

# THE KANSAS FARMER

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## THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor and Proprietor,  
Topeka, Kansas.

\$40. \$20. \$10. \$5.

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The premium offers will remain open for competition until February 1st, 1881, when the Special Premiums will be awarded and paid.

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No subscriptions for less than one year can be received at club rates, but present subscribers whose time has not expired can renew through agents and have the renewal to commence at the expiration of present subscriptions.

Address all communications for the KANSAS FARMER to

E. E. EWING,  
Editor and Publisher,  
TOPEKA, KANSAS.

## Correspondence.

### Cattle and Sheep in New Mexico.

ED. FARMER: Thinking your readers would enjoy a letter from this section, I am tempted to write one. I have been trying to learn some points about the cattle, sheep, and agricultural interests of this territory, but so far I cannot boast of any great amount of knowledge thus far acquired, but such facts as I have learned will here be given.

I am not prepared to say that you can make a better start here in either the cattle or sheep business than you can in Kansas, but that it will produce returns satisfactory there can be no doubt. The difficulty in the way of gaining information is the fact that I do not speak the Spanish language, but in nearly every locality there is some one who speaks English.

The cattle business is already large; that any one can see; and I easily found that the climate is very favorable, and the grasses very nutritious. Another very important point I have learned, and that is that the grass cures itself and the winter feed is quite as good, if not better for cattle, than the summer. Now any one can see that these are strong points in favor of raising cattle. These things learned, I want to know more. I would like to find out just how to go to work to invest a small amount of money safely and profitably in cattle. How many shall I buy and of what kinds? I am informed that the large stock raisers are using grade heifers and thoroughbred bulls, most of the Short-horn variety.

I started out to look over the territory for a month and investigate the subject fully. Why some one who has done this very thing, has not written their experience for publication, I do not understand. If they had done so it would make my work much easier, but I promise you and your readers that I will carefully set down every item of experience, and in future letters will give them the benefit of what an American finds out in this very old country. If I was looking for a gold or a silver mine I would not have the slightest trouble, for I have had a dozen chances to make a fortune in that direction, and I have not been in the territory three days yet.

I was quite amused this morning with the answer a young Mexican made me, in reply to a question. I was standing near a meat market on the public square, or plaza, and seeing some mutton in the meat shop I turned to a young fellow at my side and asked him how much it cost to raise mutton in that country. He stared at me a moment and then said something in Spanish, and then it was my turn to stare, but, as good fortune would have it, a gentleman also was standing within hearing, repeated my question in Spanish and then interpreted the young man's reply, which was: "It don't cost anything." Considering the wealth of grasses and the winter feed, I suppose the young man was nearly correct; but of course it does cost something let it be ever so small.

This is clearly the natural home of the sheep, and for the last two hundred years the business of wool growing has been carried on extensively. I find you can buy fair Mexican ewes from one dollar to two dollars per head. These when crossed with Merino rams, make a good quality of sheep for mutton and wool. The price of rams depends on where you buy them and how near they are to the best strains of blood. Fair bucks can be bought in the market all the way from \$50 to \$500. The native sheep do not shear more than from one and a half to three pounds of wool, but crossed with the Merino will nearly double the fleece in weight.

Sheep growing will attract the attention of many Americans, at an early day, here. A man may, with small capital, enter this business, and if he be adapted to it, will make money from the start. Sheep need care. You must, so to speak, live with them.

While I am writing in the public room of the hotel, a party of New Yorkers are talking over their plans for a tour of the mining districts; they are truly in earnest and mean to secure a fortune each, if it be within the range of possibilities. They have chosen New Mexico not only because of the reputed wealth of the mines but for the reason that mining operations can be carried on all winter. The mild winters make such operations here quite as easy and profitable in the winter as during the summer months.

The mining interests of this territory are considered equal to any section of our country. There have been difficulties in the way of development which were hard to surmount. The

Spaniards worked the mines of this territory for a hundred and fifty years but after their expulsion neither the Mexicans or Indians would interest themselves in showing prospectors the mines. The Mexican is content with his sheep and cattle and with his farming pursuits. The Indian bears the white man a grudge and no inducement will move him to show the rich mines from which the different tribes have secured the many rich trinkets in both gold and silver, which they possess, but the white man no longer requires the Indian to point out the precious metal; the prospector is abroad and every day we hear of rich discoveries and the whole territory is filled with reports of great wealth. In some of the mines lately discovered there is positive proof that they have been worked before; though to all appearances hundreds of years ago. Mining tools have been unearthed which from their make would indicate that they were in use a century or more past. These are undoubtedly the mines from which came the gold which decked the person of the Montezumas and later still were worked by the Spaniards who enriched the Church \$10,000,000 from a single mine. There need be no doubt as to the richness of this country in minerals for every day adds additional proof of this fact.

The agricultural development of the country is a study. For all practical purposes in the way of growing crops it might as well never rain yet it does sometimes and the more rain that falls the better the grass grows but there is not rain enough to depend on for raising crops; consequently no one thinks of attempting anything without irrigation; by this means good crops of corn and wheat are raised, but the implements of farming are of the most antique pattern. In all I have read of ancient agriculture, I never went back far enough to find when some of these implements of husbandry were in use but a new era has dawned for these people and the Yankee plow and other labor saving machines are new in the territory and will be at once put in use.

California boasts of her fine fruits but nothing in that state can compare with some of the peaches, grapes, apples, pears and apricots grown in New Mexico and here fruits grow in the greatest profusion.

Las Vegas, N. M., Dec. 4, 1880.

### Confidence Men on the Rail.

I propose to give your readers my views of the "Great American Desert," as it is now. This place is about 3,000 feet above tide water, and is quite dry and cool, though the people here say it is very reasonable. The soil is a clay loam common to northwest Kansas, and produces abundant crops when well supplied with water. The land is badly broken where I have been, though it is not hilly, as we understand the term east. Water, wood and markets are the great wants of this country, and are rather poorly supplied. The supply of water and the lay of the land along Spring creek, in this country, pleases me the best of any place I have seen on the upper Solomon rivers. The government lands are all taken in these parts, but there are chances to contest claims still.

I wish to mention an occurrence that happened on the K. P. railroad, about the 12th of November, that those who run may read and profit thereby:

1st, A confidence man in league with the conductor and peanut peddler belonging to the train, picks out his victim and manages to get a seat beside him and start a familiar conversation.

2d, The train peddler comes around with prize boxes, books, or some other device to swindle the unconscious victim, by offering a huge prize with one of the books.

3d, The confidence man proceeds to show the victim how he can secure the prize, box, or book, without a shadow of a doubt. The natural propensity of a man to get more than a just reward for his money, gets the better of his judgment, and he follows the advice of his supposed friend, buying the article offered, which by a slight-of-hand performance is so changed that the purchaser invariably loses the prize.

The occurrence referred to took place on the afternoon of the 12th of November, between Topeka and Junction City. The conductor pretended to not know the parties, though he passed by repeatedly and must have seen more or less of the transaction, and it was a common report among the passengers that said parties had called each other by name in the smoking-car. The conductor of that train gave out tickets bearing the name of F. S. Fisher. The fruit vender gave the name of John Reynolds, but is generally known in the west as Pete Col-

lins. I neither know the name nor character of the confidence man further than he is reported.

The railroad officials at Abilene told me the railroad management did not allow such things on their road, but I am informed by the citizens generally that such things are common, and the public seem to approve of it.

I think the state should protect its own people, and also the strangers sojourning here, against all such things. I am informed that there is no law in the state of Kansas for the suppression of many of the tricks that are outlawed in the east. Be that as it may, one thing is certain, and that is that it is the duty of a common carrier to protect those that are carried to the extent of its ability, and on failure to do so, the public should give the delinquent road a wide berth till it is prepared and willing to protect the persons and property placed in its care.

Henry Bidenour, of Westerville, Ohio, and myself, are the witnesses to the transaction reported above, and I shall advise my friends to let the K. P. railroad severally alone for the present.

ROBT. S. COOK.

Roscoe, Graham Co., 250 miles northwest from Topeka, Nov. 23.

### About Agricultural Fairs.

ED. FARMER: I was very much pleased with your article on fairs in the FARMER, some time ago, and wish you to say more on the subject. While it is true that we see that there is so many improvements around us, it looks strange that the imperfect system of "judging at fairs" is about the same as the one I first attended. Why may not Kansas take the lead in regard to the fairs as well as in many other things?

1st, Judging should be done by experts.

2d, It should be done by carefully prepared standards of excellence.

3d, In judging, the objects for which the animals are designed should be kept in view.

4th, The condition in which the animals are shown should be considered, and all should be shown in feeding condition.

As to the first, you say we cannot get experts to act as judges. Try paying them for their services and pay them liberally, and they will be at the fair and in time. Don't wait until the fair is in progress and the cattle in the ring, for that makes a drag. It will not be apt to be like it was at the Topeka fair this fall—a grade bull calf get a ribbon in the thoroughbred class. The calf showed unmistakably that it did not belong in that class. Two of these judges did not examine that calf at all, hence the result.

I must say that the superintendent of the cattle department at Emporia, should have seen that the exhibitors were made as comfortable as circumstances would permit.

The superintendent of the cattle department at the Topeka fair, this year and last, filled his position as well as any one need wish, being on hand wherever he was needed. This was not the case at Emporia.

