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Two Neglected Studies.

Much has been written and said, within the last ten or fifteen years of the beauty and value of a knowledge of Natural History and Botany. They have been highly commended as disciplinary studies and have been urged upon our notice again and again, as the educations of the observing faculties, and therefore fitted to be introduced into our most elementary schools. They have been pressed upon our attention not only as studies well calculated to educate, or draw out the mind, but as amusements or relaxing restoratives. And viewed in either capacity they are said to cultivate that gentleness, refinement and virtue of character which is the fittest ornament of every age and condition of life.

Now this being so, why is it that they receive so little attention from our school Boards and county Superintendents? If they are not only important branches of knowledge, *per se*, but if they open the gates to other streams, by expanding and strengthening the observing faculties, why should they be so generally ignored as they are? Or rather, to put it milder, why should they be reserved for the senior years in an educational course? In my judgment the educators of our youth, many of them at least, have been trying to reverse nature's laws. They have endeavored to draw out the *reasoning* faculties first, and the *observing* faculties last. This has been too much the case with all our educators, and the Trustees, who profess to direct them, seem contented to have it so. Both ignore the great facts that the mind which has been taught Natural History and Botany, becomes observant; and that it is the observant mind that wins in life's struggles.

If a descendant of Romulus, born on one of Rome's seven hills, in the fourth or fifth century, could be transplanted into one of our modern schools, and pass through its course of instruction (I do not say curriculum as it appears upon papers) he would meet with few unfamiliar lines of thought. Some new facts in history and geography, he would have to learn, but this would be about all, and for the reason that the world at large has yet to learn that the observing faculties are the ones that should be first cultivated.

To a person inexperienced in such matters, it may seem strange that educators should be guilty, after all that has been written, of running back into old and well worn ruts. But I have had full experience in this matter, and know how easily it is done. And as an illustration of this statement and of the fact that American educators have not a patent for it, I will state that two well known British publications, "Nature" and "The British Medical Journal" are now exposing the almost incredible fact that the great and richly endowed Oxford University, has been guilty of a similar wrong.

It appears that the wealthiest and greatest University in England; rich in all that instructs, elevates, and refines the minds of men; a great seat of education; a mother of liberal teaching; the center of refined and professional culture; rich in endowments by learned medical men who were matured in her bosom, and who sought by liberal gifts, to give to her the training of the flower of their profession in after years; endowed by Mr. Radcliffe, by Sherard and by Lee, and under strict conditions of teaching medicine, anatomy, clinical medicine, and botany to students of medicine; with the finest museums of physical science and chemistry in the country; with an admirable clinical hospital, well provided with materials of instruction; in short, all that is needed for one of the first schools of medicine in the world, has abnegated her great duty and rich privilege and completely perverted her trust. In this way she has lost all that she might have gained from being the Alma Mater of the most eminent men in that great profession which has furnished nine tenths of the distinguished professors of physical science. She has run back into her old ruts, and her medical professorships are held by sinecures who draw their pay, and look wise. And all this where there is a penalty of \$25 for the omission of a single lecture.

I give this as an illustration of the ease with which educators can, and do, slide back into old and well worn ruts.

Natural History is equally important with Botany to every farmer, and to every farmer's son and daughter, and the educational institu-

tion, whether for elementary or advanced studies, which neglects either, is derelict in sound philosophy and real duty.

Much was written upon this subject some twelve or fifteen years ago by Henssey and Huxley of Great Britain, and by Pres. Barnard of Columbia College, N. Y., but of late years we see no mention of this "new departure," and we learn by inquiry that but few changes have been made in the working curriculums of either schools or colleges.

The taxonomy of botany, if little else was attempted, would be of incalculable benefit as a means of mental training, and on this ground alone the study lays claim for attention in every school of general instruction. The technical language of this science, as elaborated by Sinauses, has long been the admiration of logical and philosophical writers. Every word has its definition, and can convey but one notion to those who have once mastered the language. The technicalities therefore, which are vulgarly regarded as imperfections and as repulsive, are in reality far from offering a reason for withholding this science from ordinary education. On the contrary they are among its strongest recommendations, training as they do in accuracy of expression and in habits of describing definitely and unequivocally the observations made by use of the senses. What is called the nomenclature of botany is of equal value as a philosophical educator, strange as it may appear to an unlettered mind.

All that I have said for the study of botany may be applied to the study of natural history. "I hold it," says the President of the Columbia College, "to be the first principle of a sound educational philosophy, that the powers of the mind should be subjected to culture in the most natural order; and what I understand by natural order, is the order in which the powers unfold themselves when they are subjected to no artificial control. If this is not the test of what is natural, then we have no test, and I suppose that the reason why we should follow nature, is because nature will thus most willingly follow us. The task we impose will be pleasing, because they will be adapted to the strength. The learner will easily submit himself to our guidance, because we take him in the direction in which he is already inclined to go. He will understand what we require of him, and he will be encouraged because he understands."

These are words of truth and soberness, but alas, how lamentably ignored are they, by many of our educators. How few of them remember that the faculties of observation ripen much earlier than the reasoning powers, and that the works of some of our great writers—Hallam for example—are of a higher stamp than they would have been, had not the authors in the early stages of their education, been made familiar with natural history and other physical sciences.

But the cry of teachers is: "We have no time for every thing, and we must take the most important studies." None, I assert, are more important, none are better calculated to quicken the observing, or open out the reasoning powers, without fatiguing the mind or body, than the two studies which I assert are virtually ignored or too long deferred by the mass of educators.

Co-Ro-Lo.

Bonds and Mortgages.—No. 2.

PRIVATE MORTGAGES.

Agreeable to promise, I will now take up the subject of private mortgaging. In my former article I tried to demonstrate to my fellow farmers the dangers that threatened them as citizens from the unconstitutional prostitution of the taxing powers to the collection of debts due to private companies, and that were in most instances both extortionate and fraudulent. But when we turn to private mortgaging the case assumes a very different character. This is the voluntary act of the citizen, and the question arises how can this be remedied, and how can the evil be avoided? Moses, when he received the law delivered by the inspiration of God, had an ample provision against this very evil. After making every provision against usury and all the evils that followed in its train, it provided, as a thorough and effectual protection to the debtor, that every fiftieth year should be a year of jubilee in which all debts should be wiped out, and all obligations of that character canceled. I am well aware that such views advanced now would be denounced by every Christian church in the nation, and the religious press would denounce poor Moses as a communist and an infidel. And such has ever been the fate of reformers. The very generation they seek to benefit always deride and persecute them. Moses experienced this very treatment time and again. Mahomet had to fly to

the desert to save his life. Aristides, the Just, was driven into exile by the very people he had saved. Robert Emmet was executed, and even the Saviour himself, after being reviled, spit upon and deserted by his nearest and most devoted followers, was crucified between two thieves. This is a sad commentary upon human justice and national manhood.

But we live in a different age. In many respects we are placed far in advance of any other people that ever existed. We have greater privileges, a grander and more magnificent country, possessing unlimited wealth and resources. We have developed one of the most energetic and enterprising people that the pen of the historian ever recorded. We have been placed in the most trying positions and came out victorious through the severest tests; and amongst the great mass of the citizens of this great model republic, the western farmers stand prominently forward as the great pioneers of enterprise and civilization. They are the stalwart sons of toil who opened up the forests and prairies of this lovely country, and caused this wilderness to blossom as the rose; and when civil war threatened the life of the nation, it was the farmers and farmers' sons, aided and strengthened by the workmen, that saved the Union. And now those men find, instead of the safety they secured and the rights they were justly entitled to, of passing the evening of their days in the shade and comfort of those homes so hardly won and bravely defended, that there is a devil-fish fastened on their little homesteads and farms that is surely and persistently draining every vein, by means of usury that is more exacting, unjust and cruel than what Nehemiah warned his fellow countrymen against, long years ago, in what we style a barbarous age. But such men as Smedley Darlington, that you so ably denounced in the last issue, would denounce all such men as Nehemiah, Moses, and even Christ himself, as communists. Now I must stick to my subject, or I will stray too far and occupy too much space.

The amount of real estate covered with mortgages, placed there by the action of the owners, is incredible. I was informed by an insurance agent, whose business it was to examine the records, that ninety per cent. of the real estate whose titles he examined were covered by liens. Now the secrecy and ingenuity with which this devilish conspiracy against the rights of the private citizen is consummated, is little understood by the average citizen. I know of one firm in this state that has agents in every county loaning *foreign capital*, on long time, and first mortgages on real estate, at one-third of a low valuation. These loans are now all drawing interest and principal payable in gold. Each mortgage is accompanied with a long batch of coupons of interest, each one payable semi-annually, with all the pains and penalties of an iron-clad note, and the failure to pay each coupon will entitle the holder to foreclose; all costs and penalties at the cost of the unfortunate debtor. What a rich harvest for our legal gentlemen! Could Pandemonium produce a more devilish scheme to plunder the unfortunate citizen? Oh, yes, some will exclaim, why was he fool enough to place himself in such a situation? That is a very forcible argument, but there are two sides to this question. Necessity causes many men to incur debts they are unable, through unforeseen circumstances, to meet. For instance, drouth, pestilence, or storms, may deprive the farmer of his crops so that he is unable to meet his taxes, and to escape the crushing usury exacted by the state, he goes to some Smedley Darlington, who meets him all smiles, grinning like a hyena in anticipation of his prey, and raises \$500 on a farm worth ten times that amount. This hyena friend will bleed him pretty freely before he can touch this loan. I had better illustrate this with a circumstance that was related to me some time since:

A farmer had his house burned down, and before he could receive his insurance, ninety days would elapse. At the end of that time he could draw \$5,000, but he wanted to rebuild immediately, and wrote in to a lawyer to know if he could raise him \$1,000 for one year. By return of mail he received answer that he could have the money. He went in to receive it, and on being seated the lawyer produced a roll of notes and proceeded to count out \$1,000. When the old farmer reached out his hand to receive the money (after signing all the papers) the lawyer stopped him, and stated they always took the interest in advance, and counted out \$100. He then took out \$50 he said he was entitled to for procuring the loan, and then he proceeded to take out \$25 more for drawing up the papers, hunting abstracts, etc. So here was \$175 taken

before the farmer touched a dollar; and then this man was bound in the mortgage to pay all costs of foreclosure and a reasonable attorney's fee, which means anything between \$50 and \$1,000. (This last sum was actually allowed as a reasonable attorney's fee by a judge in Iowa City, when \$5 would have been amply sufficient.)

