

# THE KANSAS FARMER

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## THE KANSAS FARMER.

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### Letter From Florida.

We are now in the principal transplanting season for all kinds of trees. The season of rest here for trees of most kinds is very short, and we have been putting out orange, fig, olive, lemon, Japan persimmon, tea plants, a few lime trees, and some few others. Orange trees put in place three weeks since have now commenced growing. I plant three or four-year-old trees when the stocks are from an inch to an inch and a quarter in diameter. I am planting sour seedlings and will graft them in their places, but would prefer having them grafted a year or two before final transplanting. I prefer the sour stocks for grafting upon because they grow faster, have more "vim" than the sweet seedlings. My sour seedlings (seeds planted last spring) are much larger than the sweet seedlings planted at the same time. One hundred and fifty orange trees will be all we can plant this year. Our working force is small (three boys and myself, about a quarter hand, owing to the state of my health) and we cannot clear up ground very fast. We use no team. I plant my orange trees in quincunx style, in rows fifteen feet apart, which brings my trees twenty-one feet apart. In the right-angled spaces between the trees I plant other trees of smaller growth that are to be taken out when the orange trees require more space. By planting this way we will have nearly two hundred trees to an acre, and though each orange tree is twenty-one feet from each of four other trees, if my heirs or assigns, in the years to come, should desire still more room for each orange tree, they may take out every alternate row and leave the remainder thirty feet each way.

In some of the places between the orange trees I have planted fig trees (thirty in number) that are now about as large as the orange trees, that will soon bear fair crops, we hope. In addition to the fig trees, we are putting in our nursery between three and four hundred fig cuttings, composed of about a dozen different varieties. Our nursery has now planted in it besides the figs, one hundred and fifty sour seedling orange trees nearly two years old, about the same number nine months old, and about the same number of sweet seedling orange trees nine months old, a few lemon seedlings same as the last, between forty and fifty tea plants, a few olive plants and a few other plants of less value. Taking into account time, opportunity and money spent, we may fairly claim a good start made in the nine months, and less than fifteen dollars' expenditure for trees and plants. I am confident that a few hundred fig trees can be brought very soon into sufficient bearing condition to help us out in our living expenses for some time before our orange trees will afford fair crops, if we use the patent fruit evaporator, and thus send an entirely new article in dried figs to a northern market.

Olive culture, like orange culture, requires time, and about the same length of time, for remunerative crops. The olive trees now growing in Florida, prove beyond doubt that they only need to be planted and properly attended in order to obtain good results, as long as oil is in demand even for soap-making. The production of a fruit so rich in oil must prove remunerative. And here let me say that I cannot rightly understand how a person with only a slight taste for horticultural pursuits, and has money to invest, can shut himself up inside four walls, in the towns and cities of the north, or west, when orange, fig, or olive culture, is open to him as an investment that in but a few years would yield returns as large as the most ambitious could desire, and without the pulling and hauling, pushing and crowding that is necessary to success in modern commercial and manufacturing business circles. Some few men of capital have entered this field of enterprise, but not one where there might be a hundred. There are two groves of 100 acres and 125 acres respectively, but there ought to be oranges, olives, dates, teas, etc., growing on fifty thousand acres of what is now wild lands.

The season has been, and now is, very mild here. The thermometer has approached, and very lightly touched, the frost mark but once as yet. The range is generally between 60 degrees at night, and 80 degrees (in the middle of the day). To-day, at 1 p. m., it is 76 degrees. The winter is our dry season. Before I came to Florida, I some way had imbibed the idea that terrible wind and rain storms were very frequent, but if the year spent here can be taken as an average, there are not one-fourth as many

wind-storms as there are farther north, say in Maryland or New Jersey, and not one in ten of driving rain storms. Since my last letter to the FARMER, written in October last, the weather has been perfectly delightful to me; bright and breezy, no shivering, chilling weather.

Our stand-over potatoes are still growing, and if the weather we are now enjoying continues, we will harvest a crop of vine cuttings for a very early crop next season.

We find that peanuts grow here well. The few hills we had planted yielded a good crop. Our boys are in the notion of planting a half acre next season, commencing about March 1st. If their notion holds, we will find out whether peanuts are a paying crop in this part of Florida.

With the proper facilities for catching fish, the supply would be abundant. Salt water, mullet, sea-weed, bass, and sheephead, seem to be the most desirable kinds, though flounders are a good flavored fish, and are usually taken by spearing. The usual way practiced in taking flounders is to procure some fat or pitch pine, (called by the natives "lightwood.") Place the pieces in an old mule, horse or ox muzzle, and set it on fire, and the torch is ready. Sometimes the spearmen take to the water on foot, with a companion to carry fish or torch, but usually a boat is used. The nights here are usually favorable in this region for this kind of fishing, as there is seldom much if any breeze after nightfall. When a boat is used, the spearman takes the boat in one hand and spear in the other, and as the companion gently pushes the boat along, the fish are easily seen in the clear water. A dexterous spearman will generally spear twenty or thirty flounders in an hour. A short time ago two young men went out in this way for flounders, and while so employed, one hundred mullet, attracted by their light, jumped into the boat. If the mullet had been large ones they would have had their skill half loaded down, but they were only six or eight inches long. Bass and sheephead take the hook well, and it is fine sport to take them. Salt water mullet are rarely caught in nets. Almost the only net used here is the cast-net, which is so constructed as to be thrown from the bow of a boat as the boat is propelled in pursuit of a school of mullet. The net, when thrown, opens out in a circle from ten to fifteen feet in diameter, and falls flat upon the surface of the water, quickly sinking over the fish, because of weights attached to the outer circumference of the net, and when the net has sunk it is again withdrawn by a rope or cord the end of which is made fast to the wrist of the fisherman who casts the net. This cord or rope is attached to the outside circumference of the net by cords running through a ring in the center, and when the ring is withdrawn from the water it is at the same time so drawn together from the circumference to the center as to very completely confine the fish until they are drawn into the boat. The fishing season for mullet is usually in November and December, when they gather in large "schools" near Halifax Inlet, some five miles from us. The people congregate in quite large numbers, too, encamp and proceed to catch "strike," and, with salt, barrel up their supply, and in a few days are again ready for home. These mullet are, to my taste, quite as good, fresh or salt, as shad.

Shark are plenty in both rivers (Halifax and Hillsboro) near the Inlet, and porpoises are to be frequently seen for several miles up either river. Oysters are plenty and good. Beds of what are called here "Coon oysters" are to be seen here in every direction down the rivers in passing along, and make one of the singular features of the scenery. The best oysters for eating, however, are not to be seen above the surface of the water even at low tide.

B. E. L.

### Tree Experience.—No. 1.

BY B. P. HANAN.

#### APPLES.

As the time is near when trees may be transplanted, I am influenced to give some of my five years' experience and observation on trees in this part of Kansas. I brought here in the fall of 1875, and the spring of 1876, from my nursery at Clark City, Mo., 24,000 apple trees, one year old, of my own grafting, and of the leading varieties; a few thousand forest trees, 1 to 3 feet high, consisting of white ash, soft maple, box elder, white and black mulberry, white and black walnut, catalpa, wild black cherry, American and European larch, Lombardy poplar, silver poplar, balsam of Gilead, and a few other sorts; a few thousand evergreens, 1 to 1½ feet high, mostly of Austrian

pine, Scotch pine, white pine, Norway spruce, and red cedar, all once or twice transplanted. I also brought a general assortment of orchard and small fruit trees, vines and shrubs for my own planting.

I set out my apple orchard late in the fall of 1875, on very sandy, high prairie land which was first plowed in 1874, and cultivated in corn in 1875. I prepared my orchard and nursery ground, by plowing finely, about 10 inches deep which was not hard for two stout horses to do with a common stirring plow, the ground being gray sandy loam that has proven very productive. I finished setting out my apple orchard on Dec. 11, 1877, which consisted of the following varieties:

5 Bevon, 1 year; 5 Duchess of Oldenburg 3 years; 5 Early Harvest, 3 years; 5 Early Pennock, 3 years; 5 Red Astrachan, 1 year; 5 Red June, 3 years; 5 Sweet June, 1 year; 5 Fall Wine, 1 year; 5 Fameuse, 3 years; 5 Lowell, 1 year; 10 Maiden Blush, 1 year, and 10 of the same variety, 3 years; 5 Rambo, 1 year; 25 Ben Davis, 1 year; 25 Dominie, 1 year; 10 Ella Park, 1 year; 5 E. G. Russett, 1 year; 5 Gen. Lyon, 1 year; 5 Grimes' Golden, 1 and 3 years; 15 Jonathan, 1 year; 10 Lawver, 1 year; 25 Rawles' Janet, 1 year; 25 Rome Beauty, 1 year; 25 Small Romanite, 1 year; 10 Sweet Romanite, 1 year; 25 Stark, 1 year; 25 Willow, 1 year; 25 Winesap, 1 year; and 50 Crabs, 1 year, of 9 varieties.

I have since planted a few each of a great many other varieties by way of experiment. But all experienced pomologists are ready to say I have too many varieties for profit or convenience, in the list named above. I know it, but I had no one in this region to get experience from, for at that time there was not a bearing apple tree in Reno county, and but few trees had been planted. So I planted many sorts to test them here, as I have done with a great variety of other fruit and forest trees, and I am willing to give my brother farmers the benefit of my experience.

I will say that before I packed my trees in Missouri to ship them here, I had every tree examined for borers, and every one found was killed; and I have not seen a borer in one of my apple trees, either in the nursery or orchard since I came to Kansas.

The trees set out in the fall and those set out the next spring in orchard and nursery lived well. But few of them failed to start. Yet some of them died during August after being set out. The yearling trees died more than the older ones; and the Red Junes, Rambo's, and Rome Beauties, 1 year old, nearly all died that were in the nursery, and 40 per cent. of those in the orchard. Other varieties lived well. About all the Red Astrachan in nursery and all in orchard lived, and so did the Duchess of Oldenburg, Benoni, Early Pennock, Maiden Blush, Fameuse, Lowell, Ben Davis, and all the other winter varieties, except the Rome Beauty as mentioned before. But the Rome Beauties which lived through the first year have grown as well as an average of the other sorts.

The crabs all lived well, and are as hardy here, thus far, as need be.

Trees do not grow so fast here as a general thing, as they do in the northeast part of Missouri, and in those portions of Iowa and Illinois contiguous to that part of Missouri. Neither do they grow so straight and nice. Yet in these respects there are great differences in species, and even in varieties. All trees have a more scrubby form, being more stocky, crooked and with more branches, than the same sorts are, four or five hundred miles east. My apples grew but little in 1876, made a small growth in 1877, a good growth in 1878, generally two to three feet of young wood, but a few reached four feet of new wood, and a poor growth in 1879.

On the Arkansas river bottoms, and other lands in this part of Kansas, which have more

vegetable mold than mine, trees of all sorts grow faster than mine do, but do not seem to be quite so hardy. My crabs are the most healthy apple trees I have, I think. Although the other sorts show no signs of disease, and ripen their wood well, and most of them grow faster than the Crabs; yet the Crabs ripen their wood so well, that I believe they would stand a greater degree of cold, or more sudden shock, than the common apples. The Crabs are also the straightest, except the Transcendent, and nicest formed trees.