Before a man goes to a fair he gets a catalogue to see how much he is likely to take in premiums; also estimates his expenses while at the fair, such as the help he will need, the stall rent, the price of hay and corn, his ticket or entrance fee, and his expenses to and from the fairs. Last of all, but not least by any means, whether it is *pro rata* or not. Upon these he determines which fair he shall attend. Therefore the plan to conduct a fair seems to be plain enough in order to make it a success. The question seems to be will you improve on the past or not? Inducement and accommodation, with good judges, is what makes a good show and gives general satisfaction.

M. WALTERS.

Carbondale, Kansas.

### Jack Plane.

ED. FARMER.—I would remind the readers of the FARMER that they still have the opportunity to secure the best harrow and roller ever invented, at a price barely covering the cost. The price is put down for the sake of introduction, and every farmer should secure one before the spring demand commences. Several parties have secured the right to sell the Jack Plane in their counties, and I will be glad to give the exclusive right to every county in the state to as many resident agents who have facilities for introducing it. To such I will furnish the implement as low as possible. There has been some inquiry for a two-horse implement working five feet. I am shipping them at \$12.50. They do just two-thirds the work of the three-horse, except in stalks. Any man ordering a three-horse Jack Plane, can, by send-

ing \$5 additional, have a set of hoes and cross trees for a five foot Jack Plane. He can then work a two or three-horse machine as he pleases. I wish to apologize to several friends for delay in shipping their machines. I hope they have received them all right. For a while, at least, I will be able to ship immediately. I take great pains in having every part of the Jack Plane perfect, and if any part proves imperfect, I will replace it. Agents wanted. Exclusive territory given. Agents need only to get the castings and fit the machines themselves, if they wish, after getting a sample machine.

J. W. MULVRY.

Kidder, Caldwell county, Mo.

### Reply From Walter Brown & Co.

ED. FARMER: One of our correspondents sends us a clipping from the KANSAS FARMER, with remarks about the extract from our last circular relating to Kansas wools.

We do not wish it to be understood that we make a sweeping assertion in regard to Kansas wools in referring to artificial means as being employed to increase the weight of the fleece. The fact comes to our knowledge through some of the most prominent growers of your state, and is mentioned by more than one of them; and in alluding to it we do so for the benefit of those growers who do take the most care of their clips and market the wool in the best shape.

We have probably handled as much of the wools from Kansas this season, as any other house in the trade, and have had clips of all grades of merit, and feeling that Kansas is destined to be one of the principal wool growing states of the Union, we are interested that the growers should do all they can to establish a good and binding reputation for the wools. To accomplish this, those who are negligent or dishonest should be brought to task for their misdoings, and we sincerely hope that your appeal to the "wool growers' associations" will meet with their co-operation, and that another season will see Kansas wools as much sought after by consumers as those of our best wool growing states.

Most of the wools we have had have come directly from the growers, and in placing them before our trade we have endeavored that each clip should show on its merits and bring its relative value. This is evidenced by a clip sent us from Topeka this year, the "W" clip, which at the dull period of the season sold for 26 cents, while the heavy sandy and "doctored" wools were selling in this and the Philadelphia market at 15 and 16 cents.

In our position as commission merchants, (confining ourselves strictly to that business), we represent the wool grower or shipper in the east, and it is our business to do the best we can for his interests in getting full values, and saving him the various intermediate profits when he sells at home. To accomplish this, it is also our duty to call attention to any defects there may be in the method of preparing their wools for the market. This we have aimed to do in speaking of the fact mentioned in our last circular, and we hope it will not be misunderstood by those to whom our assertion does not apply.

We do not deny that dishonest practices occur in other states in preparing wools, in Ohio, for instance, but the point is that Kansas is comparatively in its infancy as a fine wool growing state, and in a measure has its reputation to make, and we are solicitous that that reputation should be a good one.

By the use of the word "discontinue," instead of "discontinue," in the last sentence quoted from our remarks, you hardly give the correct impression we wished to convey.

We trust that your wool growing readers will take our remarks in the spirit they are intended, and feel that we have their interests at heart.

WALTER BROWN & Co.

Boston, Nov. 29.

ED. FARMER.—Would you be so kind as to give me the address of some breeder of Poland-China and Suffolk hogs.

A. E. JOHNSON.

Seely, Cowley county, Kansas.

A. E. Johnson, of Cowley county, asks the address of parties who breed pure Poland-Chinas. Write to J. V. Randolph, Emporia, Kansas, or to Messrs. Randolph and Randolph of the same place, who are reliable breeders, whose advertisement will be found in this paper. We have inquiries also for breeders of Suffolks, breeders of them will do well to have their ads. in the FARMER.

Read the KANSAS FARMER'S premium offer to club agents, send for specimen copies of the paper, club lists and go to work canvassing.



## The Farm and Stock.

## Breeding from Young Bucks.

I understand that there is some kicking among the readers of the FARMER and *Chronoscope*, at some statements I have made regarding small farmers west of Kinsley, and also the propriety of using yearling rams and yearling ewes as breeders. I may have unintentionally trod on some one's toes, but I don't know as I have any apology to make in the matter.

In the first place, all drivers of cattle and sheep can testify to the trouble they have had on the road, and in most cases with those having the least to be damaged. I was ordered, very absolutely, out of the highway by a man who kept water for sale, and only because my team was picking a little grass on the roadside while we ate our lunch.

In the second place, if one-year-old rams are as good and serviceable as older ones, I have that fact to learn; besides, if I injured the sale of any man's stock, I was as rough on my own, as I usually keep as many yearlings as any one in the market, and invariably advise my customers to take older ones instead; and further, if any man having experience will state to a customer or any other person, that sheep or rams fresh from the warm stalls and high feed of the eastern states, are as serviceable and hardy as those that have been one or two years in the country, he must either be very dull of apprehension or willfully ignorant. Those who have not had the experience, are not expected to know it to be a fact. When I am asked for my opinion on any subject, I am supposed to be posted on, and see fit to give an opinion, shall I state what I think are facts without fear of any parties, even if those opinions should be likely to operate against my own interest? and as I have been asked my opinion on the two last charges by a good many new beginners, each requiring a reply, I think the best way is to give them through our papers, which I think is the proper method of discussing such topics; then all may be benefited, and those who choose may take a hand. Those who think I am wrong will do us a favor by putting their opinions in shape, and any editor will willingly give them a place in his columns, and I will be pleased to learn of them. Come out, friends, and let the public hear what you know about sheep-raising. W. J. COLVIN.  
Larned, Kansas.

## Buckwheat.

I have been much interested in the letters published in the FARMER recently, especially the discussion between Messrs. Stahl & Butler in relation to deep vs. shallow plowing for corn. For myself I will take the side of deep plowing just as long as dry weather comes to Kansas. I write this more especially to say a word in favor of buckwheat which Mr. T. W. Henry asked about two weeks ago and which Mr. Wm. Pettes says in the issue of the 3rd, is not a success in Kansas. I will give you the result of this summer's sowing in my own neighborhood. One neighbor sowed seven bushels of seed on nine acres and reaped 300 bushels; another sowed one bushel, spreading it on three and one-half acres and got 93 bushels; another got some 25 bushels per acre from 12 acres, and in no case have I heard of a failure of the crop. We all sowed our seed about July 4th. I had been told that buckwheat was not a success here for the reason mentioned by Mr. Pettes, that it was all stock but no grain. Others said they had always been successful with it, so to settle the matter in my own mind (for I had never seen the crop growing before) I sowed five acres. I plowed deep, harrowed thoroughly and rolled the ground after sowing broadcast. I got 150 bushels for my trouble and the only cash expense was \$4.25 for seed. Perhaps a description of our method of reaping the crop may be of interest, as it is not a very common one. I took my old Cuyahoga Chief mowing machine and fastened a piece of canvas so it would drag on the stubbles behind the knives and carry the grain like a "dropper." A man followed with a potato hook and pulled the branches off to one side. This plan was much easier and quicker than cradling and did not thresh out the grain at all. I got more cash from that 5 acres of buckwheat than from 65 acres of wheat.  
F. P. SMITH.  
Wamego, Kan., 35 miles west of Topeka.

## Cane Seed.

The selections of cane seed demand of the planter a careful consideration.

Purity of seed is essential, as the seed is the source or fountain of the syrup.

Purity of species is desirable, tending to uniform maturity. Like should produce like. Otherwise the seed is deteriorating. Varieties are necessary to prolong the harvest, but hybrids, in general, are to be avoided as a source of deterioration. The crossing of canes from which seed is to be taken requires, even more judgment than the stock or vegetable kingdom, generally. There are varieties which unite and perpetuate the unity, as the Minnesota Amber, but generally they will show, sooner or later, a multitude of variations. Other hybrids give good results for a season or two only. There are planters who claim the same right to name their hybrids as they do their children. Very well, but they should become surety for the freaks of such hybrids for a specified time.

The care with which seed has been selected for a series of years, choosing well developed heads from leading stalks instead of sucker seed or the indiscriminate bulk; the dividing of the seed heads, planting tips with tips; the lat-

tude where grown and the time of planting and harvesting, these appear to be the tangible points for the development of the sugar plant.

We have a supply of Minnesota Amber sugar cane seed procured from the most reliable source, Kansas grown and treated as above.

We will mail, postpaid, 4 pounds (enough to plant one acre) on receipt of \$1.00, from any reader of the FARMER. The postage is 16 cts per pound, which leaves 9 cts, the estimated cost of culling, cleaning and sacking. Parties receiving this seed are requested to compare the sugar or syrup yield and report to the FARMER.  
O. W. HAWK.  
White Water, Kan.