Another case that has been closed up recently: An old farmer of my acquaintance, that owned a farm worth \$5,000, (assessed at that some years ago,) that he had improved and made a nice homestead of for his old age, had a neighbor who happened to have some money come into his possession that he did not need, offered it to his neighbor on long time and at a reasonable rate of interest. The old man took \$2,000 and gave a mortgage on the homestead. Most of the money he laid out in putting up a good, brick house. Before the mortgage fell due, poor crops intervened, sickness came, and death invaded his household, thus creating debts that, owing to short crops, could not be met. The mortgage had passed into the hands of a money-shark, who foreclosed, and the poor man's little homestead, on which a quarter of a century of labor had been bestowed, was sold for the amount of the mortgage? No, but for \$1,250, taking the life earnings of that poor old man and reducing him to serfdom and bondage for the remainder of his days. Why, usury is worse than the devil-fish, for that only fastens on the present victim, but usury sucks the life and energy out of posterity.

But, the reader will exclaim, all this we have heard before, but how are we to escape from this net the usurers have thrown around us? I don't see any other means than a return to primitive republicanism. (I have no party reference in this). The true object of republican government should be to advance the best interests of the masses of the citizens, and by showing favor to none protect the rights of all.

In the first place I would recommend that the homestead rights of the citizens should be declared inviolate; that no debt, mortgage or tax should effect the title of the citizen to his homestead, and though the amount covered by the homestead should be limited, yet within that limit no claim should be valid.

Again, our republican government should act as a protecting parent to the poorer class of citizens, (not as a cruel step-father stinting some of his children to bestow the greater favor on others) and by advancing loans, (on good security) to the industrial classes at a low rate of interest, say two per cent., enable them to lift their mortgages, pay their debts and start again the business and enterprises of the nation.

Now, don't say *Utopian* and throw this article aside before you hear me out. Are not the pioneer farmers, mechanics and workmen of the west entitled to as much sympathy and consideration as those monster monopolies, the railroad companies, who have received hundreds of millions without returning any benefit for the bonus? Are not the industrial classes entitled to as much help and consideration as the national bankers, who receive \$365,000,000 from the national government as a *gratuity*? and the government gives them this vast sum of the people's money to loan back to the people (the real owners) at just such terms as their greed may determine. Suppose that the Union Pacific railroad was to stop operations to-morrow, and inform the government that they had not money enough to keep the road running, and it must stop if not aided by the government, how soon the doors of the treasury would be thrown open and the required aid forthcoming—voted promptly by every lawyer in congress who had his free-pass in his pocket or a retaining fee to secure the loan. But let the farmers of Kansas send up a like request for aid to relieve them, do you suppose it would be granted? Not much. The farmers are not the right stripe to secure such favors. Through bribery and corruption, one such man as Smedley Darlington (backed up with the right appliances) could command more influence than ten millions of farmers, who have not a single one of their class in congress to represent them. Here is where the root of the evil exists, and here is where you must commence to eradicate the disease. No farmer or working man should vote for any man that don't represent him.

The lawyers are the worst class of men that can be selected to make laws, as their very pursuit in life makes them the advocates of any class of clients that will pay the best. Such men as Smedley Darlington never aspire to congress or the legislature; they are too shrewd for that, but they send their jackalls there, who start and run down their prey, and are as ready to take a retainer after election as they were before.

In this great crusade, the farmers must de-

pend on their own manhood. They are masters of the situation, and must not sacrifice their independence at the behest of any party. Be true to yourselves. Vote for no lawyers, under any circumstances. Recollect no set of lawyers will ever vote for a farmer to represent them. If the farmers cannot find live, aggressive men capable of representing their own class, let them throw up the sponge and submit to a dictator at once, for I can assure you that history has demonstrated that the rule of even a dictator is preferable to the tyranny of a corrupt and venal money power that would sacrifice the Saviour, to-day, just as they did in the chosen nation of God eighteen hundred years ago.

But I must close, with a sincere hope these few, fugitive thoughts will arouse my fellow farmers to action. Here is where the grange should act as the great educational power among the rural element. With best wishes for the success of every effort on behalf of the farmers, I remain, the friend of justice and equal rights.

SAMUEL SINNETT.

Muscataine, Iowa.

All Sorts of Questions.

That's the kind daily put to the Kansas FARMER. Sometimes we are equal to the emergency and sometimes we are not. This batch is from a mason of Troy, N. Y.

1st. What wages are paid for first class masons in Topeka? 2nd. How many months in the year are such mechanics employed? 3d. How much of a field is there for such mechanics for building and speculating?

1st and 2nd. About the same as at Troy. 3d. A \$200,000 U. S. government building is going up here. An extension of the State Capitol is likely to be commenced next summer. 250 buildings, other than public, were erected in the city last season and the prospect at present is that a larger number will be built next summer and fall. The buildings are mostly of wood, scarcely a million bricks having been used in last season's work.

EDITORS FARMER: I contemplate going to Kansas or Nebraska as soon as grass starts, with some 40 thoroughbred cows and heifers. I want to locate in some small town with good schools, good society, and plenty of good grazing. I wish to put up plenty of hay, and there must be plenty of never failing stock water, and where they have no stock or herd law. If any of your readers know of a good location for such a man, and are desirous for such to locate among them, I would like them to answer immediately either through your valuable paper or address me immediately by letter giving me full particulars, name of town and county and the distance from Topeka, and whether north or south of Topeka.

DR. R. D. HALEY.

TRENTON, Grundy Co., Mo., Feb. 25, 1879.

Mr. Haley will have no difficulty in finding such places as he inquires about, almost anywhere in Kansas. Within a few miles of Topeka such locations are numerous. He would run no risk of striking a spot answering to the above requirements if he were to come to the state blindfolded.

A correspondent from Woodbridge, New Jersey, sends us the following list of questions, requesting an answer to the same. In place of attempting to answer direct we prefer to trust the answers to our numerous Kansas readers, and invite them to send answers, brief and to the point, for publication, and at as early a day as possible. Multitudes of readers of the KANSAS FARMER, in the old states, desire answers to these or similar questions:

EDITORS FARMER:—I am thinking about going to Kansas this spring. I thought that I would write and ask you a few questions, which I will be very thankful to you if you will answer, as I wish to find out all I can before I start.

1st. If I leave here the 1st of April, can I get new prairie land in condition for planting corn?

2nd. Can I hire men and teams, and implements, for plowing and planting?

3rd. What do they charge per acre for plowing, and what per acre for planting?

4th. Which is the best part of Kansas for wheat and corn raising?

5th. Are there any Government lands open to settlement, near to towns and Railroads?

6th. Would you advise me to settle on Government land, ten or twenty miles from Railroad, in preference to paying 8 to 10 dollars per acre for Railroad land?

7th. Can I depend on obtaining all the men and teams and implements necessary for working the ground, if I wished to hire all my work done?

Please be so kind as to answer the above and you will greatly oblige,

C. V. DE H.

Spirit of the Agricultural Press.

—How to reduce the taxes, is the absorbing question now agitating the minds of this tax-ridden people. Various ways and means to bring about this desired result have been proposed and discussed. The most feasible, the simplest and most certain way to effect the reduction is proposed by the Hon. Arch. Johnson, representative from Montgomery and Parke counties. Mr. Johnson this week introduced a bill in the Legislature entitled "A bill to prohibit the keeping of saloons or other houses, sheds or booths for people to congregate in for the purpose of drinking spirituous or malt liquors declaring all such places nuisances, and repealing the law authorizing the licensing of the same, and all laws in conflict with this act." This is a long step in the right direction, probably as long a step as our people in their present mindless condition can take. If this bill becomes a law after "we sober off" and fully realize its beneficent results, we can try more heroic treatment and clean the accursed stuff out of our fair state.—*Indiana Farmer.*

—When it was first announced that the farmers of this body would organize a caucus, it was thought by some of the uninitiated, that it would only be a very small joke. This class have already lived long enough to see their mistake. The caucus is a living reality, made up of earnest, honest men, striving to represent those whose servants they are. Questions of practical moment are proposed and discussed, and agreements entered into, which, for weal or woe, are decided when the proper time arrives in the House. The caucus acts as a school, and after the questions proposed are discussed, the members are able to more intelligently and expeditiously dispose of those subjects upon which it is their duty to act as legislators and servants of the people. These caucuses are public and open to all, and some members not farmers, take a prominent part in them, much to their own advantage and that of their constituents.—*Journal of Agriculture and Farm.*

—Dr. A. M. Dickie, of Burks county, Pa., communicates his experience to the *New York Tribune*, with sweet corn as a green food for cows. He says:

"I can, from experience, fully endorse Mr. Jonathan Talcott's estimate of sweet corn for feed. I learned its value for cows incidentally. We always cultivate a small patch in the garden for table use. After the ears were pulled, the stalks were cut off close to the ground and given to the cows. The quantity of milk was increased and its quality improved; there was more butter in it. This gave me a hint. I observed more closely the next year, and was satisfied the sweet corn did it. Since then I have each year raised a small patch on purpose for my cow. A small patch will furnish as much as one cow can manage until the frost kills it, when it is harmed for feed. I communicated the results of my practice to several neighboring farmers, but, while they will readily agree that it is reasonable and doubtless profitable, they have not yet adopted it. I tried several times to cure some of the feed for winter use, but always failed, and finally gave it up. But as a succulent crop to feed in addition to short pasture in August or September, or as a main feed under the soiling system, I think there is no other forage crop equal to sweet corn, especially when the ears are left on the stalks. I repeat Mr. Talcott's exhortation—'Let every farmer try a piece of sweet corn for 1879.'"