I will state here that I head all my apple trees within two feet of the ground, and take issue with friend Templin, of Hutchinson, on high heading. (I may make pruning and shaping trees the subject of a future article.) The Red Siberian and Hyslop Crabs, the Red June, Maiden Blush and Ben Davis apple trees began blooming in 1878, but none of the young fruit hung on long.

In 1879, many more trees of the same varieties that bloomed in 1878 bloomed and some set full of young apples, but were killed by the late spring freeze, as were my peaches and other fruits. The 1 year old trees bloomed as young as the 3 year trees, and are as large now.

I think the cause of my one year apple trees dying, was the hot dry winds which blew very hard for several days about that time, and the great surface heat from the sun's reflected rays by the sand. Since the trees have grown so as to shade the ground they grow faster on the most sandy land, probably because it retains moisture the best.

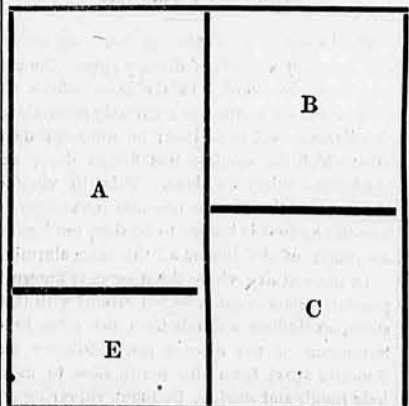
My experience with other fruit, and forest trees, will be given in a future article.

Langdon, Kas.

### Fuel for Southwestern Kansas.

We have already shown in our former article how a farmer can grow his fuel—that from 25 to 50 acres of corn will do it. In this article we shall attempt to show how he can add to this supply from the cornfield, by raising timber.

We will take a square 160-acre farm, for this is what a majority of farmers in this part of Kansas own. The accompanying diagram will show how such a farm may be conveniently divided for general farming purposes:



We will suppose this to be a southwest quarter divided into four principal plots by hedges. Plot A is a 60-acre pasture field; B and C are two 40-acre fields for grain-raising; E is a 20-acre plot for sub-divisions for orchard truck-patches, timber, stock-yards, barns, dwellings, etc., which may be divided as follows, or in any other manner to suit the ideas of the owner. Five acres will be devoted to seedling peach trees planted close for wind-break and fuel. Two acres appropriated to dwelling and out-houses, garden, shrubbery and ornamental trees. Two acres should be planted with forest trees to form a grove for stock-yard, containing water-troughs where stock can find shelter and shade. A fourth division, embracing one acre, should be appropriated to barns, stables, cattle-yard, etc. The remainder of division E will contain

ten acres, on the south side of which subdivision should be planted a border of forest and ornamental trees, closely and compactly set.

It will be noticed that to fence a farm thus it will require 960 rods or three miles of hedge. We will suppose that these three miles are planted next spring, 1880, with cottonwood or gray willow cuttings. I would rather risk the cottonwood, because the willow has not been sufficiently tested in this county; cottonwood is a native here, and a very rapid grower. The hedge row should be in good order and two rods wide, one rod on each side of the hedge. This should be set with the cuttings in the spring, not over a foot apart in the row. These in an ordinary growing season will make a growth of from three to eight feet in height, and in four years from planting, with good cultivation, will be from three to six inches in diameter, and from twelve to twenty feet in height. An average season will make at least two-thirds or three-fourths of them grow. But if only one-half will grow the plants will be thick enough by filling out the vacant spots from the parts where they are closer than two feet. This filling out of the vacant spots should be done the second spring, or at one year old from planting. At four years old they may be cut off about two feet from the ground, leaving one every eight feet. These should be splashed or laid down so as to form a rail on top of the stumps of those which were cut off, thus forming a fence about three or four feet in height. This splashing can be done by cutting out a chip on the east side of the fence if the fence is on a line running east and west, sufficiently to bend the tree westward, or on the north side of the tree if the fence is on a line running north and south.

One mile of these trimmings ought to furnish fuel for the kitchen for nine months, for there would be no less than 1,500 trees cut out—equal to five trees per day for nine months. Now we will suppose the second mile is treated the same way at five years from planting, which, at that age, would furnish considerable more fuel, and would furnish fuel for the kitchen for nearly a year. At six years old, the third mile could be treated the same way, and at that age would furnish ample fuel for the kitchen, with a surplus.

Thus in six years from planting the farm would be fenced with a live fence in addition to all this amount of fuel. But it is claimed that cottonwood makes a very poor article of fuel. It certainly does when it is burned green, or allowed to lay out until half decayed, but if it is worked up and prepared for the stove while green and stored away in an open shed to season, it furnishes fuel that no one on these prairies need to ancer at unless he has plenty of money to spend for coal.

The farmer who is thus successful in raising his fence, after it is three years old, with the cobs his corn crops will produce, will not need to purchase coal unless he chooses.

In another article we will show how this stock of firewood may be increased from year to year.

J. B. SCHLICHTER.

### The Barnes Wire Check Rower.

This implement, which is our subject of illustration this week, is very justly described as the only entirely successful wire check rower ever invented. It has now been in use for seven years, and of late has become so popular that the manufacturers, Messrs. Chambers, Baring & Quinlan, of Decatur, Ill., have been obliged to double their manufacturing capacity to supply the demand. As a matter of economy the use of a check rower is indispensable, saving labor, time and money and enabling farmers to be at work when under the old system they would be idle.

The following are some of the advantages claimed for this over other check rowers:

Use of wire in place of rope, and that one wire will outlast two ropes. The wire is as easy to handle as a rope. The wire does not cross the machine. There is no side draft. It will plant perfectly and more in check. The operator does not have to get off the machine to throw the wire off at the end of the field. It will work on any planter as now made. It is easy to work and to understand. It is durable in all its parts.

Chambers, Baring & Quinlan are also well known as manufacturers of Hog Rings and Rings, making the Champion (double) Ring and the genuine Brown Elliptical (single) Ring. These rings both close on the outside of the nose, thus preventing it from becoming sore, an advantage over other rings so patent that the Ohio Swine Breeder's Association in January last in a resolution gave them the very strongest endorsement.

The firm is thoroughly reliable and eminently responsible, and we recommend our readers needing their goods to send for descriptive circular.



## Farm Stock.

## On the Management of Sheep.

Like the cereals and the meat growing business of our country, wool growing is as much a necessity, and is the sheet-anchorage of much of the wealth of Australia and South America, and also is becoming a trade in Europe and North America that is supplying a demand in plenteousness, which would cost otherwise vastly more, had it to be supplied from other countries. Never, while unwashed wool is worth from 20 to 30 cents per pound and a corresponding price is paid for manufactured goods, need farmers fear to engage in sheep raising. Let every farmer keep as many as will not mow down his pastures too closely, at the expense of just necessary working animals of other classes and milch cows, and my experience proves that the spring, summer and autumn will be redolent with the smiles superinduced by the profits of this little trouble and pleasing occupation. Sow timothy on your wheat fields, with clover and orchard grass, and if well taken in sod, although it may not rain for weeks and the luxurious top dies off the grass, and in such case the cow and the horse will pine for water, then it is that sheep grow fat and drop among the sods such manure as will vastly improve the soil. Although better to have a constant supply of good clear water, yet, where other stock would die they will flourish, and we have known them to go without water for weeks. Allow no stagnant ponds, where geese and hogs have access to puddle and mire, for we believe that from such cause many flocks become diseased.

If your grass fields are scant, prepare your sheep for the winter by feeding with a little grain and hay; keep out of cold rains and storms; in fact, keep them fat and they will yield a great deal more wool and raise more lambs. It is poor economy to starve them, for in many instances on account of deficiency of strength to raise a lamb, a mother will disown her offspring, which is instinctive, and also is a far greater loss than the expense of feeding extra. We do not advise every one to breed thoroughbreds, as the cost in doing so will be immensely more, except for breeding purposes. A thorough bred ram is always advisable. The cross between thoroughbred rams and native ewes will make as good mutton, and will shear good fleeces; and if you have any bare-bellied ewes, breed first to an improved Merino ram, and breed up then to Cotswold, and you will have a densely-covered woolled as well as good mutton tentonally made, and improve the appearance of their young stock by keeping nothing but fine looking specimens on their premises, if the above theories be correct.—*American Farmer.*

## Winter Calves.

A Wisconsin dairyman asks if there can be any profit in raising calves in winter, or late fall calves? This question is now very pertinent, since winter dairying is becoming common. Butter bears a higher price in winter; and this induces dairymen to have their calves dropped in the fall. Let us examine the expense account. Some think the cold weather will add much to the cost of keeping the calves; but this is probably a mistake, as the following considerations will show: The milk, after making butter in winter, is in better condition than in summer, as it is seldom sour, and may always be fed sweet. Calves kept in warm quarters will make more growth upon the same quantity of milk in winter than in summer, on account of its better quality, and because, being fed on hay, they seldom scour or have any trouble of stomach.

We have tested the comparative gain on the same quantity of milk fed to calves in winter and summer. Six calves, fed through January, February, and March, on an average of 25 pounds of skim-milk each per day, starting with an average weight of 80 pounds, made an average weight, on the 1st day of April, of 305 pounds, or a gain of 2½ pounds per day. They had, besides the milk, what rowen hay they would eat.

In feeding ten calves for four months, beginning May 1st, starting with an average weight of 100 pounds, and feeding 25 pounds of skim-milk with pasture, they reached an average weight, September 1st, of 346 pounds, in 123 days, or an average gain of two pounds per day. It is almost impossible, on sour milk and grass, to keep calves from scouring to some extent. We have made better weight in summer by allowing them to run in a yard and feeding good hay in racks. The hay seems to counteract the acidity of the milk. We have no hesitation in saying that calves, well cared for, will make a better growth on sweet skim-milk and hay in winter, than on sour skim-milk and grass in summer. Then it must be profitable to raise winter calves for beef; for, as we have seen, they will be heavier, and cost no more. And if heifers are raised for the dairy, and come in at two years old, they will cost less raised from fall calves than spring calves; for, in the former case, as we have seen, the first winter costs no more than summer keep, and so there is only the extra cost of one winter before the heifer drops her calf and becomes a producing cow. Most dairymen who believe in full feeding, and, therefore, raise heifers of good growth, also believe in early maternity, that the milking habit may be developed early. The general opinion of the best dairymen is, that a cow, at four years old, will give more milk if she comes in at two than three years old. There can, therefore, be no valid objection to raising winter calves where it is found profitable to make winter butter. And this is

likely to extend year by year; for the general taste seems to prefer fresh butter to that which has been kept for half a year.—*Nat. Live-Stock Journal.*

## The Farmer's Station Record.

This is the title of a new agricultural venture published in New York, the first number of which is received and is full of good things. We make the following extracts from a leading article pointing out how agricultural journals benefit the farmers:

It will be found, on examination, that most of the large products in husbandry are obtained by farmers who are accustomed to read and think, and who are not only wise enough to profit by reading, but who select the best part of their material from books and papers devoted to their interest, and in which they find recorded the facts and the experience of successful men.

In confirmation of this view, there are many shrewd and practical men who have discovered in their own experience, and who do not hesitate to emphasize the fact, that the best investment they have yet made in their business is the money paid for agricultural papers, and who also make it a point to read them carefully, and to write for them often. These are the men who win the surest prizes of husbandry, whose success proves that farming can be made to pay, not only in the broadest and highest sense of the word, but also in its money aspect, and whose example kindles the faith, and animates the zeal of other farmers even in remote and unfavored sections.