## Early Amber Cane.

I used two pounds to the acre, planting with a ten hoe Hoosier drill, by removing all but three of the hoes leaving them equidistant. Less than half that quantity was used by my neighbors who planted by hand. This cane has proved this country to be just the place to live in as it has done well on the prairie here, without irrigation, too. No better or lighter colored sorghum molasses was ever made than that Messrs. Hoadley & Crow have turned out of Pierceville cane. Egyptian Rice corn has done well with us this year, too. We have rain quite reasonably and I hardly think the ground can dry out before spring. It seems to me this corner of Kansas has been visited by timely rains as much as any portion of the state this year. We are 100 miles west of Larned on the A., T. & S. F. R. R.  
MRS. A. B. PRESCOTT.  
Pierceville, Kan.

## Protection of Apple Trees.

Sometime ago there was an inquiry in the FARMER in regard to the protection of apple trees against the depredations of rabbits, and if I remember right the editor advised painting the trees, but while this might answer very well to keep the rabbits from gnawing the trees, it would, in our opinion, be an injury to the tree, closing up the pores of the bark, affecting the tree similar to painting or varnishing the human body.

The following treatment I have found very effective in keeping rabbits from injuring trees: Rub the trunk and lower limbs with the entails of rabbits, chickens, or hogs, or blood of any kind. One thorough application will answer for all winter.

Can any of the readers of the FARMER give some sure remedy for keeping borers out of apple trees. If any one can, they will place me under many obligations for so doing.

If you, Mr. Editor, think proper, I will try and give the readers of your valuable paper some more farm experiences.

Hurrah for the amendment! squelching whisky out of our fair Kansas, and the defeat of the other two propositions. G. W. BAILEY.  
Sumner Co., Nov. 30.

Send on the "farm experiences." The recommendation to paint apple trees was the experience of a correspondent who had practiced it several years with no injury to the tree, as a preventive to rabbits and, he thought, borers. We have no personal experience with the paint. The natural roughness and small creases in the outside bark would prevent any injury from closing the pores, etc., that might be apprehended.

## The Russian Apple Tree Sell.

ED. FARMER: I want to say a few words to the fruit tree buying public of our state in regard to a swindle in apple trees, which has been carried on to a considerable extent in Kansas and probably Nebraska.

Agents for a certain Missouri nursery are selling what they claim to be Russian apple trees. The stock is raised and grafted in Russia, and imported in that shape; and they claim further that their's and one other, are the only two nurseries in America who have the genuine imported trees. They are hardy beyond comparison, and the fruit, a good deal more than ordinary sized according to the pictures of it, which they hawk about the country. Their price has been \$5.00 per dozen. The price would not be so great if the trees were as represented, but as they are such as could be bought at any nursery in the country for 15 to 20 cents apiece, it is outrageous. I presume numerous Mitchell county men where they operated a year ago can tell us how their Russian apple trees pan out.  
H.

The writer of the above in a private note informs us that the lying agents who peddle these bogus Russian trees represent a nursery located at Utica, Mo. If this nursery is sending out swindlers to rob unsuspecting farmers the fact should be published. There are no such apple trees in this country as these agents profess to sell according to the statement of the above correspondent. Let us hear further from Mitchell and McPherson counties if these scamps have been found and we will publish the names of the whole crew.

## Prairie vs. Tame Grasses.

Persons coming to Kansas from the eastern states who have always had tame grasses for hay and pasture, think they cannot do without them here. And we frequently hear the remark that if tame grass will not do well here I do not wish to make Kansas my permanent home. People who have never used the wild grass think there is but little value in it and especially when made into hay. I know I thought just so when I came here, but 20 years ex-

perience with it has convinced me of the value of the wild prairie grass, and that it is much superior to that which used to grow on the prairies of northern Illinois. In fact, my experience is that early cut prairie hay is equal to the best timothy and I have fed them both at the same time and found the stock liked one as well as the other, and horses always preferred the prairie hay. So I plowed up my tame meadow and now depend entirely on the wild grass. I consider it the best pasture in the world that I have ever seen, especially for making flesh. All kinds of stock do remarkably well on it while it is fresh and growing. But the great difficulty is it starts late in the spring and fails early in the fall, therefore we need some kind of cultivated grass to help out the spring and the fall feed, and in my opinion that is all the tame grass we do need at present. And with its help, after the prairie begins to fail in the fall, that is, from the 1st to 15th of September, stock would live on it the most of the winter, especially if it was allowed to grow and accumulate all summer. I will try at some future time to give my experience and observation on the best grasses for pasture in Kansas.  
E.  
Uniontown, Bourbon Co., Kan., 110 miles s. e. of Topeka.

## Watch the Rabbits.

Now is the time to watch the rabbits and protect the young orchards from their depredations. I will give you my plan, and I have not lost a single tree since I have followed it, (15 years). Cut a rabbit in two with an axe, and with a piece in each hand, rub up and down the tree two or three times until the blood and hair show plainly as high as you wish to protect. One rabbit will do for forty or fifty trees. Try it and I think you will never need any other protection. Once going over the orchard in the fall has always been sufficient with me.  
E.

Winter has come upon us this season much earlier and with a severity and promise to stay hardly known to the oldest inhabitant. The sheep were taken from the fields and placed in winter quarters without any preparation in the way of gradually getting them used to grain rations. This sudden change will very likely show in losses in the fleece. We shall hear of corn loosing the fleece again this year, usually called shedding the wool. Great care should be taken that the sheep get regular supplies of water.

The future of sheep products in the markets of this country and Europe has given more enthusiasm to the business of sheep raising than ever came to the average sheep man. Very advanced steps have been taken to insure the exact wools and mutton demanded by the markets we cater for. English mutton means more than sheep's flesh, and we mean to learn how it is done and produce it. Hair can be grown on a sheep's back as well as on a horse's main, and is worth scarcely more for having been grown on a sheep. A beautiful, fine, soft, elastic, lustrous staple can be grown five or six inches long, that the manufacturer wants, on a hardy, vigorous sheep. A lamb can be grown in one year as large as we used to grow in two years. A thoroughbred costs but little more to raise than a scrub. A ram costs but little more from a reliable breeder than from a peddler that says he imported him from somewhere—anywhere you happen to want him from. Sheep men are learning some sense.—Coleman's Rural.

## Poultry.

## Dressed Poultry.

One great reason we get such low prices for our poultry is the poor condition in which we take it to market. In order to get good prices we must take more care in preparing our poultry for market. Nicely dressed poultry always commands a good price, while poor trash can hardly be given away; or if he sells at all it will hardly bring enough to pay the freight.

There are some things that it seems to me all ought to know. For instance, I have seen poultry brought to market with their crops full of corn. It would seem as though any one would know better than to feed their poultry just before killing it. Food in the crop injures the appearance, is liable to sour and spoil the fowl, and purchasers object to paying for this worse than useless weight. Keep from food twenty-four hours before killing. The best way to kill is by bleeding in the mouth of the fowl. This is very easily done by opening the beak and with a sharp-bladed pocket-knife open the vein in the back part of the roof of the mouth. The chicken should first be hung up, tying its legs together, and then fasten them to a hook.

Poultry should be plucked dry, which can easily be done by plucking before the bodies are cold, which always gives poultry a nice appearance. Having them nicely plucked, cut their feet off at the knee joint, then cut their heads off; draw the skin over the neck and tie securely and neatly. Do not remove the old way. If you must dress your poultry the old way—by scalding, there is a right way to do as well as a wrong one, and a great many take the wrong way, judging by the half cooked appearance of the fowls when brought to market. If you wish or prefer to scald them, the water should be as nearly boiling as possible and yet not really boil. The poultry should be dipped, so that the water will have the proper effect on the skin, then remove the feathers as soon as you can. When clean, dip in hot water and then in cold. This has the effect to make them look plump and nice.

If these directions are carefully carried out,

and your poultry is in good order, you can hardly fail of getting a good price for all you can raise. This is what one of the commission men has to say: "A large proportion of the dressed poultry which comes to this market is of such poor quality, or hobbled in such poor shape, that it is almost impossible to sell it, and the prices obtained are rarely satisfactory either to the receiver or shipper. Now all this can be done away with by a little thought and labor in the right way."

If the readers of the FARMER who have poultry to sell will try this way, I think they will be well repaid for their time and labor. Poultry prepared and sent to market according to the above directions, will always meet with ready sale, while half-fattened, badly dressed and slovenly handled stock, will always be a drug in the market and tend to keep down the price of good poultry.

Mr. Editor, I will comply with your request and tell the readers of the FARMER which breed of fowls I think best for the general farmer.  
F. E. MARSH.  
Golden Belt Poultry Yards, Manhattan, Kas.

## Horticulture.

## Strawberry Culture.

I have read with much interest the article of Mr. Childs on strawberry culture, and while I agree with him in many things that he recommends, there are a few things that I cannot agree to.

He says "a hard clay soil, moderately rich, will produce double the amount of fruit that your rich, poplar bench lands, where paw paws thrive best, will do." He recommends a compact soil where forty bushels of corn would be a heavy yield, etc.

Now, after many years of experience on different kinds of soil, I will say that larger crops of strawberries can be produced on a light, well drained, mellow soil, thoroughly enriched, than can possibly be produced on such soil as he recommends.

It has been my experience with strawberries on a clay soil, in case of very wet weather in the fruiting season, that the clay subsoil would retain the water so near the surface, and the soil become so saturated with water, that failure is the result.

Another advantage is that on the kind of soil I describe above, the crop is not so liable to be killed by late spring frost. Last spring we had a severe frost while the strawberries were in blossom. We had about an acre and a half of Downings on a light loam, mellow soil. We also had beds of the same variety on higher ground—a clay loam with clay subsoil. On the former the blossoms were but little injured, while on the clay soil the crop was nearly ruined. I was surprised at this as the plants on clay soil had the advantage of location.