Farming is not as remunerative as it should be, or can be made; yet there is this one "stubborn fact" that should console, in a measure. A much larger per cent of those engaged in all other pursuits have failed and come out penniless, than of those who have been engaged in agriculture. There is more reason to complain of the manner of farming, generally speaking, than of the vocation. It is more likely to return good pay for a given amount of labor, skill and intelligence, judiciously applied, than any other.—*Nebraska Farmer.*

Some of our flockmen are sharing the gloomy forebodings of men who are engaged in other branches of farm industry, but a moment's thought, we think will show them that they have no real cause for evil anticipations. In no branch of breeding is there cause to think that the future will be exceedingly dark. The price for wool has been low, and where land has been high, it no doubt has been a source of discouragement, but there is nothing in this world, it must be remembered, for which there is or ever will be a steadier demand than wool. And while we are importing wool and woolen goods, we should keep our eye steadily upon the grand consummation of producing all that our own consumption requires, an *à néver* feel satisfied until we have done it. And connected very intimately with this, is the inculcation in our people of the habit of patronizing home industry and using home productions. Americans have no need of importing woolen goods, except so far as our domestic manufactures fail to produce the amount needed for home consumption. And home capital should be employed in this direction, not as a matter of patriotism,—for capital is not exceedingly patriotic,—but as a matter of profit.—*Western Rural.*

"The queen is the only perfect female in the hive. She is the mother of all the others. No swarm can exist and prosper without the queen. There can never be two queen bees in one hive. She leaves the hive when about five days old to meet the drones for the purpose of becoming fertilized, and never leaves the hive again, except in a swarm. The queen sometimes lives three years. She is capable of laying 100,000 eggs in one season."

Farm Stock.

No-horn Cattle—The Jamestowns.

Mr. A. W. Cheever, of the N. E. Farmer, furnishes the *American Agriculturist* with the following account of his herd of polled cattle:

It is about ten years since I commenced with the "No-horns," and I now have about eighteen. The origin of my herd is from the best no-horned bulls I could obtain (of local breeding) upon my best selected native cows. My first bull, named "Col. Stone," out of regard for the interest that gentleman had taken in polled cattle, was a grade, and sired several good cows. The next, "St. Patrick," was bred by Col. Stone, of Dedham, and was an excellent animal. His dam, "Ruby," lived to be 14 or 15 years old, without ever being dry. "Ruby" was mated several times with pure Jersey bulls of the best stock, yet very seldom bore any but polled calves. After "St. Patrick" I have used no bulls other than his calves, so that my stock is now becoming quite uniform in appearance, though the Jersey blood is sometimes manifest in the color of some animals. These Dedham polled cattle bear the local name of "Jamestowns," and are so highly esteemed in the vicinity, that the Norfolk Agricultural Society has authorized committees to award prizes to them as a distinct breed, although they are hardly yet entitled to the name of pure-breds, as they have frequently been crossed with the Jersey and Ayrshire stock. The origin of the "Jamestowns," as near as I can learn, is as follows: In 1847, Capt. R. B. Forbes went to Ireland, as Commander of the U. S. ship Jamestown with a cargo of provisions for the people who were suffering from the famine due to the failure of the potato crop. On his return, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, wishing to confer a favor upon the commander, made him a present of a "Suffolk" heifer, which proved to be a remarkably deep milker, giving in her flow 26 quarts, beer measure, of the richest milk. Capt. Forbes sold the heifer to John Marland, of Andover, Mass., giving the proceeds to the Irish Charity fund, and she was afterwards owned by John D. Bates, of Swampscott, and by a Mr. Osborne, of Danvers. She had few heifer calves, and one owned by Wallace Thaxter, of Boston, proved a superior dairy cow. Several of her bull calves were raised and left their impress upon the dairy stock in the vicinity of Boston. In 1854 this cow dropped a bull calf which was secured by the late Dr. Eben Wight, of Dedham, and named "Jamestown" after the noble ship that brought his mother to this country. He proved himself as remarkable in his progeny as that of his kind on his mother's side. His sire was "Beverly," a thoroughbred Jersey, out of "Flora," by the "First Prize Bull" at the Royal Agricultural Show in Jersey. "Flora" was imported by Mr. Thomas Motley, and proved a leading representative of that popular dairy stock, having made sixteen pounds of butter per week.

The "Jamestowns" are noted for their gentleness. When the bull "Jamestown" was five years old, a boy of the same age could manage him with safety. The animals are very hardy, are hearty feeders, and hold out in their milk, often through the entire year. My own herd has been bred with more regard for quality than quantity of milk, and for several years past has averaged 200 to 250 lbs. of butter per cow. In extra favorable seasons, the quantity has exceeded the above amount. As dairy cows, I presume the "Jamestowns" may be excelled by the best families of pure Jerseys, but their larger size, their ease of fattening when dry, together with their excellent dispositions, make them the most desirable dairy animals, in my estimation, that I have ever met. I can put my whole herd into a yard so small that they can hardly turn around, and yet feel perfectly free from anxiety or fear of injury to the animals. The bull I am now keeping, though past three years old, has never worn a ring, is tied to the stall with cows, and is as easily and safely handled as a six weeks' calf.

Hog Cholera—Trichina?

Our correspondent, Mrs. Mary S. L. Burt, of Wakefield, says: "The only prevailing disease among stock at present is the so-called hog cholera. Whether the disease be rightly named is a source of conjecture. Farmer A. keeps his hogs in a dirty pen, with insufficient cover from the winter's blast and the summer's sun; a pail of water in twenty-four hours for one hog is a luxury, for sometimes two or more get only that quantity, which is often lost amid the struggles of the poor things to possess themselves of it; they have an abundance of corn, because it is easily obtained and easily given, no weeds, no cooked food of any kind. Farmer B. has cozily-built shelters for sleeping, and clean, roomy yards, where his swine may run, ashes, sulphur, and coal, kept where they can taste at will; plenty of good water, weeds in their season, corn and cooked food; and yet cholera (so called), sweeps off his herd just as remorselessly as it does that of farmer A. Farmer C. hears of it, and his theory is that hogs that run at large will escape; all his hopes are fallacious, and he loses his swine. The remedies—charred corn, copperas, arsenic, preparations of iron, are alike ineffectual. Now I should like to say that I think the disease may be *Trichinina*. I have before me several (10) bound volumes of a medical work, and in looking over its pages I find clippings from other and foreign journals, where the people are warned and even legislation employed against *American pork*, (if desired I can collect and send to you,) but more and stronger than all, I notice an account of the sickness of a family, and the death of several of its members, from eating sandwiches made from raw

ham. The bodies of several of the diseased were opened and pieces of muscle, etc., examined and found to be swarming with trichinae. This hog was one that had been ill of cholera and had recovered, to be in time fattened and killed. A piece of its flesh was fed to a favorite sow, that had eaten her young, with the hope of curing her unnatural appetite; she died, and when examined was found to be trichinous. If one knew where to send a piece of flesh of a hog dead of cholera, it might be decided that that particular animal died of trichina, and if one after another, amounting to a score or so, were trichinous, I should think it would be conclusive. I leave the thought with you; if I can help you to solve the mysterious question, *what is hog cholera?* I shall be glad to do so."—*Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture.*

What say the doctors about this cholera-trichina disease?

Sheep Husbandry.

EDITORS FARMER:—Not least in interest among the communications appearing in the FARMER from week to week are those under the heading "Sheep Husbandry."

I read each article hoping to gather some grains of knowledge from the experience of others, and if I can contribute aught of like benefit, I shall have accomplished my desire. The beauties of sheep farming and the profits arising from it, when read from a prepared communication, often seems too tempting to many, and without due consideration the business is begun. I will here remark, that to some extent, the love for handling certain kinds of stock, in preference to others, is a gift of nature, and everything else being equal, a man should handle or become interested in that class of stock, for which nature has best fitted him. I would apply this remark especially to a man contemplating engaging in the breeding and management of sheep in Kansas or elsewhere. If you do not have a natural liking for sheep, don't attempt to handle them. Of all stock, sheep require close and constant attention, none repaying judicious outlay and management better, none suffering more from exposure and neglect.

TO SUCCEED IN GROWING SHEEP AND WOOL.

1st. There should exist a natural fancy for the business.

2nd. All the details of the business should be thoroughly known.

3rd. This knowledge should, at the proper time, be put into effect.

The above will apply to the business anywhere and will stamp success, in locations far less favorable than Kansas, to keep sheep profitably where herding must be resorted to. Not less than 1000, nor more than 2000 should be placed in a band, and these should be selected, getting all, if possible, of the same age. The constitution is the first great point to be observed in breeding, no matter whether for wool or mutton. Don't throw aside this foundation stone. Select especially in your rams, a short head, wide between the eyes, short thick neck, broad chest, round barrel and short legs, and you have an animal with naturally a good constitution. After the form, comes the length, density and quality of the staple of wool, and lastly the general style of the sheep.

Some correspondents entertain doubts as to the success of the first wintering of sheep, after bringing to Kansas, from the east. Will those who made sheep a speciality in any eastern states, and have shipped sheep here, and cared for them personally, report their per cent of loss the first winter.