So clearly and palpably have the journals of this class demonstrated their value, that it is often possible in passing through a rural district to discover by unmistakable signs the farms on which such papers are taken, and where they have found a welcome home; and it is easy to see that in the presence of these sheets of useful knowledge, the whole aspect of the farm is changed, and all the results improved. Manures and fertilizers are more efficient, as well as more abundant; the latest and best methods are adopted; a new impulse is given to vegetation; the very roots of the crops strike deeper and spread wider than before, and even the meadows assume a brighter shade of green, and the cereal grains a deeper tinge of gold. And finally, as a crowning evidence of what is here claimed for the influence of the press, along with this new vigor of vegetation and more abundant yield, we find also a reduction of the cost that is even more important than all the rest.

But the great facts of experience in farming are not bounded by an acre, and do not expire in one application. On the contrary, they are developed by use, and grow by repetition. They spread and multiply from farm to farm, and from year to year, until a continent is made richer by them, and posterity hails them as a treasure.

Now, farmers, this is not a long sermon, but it has a moral and a purpose, and the meaning for each individual is this. If you are not already a subscriber to an agricultural paper, lose no time in securing the benefit of such a journal, for you are certainly losing every year far more than the cost, and sooner or later you will find this out. If you are already taking one or more such papers, don't be satisfied until you make the number three or four. Depend upon it farmers are too generally under a mistake on this subject, and it is time to take up a new departure.

The timidity shown by many in applying a sum so limited as two or three dollars to obtain the priceless knowledge, on which depends the whole value and final profit of their business, is more than surprising. The trifling sums, often lavished without a thought on objects comparatively of little or no value, if applied to such a purpose as this would be sufficient to supply a variety of journals and valuable books that would at once create a new atmosphere of thought in the house, and, while thus rounding out the education of the family, would also enlarge the yield and the profits of the harvest to come.

## Pleuro-Pneumonia.

The infection works slowly, but very surely, and before symptoms of disease appear the animal is past recovery. In six cases where the date of the exposure was accurately ascertained, the disease manifested itself in nineteen days, after which the earliest was fifteen days, and the longest thirty-six days. This, in view of the fact that the disease becomes contagious before the animal is known to be sick, renders the approach of the disease all the more alarming.

In the vicinity where the disease is known to prevail, farmers cannot be too careful with their stock, excluding animals from any other herd. Symptoms of the disease are indolence and standing apart from the herd, slow to move, hair rough and staring, frequent shivering and a cough, grunting and indications of pain, with an increased temperature of the body. When the ear is applied to the chest harsh sounds are noticed in one or both lungs, with quick and labored breathing. The flow of milk is lessened, though sometimes increased through the animal drinking large quantities of water, to allay thirst occasioned by the fever. Saliva drips from the lips. Some cows have given the disease to others without ever appearing sick themselves. This disease, having its seat in the lungs, sends out a large amount of infected matter at every exhalation of the animal.—*Cultivator.*

## The Diseases of the Digestive Organs in Horses.

Farm horses are especially liable to be exposed to the causes which induce derangements

of the stomach; such, for instance, as long fasts, and sudden changes of food, a scanty supply of food of an inferior quality, such as being kept on short, dry pasture, and by jumping or otherwise getting into a field of green crop, which they eat greedily; over-leading the stomach, causing fermentation, evolution of gas, and violent indigestion, which frequently runs on to a fatal termination.

Farmers' horses are often exposed to long fasts, more especially during the plowing season, when, after a hard and exhaustive day's work, they return to the stable hungry and fatigued, where they speedily devour their food, without subjecting it to mastication and insalivation, and, consequently, this unprepared food causes derangement of digestion in the stomach.

No uncommon cause of indigestion in horses is, what has already been pointed out, allowing them to drink large quantities of water immediately after being fed, which washed the semi-digested contents of the stomach into the bowels before they have undergone the necessary solvent process by the gastric fluids. This undigested food acts as an irritant on the bowels, and causes indigestion.

In young horses derangements of the stomach are frequently caused by the mastication organs, the teeth not being capable of properly grinding the food, especially from two years old to four and a half. The shedding of the first set, and the growth of the permanent teeth keep the mouth tender, and in many cases, if fed on hard, dry food, they acquire the habit of bolting it, that is, unchewing, and, in them, this is a fertile source of derangement of the organs of digestion.

In older horses the teeth frequently become irregular and present sharp points which prick or cut the cheek, rendering mastication difficult and painful, hence they are apt to swallow un-masticated food. A broken or diseased tooth is another common cause of imperfect mastication. Food of an inferior quality, such as musty hay or oats, readily deranges the digestion and gives rise to disease of the stomach and bowels, and frequently of the urinary organs as well.

Symptoms of Indigestion.—In the acute form where fermentation and evolution of gas takes place, as when an animal eats a large quantity of any food, especially green food or damp, succulent grass, the symptoms are sudden and violent. Distention of the belly with gas, acute pain which is more or less intermittent, and profuse prostration; the animal rolls violently, the breathing is quickened, increases the flatulence and the violence with which the animal throws himself about, threaten rupture of the stomach or bowels.

In the sub-acute and chronic forms the danger to life is not so great as the symptoms are less violent. Arising as it does from a variety of causes, we find a corresponding difference in the symptoms. In all cases there is a loss of food, an irregular appetite, loss of flesh, a dry, harsh, unthrifty coat—the condition known as hide-bound. In some cases we have a morbid appetite, the animal licking the walls, especially lime or plaster, or any cold surface, preferring soiled litter, which he picks out of his bedding, to good, sound food. Thirst is a common accompaniment to this condition, and profuse urination which induces weakness and renders him totally unfit for work. The breath is sour and fetid; he is subject to colic, the attacks of which may be slight but frequent.

Prevention.—Some horses, like some men, are constitutionally subject to indigestion. In most, however, like man, also, it is the result of errors in diet, and can be prevented by close observance of physiological laws, especially by avoiding long fasts, overeating, sudden changes of food and food of bad quality. When it arises from parasitic irritation, it must be got rid of by medical treatment.—*Coleman's Rural World.*

## Poultry.

## Winter Feeding for Fowls.

Boil a heaping half peck of potatoes, mash them, add two quarts of a mixture of bran and shorts, a tablespoonful of salt, hot water enough to mix into a stiff mass, and you have a breakfast for your fowls. For a change—remember that fowls don't like to eat one kind of food all the time any better than you would—boil turnips, and mix them with corn meal; boiled carrots are good, and even pumpkins can be used in the same way. Don't use corn meal to mix with very often; oat meal, bran and shorts, and buckwheat meal are better for laying hens. Don't mix their food so thin as to be sloppy; a good deal of it will be wasted, and besides the fowls don't like it that way; mix stiff enough to "stand alone." Give your fowls a warm meal every morning; they need it during cold weather; it warms them up and makes them feel good right off. Give it to them early; the days are short and the nights are long, hens get up hungry, and don't like standing around waiting for breakfast any better than some men I know of. It is best to cook the breakfast the evening before and then it can quickly be warmed up.

A heaping teaspoonful of cayenne pepper, well mixed in the dough, is enough for your flock of forty, and do not give it oftener than once a week when your fowls are in good health. Don't waste food; give your fowls no more than they will eat up clean. After you have given them their breakfast, throw a few handfuls of grain among the leaves on the floor, and if the fowls do not seem to care whether they scratch it out or not, give them less breakfast next time. And don't fall into the other extreme and starve your fowls—you will find it mighty poor economy. Hens can not lay unless

they are well fed, and it takes more food in winter than in summer.—*Ohio Farmer.*

## Roup.

A correspondent inquires of the symptoms, cause and cure for roup. This disease of fowls is a very disagreeable disease in all respects. It is produced by having too many fowls in a small place, dampness, sudden change in the weather, lousy birds, etc. Birds late in moulting are often affected with it, being very susceptible to the changes. Its first indications are difficulty in breathing, a very offensive breath, running discharge at the nostrils, swelling of the eyes and head; the head becomes very feverish—often a rattling in the throat. Sometimes there is a loss of appetite and sometimes not. Often the affected bird will become blind. In mild cases wash the head and mouth out with warm vinegar or soda water; keep in a dry, warm place; feed soft foot seasoned with stimulants. Isolate all cases from other fowls, as by drinking from the same dish the disease is contagious. In severe cases the only effective cure is the hatchet.

A flock of hens will pay for themselves before they are one year old, if they are rightly cared for. You can then sell them, if you choose, for a good price, and raise another lot; but it is not advisable to do so, as the second year is the most profitable; but do not keep them after they are two years old, for after that age they do not pay well.

## Apiary.

## Bees.—Natives and Italian.

It amuses me, somewhat, to sit still and read the different opinions of men, (perhaps editors) on bees. In your issue of the 14th Inst., I find quite a eulogy on the Italian bees. The author seems to be quite visionary, I think, for he says they are harder than the common or native bees; also says that an expert bee-keeper can tell Italian eggs, etc. Now let me say that this is not the kind of hash (so to speak) that should be fed to young bee-keepers, for we certainly must acknowledge that we are Americans, and you know that as such we are willing to compare native Americans against the world. I think that the native bees are as hardy, comparatively, as anything else, yet I do not say that they are more hardy than imported bees. I will agree with him upon the beauty of the Italians, for they are real beauties; and we find that some of the young queens of both kinds are surprisingly prolific layers, and often fill a hive with young bees in an almost incredibly short time; but there is not so much difference as there is in their size and strength, for the Italians are much larger and can bear up a greater load against our strong winds, and can protect their stores better against robbers, than the natives. As to disposition they are naturally more quiet, yet when aroused they are nearly as bad as yellow jackets. I would advise all bee-keepers to try them, and you will find them, if gently handled, to be real pets.

Now, Mr. Editor, what I want to get at is this, that we should not overdraw the line in favor of anything, but have the unvarnished truth, and that is this, that the Italians will not quite fill the expectations of beginners, measured by the article from the *American Agriculturist*.  
HIRAM J. WARD.  
Farmington, Kansas.

## Horticulture.

## Rot and Mildew of the Grape.

The precautionary measures largely adopted by leading fruit growers, consist in a free use of sulphur, applied by dusting the vines occasionally from the time the seed is formed until the coloring is at least half completed.

Vineyards with southern exposure are generally considered more nearly exempt from rot than many others, especially if the soil is naturally a well-drained one and so situated that no stagnant moisture can exist upon it. A correspondent writing on the treatment of grapes to avoid rot, in the *Farmer's Advocate*, urges the use of the spade instead of the plough in the preparation of the land for planting. He says: "When one knows how to use a spade it is a very simple method, much more rapid and less costly than would be thought. An acre dug to the depth of twenty to twenty-four inches costs little relatively, the vines find ample support in a soil thus worked, and the grapes will not rot."

It is further suggested that the soil about the vines be thoroughly worked in the spring with a spade, followed by four or five hoeings in the summer, whether there are weeds or not, in order to keep the ground constantly stirred. All cultivation should be done in fine weather and when the soil is dry. Keep the ground worked as deep as may be done with the hoe. It will then remain cool, the vines will thrive and the quality of the fruit or wine be improved thereby.