Berries will ripen earlier, be sweeter and better flavored on an open soil than on a compact soil.

One mistake that beginners are apt to make in selecting ground for a strawberry bed, is that because their plants suffer from drought sometimes, they must select damp soil for their strawberries. The vines grow well on such soil, but will not produce fruit to amount to anything. Strawberries do best on a warm, open soil, don't forget that.

Mr. C. says: "In selecting, the smaller the plant, shorter the root, and poorer the soil where they grow, as a rule, the better will be your success." Now I would have it the other way—the longer the root the better. According to Mr. C., nearly all the plants sent out from the nurseries are too large, too well grown, to succeed when transplanted. Last spring I purchased some plants of the Crescent variety that had been shipped from Illinois to a nurseryman here. I planted them on ground highly manured. They were fine, large plants with long roots, and although they were such plants as Mr. C. condemns, they grew, though the season was unfavorable for newly set plants. I do not object to a small plant provided it has good roots.

In planting, I use what is called a dibble—an implement made almost the shape of a mason's trowel. A boy drops the plants. A man holding the dibble on his right hand, thrusts it into the ground, and with a quick movement to the right, makes a hole large enough to admit the roots; picking up the plant with his left hand drops the roots into the hole; running the dibble down an inch or so away, presses the soil firmly against the plant. Care should be taken to drop the roots as deep in the soil as possible, keeping the crown of the plant about even with the surface. This is the mode usually practiced by large planters, and I have not been able to improve upon it yet.

JOSHUA TAYLOR.  
Richmond, Kansas.

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

**Notice of Meeting of the State Grange.**

The annual meeting of the State Grange of Kansas, will meet at Olathe, Johnson county, Tuesday, December 21st, 1880, at 10 o'clock a. m.

By order of Executive Committee.

W. H. JONES, Chairman.

**Report of the Committee on Transportation and Commercial Relations of the National Grange.**

The problem of transportation, in its relations to agriculture, confronts every farmer throughout the land. He may apply his labor with rare skill, propitious seasons may bless his efforts, and the fertile soil under these influences, may return the most bountiful crops, yet there is the necessity of a market and the means of reaching it as the prime condition of profit. There is ever increasing demand for the products of his labor. He makes the supply, but there is one intervening condition necessary to bring these two elements of commerce into profitable union—transportation. Time was when the waterways of this country served the purpose well, but new and improved highways of commerce have been provided; railways threading the continent, the lines laid in advance of the plow, reaching athwart the broad domain of an industrious people, whose restless energies have thus been led to new effort on new lands, and this country has by such means become the granary of the world. But while agriculture has been enlarged and extended through this agency working to promote its development, it has by rapid stages become subjected to the very power whose kindly offices were first employed to give it encouragement and support. Between it and the railways there is close inter-dependence, reciprocal obligation that must be honestly observed; for, if it is not, one or the other must suffer. The railways depend upon the products of agriculture more than all else for employment out of which to secure profitable return for expense of operating and capital invested in construction; while farmers depend on railways to move their crops at such compensation for service as will leave them fair return for the labor and capital employed. As a question of political economy, it is clear that these relations must be steadily maintained for the security and the welfare of both interests, and it is equally clear that they will not be so maintained without just rules to define the obligations.

Experience has shown that the corporate power which manages a railroad is rapacious. It is marked by encroachments and usurpations. It does not abide within its sphere, where it is well nigh autocratic. It assumes rights that belong to the people, forgetful of the fact that its first duty is respectful obedience to the people whence it emanated. It taxes the products of labor at will, because it has usurped the power to do so, and with astonishing effrontery it warns the people against attempts to recover rights they have carelessly yielded. It makes the plea that railway property is private property, and, therefore, not amenable to the public for errors or wrongs in its management, and not subject to regulations offered by the public. As the outgrowth of this sentiment there is a system of charges for transportation dependent only on the will of railway managers, and they care only to get from their traffic what it will bear, without reference to the interests of the owners of the property they transport. That they do so is not denied; it is admitted by themselves, and the practice defended as a right. In this they exercise power which even the state would not use without delicate regard for the interests of citizens generally, looking to their welfare, and wielding the power in their behalf wisely lest it might bring suffering. Yet this corporate railway power, irresponsible and defiant, challenges the multitude of sufferers and sneers at legislatures that attempt to impose restraints upon its rapacity or to check its assumed prerogatives. Ever alert and unscrupulous, it goes into the various districts, selects its supple

servants, and, by defrauding the suffrages of the people, puts upon its pliant tools the seal of authority, by which they become law-makers to betray the rights of citizens at the behest of a soulless master. Or, if the expedient of direct representation be not employed, they do not hesitate to use bribes upon legislators, for there is abundant testimony showing that they have purchased the honor of senators and representatives in many legislatures, and trampled manhood in the covetous dust of frail nature until in some states the debasement of law-makers has become a by-word and a lasting shame. Even now, while we deliberate upon the means of restraining the monstrous tyranny of railway power, those who wield it are plotting to send into the United States Senate their paid attorney from the most powerful state of this Union to forestall the day of reckoning, and in four other populous states, senators, directly in the service of railways, will soon be chosen if the people do not make prompt and vigorous protest. Already these corporations have secured powerful influence in the Senate, and they have numerous willing and obsequious servants in the other branch of congress ready always to barter away our rights in the interest of the magnates they serve.

Intrenched in the several state capitals, domiciled in the central citadel, confident and strong, the railway power to-day sways the commerce of a continent and dominates its industries with cold neglect of the golden rule that is the vitalizing spirit of free government, and with cynical contempt of the common honesty and homely virtues that support the structure of civil liberties. A power within the state, accelerating in growth, licensed by its own inordinate greed, usurping as desire advances, limitless in audacity—how long will it be before the state itself will be a suppliant to its creature that lays lustful hands upon the shreds of authority yet preserved, swaggers in every precinct of the legislative domain, with its mammon defies the ermine, and has towering scorn for the people, and especial contempt for the class that suffers most by its cruel exactions—farmers?

Shall there be an organized effort by the people to recover the rights filched from them by the creatures of their generosity? Will they mark the limit of concession and thereafter guard its boundaries? The time is opportune, their strength equal to the requirement—do they lack the purpose? Will American farmers join in positive, earnest, determined effort to secure just protection, through the peaceful medium of laws wise in their design and just in their operation, whereby railway corporations shall be gently but firmly restrained within the limits so defined? If they will, the day is near at hand when their industry will be free to distribute its profits through all channels of trade in just measure, according to deserts, and they will themselves share equitably in the blessings that reward free, untrammelled labor in the primary avocation of man.

It is not the purpose now to mark with precision each step of the beneficent work, nor can this be done at once by any legislation; for there must be nice adjustment of the great forces engaged on the one hand in production, and on the other in transportation essential to the development of all useful industry. There must be wholesome growth of common honesty, so that a legislator will spurn the bribe insidiously covered in a railway pass, a judge be abashed and ashamed when the hint is given that his palm can be tickled by the favor, and a senator of the United States execrated when he betrays the honor of his high position by accepting a fee to carry the case of a railway corporation against the government he has sworn to serve before a judge whose appointment he has procured, and by the damnable prostitution of honor mulets the people he is unworthy to serve. It is not yet enough that there must be honor and honesty in high places. Power will not be more pure than its source; the people must be honest and delegate their power only to those who are worthy of the trust.

In answer to the assumption of private rights, vociferously proclaimed by railway attorneys, there is the opinion of Chief Justice Waite, delivered from the bench when rendering the decision in the famous "Granger Cases," so-called, carried to the Supreme Court upon this very point. These are the words quoted from the decision: "When, therefore, one devotes his property to a use in which the public has an interest, he in effect grants to the public an interest in that use, and must submit to be controlled by the public for the common good, to the extent of the interest he has thus created." This is a complete refutation of the charge that the people assail private rights when they try to regulate the methods of transportation in the interests of the whole public. They have an undoubted right to establish regulations for the conservation of their private rights, and they ask nothing more in the restraints they would place on railway management. They do not lose sight of the interdependence of their interests and the corporations created by the state to render a public service, but they would regulate and establish these relations on the basis of common justice.

It may be said that all the evils of railway transportation will in due course of time be remedied by competition. Not so. A distinguished authority, whose interest was principally in railways, has said, truly, that where combination is possible, competition is impossible. Witness the pooling by the trunk lines leading from the grain fields of the west to the seaboard. So far as the earnings on that traffic are concerned, they have a common treasury from which they draw *pro rata*, according to allotment of capital by the terms of their compact. Here are all the conditions of competi-

tion inoperative, because joint interest necessarily favors combination. In other cases, where combination cannot be maintained and rates are therefore reduced at competitive points, the abatement is sure to be restricted to those points, and corresponding additions are made at other points more than compensating all concessions. In this there is an alarming power of discrimination. Citizens of one locality are compelled to pay for the support of industries in another locality, equally favored by nature and artificially aided by a power that should distribute its benefits with impartial regard for all concerned. It is the power to make or unmake, to tear down or to build up, an inequality abhorrent to active enterprise, and at variance with the fundamental principles of free government.

What shall we do? Let us exert the force inherent in our numbers. Direct this through the ballot in such manner that every legislature, state and national, shall reflect the will of the people and all their interests rather than of corporations. Secure in these bodies due representation of the chief industry of the land. Let farmers organize, in utter disregard of the restraints that political parties impose, and let them keep steadily in view the governing purpose to purge the body politic of the venalities that handicap material progress. They may cooperate with all persons and all associations that work in the interest of free and enlightened administration of justice, but for themselves they must move for the protection of natural rights against the monstrous greed of corporate power that riots in the chaos of principles overturned and confused by its wanton assumptions. They must invoke order, law, peace, justice for all, lest revolution intervene to clear away with rude hand the fabric of tyranny that now fetters industry and retards development.