Great Bend, Kas.

Will Mr. C. K. Allison, who brought 1000 sheep from Ohio into Kansas eighteen months ago, please answer according to his experience.—[Ed.]

Effects of Smut and Dry Fodder on Cattle.

The monthly reports of the last quarter, ending December 31st, 1878, of the state of Kansas, prepared by Alfred Gray, secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, contains the result of an analysis of corn smut, (by Prof. W. R. Kedzie, chemist to the State Board of Agriculture). It will be seen that the professor reaches the same conclusion which has been contended for by the KANSAS FARMER, that the death of cattle in stock fields, from dry murrain, is caused not by any poison contained in smut, but by impaction in the third stomach of the dry, indigestible material into any animal to live on.

After giving a tabular statement of the constituents of smut, Prof. Kedzie says:

"The results above given are the means of closely corresponding duplicate analyses. It is interesting to note that the material contains no trace whatever of true starch. If we proceed upon the supposition that the smut when taken into the stomach operates upon the system of the animal as a poison, we may reasonably surmise that this poisonous effect arises from one of three causes. Either, 1st, from some poisonous element present in the spore itself, or, 2d, from some deleterious material generated in the diseased grain, which the fungus has produced; or, 3d, from its injurious action as a mechanical irritant. As to the first supposition, the analysis shows the presence of no such poisonous matter—nor, indeed, from the nature of the material, would it be expected that the presence of such an element would be revealed. As to the second surmise, that the source of the difficulty may lie in the diseased grain, produced by the action of the fungus, we have an apparent analogy in the case of ergot, a powerful narcotic poison, produced by the decomposing action of another fungus upon rye, producing what is popularly termed 'spurred rye.' This anal-

ogy is, however, only apparent, and affords us no solution of the problem. For not only can we not obtain from the corn smut any extract at all corresponding to ergot, the active principle of ergot, easily obtained as an alcoholic extract, but we fail to observe in the action of the smut upon the system any of the preliminary symptoms attending the presence of a powerful poison, or even the acute effects frequently observed in the feeding of musty or damaged grain. If, therefore, any active property whatever is to be ascribed to smut in its action upon the animal system, it is plainly to be referred to its mechanical influences only. The only experimental investigation of this subject, of any account, was that made by Dr. John Gamgee, and embraced by him in a report "On the ill effects of smut in the feed of farm animals," issued by the commissioner of agriculture, General Capron, in 1871, in a special report. It is interesting to note that notwithstanding the title of this paper, Dr. Gamgee devotes it almost wholly to the consideration of the malady dry murrain, or impaction of the third stomach, whether produced, as he supposes it may be, by smut, or any other indigestible form of animal food: 'From Dakota county (Nebraska) we learn of dry murrain from this cause (smut); whereas from Shawnee county it is reported, and no doubt correctly, that the same disease has been noticed among cattle fed on prairie hay cut after frost.' Dr. Gamgee gives the following account of his experimental work:

'Anxious to try some experiments on the action of pure smut on cattle, I had collected in January, 1869, a large quantity of the smut. It was rather late, and the rains had washed most of it off the still standing stalks; but I obtained forty-two pounds of excellent smut, free from adventitious matters. On the 26th of February, Mr. George Reid, of Ingleside Farm, near Washington, D. C., purchased two cows in good health, and aged respectively about seven years. One cow was fed thrice daily one and one-half pounds of corn meal and three ounces of smut, mixed with as much cut hay as she would eat. The second had the same allowance, but wet. On the 7th of March the amount of smut given in each feed was increased to six ounces. The cow fed on dry feed lost flesh. On the 15th of March the dose of smut was increased to twelve ounces three times a day. The cow on the wet food gained in condition. The other one lost. In three weeks the two cows consumed the forty-two pounds of smut; they had a voracious appetite the whole time, and the only indication of a peculiar diet was a very black color of the excrement and the loss of flesh by one animal, though liberally fed on nutritious diet, which, however, was given in a dry state. On the 12th of March the temperature of both cows was tested and found 102.2° and 102.4° Fahrenheit. No conclusions of importance can be drawn from a single experiment; but it is evident that smut is not a very active poison in combination with wholesome food, and especially if the animal is allowed moist food and plenty of water to drink. Cattle will eat the smut greedily, and, possibly, a morbid taste for it is acquired. It is evident that corn-stalks, when starch and other matter have gone to build up the large quantities of smut investing them, are essentially dry, indigestible material for any animal to live upon, and especially when excluded from other food. That is quite sufficient to account for the development of the dry murrain that so commonly attacks cattle in the United States, and was more frequent than usual last winter.' The italics of the above quotation are my own, and they seem to me to emphatically indicate the substance of the whole matter. Dr. Gamgee's experiment is incomplete in both directions; and can hardly be said to have established anything except perhaps what, from the nature of the material, might have been expected, namely, that smut taken into the animal system remains wholly indigestible, and passes through unchanged. The slight difference manifested in the condition of the two animals experimented on as above, proves, certainly, the desirability of administering all animal food in a moist condition, but hardly anything further. The doctor's conclusion of the subject, however, is very satisfactory: 'It is evident that all such accidents as these I have described may be completely prevented by not allowing cattle to eat indigestible corn-stalks, whether their indigestibility arises from age, dryness, or smut. Mixed with an abundance of soft food, such material may do no harm, and, indeed, has constantly been used with impunity; but losses are very severe if cattle are compelled either to starve or to eat what may be well compared to broomsticks.' In fact, no one who has carefully noted the circumstances under which those losses to stock-growers almost invariably occur, the symptoms of the animals attacked, the post-mortem appearances, particularly the impaction of the third stomach—the food being caked between its folds, and frequently dry and crisp—can fail to be convinced that the fundamental difficulty is an overgorging of absolutely indigestible matter. In the ripening of the corn plant, as in all other cereals, the starch and nutritious matters of the stem and leaf become rapidly converted into cellulose and woody fiber matters, wholly indigestible and valueless as food. To be used as fodder to advantage the stalk must be cut and cured before ripening; the conversion of the starch and the hardening of the cellulose is thus interrupted, and, when used for feed, even when containing an abundance of smut, no accident is known to occur. But with the crop standing in the field until dead ripe, it becomes nothing but a mass of woody fiber, and with a herd of cattle, turned into such a field from off a dry and barren range in the late autumn, there can be but one result—overgorging of matter which cannot be digested, impaction, and loss of many

valuable animals. As already intimated, it is not only possible, but probable, that when the smut is also eaten in large quantity with this indigestible fodder, it aggravates and increases the difficulty by its action as a mechanical irritant. It is a very fine, indigestible material, insoluble, almost incapable of absorbing water or being affected by the gastric juices of the stomach, and would thus add seriously to the blockade of dead matter within the suffering animal. To this extent, therefore, its consumption by the animal with other feed is to be deprecated; but it must be classed simply as a subordinate, never as the primal cause of the disaster; acting, not as a poison, but as inert, indigestible foreign matter, which, under ordinary conditions, would be thrown off without harm, but which, with a large mass of absolutely unalterable woody fiber, in the form of dead-ripe corn stalks, contributes to an already very serious difficulty. The remedy for these unfortunate losses is, of course, one of prevention only—of caution in turning stock into such fields. So far as the smut aggravates trouble, it also should be avoided. In first-class farming, smutty corn is no more a necessity than smutty wheat—produced by a closely-related fungus—and may be prevented in the one case quite as readily and by the same means as have been employed so successfully in doing away with it in the other.

Very respectfully yours,
WM. K. KEDZIE.

Chemical Laboratory, Oberlin College.

Miscellaneous.

An Experiment With Pearl Millet.

A correspondent of the KANSAS FARMER recently inquired about "African Can" or "Egyptian Millet." Since then we have received from Peter Henderson the following article which he published in the *American Agriculturist*, giving his experiments with this new variety of foliage plant:

Pearl millet has been cultivated for some years in some of the southern states, as "African Can," "Egyptian Millet," "Japan Millet," and in some places as "Horse Millet," but little was known of it at the north before last year, and then only in such small quantities as to hardly allow of a fair trial. From what we saw of it in 1877, we determined to give it a thorough trial last season. A piece of good strong loamy ground was prepared as if for a beet or turnip crop, by manuring with stable manure, at the rate of 10 tons to the acre, plowing 10 inches deep, and thoroughly harrowing. The millet was then sown in drills 18 inches apart, at the rate of 8 quarts to the acre. We sowed on the 15th of May, about the date we plant corn; in 12 days the plants were up so that a cultivator could be run between the rows, after which no further culture was necessary, for the growth became so rapid and luxuriant as to crowd down every weed that attempted to get a foothold. The first cutting was made July 1st—45 days after sowing; it was then 7 feet high, covering the whole ground, and the crop, cut 3 inches above the ground, weighed, green, at the rate of 30 tons per acre; this, when dried, gave 6½ tons per acre as hay. After cutting, a second growth started, and was cut August 15th—45 days from time of first cutting. Its height was 9 feet; it weighed this time at the rate of 55 tons to the acre green, and 8 tons dried. The third crop crop started as rapidly as the second, but the cool September nights lessened its tropical luxuriance, so that this crop, which was cut on October 1st, only weighed 10 tons green, and 1½ tons dried. The growth was simply enormous, thus: 1st crop in 45 days, gave 30 tons green or 6½ tons dry; 2d crop in 45 days gave 55 tons green, or 8 tons dry; 3d crop in 45 days, gave 10 tons green, or 1½ tons dry. The aggregate weight being 95 tons of green fodder in 135 days from date of sowing, and 16 tons when dried to hay. This exceeds the clover meadows of Mid-Lothian, which, when irrigated by the sewerage from the city of Edinburgh, and cut every four weeks, gave an aggregate of 75 tons of green clover per acre. There is little doubt that Pearl Millet is equally as nutritious as corn-fodder, which it resembles even more than it does any of the other millets. We found that all our horses and cattle ate it greedily whether green or dry.