In garden culture, for a single row, the border should be eight or ten feet long and about four feet wide. An approved mode of preparation is to dig out the natural soil to the required depth and length and width necessary. If the soil be stiff or damp small stones, brush and rubbish must be laid at the bottom as a sort of drainage. On top of this deposit the compost for the border. This may consist of two parts of good, fresh, friable loam, one of old, well rotted manure, and one of ashes, shells and broken bones, all mixed together. The top of the border when finished ought to be at least a foot higher than the surface of the ground, so

that it may still remain higher after settling. When a southern exposure which gives the vines the benefit of the sun's rays all day can not be gained, an eastern exposure will often be found successful, especially with the early ripening varieties. A northern exposure ought to be avoided if possible, and if used the hardy, early-ripening varieties only should be planted.—*N. Y. World.*

## Miscellaneous.

## Trees for the Prairies.

Having seen the treeless prairies last fall, I wish to add my say to so important a question. My first notice was of the few scattering trees along the side of streams, that they were more scraggy, crooked and less thrifty than trees east or in eastern Kansas. Especially was it the case where trees grew alone, or at a distance from others. I saw cottonwoods and box elders growing nearly alone, or by the road side that had the appearance of old age, or as if they had suffered neglect, yet neither was true, and it was to an extent surprising; and I saw the same kinds of trees grow in closely planted groves, that were decidedly vigorous. I observed it so often on all kinds of trees that I came to the conclusion that trees must be planted closer to produce the best results. Were I to advise on the distance should say twice as close as required on timber claims. They will grow more erect, more vigorous, make a better wind break, and produce more and better trees per acre.

There is no tree indigenous to this state, but that deserves a place on the planters list. The cottonwood takes the lead, and should be followed by the black walnut, white ash and other hard wood trees.

The osage hedge and the honey locust found growing along our streams, make fine durable trees, and wood; and the tree perhaps forever doomed by H. Greeley could fill an important place in the farm economy of the west, as a tree for fencing material—I mean the Lombardy poplar, and believe, if people will plant them, where their stock yards are to be, in rows three or four feet apart and eight inches in the rows, they will make a wind break forthwith, and when five or six years old, will make poles to use as rails, and nail on, or weave in, between those standing for a fence, and then people can quit using long ropes to fasten their stock to hay or straw stacks. If cut and peeled in summer they will make light and durable poles for years, and others are growing for shelter and more poles; so we can have a perpetual supply of timber in a short time. They can also be planted along road sides one foot apart; when strong enough, weave through them a barbed wire and you have plenty of shade, fence, wind break, and fire wood. The poplar wood is not durable unless it is peeled in summer, and then I have seen it last well. A. H. G.

## Has No Faith in Sorghum.

A correspondent of the *Cultivator* having made "some remarks" in regard to that paper's scepticism in regard to the prosperous future of sorghum, replies as follows: (The *Cultivator* is a strong advocate of beet sugar.)

"We have said and do say there are serious obstacles against its successful use as a sugar-yielding plant; and that Mr. Le Duc and other gentlemen engaged in pushing its sugar capacity upon the public, by advertising sorghum machinery in government publications, were misleading the people. We still insist that such is the case. The success of sorghum works at the west, particularly the present season, as reported by several of the local papers, is not unknown to us; but such reports written up by enthusiastic reporters, who know little of the matter, are of no sort of value, and do not fairly represent the business. That, for instance, giving an account of the making of sugar at Woodstock, Ill., possesses no significance whatever. It states that sugar has been made from sorghum. Everybody admits that this can be done—but what is of more consequence is, what did it cost? How much sugar was yielded by an acre of sorghum cane, and what was the polarizing value of the product? Until these facts appear it is not fair to call the enterprise a success. There are difficulties and obstacles in the successful working of sorghum which do not appear in the case of the sugar beet. It has a starchy, siliceous structure which is difficult to break down, and the large amount of glucose which it contains is a troublesome matter to handle. On the contrary, sugar beets contain almost no glucose, if properly treated, and they can, therefore, be worked to great advantage by refiners. Samples of melardo, raw sugar, from the beets worked up by the Maine Beet Sugar Co., have been analyzed in this city this fall, and show as high as seventy-six per cent. of pure cane sugar; one house having lately purchased fifty hogheads of this product from this company. There can possibly be no rivalry or jealousy between our sugar refiners and the sorghum syrup manufacturers, for the farmer would be very glad to purchase the raw sugar of the latter at a paying price to them."

Among the influences that have largely contributed to unfold and expand the husbandry of this country, the steady, earnest, and persistent work of our agricultural journals, even if not the most conspicuous—is probably the most valuable and important.

Victims of wasted energies will find sure relief in Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It is the most potent purifier and a fountain of health and strength.



## The Best Way of Making Butter.

A great deal has been written of late about Vermont butter making, each article abounding in criticisms, as if the state had wholly lost the difficult art of making butter well. Now to one accustomed to this work there are some very delicate points to be observed, which if strictly adhered to will ensure success to every one who has even moderately good cows. All this past summer and fall our butter has come in from two to five minutes, except once or twice after I had been unable to attend to my milk. During the warm weather I skimmed my milk twice or thrice a day, according to the weather, never allowing it to lopper if it could possibly be avoided. When it could not be I either churned at once before the curds hardened to show in the butter, or threw a handful of salt over the cream. The first way is best, the second sends the curds to the bottom of the dish, and should be left behind when one churns. We made our butter at morning of one day, at night of the next, as a rule, and always had rich, sweet buttermilk fit for use. Our milk room is on the north in summer, away from any fire heat and well ventilated. Many times in succession butter came in a minute and a half, hard and nice, in our crank churn. Later, when cold weather set in, I removed the milk to a warmer place, where the heat from the kitchen could help a little on cold days, and when frost appeared I set the milk, when a day or two old, on the stove, to heat slowly to a scalding point, after which I set it away to stand a day and a night before skimming. There is no way I have ever tried or heard of that ensures such an amount of cream as to set a stove full of pans as the fire declines at night, leaving it to cool off with the stove. In the morning, if the heat was just right—and experience will teach any thoughtful person about the degree of heat—coals only being needed, and not a great abundance of them, usually, it depends upon the capacity of the stove for equalizing each part of its surface, then will all the cream of any value be raised, if not absolutely all that will ever rise. Skim the milk and have done with it provided it was two days and nights old at the heating. The cream will be as thick as leather and usually flake off in a mass. There will be no more long churning, no more curds in the butter, no bitter buttermilk. All will be first-class, and those who have despised winter butter-making will laugh with delight over it as surely as they try this way. Do not buy coloring powders for your lack of color; try the wholesome, healthful root that hurts no one and that you do not fear. Grate your pared carrots into a strong cloth spread over a quart pan; three large ones to six pounds of butter is about right, wring the juice through the cloth, pour into the cream already in the churn and made a little warm, wring out again dipped in a half cupful of warm water, add that also and try if you can, by slow or fast churning, hinder the butter from coming quickly. Our butter is pronounced first-class by all, and so may any one's be if only the same process is adopted. Pour out the buttermilk, leaving the butter in the churn, add two or three dippers of pure cold water and churn a minute more; if too warm, or if any little white flakes appear, pour out and rinse again. It will ensure solid, perfect butter. Salt with Higgins' salt; look out, for it is twice as strong nearly as any other, and will never fail to keep the butter well. Let the butter stand one night, then work over just once, spat it until it is solid and compact—no more, else it will be oily—and keep it, if you please, till June. If butter boxes are to be used, fill them first with boiling water, cool, make a strong brine of rock salt and fill a box, after it is strained clear, full to the brim. Set it in a pan or pail, and as it lowers fill with water, so that it cannot harm the top of the butter when the rest is fresh. Prepare the box beforehand when you need to use it, and as soon as the butter is worked rinse the box in cold water and pack it down with a mallet made for the purpose. Smooth off with butter stick, cover with a cloth dipped in the brine, and you are through. The brine can serve well for three months by adding an occasional handful of salt, and can save trouble if the next box is scalded and ready to pour it into when it is necessary to empty the first one. I have been very explicit in this article for the benefit of the young makers that find their work a toil, and know not all the best methods of securing desired results. It will not hurt some older ones if they read it too.—*Auntie Dee, in Record and Farmer.*

## The Drive-Well Monopoly.

The hired agents of the Drive-Well monopoly are again turned loose upon the farmers and others who are so unfortunate as to have one of those contrivances upon their premises, as will be seen by the following notice, which we clip from the *Fremont Herald*:

## "TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

"Time having expired to allow discount on royalties for driven wells (pumps), all infringers must pay the full amount of ten dollars after December 10, 1879, in this county, for a license on each and every well of such construction in use. Ample notice having been given, all who neglect to pay will be liable, without notice, to suit for damages and injunctions, restraining them from use of such wells.

## "Agent for Dodge county."

But the citizens of that propinquity do not propose to submit to the will of the so-called "patentees" of the drive-well, and at once called a meeting at Fremont on the 8th of December, over which Dr. Abbott presided, and R. Bridge, Esq., acted as secretary. A committee, consisting of W. A. Marlow, R. Kittle, and

Geo. Messenger, was appointed to investigate the matter (the right of the self-styled agents to royalty for simply using a system that is as old as Methuselah's goat); a committee was also appointed to collect fifty cents from each person using one of these wells, with a view to meeting all necessary expenses incurred in fighting the matter to a successful end. We ask the committee, of which Mr. Marlow is chairman, to apprise the *Farmer* of the result of their investigations, to the end that we may spread it all over the state. One firm of these "patent" cormorants which attempted to collect money from farmers in Iowa were met with a decision of the courts to the effect that they had no right to demand, and that parties using drive-wells were not compelled to pay royalty. That the assumption of a right to royalty is an outrage no decent man denies, and we hope none of our patrons will pay a cent to the "agent for Dodge county" or any other county of the state. Organize yourselves for action—as the Dodge county people have—and turn a bold front upon the enemy. Millions for war, but not a cent for tribute.—*Nebraska Farmer.*

## Patrons of Husbandry.

## Country Society.

Young people in the country suffer most of all from being deprived of the kind of society they need. It often happens that the only society they have access to, is of a character that makes it worse than none. The conversation of the circle that meets in the evening at the country store, or bar-room, is rarely of a kind that tends to improve the minds of young men, and the classes that assemble at public houses and elsewhere for midnight dances, do not promote refinement in either sex. It is here that the grange has proved the greatest blessing. It provides a place where the young of both sexes may meet and cultivate the graces of society, in a moral atmosphere and at seasonable hours. It is a misfortune that every rural community is not blessed with a grange. The most intelligent and moral young men and women in the country, finding no society that is congenial to their tastes, too often forsake all company and become recluses in their own houses. Being willing and apt at their work they always find plenty to do, and so become drudges in their incessant toil, narrowing and darkening their whole lives. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy;" and it is a great pity to find as we often do, a farmer whose acres are numbered in hundreds, who is able to give his children excellent opportunities, but whose sons have been doomed so long to drudgery that they know nothing but their work, and are surpassed in address by the average newsboy.