W. A. ARMSTRONG, N. Y., J. H. BRIGHAM, Ohio, J. N. LISCOMB, S. C., A. B. SMITH, Ky., B. R. SPILMAN, Cal., Committee.

Unanimously adopted.

The Gods Help Those Who Help Themselves.

Though farmers do all the work, if they extend no protection or care to their own interests, another class will assuredly step in to manage affairs, take the profits and make farming a most unsatisfactory business. But what will these discouraged farmers do to improve their condition? Will they pull up stakes and go west, only to experience the same difficulties, or will they hold on where they are, trusting the assurances of party leaders that the desired change will surely come if their party succeeds? Or will they condemn farming, make an unconditional surrender of the business and advise their sons to try something else? All of these things have been tried, over and over again, and still do not bring the hoped-for relief. The gods help those who help themselves as is true of farmers as any class—and there is hardly any request that they might earnestly and unitedly make that would not be granted. Then if they will understand what they do need and insist that their wants shall be respected better days are in store for them.

Independence of the classes who have so long controlled their interests and a dependence upon themselves will benefit them immensely. Nothing is easier than the accomplishment of the much-needed reforms if farmers will only act for themselves, in unity. If they never take the management of their affairs into their own hands they will never learn; they will never be able to take care of themselves? When would a child learn to write who never took the pen in his own hand, but only watched it trace the characters when moved by the hand of another? Would the boy ever learn to skate by simply watching the merry skaters from the shore? Farmers need a great deal of training to be able to secure a just proportion of the gain that results from their labor, and there is no place where this valuable discipline can be so easily, so cheaply, and so effectually acquired as in a well regulated subordinate grange.—*Dirigo Rural*.

Grange co-operation is making rapid headway throughout the western and southern states of the union, and, in fact, in the north and east. Never, since the country had a history, have the farmers been so active in their endeavors to secure their true standard as citizens of the republic, and determined that their interests shall not only not be trampled on as heretofore by corporations and capitalists, but be protected and promoted equally with any and all others.—*Journal of Agriculture*.

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W. C. NORRIS, Opposite Palace Hotel, N. Topeka, Kas.

## Farmers

Can get Groceries, Dry Goods, Clothing, and Queensware in exchange for your produce at

W. C. NORRIS, North Topeka.

Will pay Cash for Choice Butter at

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## WANTED

A Partner to take a half interest in my business with from 5,000 to 10,000 dollars capital. One who understands the Dry Goods business preferred.

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## TUTT'S PILLS!

### SYMPTOMS OF A TORPID LIVER.

Loss of Appetite, Nausea, bowels constive, Pain in the Head, with a dull sensation in the back part, Pain under the shoulder-blade, fullness after eating, with a disinclination to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, Loss of memory, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, weariness, Dizziness, Fainting at the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow Skin, Headache, Restlessness at night, highly colored urine.

IF THESE WARNINGS ARE UNHEeded, SERIOUS DISEASES WILL SOON BE DEVELOPED.

TUTT'S PILLS are especially adapted to cure cases of indigestion, such as a change of feeling as to eatish the sufferer.

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Dr. TUTT.—Dear Sir: For ten years I have been a martyr to Dyspepsia, Constipation and Piles. Last Spring your Pills were recommended; I used them. I am now a well man, have good appetite, digestion perfect, regular stools, piles gone, and have gained forty pounds flesh. They are worth their weight in gold.

REV. E. J. SIMPSON, Louisville, Ky.

They Increase the Appetite, and cause the body to Take on Flesh, thus the system is nourished, and by their Tonic Action on the Digestive Organs, Regular Stools are produced. Price 25 cents. 35 Murray St., N. Y.

### TUTT'S HAIR DYE.

GRAY HAIR OR WHISKERS changed to a Glossy Black by a simple application of this DYE. It imparts a Natural Color, acts Instantaneously. Sold by Druggists, or sent by express on receipt of \$1.

Office, 35 Murray St., New York.

### THE SORGO HANDBOOK

A Treatise on Sorgo and Impece Canes, and the Minnesota Early Amber Sugar Cane. The EDITION FOR 1880 is now ready, and will be sent free on application. We can furnish PURE CANE SEED of the best variety.

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Sugar Cane Machinery, Steam Engines, Circular Saw Mills, Portable Grain Mills, Church and School Bells, &c.

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**\$100,000 TO LOAN**

In Shawnee and adjoining Counties on good Farm security

At 8 and 9 per cent.

For Annum.

BOSTWICK'S GIANT RIDING SAW MACHINE

This Wonderful Improved Saw Machine is warranted to saw a two-foot log in three minutes, and more cord wood or logs of any size in a day than two men can chop or saw the old way. Every Farmer and Lumberman needs one.

77 AGENTS WANTED in all Circles and Terms Free. Address FARMERS' MANUFACTURING CO., 178 Elm Street, Cincinnati, O.

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Sorghum Evaporator.

\$15. \$20. \$25. CHEAP AND DURABLE.

Sent for Circulars. Address the only Manufacturers, CHAPMAN & CO., Madison, Ind.

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To Sell the Favorite

CAKE AND BAKING PAN.

Will sell on sight to EVERY HOUSEKEEPER.

The success of our agents proves it to be the best selling article in the market. One agent made \$1200 in 3 weeks, another \$800 in 10 days, another \$400 in 4 days. Boxed and Freight Free to Agents. Send for circulars to nearest address.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE! That we sell this N.Y. Singer Sewing Machine for \$20. Warranted new, fast, and best made. Don't pay agents' gross profits, but buy direct, and save \$20! Our free book explains all.

Read testimonials. Machines sent anywhere on trial. No risk. You need not pay till satisfied. GEORGE FAYNE & CO., 47 Third Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

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TOPEKA, KANSAS.

The Oldest and Largest Institution of the Kind in the State.

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Upon well Improved Farms and City Property at the LOWEST RATE. Money always on hand. No tedious waiting for papers to go east. Four Millions loaned in the state. Send in your application with full description of property.

T. B. SWEET, President.

GEO. M. NOBLE, Secretary.

### ANY THAT WILL WIND ANY WATCH AND NOT SOLD FREE BY J. S. BIRCH & CO., 38 E. 3rd St., N.Y.

### Manhood Restored.

A victim of early imprudence, causing nervous debility, premature decay, etc. having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple means of self-cure, which he will send free to his fellow-sufferers. Address J. H. REEVES, 43 Chatham St., N. Y.

## Breeders' Directory.

L. T. FROWE, breeder of Thoroughbred Spanish Bred, Merino Sheep, (Hammond Stock) Bucks for sale. Post Office, Auburn, Shawnee Co., Kansas.

BLUE VALLEY HERD.—Walter M. Morgan, breeder of Thoroughbred Hereford Cattle and Cotswold Sheep, Irving, Marshall county, Kan. High grade Bulls and Thoroughbred Rams for sale at reasonable prices. Correspondence solicited.

HALL BROS., Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-China Suffolk, Essex and Berkshire Pigs. Present prices of less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jills and boars now ready.

FOR SALE. Scotch and black & tan rather pups, \$10 each; shepherd pups, \$15 to \$25; also pointers and setters. These are lowest prices. All imported stock. A. C. WADDELL, Topeka.

## Nurserymen's Directory.

KANSAS HOME NURSERY offer for sale Home grown Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Vines, Shrubs, &c., of varieties suited to the West. The largest stock of Apple Seedlings.

A. H. & H. C. GRIESE, Lawrence, Kansas.

MIAMI COUNTY NURSERIES.—12th year, 150 acres stock first-class, shipping facilities good. The bulk of the stock offered for fall and spring of '80-81, consists of 10 million orange hedge plants, 250,000 apple seedlings, 1,000,000 apple root grafts, 20,000 pear apple trees, and 10,000 wild goose plum trees. We have also a good assortment of cherry and peach trees, ornamental stock, grape vines, and small fruits. Personal inspection of stock requested. Send for price lists. Address E. F. CADWALLADER, Louisville, Ky.

Dentist.

A. H. THOMPSON, D. D. S., Operative and Surgeon, Dentist, No. 189 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

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

RANDOLPH & RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kansas.

## RIVERSIDE FARM HERD OF POLANDS.

Established in 1868.

I have in my herd the sow that took first money and sweepstakes, and the sow and her underlings that took first premium at Kansas City Exposition in 1875, and the sow and litter that took first premium and sweepstakes over all at the meeting of the Lyon County Agricultural Society in 1879. These pigs are all of my own breeding, and are competent for record. I send out nothing but first-class pigs. All stock warranted, and shipped as ordered on receipt of money.

J. V. RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kan.

## E. DILLON & CO.

The Oldest and Most Extensive IMPORTERS AND BREEDERS OF

## Norman French Horses

In the United States. Old Louis Napoleon, the first imported Norman stallion brought to Illinois, at the head of our stud, for many years. Have made eleven importations direct from France, and have been awarded over two thousand prizes on our Norman stock.

