten the precipitate, but this injures its marketable value, as it slightly changes the color of the indigo. Next, the purplish precipitate is mixed with more water, in another cistern; and is then passed through great sieves into a boiler where it is kept hot, to ebullition, five or six hours. Then, being carefully freed from scum, it is drawn off into a vat, from which, after subsiding, more water is taken from the top, and the remainder is removed to what is called the "dripper"—a long, wooden case, the bottom perforated with holes, and covered with a woollen blanket. The liquor passes through this filter, and the operation is completed by subjecting the residue to the action of a press forming it into a cake, which is afterwards cut by a wire, into smaller square blocks. These are laid out on frames in the shade to dry, and are then left for several weeks in a drying house before being packed.

All this looks like rather a tedious process, but then it pays well; and the labor is really not much greater than in many less profitable branches of agriculture. History tells us that in the early part of the present century the southern part of the United States exported every year about 134,000 pounds of indigo, which was then worth 62 cents per pound. Up to the time of the late rebellion, it was cultivated in Florida and South Carolina, where the yield was about sixty pounds to the acre; and the crop required attention only from July to October. Rather more profitable than oranges, one would think, because not so easily affected by the varying seasons.

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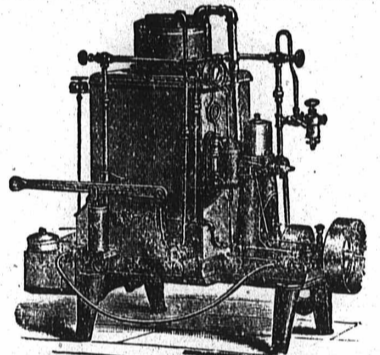
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