Farmers and their sons must of course work hard, but winter affords little opportunity for relaxation, and our boys and girls should be encouraged to cultivate a kind of society that will benefit them. In many neighborhoods the houses are not so remote as to prevent the young people from forming miniature societies for social improvement. One who has not tried it does not know how much pleasure and profit may be obtained from little meetings of this kind, even if they have but four or five members. Let them meet each week and one member bring a selection to read, another a story to tell; indulge occasionally in a little debate and add singing, games or any innocent amusement at pleasure. Evenings spent in this way, will pass pleasantly and bring pleasure and profit to all who participate in them.—*Husbandman.*

## The Farmer in Politics.

Next year will be an eventful one to the farmers of this country in a political way, and the "machine" men are already kindly advising the cultivators of the soil to tend to crops and herds, and not think of caucuses or elections. Of late years the opinion has gained ground in rural districts that candidates are of quite as much importance as platforms, and that attention to the primaries is the duty of every citizen. In not a few instances this conviction has made a commotion among the wire-pullers and log-rollers, especially of the west; and if a judicious and common sense view of politics is taken by farmers, they will have more representatives among the national and state legislatures next year.

The time has gone by for intemperate criticism of law-makers by those who do not lift a finger in the affairs of state. Why does the farmer go into his grain lot or dairy, and complain that the freights are ruinously high, and all the politicians of the land sit only for the prison? Whose fault is it? Is not the farmer a citizen, and are not the citizens the source of all political power? The farmer who indulges in tirades against political hacks, yet keeps away from caucuses, is not worthy to be a citizen. Perhaps farmers would not relish the charge of being the ultimate cause of political corruption. But in a measure it is true. Indifference to the public welfare is as dangerous to the state as sedition and dishonesty. All that any thief asks is to be left alone. A Virginia writer recently congratulated the granges of that state for keeping out of politics. Perhaps if they had "dabbled" more in it, the recent repudiation agitation would not have placed the Old Dominion in such a false light before the world. No one can doubt for an instant that the land-owners, and intelligent people of the state, desire to pay their debts. Why, then, were not the land-owners found in the thickest of the fight when the honor of the state was at stake?

It should be remembered that Cincinnatus, that old Roman farmer, was called to do state service, not because he could hold a plow, but

because he knew something about state-craft and if the farmers have no remedy for acknowledged evils, they will not secure the public vote by a simple hue-and-cry. Well digested synopses of public questions, with a definite plan of operations, is what will make the farmer of importance in politics.

Wherever men gather together to discuss public matters, there let the farmer be; wherever candidates are to be selected for public offices, let the farmer try his hand in selecting men that will represent him; and wherever monopolists plan to get rich at the public expense, let the strong agricultural arm be raised against speculation, fraud, and injustice. The farmer should be more than a nominal quantity in our politics. He should dictate measures, and not limit his duties of citizenship to choosing between the bad candidates of city bosses and machine politicians.—*Land and Home.*

## The Elevating Influences of the Grange.

[Extract from the report of the Master of the Maryland State Grange.]

Again we are urged to discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, and every system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy. Could any advice have been more needed in 1873? (a period of depression following the inflated prices and extravagance engendered by the years of war through which we have passed,) and could any community have made greater progress in these most important matters than the farmers of Maryland? I feel sure that none can truthfully assert that the grange has not accomplished great good wherever its purposes have been carried out in the true spirit. My thoughts have been so happily expressed in a recent article of E. G. D. Holden, who, though not a member of our order, has so thoroughly caught the spirit of our teachings, that I cannot refrain from quoting some of his words. He says:

"Associations of mutual interests and community for mutual relief, operating through friendly channels of fraternal regard, necessarily improve the condition of every member. A better knowledge of the world is reached. Selfishness to a large extent, is rubbed out. The heart is enlarged. Men come to know each other better. Each member feels that he no longer stands alone; he feels that others are interested in him, and he in turn is interested in them. And this interest among the Patrons, if we have read them rightly, is not by any means confined to the purchase of a bushel of wheat, a reaper or a ton of plaster, nor yet to the hearth of his neighbor's family. These things are included among the good it does; but its true greatness after all is not measured in dollars saved or dollars earned. It rises so far above that that all right minded men have come to regard the grange as a national help. It is the backbone of the country, and has become a most important factor in the advancement of states. It is all this because it has educated many minds that waited only for opportunities. The eagerness with which it was embraced but too plainly proved that it was long-looked-for come at last.

"Our observation has proved that this institution has not only been of great benefit to its members, but also to the states and nation. The one proposition proves the other. Anything that benefits the people benefits the state. They are one and can never be divorced. The one is the other, and nothing can ever be taken away from itself.

"If, therefore, the grange has taught its members better business habits, better modes of buying and selling, taught them lessons in domestic and political economy, and opened up new avenues of thought and progress within its gates, it has also made the state wealthier and happier,—in that it has thereby improved the condition of the people. As we view it, the grange has accomplished all this; but even then, grand as the result may be, is not all. The grange hall and the session become not only the place where social greetings are extended, where those formerly far apart have been drawn close together, but it has also been made the school for literary and scientific research; all the time educating and all the time bettering every one privileged to sit within the shadow of its mystic fold.

"More than this, the grange has given a new dignity to the position of the farmer. It has taught him that he is no longer the one always to work, but the one to be served. He commands the situation. It has given him new ideas of his independence, and has the more impressed upon his soul the truism, that the soil is the source of all wealth, and that in the prosecution of business affairs others must depend more upon him than he upon them. The very causes which brought the grange into existence, and its rapid growth during the few years of its life, are a stronger proof than anything else can be of the necessity for its organization. It has taken a firm hold upon the affections of the people. It benefits them and thus benefits all. Narrow, indeed, and ill-educated, must be the mind and heart that do not extend to it a hearty hand and wish it God speed and good prosperity in its glorious mission. We do not believe it will take any step backward. We do believe that it will hold to its steady dignified way, and become every year more a power for good in all our broad land. All, therefore, who love the state, whose material interests the grange in every way advances, though not permitted to become members, should extend to the Patrons their warmest sympathy. All who love the nation should cheerfully aid all those influences which make a nation great.

"The grange, as we view it, is one of the mightiest of these; and this it will continue, what we as an outsider believe it now to be,—an institution whose aims are all for 'good, for God, our Country and Truth.'"

## 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*.

## WOOL-GROWERS

Can rely upon immunity from contagious disease in their flocks after use of LADD'S TOBACCO SHEEP WASH. GUARANTEED an immediate cure for scab and prevention of infection by that terror to flock-masters. GUARANTEED to more than repay the cost of application by increased growth of wool. GUARANTEED to improve the texture of the fleece instead of injury to it as is the result of the use of other compounds. GUARANTEED to destroy vermin on the animal and prevent a return. GUARANTEED to be the most effective, cheap and safe remedy ever offered to American Wool-growers. No flock-master should be without it. I have the most undoubted testimonials corroborative of above. Send for circular and address orders to W. M. LADD, 21 N. Main St., St. Louis, Mo.

## American Berkshire RECORD.

Notice is hereby given that entries in Volume IV of the Record will close December 1, 1879. For entry blanks or further information address PHIL M. SPRINGER, Sec., Court House Square, Springfield, Ill.

## FOR SALE.

## Registered Jersey Bull.

Outray, A J C H R. No 4355 out of celebrated cow, "Patty Morse" No 5905. \*Imboden Geese, White Leghorn Fowls, Fancy Pigeons, Scotch Collie and Scotch Terrier Dogs, all of whom are from strictly standard and imported stock. For particular description and price address GEO. MCGILLIS' SONS, Leavenworth.

## THE CENTRAL KANSAS BREEDERS ASSOCIATION.

## Offer FOR SALE,

As good Short-Horn Cattle, Berkshire and Poland China swine as can be found in the West. All orders should be sent to the Secretary of the Association. The Executive Committee of the Society will take such orders, and see that Selections are made that cannot fail to give Satisfaction, to the purchasers.

A. W. ROLLINS, Secretary Kansas Central Breeders Association, Manhattan, Kansas.

## Durham Park Herds ALBERT CRANE, BREEDER OF Short-Horn Cattle AND Berkshire Pigs,

Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas.

Catalogues free. The largest and best herds in the west. Over 200 head of cattle, and a like number of Pigs. Prices Low. Address letters to DURHAM PARK, Marion County, Kansas.

## HOGS.



## Southern Kansas Swine Farm.

THOROUGHbred POLAND-CHINAS and BERKSHIRE Pigs and Hogs for sale. The very best of each breed. Early maturity, large growth, and fine style are marked features of our hogs. Terms reasonable. Correspondence solicited. RANDOLPH & PAYNE, Emporia, Kansas.

## Holstein Cattle.

The largest importers and breeders of Holstein Cattle in America. Also large importers and breeders of Clydesdale horses, and breeders of Hambletonian horses of the most approved strains.

Send for catalogue: Prices reasonable. SMITHS & POWELL, Syracuse, New York.

## TREES and PLANTS.

If you want to sell

GRAPE VINES, SMALL FRUITS and choice varieties of

PEACHES, PEARs, CHERRIES, PLUMs, ETC., ETC., on commission, I will give you the

## Most Liberal Terms

of the age. Park Nursery & City Gardens, Lawrence, Kas. P. P. PHILLIPS.

## TO FARMERS AND SHIPPERS.

The undersigned pays cash for dead hogs, greases, hides and tallow at his slaughter house, a half mile south of Topeka.

## W. D. MAXWELL.

## CONSIGNMENTS OF

## APPLES WANTED

for the English market, also correspondence solicited as to game and poultry for November and December supply Commission 5 per cent. Address ALEXANDER & CO., Fruit and General Salesmen, 23 Brunswick St., Liverpool, Eng.

## Breeders' Directory.

BLUE VALLEY HERD.—Walter M. Morgan, Hereford Cattle and Cotswold Sheep, Irving, Marshall county, Y. Kansas. Choice Young Bulls For Sale.

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I have a few choice Plymouth Rock and Brown Leghorn fowls for sale at reasonable figures if applied for soon. Address Mound City Poultry Yards, Mound City, Kansas.

## To Bee-Keepers.

Many of our subscribers are lovers of Honey and would keep bees enough to supply their own tables at least if they knew how. We have made arrangements to furnish all such persons the \$2 page monthly Bee-keeper's Magazine at only \$1 a year (formerly \$1.50) or the Kansas Farmer and Magazine for \$2.00. Also all bee books and articles used in Bee-keeping at very low prices. The Magazine gives beginners just such information as the must have to make the business successful and profitable. Send the money direct to us and we will see that your orders are promptly filled. For Prices of Extracts, Hives, Smokers, Uncapping knives, etc., Address, Publisher of the KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

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When we went to Texas, we picked out the route down through the finest portion of Missouri, by way of the "Queen City" Sedalia, thence to Fort Scott and Parsons, through the garden portion of Kansas, passing along the wonderful "Valley of the Neosho," with its rolling upland prairies, broad majestic rivers, springs of pure water, deep ravines, rich plains of waving corn, dotted here and there with pretty farm cottages nestled under the green slopes. Going south from Parsons, Kansas, our route led down towards the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and we entered the *Charming Indian Territory*, just below Chetopa, Kansas. Beautiful Indian Territory, inexhaustible in its variety of resources, with its mines, forests and prairies; its mountains, canyons and valleys; its valleys, dunes and streams; the brightest skies, the grandest sunsets, the softest twilight and the most brilliant moon and glittering stars; her fair surface covered with the rarest fragrant flowers; home of the wild horse, deer, elk, bear, turkey, grouse and birds of song. Broad winding streams, clear as the fabled mirror in the halls of the fairies, wind along the green prairies, stretching in airy undulations far away as if the ocean in its gentlest swell stood still with all its rounded billows, fixed and motionless for ever. No other country on the globe equals these wonderful lands of the red man. With a lingering look at them we crossed the Red River and entered Denison, the "Gate to Texas." From this point our route led through the finest and richest portion of Texas, through the grain and cotton growing districts, and the wonderful sheep and cattle ranches. What wonderful marks of progress we saw! Our earnest advice to those going to Texas, is to be sure and take the route through the Beautiful Indian Territory, and enter the Gate City, Denison; see that you go by way of the Great Missouri Kansas and Texas Railway.