NEW IMPORTATION

Of 29 choice Normans arrived in July, 1880, the largest importation of Norman stallions, three years old and over, ever made to this country. A number of them are government-approved stallions, and the winners of 11 prizes at leading fairs in France. One of them was awarded a prize at the Paris Exposition (see World) in 1878. No two others were the winners of first prizes at Le Mans, France, in 1880. For one of these stallions we paid the highest price ever paid by American buyers for a Norman Stallion in France, and for this lot of stallions we paid the highest average price. We have none on hand 40 head of choice stallions and mares, for sale on as reasonable terms as the same quality of stock can be had for anywhere in the United States.

Illustrated catalogue of stock sent free on application.

All imported and native full-blood animals entered for registry in the National Registry of Norman Horses.

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## 126 PERCHERON-NORMAN HORSES

IMPORTED IN 12 MONTHS,

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25 MORE ARE ON THE WAY.

Being MORE than the TOTAL IMPORTATIONS of ANY OTHER MAN or FIRM during their entire business career. 100 page Catalogue, 41 illustrations, free on application.

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I have a positive remedy for the above disease, by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed, so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, together with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease, to any sufferer. Give Express and P. O. address. DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 181 East St., New York.

## KANSAS.

If you want Taxes paid, or Real Estate bought or sold, anywhere in Kansas, or to loan money on good improved property at good rate of interest, correspond with J. R. Swallow & Co., Real Estate and Loan Agents, Topeka, Kansas.



## THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor and Proprietor,  
Topeka, Kansas.

## TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.

One Copy, Weekly, for one year, 1.50  
One Copy, Weekly, for six months, 1.00  
One Copy, Weekly, for three months, .50

The greatest care is used to prevent swindling humbugs securing space in these advertising columns. Advertisements of lotteries, whiskey bottles, and quick doctors are not received. We accept advertisements only for cash, cannot give space and take pay in trade of any kind. This is business, and it is a just and equitable rule adhered to in the publication of THE FARMER.

## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers should very carefully notice the label stamped upon the margin of their papers. All those marked 51 expire with the next issue. The paper is at ways discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, and to avoid missing a number renewals should be made at once.

## CLUBS! CLUBS!!

Look at our offer for clubs. The greatest offer for club agents ever made. Cash and no trade in articles at high prices for work. Every agent who works for the KANSAS FARMER knows that he is working for Cash! And every agent gets something.

No Special Authority is needed for a person to form clubs. All that is necessary is to secure the names and remit the money.

In Giving Addresses, be careful to give the full name of individuals, the Postoffice, County and State, and do not write on the same piece of paper that communications for the FARMER are written on.

Club Lists with necessary instruction sent to those who contemplate getting up clubs.

## Post Office Addresses.

When parties write to the FARMER on any subject whatever, they should give the county and post office both. Some of the new post offices are not put down in the post office directory, and when the county is not mentioned, the post office clerks do not know where to send papers or letters.

## The Farmers' Convention.

It will be seen by a call published in the present issue of the FARMER, that a farmers' mass meeting will assemble at the capital on the 12th of January, the purpose of the proposed convention being mainly to consider the transportation question. The excitement on this subject is becoming intense throughout the country, and to meet this question is the principal reason for the organization of Farmers' Alliances all over the land. The railroad corporations throughout the country have, by bribes and bribery and concentration, managed to warp legislation in their favor, and by taking unjust advantage of these secured privileges, have monstrously oppressed the people and robbed the business of the country, under the plea that railroad transportation is indispensable to the present condition of the commerce of the world. The very plea of necessity is the strongest reason that can be presented against this system of transportation inflicting any hardship upon the community. A power created for the public good should certainly be shorn of all ability to work evil in person and property to the citizen. There is no syllogism plainer than that.

We are informed that the people even in some parts of this state, are almost ready to take up arms to oppose what they denounce as railroad exactions and oppression. We can hardly believe that the excitement reaches this point in Kansas, but it approaches this condition in many parts of the country. Railroad officials who occupy commanding positions must be aware that the popular excitement increases every day, and that the notes of preparation and organization mean that the people are determined to bring these transportation corporations under subjection to equitable and just laws. Seeing this, it is passing strange that they do not approach congress and the legislatures with an amicable proposition for a just and equitable code to regulate, on business principles, the whole railroad system of the country. If the people are confronted at every step by a determined opposition which resorts to the lobby and bribery, that stubborn, sturdy nature of the Anglo-Saxon, which asks for nothing but what is right, and resolves to submit to nothing that is wrong, will eventually become so thoroughly aroused as to confiscate every share of watered stock, and take measures to collect back every million from the roads that have been siphoned from states, counties, municipalities and individuals who were original stockholders and bondholders, and whose claims were repudiated through clever manipulation—a system of wrecking—practiced by professional railroad builders.

But there are other important questions to be considered by the Farmers' Convention that is called to meet at Topeka on the 12th of January next. A law for the state inspection of wheat is demanded by the interest of our farmers who are systematically swindled, we are informed, at Kansas City, by having their No. 2 wheat classed as No. 3. Inspection depots should be established at Wyandotte, Leavenworth, Atchison and Ft. Scott. As at present the trade of Kansas is building up the city at the mouth of the Kaw, and the robbers of the Kansas industry ply their nefarious trade secure from punishment in another state.

The creation of a wool board to establish a market grade for wool so that Kansas, which can grow the very best quality of wools, shall be known the whole world over as a wool state, and buyers will be attracted from all quarters, knowing that they can find wool graded and

classified on its merits and commercial value. Some such regulation is highly important to develop the wool interest of the state, and protect honest dealers and wool producers from the result of frauds and poor wool.

A dog law for the protection of the wool and sheep business is also demanded; but no effective dog law can be made unless neglect or refusal to pay the tax is made a penal offense. No ordinary tax law will reach the evil. We witnessed this tried for twenty years or more with no beneficial results.

Greater protection against infectious diseases, by our farmers and stockmen, is demanded than they have or can have while the Kansas City Stock Yard Company is allowed to do as it pleases. The present Kansas City Stock Yards, and large numbers died while in the yards, but it was kept quiet, and these stock yards are one of the principal places of resort by Kansas farmers to purchase stock cattle. Any one can comprehend the danger and risk incurred by our people of spreading infectious diseases from this distributing point. Cattle coming from an infected district, or points south where Spanish fever is liable to prevail, should not be admitted to the yards but have a separate depot provided for them, and an officer of the state should be appointed to inspect cattle and enforce these regulations.

By a little judicious legislation the great volume of Kansas trade which is building up and enriching Kansas City, Missouri, can be halted in this state, and its benefits be secured to the state which creates it, while our people will find protection under our own laws that are unable to reach the organized bands who systematically rob our farmers under the protection of another state.

Our congressmen also need pushing up on the question of a law of congress to stamp out pleuro-pneumonia, and further the water transportation project and other questions which vitally concern the agricultural interest of the west.

By this cursory glance at some of the leading questions which demand the attention of our legislature and of congress, it will be seen that the farmers' alliance and grange organizations have work and plenty of it before them of the most vital importance, to employ them this winter, and probably many subsequent winters, and the business that will present itself to the Farmers' Convention to assemble here, is not so much what is to be done, but how to arrange matters so as to work most effectually. Farmers, you have the public business of a generation on your hands, and you must wake up to the importance of doing it at once. Time presses, and the generation in which you live demands it of you. There is nobody else to do it. It is your work and you are morally bound to perform it, or the curse will rest on you and your children for having left it undone.

## Dead-Beat Swindlers.

The Union Central Insurance Co., 171 Superior St., Cincinnati, act very much like frauds. An agent by the name of A. D. Fisher, came to this city last summer, and inserted their ad. in the FARMER and other papers, offering to loan money, but soon "dug out," leaving his bills unpaid. He directed the bills to be forwarded to his company for settlement, but the drafts came back unpaid and no response was had from them. We have the best of reasons for believing that the whole outfit are "dead beats."

The associated press dispatches of Nov. 17th, publishes the following:

"FRAUDULENT CONCERNS.  
"Postmaster General Maynard has sent an order to the postmaster of Cincinnati to refuse the payment of money orders and refuse to deliver registered letters addressed to Byron H. Roff and other proprietors of the Singapore Tobacco Company, the American and European Secret Service Company, the Monitor Lamp Company, and other enterprises that are extensively advertised."

## Petitions to Congress.

Worthy Master of Kansas State Grange, Wm. Sims, sends the following for insertion in the KANSAS FARMER, and it is desired that all farmers and others will lend their aid in circulating the petitions—a copy of which they can make from the printed form, or write to Mr. Sims, at Topeka, for printed forms—and procuring signatures:

To the Patrons of Husbandry and Farmers of the United States:

The National Grange, at its recent session held in Washington, D. C., from the 17th to the 27th of November, inclusive, determined to make further persistent efforts to relieve the productive industries of this country from the unjust burthens which oppress them.

Agriculturists, more than all other classes of our citizens, suffer from the discriminations made by railroads in their freight rates of transportation; nor are they less imposed upon by fraudulent vendors of patents. And while those who fare sumptuously every day off the net income from their surplus investments, control our national finances, and contribute but little to our country's revenue, the farmers of the land are subjected to the brunt of taxation, while they are denied representation around the executive council board of the republic.

The National Grange, therefore, calls your earnest attention to reports upon these subjects, which were discussed at their recent session and ordered to be printed in their proceedings. And they urgently request your co-operation as follows:

1st, Have these reports, when printed, published in your county papers, and discussed be-

fore public assemblies in your county, called for this purpose.

2d, Urge members of your grange, and farmers of your neighborhood, to sign the petitions accompanying this letter.

3d, When all the signatures possible have been obtained to your petitions, forward them without delay to your representative in congress, and ask his active co-operation.

## FORM OF PETITION.

To the Hon.