If sowing in drills is not practicable, it may be sown broadcast, using double the quantity of seed—say 16 quarts per acre. The ground should be smoothed by the harrow, and again lightly harrowed after sowing; if rolled after harrowing, all the better. I know of no farm crop that will better repay high manuring, but so great is its luxuriance, that it will produce a better crop without manure than any plant I know of. In those parts of the southern states where hay cannot be raised, this is a substitute of the easiest culture, and being of tropical origin, it will luxuriate in their long hot summers. Even though our northern seasons may be too short to mature the seeds, our experiments in New Jersey last Summer showed what may be expected if the similar conditions are secured. Pearl millet as a fodder plant presents a new feature in our agriculture, and I feel sure that within ten years we shall wonder how we ever got on without it. (Besides our own testimony given above, we have received the most satisfactory letters from experienced men in different parts of the country to whom we sent seed of Pearl Millet for trial, and all are unanimous as to its enormous productiveness and great value. From all we have seen and can learn, we are fully convinced that Pearl Millet is to be one of the great fodder plants of the future.)

German Millet.

There is considerable inquiry for this seed. Persons having it for sale would find it to their advantage to advertise in the FARMER.

MARCH 5 1879.

Literary Items.—No. X.

WOMAN.

What is woman's sphere? My honest German friend, would most likely reply to this question; to attend to the kitchen department, keep the children clean, tend the cabbage patch and make sour-kraut. My conservative neighbors, would say, to attend to the domestic affairs of the household, go to church with the children, never talk politics, or study metaphysics or school teaching.

A proper respect for the early prejudices of education, is perhaps due to our training; a wonderful change has been brought about within the last half century, a more enlightened and enlarged view is now taking on the question, "What is woman's sphere?" For one we believe that woman has a high, elevated duty assigned her: it is to inspire, strengthen, and invigorate that dormant but sensitive faculty of man's nature, the reasoning and reflective powers; so that we may fill in after life, the sphere of animated beings, which seems allotted to us, and which gives us a pre-eminence above every creeping thing of the field.

"JUST AS THE TWIG IS BENT, THE TREE INCLINES."

This is the special task assigned to woman, and what employment can be more honorable, or more important; hence arises the necessity of cultivating and enlarging the intellectual faculties of the female sex.

STRIKING CASES IN ANCIENT HISTORY.

There are many interesting incidents in ancient history, which should inspire us with a living faith, that woman's sphere is not exclusively confined to drudgery of the kitchen or the making of sour-kraut.

An Ambassador of Persia, once asked the wife of Leonidas, why they honored women so much in Lacedaemon. Her reply was: "It is because they alone know how to make men."

It was not customary when Rome was in her greatest glory, for even the wealthy and affluent classes to part with their children, and leave them to the care of others, as is too frequently the case in some of our large commercial cities of Europe and America. They devoted their time and service to the instruction of their own children. Space will not permit us to travel over the pages of history. We give only a few examples.

Cornelia, the mother of the Gracchi; Aurelia, the mother of Julius Caesar, and Attica, the mother of Augustus, we are informed presided over the education of their own children.

Aspasia, the learned lady, was the preceptor of Socrates in Rhetoric, and Plato says that Socrates learned politics from her. Socrates was one of the most learned men of antiquity. Plutarch, in his life of Pompey the Great, speaking of Cornelia, the wife of Pompey, says: "There were in this lady many charms besides her beauty. For she was finely accomplished in literature, in music, and in geometry, and she used to attend to philosophical discourses with great advantage. She had manners, also, perfectly pure of all austerity and impertinence."

A Greek lady showed her jewels to Phocion's mother, and asked to see hers. She showed her children, and said: "These are my dress and ornaments; I hope one day they will be all my glory." Who can doubt that Phocion received that kind of instruction from his mother, which rendered him, through life, the admiration of mankind. One of the most wonderful pages of history is the cruel fate of Hypatia, the learned daughter of Theon the mathematician. She distinguished herself by the expositions of the doctrines of Plato and Aristotle, and the writings of other geometers. Each day she lectured in the Academy at Alexandria, long trains of chariots crowded with the wealth and fashion of the city, coming to hear her. St. Cyril's mob, a mob of many monks fell upon her, as she entered the Academy, stripped her naked in the streets, dragged her into a church, and there she was killed by a club of Peter, the Reader. The corpse was cut to pieces, the flesh scraped from the bones with shells, and the remnants cast into the fire. So ended Greek philosophy in Alexandria.—(See, for a fuller report of this event, Prof. Draper's Intellectual Development of Europe).

It was Volumnia, the mother of Marcus Coriolanus, and Valeria, sister of the great Publicola, who delivered the city of Rome from the invading armies of the Volscians. The inexorable temper of Coriolanus was subdued by the voice of woman. "Oh, mother," says Coriolanus, what is it you have done! You have gained a victory for your country, but ruinous to me, I go, vanquished by you alone." See the life of Coriolanus, by Plutarch, and the reader will find this extraordinary instance of filial feeling over anger, resentment and revenge.

Here is another striking instance, from Edward Gibbon's Decline and Fall. He says: "The only voice that could soothe the savage (Alphonso, III), was that of an amiable and virtuous wife, the sole object of his love; the voice of Donna Isabella, the daughter of the Duke of Sarry, and grand daughter of Phillip II, King of Spain. Her dying words sank deep into his memory; his fierce spirit melted into tears, and after the last embrace, Alphonso retired into his chamber to bewail his irreparable loss, and to meditate on the vanity of human life."

There was the beautiful and accomplished Josephine, the wife of Napoleon Bonaparte, she was the only living soul that ever drew tears from the iron heart of Napoleon. Kings, Popes, and potentates were to him as things of straw, but a woman's voice could melt his obdurate heart, and make him feel that he was but a man.

Gardner, the celebrated American traveler, said that in all his travels, women had always helped him in distress, when the stern, cold

hand of man, had refused him assistance; and Bruce, in his "Travels in Africa," made a similar record.

The late Elizabeth Fry, was a noble and talented woman, she was a member of the Quaker Society. She visited, not the rich and affluent, which her station in society would have permitted her; but the unfortunate victims confined in the prisons of England, administering consolation, etc. The voice of women in America has been heard in a thousand hospitals, and on the battle field; giving aid and assistance to those who had been wounded in the sanguinary conflict of arms.

JAS. HANWAY.

Lane, Kansas.

Horticulture and Agriculture Compared.

I desire to state in the outset that I do not design, in the remotest degree, to say a word against, or detract in the least, from the great interest of agriculture, with which a large body of our people are so closely identified; but to show that the horticultural interests of Kansas are of such vast magnitude, that of right they should be treated with much higher consideration than has heretofore been conceded by the legislative department of our state. We, as horticulturalists, define horticulture to mean the proper cultivation of all kinds of fruits, flowers, gardening, and include in this definition both ornamental and forest trees, more especially, in so far as they relate to wind-breaks for orchards, etc. Concluding this definition to be sufficiently comprehensive, I proceed to state that the estimated value of all kinds of fruit for the year 1877, as per the agricultural reports of that year, was \$2,987,392.09, which was raised upon 112,710 58-100 acres of land, which is a yield of about \$26.50 per acre, a general average which is none too high; and that the value of this land, stock of trees, preparing and planting ornamental and forest trees, was \$7,496,482.90, yielding a revenue for 1877, of nearly forty per cent. The number of acres of land devoted to agriculture, including pasture and meadow, for the same year, was 5,595,304.99 acres, which yielded products of the value of \$45,597,051.21, making a yield per acre of about \$8.15.

According to the report above referred to, for the year 1878, neither the number of acres devoted to horticultural purposes, nor cost of stock, etc., are given, doubtless for the reason that the agricultural department was not furnished with sufficient clerical force for this purpose. A grand aggregate is given, however, of the fruits raised in our state as \$4,866,587, an increase over 1877 of \$1,879,195 in a single year. This is very remarkable, when we take into consideration the short crop of apples of 1878. I am unable to give the yield per acre, or per cent. of profit of 1878, for reasons above stated. Both, however, must have been largely increased.

The number of acres devoted to agricultural purposes for 1878, was 6,538,727 acres, on which were raised products of the value of \$49,914,434, which is a yield of \$7.60 per acre. It is not surprising, so large a portion of the people of our state being engaged in agricultural pursuits, that an agricultural department should have been created by legislative enactment, and placed under the control of proper officers, yet it cannot be denied that a very respectable per cent. of those who make agriculture their chief pursuit, are deeply interested in the efficient development of the horticultural resources of our state. They are almost in their infancy and must increase geometrically as the years go by. With an average fruit crop for 1879 our horticultural products will not fall far short of \$8,000,000, and may exceed that estimate. The addition of so many millions of wealth, resulting from the united labor of the horticulturist of Kansas, becomes a matter of deep interest to the residents of our state, and deserves the fostering care of those whose duty it is to labor for the advancement of our material interests. A State Horticultural Society has been in existence some 12 years, which has been kept alive by its own members, some of whom have impoverished themselves in their laudable endeavors to keep the society alive.

Among this number is the venerable Dr. Hausley, of Leavenworth. A man to whom the whole people of Kansas are in a great measure indebted for the success which has attended their horticultural efforts. The records of this society have been, and are now, kept in a private residence, because it had not the means to procure the necessary office. The records of this society are now becoming too valuable to the public to be exposed in this manner, and should be placed in a position of comparative safety. The society has been compelled to ask an appropriation from the state, in order to publish its proceedings in proper form for gratuitous distribution. These appropriations have been freely granted except for this year.