If you wish a beautiful illustrated guide book, describing Texas and Kansas, and containing articles on cattle raising, and where the best and cheapest lands are, it will be sent you free of address—

JAS. D. BROWN, Texas and Kansas Emigrant Agent, St. Louis, Mo.











## Literary and Domestic.

(Written for the KANSAS FARMER.)  
WAITING.

BY PAUL H. DREME.

The plot of this story is not my own, I have stolen it. But I have stolen it from the great Drama of Life itself, of which this was but one scene, and the actors such as hardly will be missed when off the stage, unless this poor little sketch of mine gives them prominence.

I stole the plot, and I did so to show that there is as much romance around us in every day life as in all the books of fiction and fancies of the author's brain. Then, besides, I have an excuse to fly to if the story should not happen to suit you. Perhaps that was the greater reason!

My story dates back in 1782, and the scenes are laid among the wild forests of Kentucky, which forests were broken here and there at rare intervals, by a little opening or clearing for a log cabin and garden—and along some stream, for a fort and village. Beyond these marks of civilization, roamed only the treacherous Indian, or, occasionally a hunter, whose tastes led him into the wilderness despite dangers and solitude. (Mem. I take it, that when a man loves nature so well as to give up society for her, he is very near God, at least, drawing closer to him.)

In one of these little villages in Mercer county lived the persons of my story. Kate Haley was a true Kentucky woman, able to do the work of a household—go out and tend the garden—split wood if need be—and load and fire a gun if necessary. This maiden had two lovers, (for who could make a heroine out of a girl who had but one?) John Brough and Allan Guy.

For over a year each had been paying her his attentions and expressing his sentiments at the same time in a tangible form by means of a haunch of venison, a wild turkey, or, perhaps, a piece of old Bruin, dropped at her father's door on their return from a hunt. For these two lovers were firm friends and companions in the solitude of the deep forest.

On Sabbath eve they also stopped at the house on the bank of the river—ostensibly to talk to the old gentleman, really, to catch an occasional glimpse of the little figure within doors and to listen to the tender melody that came floating out into the twilight from two fair lips. As I said before, solitude leads one up to God, in this case the companionship of the forest truly seemed to render each heart of these two hunters, too pure for any touch of jealousy. They hunted together, they loved together, and they courted together. It may not have been the best plan in the world, but I am not to blame—I refer the critical reader to the preface at the head of this story?

After the evening work was done, Kate too joined the group and then it seemed as if all the stars came out and illuminated the place. That was Allan's thought, but both were unconscious that the true light was to be found in their hearts, and that light was Kate.

As they sat before the open door, looking out into the west, over the river and into the dark woods beyond, let me sketch the character of these two men who were laying a double siege to the heart of this fair one; it may be of use to us in a complete understanding of the story.

John Brough was a genuine pioneer—a thorough backwoodsman and a true hunter. A stout man bodily and mentally—one who could enjoy to perfection the rough life he was placed in; a man one would instinctively trust to in time of danger as one of power and ability to lead. In one sense we might say that the animal in John predominated over the spiritual. He was a hunter and a worker not a poet or a dreamer.

Allan Guy was nearly the opposite. In size, he was greatly John's inferior, yet in his slight form were sinews like catgut and a power to endure fatigue much beyond his companion. With sharp perception and but moderate continuity, he was able to see at a glance what was required and the rapidity of motion to accomplish it. But when it came to being a leader, men trusted to Brough.

Allan seemed to love his occupation, but rather because he was placed there. Firmly organized, sensitive, idealistic, tender, he was more fitted for higher pursuits than clearing forests and hunting the bear. He was capable of executing the beautiful but not the great.

It was well that the decision of Kate was as she made it, when the two proposed. In choosing John she left a deep sorrow in the heart of the other, but it was in the heart of one able to turn aside and lift his thoughts to other things. With John it would have been different. Slow and steady he lacked that power of submitting to the inevitable and would have spent a life time in brooding over his misfortune.

But while I have been prosing along with description and character, events fly, and with them, I fear, the patience of the reader.

The engagement was quickly followed by a wedding to which congregated all the hunters for miles around. A short honeymoon of two months and then came the Indian insurrection and the disastrous battle of Blue Licks, in which the Kentuckians were defeated and greatly slaughtered by their enemy. John and Allan were both in the battle, but of late they had not been together so much as before, and had fought in different places. Two weeks after the battle Allan came home alone. Kate met him at the door of her cottage and inquired,

"Allan, where is John, have you seen him?"

"Yes, Kate."

"Why did he not come with you? O, he cannot be dead. Where is he?"

And for an answer Allan could only lift his hand and point upward into the infinite depths of the sky. "In heaven," he tried to say, but sobs subdued his voice till it sounded only like a moan.

And after the first burst of grief was over all he could state was, that he had seen Brough taken prisoner by the Indians—that he with a few others had followed them and after a week's journey had come upon a party of more than double their number, and that John with ten others were bound upon a log, with their faces blackened, as was the custom of the savages to do with those condemned to death.

"And you saw them shot?"

"No," replied Guy, "we looked on while five were murdered, but I could not stay and see my friend die without being able to aid him, and so we slipped away and came home."

A suspicious person, knowing of Allan's love for Kate would have suspected foul play from his manner after that day. He seemed full of remorse. Perhaps he was blaming himself for not being by John's side in the fight as he would have been six months before.

However it was—only he and his God knew for he never spoke of his feelings to any one. But Kate knowing him so well, trusted him, and by and by when the daily routine was taken up again they seemed naturally to depend upon one another for help and consolation. And as time flew on, rumor said Allan would yet be happy in her love.

A year passed away and then two and Kate was still a widow. Suitors came to her, but were turned away with the words:

"John is alive somewhere and will return to me some day I know."

At length, one Sabbath evening, much like the ones so well remembered by both, Allan came and stood by her side in the door of the little vine-covered house.

"Katie, you have always been very dear to me—do you know that I am only happy while with you?"

And looking down into his face as he stood before her, Katie answered low.

"Yes, Allan, I know it."

"Will you be my wife?"

Very quiet was this wooing of Allan's. Where there is pure, true, deep love, it rarely shows itself in boisterous expressions.

"If I ever marry any one, I will marry you, but I cannot but feel that John is alive. No, I cannot marry you."

And Allan was compelled to go away knowing that although he was the dearest, the nearest to her on earth, yet there was a nearer, dearer one to her in the dead husband in heaven. And that dead man stood between him and happiness.

But when Allan's love became known, he found powerful allies.

First the old father came to Kate.

"Kate, I hear that Allan Guy has asked you to be his wife."

"Yes, father."

"And you still believe that John is alive?"

"I cannot but feel he is."

"Well, dear, I cannot blame you, but two years should have convinced you differently. But, Katie, if John does not come back, you cannot please me better than by taking Allan."

One by one her relatives broached the subject and plead for Allan. One recounted his goodness, his tenderness to her in affliction and his love for John. At first she silenced them by saying,

"If I thought John were dead, I should marry Allan, for I believe him a true man—but now I cannot."

"Give me time to think."

So they were fain to be content to wait and hope, while Allan, in the depths of the forest, knelt and prayed that "God, in his own good time, would give her to him as his own."

And while the one watched and waited, and the other hoped and prayed, God, in his own way, which is "higher and better than ours," was evidently working out their lives for the best.

The spring gave way to summer and summer to autumn, when Allan came to Kate again to plead the old, old story. This time October winds were blowing, and the forests were either brightly tinted or entirely stripped of their verdure. It was a sad day, but suited them both, for they had both grown into a more sober manner in the days of waiting. Still it was not despondency, but the kind of sadness which nourishes and brings out the full soul.

This time the wooing was even more quiet than before, but under the quiet tones was bound down a strong passion only checked by the master hand.

"Katie, I can wait no longer. If there were any hope of John being alive, duty would conquer love. I can wait no longer? Will you be my wife?"

And placing her own small hand in his, in the same sad, quiet tone, Katie answered,

"Yes, Allan, I will."

And hand in hand they walked into the little cottage, the one with sad, troubled thoughts lest she had wronged the dead, and the other with a calm happiness and strong faith that the prayers of the forest had at last been answered.

The last day of October was set as the day of the marriage, and Kate's friends, pleased at the decision, were busy preparing to make it a gala day, such as the little backwoods village had never seen before. All the fruits of the year had been levied upon as well as the results of a week's hunting by Allan. Early on the morning of that day, long before the sun had sent his first rays of light through the trees to the settlement, Katie and her sister were up and at

work, putting the finishing touches to all those things necessary for the enjoyment of the guests. Just before daybreak, while the morn was yet cool and dark, suddenly the sharp report of a rifle shot broke the stillness of the approaching sunlight. Instantly Katie dropped her work, and exclaimed, "That's John's gun," and rushed to the door. There came a man walking quickly and impatiently out of the forest, crushing down the low underbrush, nor letting anything hinder his approach to the cabin.

"Katie!" rang out clear and joyously, from the lips of one so long numbered with the dead.

"Katie!" and there, in the semi-darkness of the morning, John clasped his wife in his arms. The dead had returned to claim his own.

Within half an hour the whole village was awakened and startled by the news: "John Brough is alive and has come home to his wife!"

Then came hand-shakings and welcoming, and amid the excited questions as to his escape, John told his story, and while he was telling it, his hearers were impressed more and more that he had indeed come back from the dead.

"Oh, John, they told me you were dead, but I never believed it until very lately."

"I came as near death as a man often does without dying."

"But we heard that you, with ten others, had been blackened and killed," said a friend, and then a shiver, and the first suspicion of Allan's treachery ran through the crowd.

"So I was. Eleven of us were brought to one place, our faces blackened, ready for death. I was the eleventh. One by one my companions were slaughtered by the Indians, before my eyes, but when they came to me they stopped and held a great pow-wow. One pointed to my shoulders, another to my arms, and at length, after a great deal of talking, I was released and taken with them. They kept me a pretty close prisoner for some time, but by degrees, as they thought I was becoming used to their life, they gave me more and more freedom, until at length I was allowed full liberty, although I knew that every action was watched. It was only a month ago I succeeded in escaping with my rifle, that had been retained, and it took a month to get back home, the rascals had carried me so far west."

As he concluded, the crowd gave way in silence for the approach of one who had just come to the house of his bride. A vacant walk was opened for him at the end of which stood John with his wife leaning on his shoulder. Even in those backwoods the rude pioneer had a feeling of sentiment in such a scene, and the joy over one returned from the dead was hushed into sorrow at the silent approach of one who, coming to claim his bride, had found only disappointment as his portion.