We, the undersigned citizens of the congressional district which you have the honor to represent, respectfully submit: That the carrying trade of our country, as at present controlled, is an oppression to the people. Nearness to market, though a natural advantage, cannot be profitably utilized by either producer or consumer. And through rates of transportation always discriminate in favor of those who can and do combine to oppress the public.

We, therefore, respectfully but urgently request you to favor such congressional legislation upon the subject of inter-state commerce as will secure equality of privileges for all our citizens in the matter of transportation, and require freight rates to be in proportion to services rendered.

## Friends,

A great many of your subscriptions expire with No. 50—the present number of the FARMER—to No. 52. Send in your renewals before the time is out, and thus save us a great deal of labor in dropping your names from the printed list, and in a short time be called upon to replace them by receiving your subscription. We request all who intend to continue the FARMER—and we trust every subscriber proposes to do so—to renew at once, that no numbers may be missed, and if every present subscriber would get his neighbor to subscribe for a year, we would feel like the farmers of our land meant business in earnest. Surely the majority of our subscribers could add a new name to our lists if they would speak a word in time to their neighbors who are not at present readers of the FARMER.

## The Movement of Farmers in Butler County.

There was a farmers' mass meeting called by farmers of Butler county to assemble in the court house at Eldorado, the county seat of that county, November 29th. The "call" did not reach us in time for insertion in the FARMER, and hence the failure of the KANSAS FARMER to make mention of the movement. The meeting was held according to programme, and by the information we have had of it, was a very enthusiastic gathering. Our informant represented the only disturbance to come from an ex-member of the legislature who was sent to Topeka at the last session and sold out, or traded off, or deserted, the farmers' interest who sent him. He was a lawyer. After persistent failures to run the meeting around, he was remanded to a back seat, and proceedings were held looking to legislation in the interest of the farmers of the state of Kansas in the approaching session, which will assemble in January next.

The proceedings of the mass meeting were to have been sent to the KANSAS FARMER for publication last week, but sharing the fate of the original call, they have never reached us. They were published, however, in some other paper, or papers, as we learn from the secretary, who informs us, in the following note, that the proceedings and resolutions have not been correctly published, and he has forwarded us a correct copy and requests its publication. It will be seen that the proceedings embrace a series of pretty strong resolutions, and a call for a mass meeting of farmers from all parts of the state to assemble at Topeka on the 12th of January, when the district alliances of the state propose to inaugurate a state alliance. The following is the secretary's letter, together with a correct copy of the resolutions and call for the mass state farmers' convention:

ED. FARMER: I find that there are some mistakes in the published account of our convention. Some resolutions that were tabled, are published, and some other proceedings are not reported correctly. The following are the resolutions that we wished published:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that the transportation question is paramount to all others, and we demand of our legislators and members of congress that they use all honorable means to secure such legislation as will secure justice between producers shippers, and transportation companies, and in our opinion the most practicable method of securing the above object is by the appointment of commissioners, both state and national, similar to the commissioners provided by the laws of the state of Illinois.

Resolved, That this convention heartily endorse the action of the National Farmers' Alliance in their efforts to accomplish the foregoing objects, and also to secure other needed reforms, and we hereby ask the favorable consideration of such Alliance by every citizen, and the representative of every industry in the great commonwealth; and we pledge ourselves to aid the organization to the extent of our ability.

## STATE CONVENTION.

A state convention will be held in the city of Topeka, Kansas, on Wednesday, the 12th day of January, 1881, for the purpose of considering the relation that railroads sustain to the people of this state and nation, and to adopt such measures as will secure justice between producers, shippers, and transportation companies, and to transact such other business as may come before it.

All farmers' alliances, farmers' clubs, granges

and boards of trade, are requested to send delegates. All farmers, shippers, and others interested in the development of our common country, are requested to be present.

A State Farmers' Alliance will be organized at the same time.

J. M. Foy,  
Secretary Butler Co. Alliance.

Plum Grove, Kas., Dec. 6th.  
The call for the State Mass Convention is made by the Butler County Alliance which call was endorsed, as we understand, by the mass meeting.

We are requested to ask the press of the state to publish the above call, and lend the farmers their assistance in making the movement generally known, so that a fair representation from all parts of the state may be in attendance.

## Communications.

## Those Poor Sticks.

ED. FARMER: In the KANSAS FARMER of November 17th, in your reply to "Zephyr's" question about trees and tree planting, you call the butternut a poor stick. I most respectfully differ with you as to its being of small value for timber. With your consent I will give you some of my experience about and with the poor stick.

I was partly raised where it grew plentifully and to a large size. Often it was used for saw-timber, rails and posts, and for making what we called sap-buckets, in northern Ohio, also troughs, spiles and shingles were made from it, and it was considered lasting and durable for those purposes. In Illinois I saw it used for finishing in building and various other uses about a farm, and it was thought to be excellent timber. It grew well there when planted out for timber, but it will not bear transplanting as it is nearly destitute of fibrous roots. In northern Iowa it was one of the best kinds of timber we had for improving a new farm for posts and rails. It was easy to split and was very lasting. It was much sought after for posts on account of its durability. I have made shingles from it that lasted as long as pine or oak. I never used the nuts for pickles. Cucumbers are generally used for that purpose and they are not bad to take when well prepared. I always thought butternuts were fine eating by a warm fire on a wintry day. I once lived upon a farm in central Iowa upon which a large quantity of butternut timber was growing, and I was very much annoyed by the boys climbing up into the tops and cutting and breaking the branches to get at the nuts. I have seen the nuts sell in the market for 75 cents to \$1 per bushel, more than once. They are far ahead of black walnuts for eating.

I should like to say more upon this timber question, but I fear I have already said too much for a stranger in the FARMER family, but timber articles are sought after by me as soon as I get a new number of the FARMER, for I was partly reared in the grand old forests of the boundless changing west, and I often think I would much rather take a ramble among the stately chestnuts, oaks and beeches of northern Ohio than to take a ride with a coach-and-four in the grand park of New York City.

MARCEUS H. WRIGHT.

Altamont, Labette Co., Kansas.

"What is one man's meat is another man's poison" is a vulgar old proverb, and its truth seems to be verified in this instance. Our experience with butternuts was that they were of little account where black walnut, hickory, beech, oak—white, black, Spanish, etc.—locust, chestnut, tulip or poplar, and other forest timber grew, and it is our opinion that all the above mentioned timbers are preferable to butternuts to cultivate. Any timber can be turned to valuable account, however poor sticks it may be, and for variety sake the butternut would fill a place in a timber belt as well as a persimmon, pawpaw, judas-tree, etc., but beginners had better stick to cottonwoods and black walnuts.

## Sunflower Seed for Poultry.

The Mammoth sunflower is the largest and best and most productive variety. The flowers measure 12 to 18 inches. I raised heads of the sunflower that were larger than a common water-pail. Single flowers will produce an immense quantity of seed. A flower exhibited at the Centennial measured 22 inches in diameter. The seed is very valuable for stock feeding. It is the best egg producing food known for poultry, keeping them in fine condition and largely increasing the production of eggs. It can be raised at a very small cost per bushel, and is highly recommended to stock farmers and poultry breeders. It may be sown up to the middle of June. The Poultry World says: "We have known for years the value of the sunflower seed in the fall of the year, and in the winter, too, as food for fowls. This plant should be grown by every poultry breeder in the country who has opportunity to raise only a few stalks, even for its properties for glossing the plumage of exhibition birds, which are altogether remarkable. This plant is a very gross grower, but it yields wonderfully, and if cultivated like other grains will more than pay for extra trouble, it is so easily cultivated. The stalk makes nice kindling-wood. Three quarts is sufficient for an acre."

MARY J. COOMBER.

Otho, Webster Co., Iowa.

## Catalpa Planting.

In the FARMER of December 3d, Mr. E. W. Poor asks for the method and results in planting catalpa seed this year. I plowed my ground from eight to ten inches deep; pulver-

ized and prepared it the same as for garden seeds; marked a trench with hoe handle two inches deep; watered the trench moderately; filled it up one inch; soaked the seeds in tepid water twelve hours; planted the seeds about six inches apart, May 4th; covered one inch, and pressed the soil with the hoe or hand. The plants appeared in about three weeks; hoed them four times, and kept them free from weeds. I have now four hundred trees, ranging from 12 to 26 inches high. The seeds are so very light and featherlike, that it is tedious planting them while wet, but that is compensated by preventing them from blowing away while handling.

Some 20 per cent. of the seeds sent me by Professor Stelle came up, and 75 per cent. of a lot got from another source. Had my ground been enriched by a plentiful sprinkling of fine manure on it, I have no doubt that my trees would now be much larger.

WALTER OAKLEY.

One mile west of Topeka.

## Wormy, etc., Hogs and Calves.

ED. FARMER.—I live in Zendale township, Riley county, 45 miles from Topeka, and about 8 miles east of Manhattan. I should like to hear through the KANSAS FARMER the name and nature of a disease that attacks young calves. The feet swell a little above the ankle joint and then stop; looks as though a string was tied where the swelling stops. After a few days the feet drop off; don't matter or run any; seems to be a dry rot, does not hinder the calves from eating and they don't fall off much. We killed them, supposing they would die from the effects of the disease.

Also, would like to know the cause of there being "worms" in the heads of hogs. They get poor, seem to eat good but are stupid. And the worms crawl out of the nose and are from four to five inches in length, and after a short time it kills them. If these diseases are curable, please give a remedy with the name of the disease.