An interest which brings annually millions of money to the people of our state, should not be quietly ignored, but on the other hand, is of sufficient magnitude to receive the consideration of a committee appointed by our legislature devoted especially to horticulture. It can hardly be possible, that those only who are personally engaged in the pursuit of horticulture, can see the vast wealth which will be added to our state, in the very near future, by a judicious encouragement of this great interest.

QUANDUM.

When the lights are low and a fellow occupies the same big rocking chair with his girl, how he does wish he was at the north pole, where it would be six months till morning.

A country lad says his Uncle Ben made a scarecrow so frightful that one of the black feathered thieves went and brought back all the corn he had stolen during the six previous days.

Patrons of Husbandry.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master, Samuel E. Adams, of Minnesota; Secretary, O. H. Kelley, Louisville, Kentucky; Treasurer, F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.

KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master, Wm. Sims, Topeka; Secretary, P. B. Maxson, Emporia; Treasurer, W. P. Popenoe, Topeka.

COLORADO STATE GRANGE.—Master, Levi Booth, Denver; Lecturer, J. W. Hammett, Platteville.

MISSOURI STATE GRANGE.—Master, H. Eshbaugh, Hanover, Jefferson county; Secretary, A. M. Coffey, Knob Noster.

TO OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

For the use of Subordinate Granges we have a set of receipt and order books which will prevent accounts getting mixed up or confused. They are: 1st, Receipts for Dues, 2nd, Secretary's Receipts, and 3d, Orders on Treasurer. The set will be sent to any address, postage paid for \$1.00.

We solicit from Patrons, communications regarding the Order. Notices of New Elections, Feasts, Installations and a description of all subjects of general or special interest to Patrons.

Notice to Deputies.

EDITORS FARMER:—Permit me, through the columns of your paper, to say to county deputies and others, interested in the re-organization of dormant Granges, that members of our Order, holding demits, may unite with the members of any dormant Grange in making up the number (thirteen or more) necessary to enable such Grange to re-organize.

In localities where two or more Granges have become dormant, and neither Grange can command the number of members necessary to enable it to re-organize, the county deputy may demit the members of one or more of such Granges and then take the members, so demitted, into another Grange and thereby secure its re-organization.

Members holding demits may be admitted to membership in Subordinate Granges, without regard to place of residence or jurisdiction of Grange.

WM. SIMS.

Topeka, Kansas, Feb. 25, 1879.

Good Advice to Patrons.

We clip the following piece of good advice from one of our exchanges:

"If every Patron read their own paper instead of patronizing papers edited and printed by and in behalf of our revilers and persecutors, they would begin to respect themselves; and until they do have a little respect for themselves, no one else will have any respect for them."

We must have engines or the wheels of progress will not move; and we must furnish wood and water to run the machine on our own hook or most assuredly it will be run to our disadvantage. If we can once get a start we shall be all right; but the question is will the farmer ever be aroused to take a proper interest in his own affairs as others do in theirs. Let us hope on, and for ever. Let us look ahead for the 'good time, coming.'

The Grange as a School for Farmers.

There are many of the yeomanry of our country who seem to think, judging from their actions, that they were merely intended to be slaves,—that to earn a living, it is only necessary to toil incessantly from morning until night, day after day, and year after year, without any intermission or time to improve their minds. Speak to them about the current topics of the day, the reply will be, "We do not get much time to read; have too much work to do. The only time we can find to read is on the Sabbath; then we are too tired," &c. Thus life is spent in one round of incessant toil, regardless of their health or education, as well as that of their families, with the chief object in view,—that of gaining wealth and adding acres to their possessions.

God never intended that man should lead such a slavish life. He has endowed him with faculties capable of improvement, a mind which if rightly directed and influenced, will shine brighter and brighter until the end of life.

It has been very well observed, that every tool, machine, and device of man, deteriorates by use; all work of the engine, more or less wears it. Every cut made with a knife dulls it. Not so is it with any exercise of the mind; here use refines and invigorates.

It has become an old proverb, that practice makes perfect; habit renders all things easy. The Grange is intended as a school of practice, as well as a social institution. There are opportunities given for speaking, reading essays, discussing various subjects of interest to members of the Order (and when we say members of the Order, it includes about 30,000 of the yeomanry of the Dominion) to elevate and enhance the comforts of this class, is the chief object of the Grange. And who can say it is not a laudable enterprise? None but those whose minds are prejudiced for want of a true knowledge of the precepts of the Order.

Human happiness is increased by knowledge; and knowledge is power, hence the duty of farmers educating themselves in the theory as well as practice of that occupation, which stands as the foundation of the country's success. Educated, active farmers generally find profit in their business; it is the ignorant, slothful farmer who is ever finding fault, grumbling at his lot, and repeating the old story, that farming don't pay. There is no business in the world that offers a brighter prospect of success, and more certain, than farming, if intelligently managed. On the other hand, there is no business in which men more generally fail than this, when conducted without knowledge, either theoretical or practical.

Information is gained by experience; not alone one's own experience, but by the experience of others. Intellect is sharpened, mind is brightened by contact with mind. In this way the Grange offers a means of education never be-

fore enjoyed by farmers, by affording them an opportunity to meet frequently together for intellectual improvement as well as social culture. To every member, then, we would say, be in earnest, be active, and accept it as a fact that some of the responsibility rests upon you of making the Grange a school for the improvement of the mind, by giving short addresses, recitations, reading, &c. By this means you will advance your own personal acquirements, as well as those with whom you come in contact.—Canadian Farmer.

Advertisements.

Our readers, in replying to advertisements in the Farmer, will do us a favor if they will state in their letters to advertisers that they saw the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

Poultry and Eggs.

For Sale a few Trills each of Dark and Light Brahmas, Buff Cochins, Brown and White Leghorns, also Aylbury & Pekin Ducks, in pairs. Eggs from the above varieties and Plymouth Rocks, until July. Everything warranted Pure Bred and of the best strains. Prices to suit the times. Address J. DONOVAN, Fairmont, Kansas.

MARKET GARDENERS.

Buy Fresh Seeds from the Grower, Be the first in the Market And you will COIN MONEY. Garden Manual and Price List for 1879 sent free. Address J. B. ROOT, Rockford, Ill.

Auctioneer.

I take this method of informing the Public at large that I am located at Topeka, and ready at all times to attend

PUBLIC SALES, in any part of the State, in the capacity of Auctioneer. I make

Stock Sales a Speciality

and am prepared to give all Sales entrusted to me, the widest and most conspicuous advertising, both through Papers of extensive circulation and by Circulars and Posters. I have had large experience and knowing my business I unhesitatingly guarantee all who employ me full satisfaction. My terms are reasonable. Call on me at the FARMER office or address me at Topeka.

H. G. EVANS.

DAIRY SUPPLIES

OF ALL KINDS. Steam Vats, Bolders, Engrines, Churns, etc. Send for Catalogue.

F. S. Bosworth, Elgin, Ill.

Shannon Hill Stock Farm

Thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle and Berkshire Pigs, bred and for sale. Only first-class animals allowed to leave the farm. Address G. W. GLICK, Atchison, Kansas.

WATER! WATER! FARMERS ATTENTION

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A grand lot 6 to 7 months old, of highly prized Saline, St. Bridge, and Lady Leonidas families, and the get of such noted boars as British Sovereign, H. 538, Cardiff's Surprise 1865, and others. These pigs we offer at very low prices. Also a few

ESSEX PIGS

of the choicest blood. We also offer for sale a middle aged polled GALLOWAY bull, and two JERSEY bulls at surprisingly low prices. Address E. M. SHELTON, Superintendent Farm, Manhattan, Kansas.

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Topeka, Kansas.**

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The professional politicians have heretofore

By A. J. King, editor of the Bee-Keeper's *Magazine*, New York, is one of the most valuable volumes of recent contribution to agricul-

"Cupid's first Arrow" is hardly up to the standard of excellence desired for publication.
"The Prophetic Vision" declined.

I feel that I am getting 'a great deal of val

Let the legislators be vindicated, and the farmers groan under excessive transportation.

Saline County. OCCASIONAL.

Literary and Domestic.

Corn Bread.

Two cups of Indian, one cup wheat,
One cup sour milk, one cup sweet,
One good egg that well you beat,
Half a cup molasses, too,
Half cup sugar add thereto,
With one spoon of butter, new,
Salt and soda each a spoon;
Mix up quickly and bake it soon;
Then you'll have corn bread complete,
Best of all corn bread you meet.
It will make your boy's eyes shine,
If he's like that boy of mine.
If you have a dozen boys
To increase your household joys,
Double then this rule I should,
And you'll have two corn cakes good.
When you've nothing nice for tea,
This the very thing will be;
All the men that I have seen
Say it is of all cakes queen—
Good enough for any king
That a husband home can bring;
Warming up the human stove,
Cheering up the hearts you love;
And only Tyndall can explain
The links between corn bread and brain.
Get a husband what he likes,
And save a hundred household strikes.

—Lakeside Cook Book No. 2.

Cinderella.

"Really it's quite a riddle, when one comes to think of it," said Mrs. Dale, putting the tips of her ringed fingers meditatively together. "Jeannette is a charming girl, with a most taking way with her. I'm sure there can be no doubt about her marrying satisfactorily. And Marian's music is an excellent card to play. But when one comes to Philippa—"

"An odd little gipsy, isn't she?" said Mr. Dale. "Decidedly impracticable, I should think."

"Neither pretty, accomplished, nor womanly!" sighed Mrs. Dale, gloomily.

Mrs. Darrel Dale had no children of her own, and she knew the social position which any middle-aged matron gains when she is surrounded by pretty girls. So Mrs. Darrel Dale had invited her brother's daughters from Hemlock Hollow, in the Catskill Mountains, to spend he summer at Niagara Falls with her.