Unconscious of the course events had taken during his absence, John stepped forward and greeted Allan as the firm friend who had come, tardily it is true, to welcome him home. As Allan reached out his slender hand and took John's large one in his own, the people who were present say they never saw such a struggle in any man's face before or after. Evil and good feelings of the soul plainly spoke through the face, but in a moment the better predominated, and quietly shaking the hand of his friend, said:

"I welcome you home, John," and turning, went out of the circle of friends, out of the village, into the deep forest in which he had prayed and hoped, to sit down and realize that the end had come, and that his prayers and waiting had all been in vain.

Alone with his grief, his burden and his heartache, he struggled for the mastery, and he conquered. But when the conflict ended, his footsteps were turned from the village which had been the scene of his life tragedy—turned from the place of his conflict and victory, and farther and farther into the stillness and desolation of the leafless forest. The renunciation had been made, but he had not strength to take up again the old life amid old scenes, and so sought refuge in the perils and solitude of the new.

Four years passed—Allan, an exile, having never returned to the settlement since his wedding morn. Occasionally John and Katie heard from him through some stray hunter or trapper who visited them, but the rough but humane hunter knew it was best not to search for him, but that in his own time he would return when he felt that his self-driven exile could be given up.

Then came the battle which has gone down in history as St. Clair's defeat. Here the two friends met at last, but only for an instant, to be separated by death. John was mortally wounded, and when Allan found him, had only strength to say: "Allan, my friend, your days of waiting are over. I give Katie into your hands—take care of her," and died.

Tenderly as a brother, Allan took up the dead man and bore him from the field and prepared the body for burial, and after the last sad rites were performed, shouldered his rifle and set out on his return home.

The period of mourning was over, during which the friend had proven a friend indeed. There was a tender regard paid him from all his old associates as he mingled with them again—a little older—a little thinner—yet with a quiet happiness and peace that only comes through great tribulation.

Again it is Sabbath evening, and the two around whose feet the fates had wove such strange webs, were standing beneath the rough, old trees of the forest.

"Katie, I have waited very long. You know what John's wish was when he died. Shall it be at an end?"

And a second time he heard the words from the lips he loved:

"Yes, it shall end now."

God, in his own way, had worked out the problem of their lives, and now, after many years of sorrow and waiting which tried and purified, Allan received the answer to his prayer and entered into joy complete.

And so they walked down the slope to the river, hand in hand, even as hereafter they were to walk down the western slope of life and on to the river of death.

## A Good Minute's Pudding With Shorts

Put one quart of water in a pot or stew-kettle. As soon as it boils, if milk is plenty add one quart, but water will do very well; add a little salt; stir in the flour quickly. Take from the stove as soon as it is thickened, as it scorches easily. It helps one of Miss Corson's twenty-five cent dinners out. It is good for supper, too. If there is enough left put it in a deep dish, or half-gallon crock; pack it down well and put a plate on top. In the morning cut in thin slices and fry on the griddles for breakfast. We always use the shorts, or middlings. They make good biscuit, and they are wholesome, too. One-third corn meal and two of shorts make good griddle cakes.

Will you, or some one, please tell how any woman can make good butter, when she has to keep the milk in a small kitchen?

Will it be an injury to apple trees to set walnuts, or butternuts, near them?

DELIA P. CRIPPEN.

There is no way to insure good butter when the cream is kept in a small kitchen without a Cooley Creamer.

Do not plant walnut trees in an orchard, or near other fruit trees.

## Fresh Fruits and Health.

The following truthful passages occur in the address of J. M. Hubbard, before the Connecticut State Board of Agriculture.

Fresh vegetables and fresh fruits are a means of sound health for which no equivalent has ever been found. There are substitutes for them, and they answer their purpose after a fashion, but none of them equal or can equal in health giving quality, ripe fruits from the orchard, and fresh vegetables from the garden with the pure crisp flavor of their earthly home still clinging to them. And as I think of the succession of fruits which troop through all the summer and autumn months, marching as they needs must do with locked step to avoid treading upon each other's heels, I feel that no words of mine can fitly speak their praise. As ministers of health, or ministers of pleasure the fruits of the earth are unrivaled. And there is not one of them that does not lose something of health and pleasure giving quality by handling, by transportation and by lapse of time. The perfection of quality which pertains to these articles as they come from garden and orchard eludes the grip of the most ingenious contrivance for its preservation.

"Some of the staple articles of food will bear much handling, transportation for a great distance, storage for a considerable length of time, without serious injury. Thanks to the practical direction given to scientific investigation and inventive genius at the present day, we are constantly learning how to do this in a larger and better way, and have already greatly enlarged the list of articles which can be handled and transported without serious injury. I heartily rejoice at this fact. I would that every toiler of earth, wherever his vocation requires him to live, might be assured of a food supply, abundant, varied and wholesome."

"But this is a demand not easily enforced. Money even cannot always command it. Care at a distance from the source of supply cannot insure it, but care at the source of supply can insure it. And this is the farmer's position. He stands at the fountain head and can help himself before the stream has gathered the inevitable impurities which its lower course exhibits. However small his farm, however humble his home, however limited his means, he may have in addition to the bread and meat and manufactured dairy products which are within the reach of all—the summer fruits and vegetables in their season, and the fresh, untainted and unadulterated milk, which are not practically within the reach of many of his fellows."

The Boston school committee have decided to establish an industrial school. The plan is to give each pupil an opportunity to try various kinds of manual labor, and when it is determined which he shall make his specialty, shops will be provided where he can be instructed in the details of his work. These schools are to be provided for by the public funds. This is a step in the right direction. An opportunity will be given for the training of the body and the mind at the same time, with a reasonable prospect of securing a more healthy and symmetrical development of both than by the old plan. It may be well for those who are to enter college to study Latin and Greek, but for the thousands who do not propose to pursue a classical course of study, the plan of industrial schools will have an important bearing upon the educational systems of the future.

Something is being done toward the abundant food supply of the future. Shad have been domesticated in Lake Ontario; two new kinds of fish, the pole-flounder and tile-fish, have been introduced into our salt waters. German carp flourish in American ponds; and Prof. Baird thinks a fair beginning has been made in multiplying healthy food-fish in the interior lakes.

## 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.

\$66 a week in your own town. Terms and \$5 outfit free. Address H. HALLER & CO., Portland, Me.

\$77 a Month and expenses guaranteed to Agent. Outfit free. Shaw & Co., Augusta, Maine.

\$777 a Year and expenses to agents. Outfit free. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

\$72 a WEEK. \$12 a day at home easily made. Costly outfit free. TRUE & CO., Augusta, Me.

50 brilliant, chromo, and tortoise shell cards in case with name 10c; outfit 10c Hall Bros, Northford Ct.

80 samples photo duplex etc, cards, 10c; Autograph Album 10c; Globe Print Co, Northford, Ct.

60 Pin-a-4, photo gilt edge etc cards, and 1 Hudson Valley chromo 10c. Davids & Co, Northford Ct.

62 Gold, crystal, lace, perfumed & chromo cards, name in gold & jet 10c Clinton Bros, Clintonville Ct.

\$5 to \$20 per day at home. Samples worth \$5 free. Stinson & Co., Portland, Me.

Your Name and Address on 50 Gilt. Duplex, etc, cards, in case, 15c. David Bros, Northford, Ct.

PHOTOGRAPH VISITING CARDS. Send 10c for circular and 80 samples. Seary Bros, Northford Ct.

62 All-chromo and Glass CARDS 10c. 80 Agents Samples 10c. CHROMO CARD CO, Northford Ct.

DO YOU WANT \$25 A DAY? W. W. WAKER CITY GALVANIC CO, Philadelphia, Pa.

\$55.66 Agents Profit per Week. Will prove it or forfeit \$500. 24 Outfit free. E. G. RIDEOUT & CO., 215 Fulton St. N. Y.

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Official Reports and Circulars free. Address, T. POTTER WIGHT & CO., Bankers, 30 W 11 St., N. Y.

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We will pay agents a salary of \$100 a month and expenses, or allow a large commission, to sell our new and wonderful inventions. We mean what we say. Sample Free. Address Sherman & Co., Marshall, Mich.

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at greatly reduced price. Send stamp for our New Illustrated Catalogue.

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AGENTS NEVER FAIL TO MAKE \$125 PER MONTH, selling our nickel-plated FAMILY SCALE.

It is endorsed by the press and public for accuracy, convenience and cheapness. Sells at sight to every housekeeper. By securing territory which will be given free, you become your own proprietor of a pleasant and profitable business. Write for terms and territory.

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I have for sale some handsome, pure bred imported Shepherd Pups. Address A. V. DEDDELL, Topeka, Kas.

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90 PER CENT DISCOUNT FOR CASH IN FULL AT DATE OF PURCHASE.

For Further Information Address

JOHN A. CLARK,

Fort Scott, Kansas LAND COMMISSIONER.







## Communications.

## Whisky and Revolvers.

The gentleman that wrote the letter in the last issue of the FARMER, on "Whisky and Revolvers," I beg leave to disagree with. I am not an advocate of the former as a beverage, but as a medicine, and think its manufacture should never be abolished. I am not a Good Templar, but, thank God, still a temperate man.

As for revolvers, I think they are all right, as they are for men of good character, but not fit for boys and drunkards. To deprive the public by stringent laws from carrying them, would be imposing upon the innocent for self protection, as they are the ones who obey the laws, and not the thieves, cut-throats and murderers, for they still would carry them, no matter what laws were passed. For my part, I think there is too many carried by boys and men that should not have them, and not enough by men that should have them. How many times have whole trains of cars been stopped in Kansas and other states, by six or eight men, and held at bay until the last express package or mail bag was robbed, and then allowed to pass on, when if there had been a like number of men on the train with good revolvers, they could have sent the robbers on their way rejoicing, and probably have sent some of them to their long homes, where all such men ought to be, if they will not reform, and saved thirty or fifty thousand dollars from being stolen from each train. For my part, I would rather carry a revolver in Kansas than too many greenbacks, but as I don't carry much of the latter, I am saved the trouble of carrying either.

Morris Co., Kansas.

Our correspondent overlooks some important facts. If drunkenness did not entail so much disease upon the offspring of drinking parents, there would be much less medicine needed. And some of the leading medical men of the world express the opinion that the harm resulting from the use of alcohol in medicine and as medicine, very much outweighs the good. When placed between two evils, which should be chosen? Before Colt invented the revolver, people got along about as safely as they do with the revolvers. There is not a shadow of doubt that the passengers on every train that has ever been stopped and robbed by a half dozen outlaws, had in their pockets at the time ten revolvers to one displayed by the robbers, but taken at a disadvantage they were afraid to use them. Laws forbidding theft and other crimes, do not stop them entirely, but check them to a large extent, and make them disreputable. A license for carrying revolvers and other pistols, would break up the disreputable practice in a great measure, among those "boys and men" whom, as our correspondent very justly says, should not carry them. Laws have never yet been potent enough to entirely cure the evils which affect society, but they restrain and limit them very materially.

## A Plea for the Dogs.

Somebody ought to speak a word in their behalf. The criminal at the bar of justice is allowed counsel to plead for his life, and the benefit of any doubt that may come between him and death; and I therefore arise as a voluntary advocate for the dogs.