"I dare say," said she, confidentially, to her sister-in-law, the farmer's wife, "they'll all marry well before the season is over; and, in any event, the experience will be worth a deal to them."

And honest Mrs. Humphries took all her ten years' savings out of the Hemlock Hollow Bank, to equip the three girls suitably for their summer campaign.

Jeannette took to waltzing and the German as naturally as if she had been born to them; Marian slipped as gracefully into a musical and literary groove; but poor little Philippa seemed to fit nowhere. She was shy and silent in the ball-room, struck unaccountably mute when she ought to be talkative, and seemed to prefer the woods, beside the great cataract, when all the world flocked to the ball-room of the Clifton House or the International.

"Because, Aunt Theo," said honest Philippa, "I never know what to say to the gentlemen when they ask me to dance."

"But, my dear child," said Mrs. Dale, "that's not the way to get into society."

"I—I don't think I care so very much about society, Aunt Theo," said heretical Philippa.

"Then you'll never get married in the world," said Aunt Theo, in an accent of despair.

But even Philippa was roused into interest when the cards came out for the grand, fancy masquerade ball at the International Hotel and Mr. Dale gave each of his nieces a hundred-dollar bill, to enable them to appear suitably for the occasion.

"I shall personate 'Undine,'" said Jeannette, thinking how well she would look in sea-green crape, crystal fringes and water-lilies.

"And I shall be 'Sappho,'" cried out Marian.

"Capital!" said Mrs. Dale. "And you, Philippa?"

"I don't know yet," said Philippa, contracting her black eyebrows. "Mr. Mortimer says I ought to go as a gipsy."

"Then, my dear," said Mrs. Dale, "be a gipsy, by all means. If Mortimer is good enough to express an opinion, it shouldn't be neglected."

And both Marian and Jeannette looked a little jealous, for the Hon. Hugo Mortimer, from Montreal, was the lion at Niagara Falls just then, and his gracious notice was enough to ensure the lucky recipient a front place in the ranks of fashion.

"When did he say that, Puss?" demanded Jeannette, jerking out the ribbons of her sash. "Oh, yesterday, when we were over on Goat Island."

"Did he walk with you?"

"A little way."

"I hope you made yourself agreeable?" suggested Marian, tartly.

"I don't know whether I did or not," said Philippa. "And now, Aunt Theo, if you'll give me that bundle of work, I'll take it to Elise Dupre. There will be just time before tea for us to walk there and back."

"But the band will play presently, and—"

"Thank you, aunt," said Philippa; "but I don't care for the band."

"Philippa," said Mrs. Dale, "I do think you are the strangest girl!"

Elise Dupre was a slim, consumptive-looking

girl, who lived among the spruces and tamaracks on the Canadian side, and took in what sewing, embroidery and lace-mending she was lucky enough to get—a girl in whom Philippa Humphries had somewhat become interested, because she was so friendless, and shadowy, and forlorn.

But instead of being singing at her work, Philippa found poor Elise sobbing at the window, while her grandmother, a hook-nosed, saffron-skinned old crone sat rocking herself back and forth by the fireless hearth.

The girl put her brown, warm hand on Elise's shoulder.

"Elise," said she, "stop crying. Tell me what is the matter?"

"Don't touch me, mademoiselle," wailed poor Elise. "They are coming to take me to prison, to-night."

And then, in answer to Philippa's startled eyes of enquiry, she told her how Mrs. St. George had sent a white moire dress there to be re-trimmed with costly Spanish blonde—Mrs. St. George, of the Clifton House, whose pearls, and diamonds, and splendid toilets, were the marvel of the place—and how, by some accident, the old grandmother had contrived to upset a kerosene lamp upon it.

"It is ruined, of course," said Elise, clasping her hands; "and I cannot pay for it—so I am to be arrested for the money it is worth."

"She must be an old hag!" said Philippa, impulsively.

"She is a cold, hard woman, mademoiselle," sighed Elise, "who knows not the meaning of the word 'mercy.' And if they put me in prison, my old grandmother will starve."

"They shall not put you in prison!" said Philippa. "How much was the dress worth?"

"A deal of money, mademoiselle. A hundred dollars!" wailed Elise.

Philippa Humphries put her hand into her pocket, where the hundred-dollar bill that Uncle Dale had given her lay inside the folds of a tiny blue velvet portemonnaie.

"There's the money," said she. "Give it to the odious old harpy, and don't cry any more, for your eyes are swelled to twice their size already."

Elise looked incredulously at the little brown slip of paper.

"But, mademoiselle, you are surely not in earnest!" said she. "You cannot be!"

"Yes, I am," said Philippa, shaking back the jetty rings of hair from her solemn, black eyes. "Take that money, pay Mrs. St. George, and don't talk any more about it."

"Well, Philippa," said Mrs. Dale, when her niece came back again, "have you decided upon your character yet?"

"Yes," said Philippa, quietly. "I will be Cinderella!"

"Who?" said Mrs. Dale, with her hand behind her ear.

"Don't you remember, Aunt Theo? The little brown-skinned girl who stayed at home when her sisters went to the prince's ball."

"What a very odd choice!" said Mrs. Dale.

"Is it?" said Philippa. "Well I always did like to be different from other people, Aunt Theo."

The masquerade ball was a brilliant success. "Undine," in silver-green crape and white water-lilies, was as lovely as a dream. "Sappho" was tall, and pale, and delightfully classic; but there was one drop lacking in the cup of feminine happiness. Mr. Mortimer, for whose benefit half the belles of Niagara Falls had dressed that evening, was not there.

"So provoking of Philippa," said Aunt Theo, "to go and throw away that money!"

"My dear," said Mr. Dale, "a good deed is never thrown away. And really that Cinderella idea of the little girl's wasn't so bad. Ha, ha, ha! she did stay at home when her sisters went to the ball."

"She will never learn wisdom," said Mrs. Dale, with some asperity. "It's so strange she don't care about such things."

But, as it happened, Philippa did care about such things. And on that identical moment she was standing on one of the starlighted verandahs without, with a pink Shetland shawl around her shoulders, peeping surreptitiously through the windows at the waltzers.

"Miss Philippa!"

She started guiltily.

"Oh, Mr. Mortimer! I am not doing wrong, am I?"

He smiled as he drew her arm through his.

"But why are you not dancing inside?"

"I—I preferred not to-night."

"Little Philippa," said Mr. Mortimer, standing still under the shadow of a drooping elm, "you are equivocating now; and, as it happens, I know the truth!"

"I don't understand you," said Philippa.

"My valet is in love with Elise Dupre. She has told him all about your deed of kindly charity and he has told me!"

"Yes," said Philippa, in a low tone, "my uncle gave me money for a dress; but I preferred helping Elise to going to the ball."

"You told your aunt you were going as Cinderella?"

"How do you know? But that isn't strictly true," laughed Philippa. "I was to be Cinderella. And so I am!"

"Then, Philippa, if you are Cinderella, will you let me be the prince?"

"Mr. Mortimer!"

"Sweetest, I have been looking all my life for just such a pure, noble-hearted girl," said Mortimer, "and now that I have found her, I shall not willingly let her go."

"Do you mean—"

"I mean, love, that I want you for my wife."

Mr. Dale could hardly credit his own ears, the next day, when Hugo Mortimer formally

requested of him the hand of his youngest niece in marriage, and Mrs. Dale lifted her hands and eyes to the ceiling.

"To think that it should be Philippa, after all!" said she.

As for "Undine" and "Sappho," they swallowed their mortification and congratulated the little brown gipsy as cordially as possible.

"After all," said shrewd Uncle Dale, "Philippa invested her hundred dollars the best of any of you!"

Mrs. HUDSON:—I am sorry that your place in the "corner" must be left vacant. It will be lonesome without you. I presume it will be a good deal like visiting a bachelor's hall to visit there now. Wonder how the editors will do the honors of home, or do they intend to shut us out? If not, I think I will have to call some day and see. Wonder if they will be as lenient and charitable toward our shortcomings as you have been.

You speak truly when you say that "a woman cannot be wife and mother and be much else." To be wife and mother in the true sense of the words, requires our very best efforts, both physically and mentally; it would be well if all women realized this fact. As we grow older how much plainer our duty becomes. In looking back we see many mistakes that might have been avoided if we had but foreseen. I have often thought if we could let fall on the shoulders of our younger sisters, the mantle of wisdom gained by experience, what a blessed heritage it would be; but it would be contrary to nature. There are pitfalls and quagmires in the pathway of every one, which neither guide-posts nor mile-stones can point out. But I must not get to moralizing for this is intended only as a few words of parting. I have said my say, and now I had better stop. You understand, don't you, Mrs. Hudson, that I am not done talking yet, but am afraid of wearying "mine host," so good-bye.

AUNT MARY.

We are not going to shut up and abandon housekeeping, nor keep "bachelor's hall."

"Bachelor's hall! what a queer looking place it is. Keep me from such all the days of my life."

The fact is, the FARMER is going to keep open house for the ladies, and they have a general invitation to come in and dust the furniture, straighten the window curtains, arrange the flower pots; and now that spring is almost here, the bulbs will want attention. We expect them to take charge of the soups, gravies and salads; keep the kitchen nice and trim, as well as by their presence bring sunshine and gladness into the parlor. Kansas is no country for a bachelor's hall, and it will be the fault of the ladies of Kansas if there is ever such a cobweb corner found in the FARMER. Now ladies, we are going to test your mettle. Kansas men have a world-wide fame for enterprise, learning and all the most esteemed attributes of a "higher civilization." We invite the ladies to come forward and make the Household Department of their Agricultural paper *par excellence* of the state the best department to be found in any paper that travels in the mails; and achieve for themselves a distinctive fame, not one ray of which is reflected by the steamer sex.

Thanksgiving Cake.

EDITORS FARMER:—Perhaps some of the readers of the FARMER would like to know how to make the old-fashioned "Thanksgiving Cake" that our mothers made in the days when that festival was more generally observed than it is to-day; for the benefit of such I send my recipe.

THANKSGIVING CAKE.

Take one and a half cups of sweet milk, one cup of sugar and half a cup of yeast, make a stiff batter, let it rise. After it appears to be light take one and a half cups of sugar and one cup of butter and work it together with the hand until it is light and frothy, then work it into the batter thoroughly, add mace and nutmeg to suit taste, let it rise again till very light then add two well beaten eggs and raisins or currants or both, and put it into the tins and bake immediately. This makes two large loaves. I prefer granulated sugar for any kind of cake.

F. M. ROOR.

South Amherst, Mass.

P. S.—Am sorry to hear that Mrs. Hudson is obliged to resign her corner to the "tender mercies of the editors," but hope that what is lost for the FARMER will be gained for the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS, and as we take both papers, will not complain. I think the farmers of Kansas have great reason to be proud of their FARMER and hope they will do all in their power to make it a success.

F. M. R.

The Ladies' Paper—Dried Corn—Fowls, etc., etc.

I am glad to see at last, that the sisters seem to take an interest in what should be our paper, as well as the farmers' paper. I, too, am a farmer's wife, and look with interest on all we do on the farm. I think much might be gained by us if we would give our experiences about what we do and how we succeed. Tell Mrs. M. A. Bucknell she will have no difficulty in keeping the worms out of her dried corn or fruit, if she will put it in a stove pan after it is dry, and heat it slowly until it is as hot as she can hold her hand in, then put in tight paper or muslin sacks. Paper is better, and after the heat passes off, tie it lightly and keep in a cool, dry place. In this way I have kept dried peaches as good as fresh dried ones for four or five years.

In No. 7 of the FARMER my husband has given an account of the profits of our chickens. I here will say I am much interested in the poultry business. I have had good success with young chicks. Did not lose any from gaps, so common among young chicks. I bake corn-bread, made up with buttermilk and soda; this I feed my chicks on until they are four or five

weeks old, giving plenty of pure water to drink with loblbered milk and bran to pick at when they like. It is surprising how greedily they will devour it. Occasionally I feed sulphur to keep them free from lice, and if I find any on them I rub them with sulphur, lard and coal-oil which is sure to drive them. Let others give us some words of encouragement.

Mrs. J. P. WALTERS.

Emporia, Kan.

A New Hint to Housekeepers.

There is not the slightest doubt that if the science of nutrition and digestion, of the relative value of different kinds of food to supply nourishment and strength to the system, and the best methods of preparing various articles of diet, to make them palatable and attractive as economical, were better understood by the mass of housekeepers, there would be a great saving of expense, a great deal more of enjoyment, and that health would be largely increased. Mrs. Juliet Corson is doing very much to promote these most desirable ends. Her book, "Twenty-five Cent Dinners for Families of Six," which is being rapidly circulated through the country has already accomplished a good deal, and will do much more hereafter. Her "Cooking-School Text-Book and Housekeepers' Guide" is a most excellent work, giving in plain, easily understood language, directions for dishes suited to any table, from the simplest and cheapest up to the most elaborate and expensive. This work details the cost of each article of food, taking the average through the country. Another of her books, her "Cooking Manual," gives "Practical Directions for Economical Every Day Cookery." These books, if in the hands of every housekeeper, would doubtless quickly save many times their cost.

But Miss Corson is working in other ways. She gives public lectures to the people, and has organized classes for housekeepers, for regular cooks and house-help, including instruction among the poor, to children, etc. One of these courses of instruction is attended by ladies of the highest class, from Fifth avenue, Murray Hill, etc. A representative of the *American Agriculturist* has frequently attended one of these courses, to report the proceedings, which are after this manner: At 35 East Seventeenth street a kitchen is fitted up with all needed apparatus, including various improved appliances of cookery, with chairs for fifteen or twenty ladies. Miss Corson takes her place among her cooking apparatus very much as the professor of chemistry in a college does when lecturing to his classes, and at the same time conducting experiments with his retorts, his test-tubes, beaker glasses, etc. Following the order of her text-book, with copies of it in the hands of her students, for such they are, though matronly ladies and younger ladies preparing themselves to be worthy matrons in the future, Miss Corson thus not only gives her lectures of talks, but with her own hands goes through the various operations of preparing and cooking a great number of dishes, soups, roasts, vegetables, entrees, salads, desserts, etc., etc. The whole processes, from receiving the articles from the market to placing them upon the table, are gone through with, so that each "student" goes home with a clear, definite understanding of the whole, ready to put in practice what she has learned. Necessarily but one dinner course is taken up each afternoon, in a lesson of two to three hours. Now for our

PLAN FOR THE HOUSEKEEPERS OF A NEIGHBORHOOD.

In every neighborhood, small or large, let a few of the housekeepers meet at the residence of one of their number, say once a week or fortnight, one of them being chosen as leader for the day—usually the lady of the house where the meeting is held. Let two or more articles of food be selected for that meeting, and let the whole operation of preparing and cooking, and eating them if you please, be gone through with, including discussions upon different methods and the best ones. Copies of Miss Corson's books to refer to will be helpful. Let the young ladies be present to see and learn. Can there be any question that such a series of meetings would result in great improvement? The ladies who meet in Miss Corson's room, tell us they derive great pleasure and profit. These local meetings will be an excellent substitute for some other social gatherings. Whoever moves in this enterprise will do a good work we are very sure.

ANOTHER GOOD THING TO DO.

The great mass of poor and ignorant people pay more for the nutriment they actually get, than many well-to-do, intelligent families. Their supplies are bought in dribbles at double cost; they do not know how, or in what, they can obtain the most real nourishment for the least expense; and what they do get, could be made to do much better service if they knew how to prepare and properly cook it. If in each neighborhood two, or three, or more of the intelligent ladies, or even one of them, would undertake the work of educating the class referred to, in the direction indicated, it would often be of greater service than the organization of charitable associations. The superintendent of one of the best insane institutions in our country told us recently that the largest percentage of his 500 patients came from a class of laborers who lived chiefly on poorly cooked bread and salt pork fried hard. They lose the balance of mind because they are not sufficiently nourished with digestible food.—*American Agriculturist*.

What You Eat.

There was a meeting of the American Social Science association in Boston a few days ago, at which a large number of entertaining papers were read. The proceedings of this body are, as a

rule, rather dry reading for the general public, who are not greatly interested in the statistics which go to show up the social condition of the country, yet now and then a subject is handled which involves points of vital interest to the people. In this latter class was the paper read at this last meeting, on "Public Health Associations." The author shows up a variety of matters which will, no doubt, prove startling to those who take the trouble to read them. It sets forth many of the articles of food, daily consumed, and which are so startlingly adulterated as to make one wish he might be able to live on air.—but perhaps that might be crammed so full of poisonous parts that it would be equally deleterious with other and more material foods. We pick out a few of the articles which have been referred to in this paper under consideration. There is cayenne pepper. It is adulterated with red lead. Mustard contains chromate of lead; curry powder, red lead; vinegar, with sulphuric acid, arsenic and corrosive sublimate. It is stated that probably half the vinegar now sold in our cities is rank poison. A Boston chemist analyzed twelve packages of pickles, put up by twelve different wholesale dealers, and found copper in ten of them. Many of our flavoring oils, syrups, jellies and preserved fruits contain poisons. The adulterations of tea are too numerous to mention. Coffee is not only adulterated, but a patent has been taken out for molding chicory into the form of coffee berries and clay is now molded, and perhaps flavored with an essence, to represent coffee.

The author goes on to say that several mills in New England, and probably many elsewhere, are now engaged in grinding white stone into a fine powder for purposes of adulteration. At some of these mills they grind three grades,—soda grade, sugar grade and flour grade. It sells for about half a cent a pound. Flour has been adulterated in England, and probably here with plaster of Paris, bone dust, sand, clay, chalk and other articles. Large quantities of damaged and unwholesome grain are ground in flour, particularly with that kind called Graham flour. Certainly hundreds, and probably thousands, of barrels of "terra alba," or white earth, are sold in our cities every year to be mixed with sugars in confectionery and other white substances. "Terra alba" is mixed in with cream tartar, baking powder and confectionery.

Take other articles of food, such as milk, meats, etc. We are informed:

It is not water alone that is mixed with milk. Thousands of gallons, and probably hundreds of thousands, are sold in our cities which have passed through large tins or vats, in which it has been mixed with various substances. Recipes for the mixture can be bought by new milkmen from old, on payment of the required sum. I am assured, upon what I believe to be reliable authority, that thousands of gallons of so-called milk have been, and probably are, sold in this city which do not contain one drop of the genuine article. Large quantities of the meats of animals more or less diseased are sold in our markets. Cows in the neighborhood of our large cities are fed upon material which produces a large flow of unwholesome milk. Poultry are fed upon material which produces unwholesome eggs. Meats and fish are made unwholesome, frequently poisonous, by careless and cruel methods of killing. A California chemist recently analyzed many samples of whisky, purchased at different places, in San Francisco. He found them adulterated with creosote, salts of copper, alum, and other injurious substances.

People who live in the country are to be congratulated that they can get good milk, eggs, butter, meat, etc., but they are subject to the same impositions as are those of the cities in the matter of groceries and other articles enumerated above. There should be some legal enactment to prohibit these frauds and to punish those who practice them.—*Prairie Farmer*.

Advertisements.

In answering an advertisement found in these columns, our readers will confer on us a favor by stating that they saw the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

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