Charges have been preferred that they are "ugly," "vicious," "destructive," and with regard to sheep growers, "the greatest enemies they have to contend with," and the general public, as jury, is expected to concur in this view, and give in a verdict accordingly.

I do not claim to be remarkably tender-hearted. I will own that when I saw that funny diagram in the FARMER of Jan. 7th, and read the accompanying article on the subject, I too was ready to cry "Death to the dogs!"

"Object teaching," has a peculiar power, certainly, and I still admire the general get-up, purpose and point of this lesson; but one will have "second thoughts," and they came to me when I went to the back door to give Our Dog his usual allowance of griddle cakes.

He came bounding along at my call, fairly beaming with gratitude and happiness, and wagging himself all over, tail and body, as is his fashion on such occasions.

"Poor fellow!" thought I, "you were not counted in with the 1005 dogs of Blank Co., but you will be counted next census, and what if your poor head should have to be lopped off for the sake of the sheep interest?"

Then I thought it all over again; for the mere sight of Our Dog had turned to my view another side of the subject.

Not that he is a remarkable dog at all. He is not noble in lineage, or looks, or character or manners. He is not a Newfoundland, nor a shepherd, nor pointer, nor spaniel, nor poodle, nor anything in fact but just simply a "yaller dog."

He never received a blue ribbon at a dog show. He never saved anybody's drowning child. He never did any of those cute things that are reported for the press. And as to manners, he has none. He runs out into the public highway to bark at every passer-by without regard to age, sex or condition.

And furthermore, he is not so young as he used to be. Age has blunted his teeth and frequent pitched battles with other dogs have made him rheumatic in his motions; but his barking is fairly terrific yet; and therein lies the secret of his usefulness and the reason why our chickens sleep in peace while those of our neighbor's are destroyed by wolves. The cowardly creatures are afraid of the big noise he makes and they go elsewhere for meat.

Now then, if we destroy the dogs for the sake of the sheep interest, what is to become of the unprotected poultry interest? Of course the value of the latter seems trifling in comparison, but it is not trifling to the many struggling homesteaders who have chickens, but no sheep and no immediate prospect of getting any. Let us live and let live. As the less of two evils we had better keep the dogs or some of them at least. Certainly I know that statistics are solid things, but do wolves never kill sheep?

Somebody give us a "tabulated statement" of the number of wolves in Kansas, and compute their destructiveness.

Why right here in sight of a thriving young city, in the "garden county of the state" as our county paper delights to call it, we hear the wolves yelp and howl of nights as if the land were full of them.

Why it is so, I cannot find out. There are plenty of sportsmen to kill the quails and young prairie chickens, and to frighten the deer and antelope to the far frontier, and as for the picturesque jack rabbit both man and beast prey upon him, but the wolf roams his native haunts unmolested except by the faithful dogs standing guard over his master's hen roosts.

No; Kansas can't spare her dogs yet. Not all of them. So for their sakes, and for the sake of the poultry of the state I protest against this indiscriminate condemnation. Or at least if they must be sacrificed, give us leave to hide Our Dog under a washtub till the slaughter is over.

We hope the writer of the above will often "find something to say" and say it as well as his "Plea for the Dogs."—Ed.

## Sunny Kansas.

The new year has come with everything lovely—January almost as pleasant as May; makes us think that spring is nigh. The Canadians can have their good land, with snow and ice, and the Michigansers can have their fat goose for Christmas, but give me sunny Kansas. I have been in sixteen states of the Union, and like Kansas best of all. With her fine climate, her fertile soil, her beautiful streams of water, and her majestic prairies, she excels them all, and I would dare to say that the child is born that will live to see her one of the wealthiest states in the Union. Immigrants intending to come west will do well to give Kansas a call, and stay six months in summer, and if you have any get-up about you, or a desire to grow up with an enterprising set of people, you will stay in Kansas a lifetime. I would say to the young man of the east, as Horace Greeley said, "Go west, young man, and grow up with the country." This was surely good advice. To the old and middle-aged, we would say to them, "If you are well fixed and contented, stay where you are, for there is nothing like comfort and contentment; if not, come to Kansas, for it will pay even the gray-haired men to come, if not comfortably situated in the east."

Wheat in this county still looks well, but the hard freezing of December has doubtless hurt it some, but still the chance is good for a fair crop yet.

Stock in fine condition and healthy. Hogs sell from \$3.25 to \$3.50; cattle, 2½c to 3c; corn, 23c to 25c; wheat, \$1 to \$1.10.

Plows are running in ground that is not too wet. With the ground well soaked, everything bids fair for a good crop next season.

J. L. SHORE.

Camden, Kansas.

## Take Care of the Sheep.

Sheep should have better care in early winter than farmers are in the habit of bestowing. Wintering sheep to make them live only, is not attended with profit, let prices rule high or low. Sheep are commonly neglected more in early winter than any other stock, for they are often the very last taken from the pasture. If sheep go into winter quarters in a declining state, the result is a demand for extra feed and care during the winter and a light clip of wool in the spring. When a sheep is thriving, wool grows rapidly; when declining, its growth is checked. If kept fat, large fleeces; if poor, light fleeces. Sheep should have a little grain every day, from the time the grass begins to fail until it has a good start in the spring. There should be one object constantly before the flockmaster, and that is to keep his sheep in a thriving condition. Shelter is an object in wintering sheep successfully. I do not believe in having sheep shut up too closely. Too large a number should not be wintered together. I believe that four or five hundred are enough in one flock, as there is more danger of disease in large flocks than in small ones. The proportion of sheep that do not thrive is always greater in large flocks than in small ones. The division should be made so as to put sheep of about the same strength together. Lambs should be kept by themselves. No other animals should be allowed to run in the same yard with sheep.

WM. CALBECK.

Peabody, Kansas.

GREAT BEND, Barton Co., Jan. 10.—We are having very fine winter weather here but rather dry. We had fog but no rain when you had such fine rains we read about in this week's FARMER, in the east part of the state. Prospect for wheat better than at this time last year. Your dog show and Stoner's manger and calf pen should take the premium, I think.

In regard to fall wheat jointing, I know the Early May fall wheat will not joint if sown in spring or summer after frost. I sowed some four acres two years ago in March, and it did not freeze after it was sown, and it came up and made a fine growth in blades. (That was our big wheat year), but not a stalk ever jointed. Let it grow until after harvest, and it was still green and growing, and I plowed it under in August or September.

Success to the old FARMER. It seems to be well liked here.

S. H. MITCHELL.

OSKALOOSA, Jefferson Co., Jan. 20.—The weather is more like April than January, and the inspiration of spring is fairly upon the progressive farmer, who may be seen every day actively putting things about his farm in order for the spring campaign.

The unimproved land in this county is being rapidly bought up and improved; prices ranging from \$7 to \$10. Very little is left now.

I believe farmers have never before been more sanguine of paying prices for their produce, and all are putting forth strenuous efforts. Wheat, of which a much larger breadth than usual is sown, is looking very fine, and commencing to grow. The fruit prospect is good, though some entertain fears that the present warm weather may swell buds and future freezing prove disastrous; but warm winters are frequently followed by good fruit crops. Stock of all kinds doing well generally.

I cannot close this short letter without thanking the FARMER for its forcible presentation of the dog nuisance, in its recent issues.

EDWIN SNYDER.

KINGMAN, Jan. 16.—The weather is fine, and has been all the winter thus far. Wheat is looking splendidly, and the farmers are anticipating a bountiful harvest.

Kingman is growing as fast as any little town in the southwest. Business is lively, as the people now have a prospect for a railroad ere long. The proposition to extend aid to the St. Louis, Wichita & Southwestern railway company, carried by a majority of eighty-four in our county. The amount of aid asked is \$105,000.

LARNED, Pawnee Co., Jan. 19.—The weather is most delightful. We have been having considerable rain, but no cold since New Year's; little or no frost; no snow or rain; just the kind of winter for stock of all kinds. Every variety of stock is looking well, sheep in particular. I have never seen a more favorable winter in Kansas.

We have but very few cattle in this section, except those kept on the farm for family use, with a few calves. Hogs are also scarce on account of the failure of the corn crop in our section. Rabbits and moles are our greatest pest, in the young orchards and among the young trees.

Wheat is looking finely. That sown too late to get up last fall, is coming slowly but surely, and the dry weather is keeping it back sufficiently to keep it from being frozen out if we should have any severe weather next month. The ground is in good condition for breaking new land, and many are ploughing old land five to six inches deep. Our wheat is mostly all out of the country. But little corn is offered, except what is shipped by rail or hauled from the eastern part of the state, at 30c to 31c. Potatoes retail at \$1; hogs, \$3 to \$3.50. Sheep are all the rage, and none to be had at prices ranging from \$2 to \$3.

There may be some sickness in the country, but I do not hear of any.

H. COLVIN.

## Advertisements.

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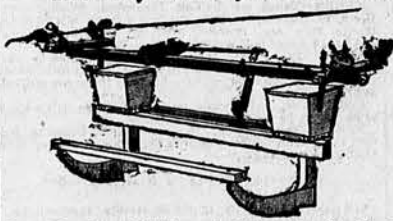
Farmers and butter makers of Kansas, we wish to call your attention to the great success of the Cooley Creamer—the submerged process of setting milk for raising cream—as evidenced by the large sales of the past 12 months, the hundreds of letters written in praise of it, the universal approval of it by the agricultural press of this country, the fact that at the London International Dairy Fair, and at the State and County Fairs all over this country, Cooley Creamer butter and the process itself has ALWAYS taken first premium.

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To the many that have signified to us their intention of getting one next spring, we say, purchase now and get the benefit of it during the winter while butter is high. It is equally as valuable for winter as for summer use. We want good agents in every county not taken. For a copy of Chicago Dairyman in giving prices and information send to LYMAN & SHAFER, State Agents, 100 Kansas Avenue, Topeka.

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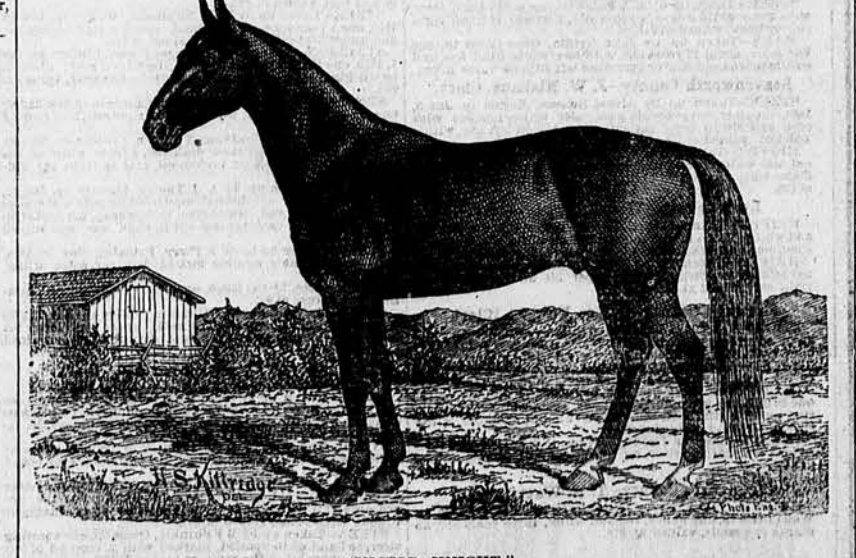
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