M. M. MCCORMICK.

We submitted the above inquiries to Mr. Coburn and received the following reply: "I never saw or heard before of calves or hogs afflicted as Mr. McCormick says his are. I doubt whether anyone else ever did. If mine I would close such stock out to the best bidder and take a new start. They are undoubtedly possessed by a devil."

F. D. COBURN.

## Read This.

Every farmer needs Purdy's Fruit Recorder to teach him how to grow small fruits and all kinds of garden plants; and he also wants a package of small fruit or berry plants of choice varieties and that he is sure will be just what are promised. Purdy in this branch of business is the standard authority of the United States. What he sends out may be relied upon to be genuine. In ordering give No. of package desired, and the plants in that package will be sent you.

## Free Plants to Subscribers.

Having made arrangements to club the KANSAS FARMER with Purdy's Fruit Recorder and Cottage Gardener, we announce that we will furnish both for \$2.00 and will give as a prize to each yearly subscriber under this clubbing arrangement any of the following numbers he or she may select; postage prepaid on plants and papers—plants to be sent in open spells through the winter or in early spring:

1. Six plants each of the two new famous seedling strawberries, Longfellow and Warren.
2. Twelve plants of either of the following new choice strawberries: Sharpless, Miner's, Great Prolific, Glendale and Cowen's Seedling; or, to accommodate those who want an assortment, six each of two kinds, or four each of three kinds, or three each of four kinds, each sort properly labeled.
3. Three plants of the famous new black rasp berry, the Tyler, the earliest and most productive large black cap sort grown; or three plants of the Gregg, the most prolific and largest late black cap grown; or two plants of each.
4. Six plants of the hardest and most prolific raspberry grown—Thurlock, Turner or Brandywine; or two of each.
5. Six plants of the hardest and most prolific blackberry—Taylor's Prolific and Snyder; or three of each.
6. Two strong grapevines of any of the following: Concord, Hartford, Ives, Isabelle, Catawba, or Rogers 4 or 15 or 19; or one vine of the Worden's Seedling—similar to the Concord every way, but two weeks earlier.
7. Two strong, well rooted Roses—most beautiful and hardy sorts.
8. One Hallen's Honeyuckle—the most beautiful sort grown having a mass of flowers, white and yellow, for six to eight weeks in the spring, and filling the air with its delicious perfume and holding its green foliage until spring, thus making it a splendid screen.
9. One pound of the Grange potato—one of the most productive and finest sorts grown.
10. Ten papers of choice Flower Seed, that all responsible seedsmen charge \$1.00 for.
11. One back bound volume of "Purdy's Fruit Recorder."
12. "Purdy's (64-page) Small Fruit Instructor," which tells how to plant and grow all kinds of small fruit plans for drying, houses, hot beds and green houses, illustrated with valuable drawings on nearly every page.

The "Fruit Recorder and Cottage Gardener" is a 16 page monthly paper, exclusively confined to the subjects of fruits, flowers and vegetables, and is edited and managed by A. M. Purdy, a life long, practical grower.

Thus for the sum of \$2.00, you get this valuable fruit and flower paper, with the KANSAS FARMER, and one of the above numbers, post paid. The prize number must be ordered at the same time the papers are subscribed for. A specimen copy of the "Recorder" may be obtained by addressing A. M. Purdy, Palmyra, N. Y., and a free specimen copy of the KANSAS FARMER can be obtained by addressing KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

E. E. EWING, Proprietor.

P. S. Club agents can make use of the above offer in securing new subscribers for their clubs, and the FARMER will be credited to their lists.



## Kansas Avenue.



## Literary and Domestic

Barbarie Fritchie.

NEW VERSION.

Id was droo der streeds of Frederickstown  
Der red hot zun he vas shine him down,

Best der raloons all fill mit bier,  
Der rebel vellers walked od der ear.

All day droo Frederickstown so fast,  
Horses, und guns und sagers bast.

Der rebel flag he shone him out so bridd,  
As if, by Jinks, he got some ridd.

Vere vas the Onion flag? Der zun  
He look him down on a von.

Up jumped dot old Miss Fritchie den,  
So old by nine score years und ten,

She grabbed up der old flag der men haul down  
Und fastened it quick by her midt down,

Den she sot dy der window vere all could see,  
Der vas von vot lade dot flag so free.

Purt soon come ridin' up old Stonewall Jack,  
Rittin' ffrom der mittle of his horse's back.

Under him brow he squats him's eyes,  
Dot flag! dot make him great surprise.

Halt! each feller, make him still!  
Fir! vas echra from hill to hill.

It busted der strings from dot midt down,  
But Barbarie Fritchie, she vas aount.

She grabbed der flag again so quick,  
Und out of der window her arms did stick.

"Obuse, if you would, dis old bald head,  
Zo soon, zo quick dot flag!" she said.

Zo soon, zo quick dot flag! he said,  
He holler him out mit a face so blue.

"Who bulls a hair out of dot bald head,  
Dies awful quick, go ahead!" he said,

Und all dot day, und all dot nite,  
Till ebery rebel vas out of site.

Und leave behind him dot Frederickstown,  
Dot flag he vas sthickin' by dot midt down,

Dame Barbarie Fritchie's work is done,  
She dot never got some fun.

Bully fer her! und drop a tear  
For dot old voman mitout some fear.

## Woman's Rights.

ED. FARMER: You have so often urged the ladies to write for the FARMER, that at last, I have concluded to take advantage of the opportunity to have a little chat with the women on the subject of woman's suffrage.

Now that the election is over and men can think without having their minds biased by political prejudice, I think it a good time to place our cause before them. I think the time has arrived when we may consider the feasibility of adding another amendment to our state constitution, securing to women the right to vote; and, I believe that when this subject is properly presented to the men of Kansas by the women themselves, they will no longer withhold from us the rights they hold so sacred to themselves. But we can never hope for anything in this direction, unless we make the move ourselves; for if we would be free we must strike the blow.

The object of this article is to call upon the women of Kansas to put their shoulders to the wheel and work untiringly and unceasingly until our object is secured. Is there not at least one woman in each county, who will take upon herself the task of organizing her county? And to the men we would say come and help us. We do not ask this as a favor, but because we think it your duty to help undo the mischief you have done, and, on the higher ground, that "what is worth doing at all is worth doing well," and history teaches us that what has been well done in this country, has been accomplished by the united efforts of both men and women. So we say come. If you can't come with anything else, come with your objections and let us discuss the question. And now my sisters, I would say gird on your armor, and by our united efforts, we will at last bring to bear such a force that will break through the incrustations of tyranny and prejudice in which conservatism has encased itself, and ere the dawn of another century America will stand before the world a Republic in fact as well as in name.

MRS. L. K. WILLET.

Independence, Kas.

The ladies have often been called to "buckle on the armor" and put their delicate "shoulders to the wheel," and throw off the "galling yoke of tyranny," but they seem slow about putting on the war harness, or lifting at the wheels; and as to getting rid of the tyranny of man, the silly creatures act as if they rather liked it. We hope, however, that this appeal of Mrs. Willet's will induce them to furnish up their rusty weapons and fall in line. But we have heard it said that a woman's weapon never did grow rusty and was always ready for use.

## The Medical Flora of Kansas, and an Epitome of the Medicinal Properties.

BY DR. J. H. OYSTER, MEDICAL BOTANIST, PAOLA, KANSAS.

*Kantherium Fraineum*, Prickly Ash. Stimulant, diaphoretic, carminative, sialagogue, alterative and rubefacient. This is an excellent agent.

*Rhus glabra*, Sumac. Astringent, tonic, diuretic, antiseptic, alterative and refrigerant. Used in diarrhea and dysentery.

*R. aromatica*, Sweet Sumac. This species of sumac is used in diseases of the kidneys and various affections of the genito-urinary organs.

*Fragaria Virginiana*, Strawberry. Astringent and diuretic. *R. Toxicodendron*, and *R. radicans* appear to be possessed of the same medicinal properties. The first of these two are called Poison Oak, Poison Ivy. Tetanic, stimulant, narcotic, diaphoretic, diuretic and laxative.

*Ptelea trifoliata*, Shrub trefoil. Pure, unriparating tonic. It is also stimulant, expectorant, alterative, astringent, and diaphoretic. This article, like many others, is unknown to the profession at large.

*Staphylea trifolia*, Bladder-nut. Antiperiodic and tonic.

*Asculus glabra*, Ohio Buckeye. Tonic, astringent and narcotic; but seldom used. It is a dangerous article.

*Sapindus marginatus*, Soapberry. This tree grows near Medicine Lodge. Have seen only the berries which were brought to me from the tree, and I am almost certain they were the berries from this tree. This article is not found in any botanical work that I have had access to. The berries and bark possess excellent tonic properties. I predict a wide medicinal range for it, when it has been investigated. The berries are harmless and bitter, and remain on the tree during the winter. Color, yellow.

*Celastrus scandens*, Bittersweet, Staff-tree. The Bittersweet is well known by almost everybody. This is truly one of the best remedies that we are blessed with. As an alterative in scrofula, glandular-swelling, secondary syphilis, mercurial cachexy, chronic cutaneous diseases.

*Eunymus atropurpureus*, Wahoo. Tonic, aperient, alterative and pectoral. This is one of the most useful vegetable agents that grow in our state.

*Ceanothus Americanus*, Red root, Jersey tea. Astringent, expectorant, sedative, anti-sparmodic, and anti-syphilitic. It is used with good effect in dysentery, asthma, chronic bronchitis, whooping cough, and consumption.

*Rhamnus Lancelotus*, Narrow-leaved Buckthorn. This species of buckthorn, which is the one found in the state, has never been used by any of the medical profession. I have found it to contain tonic properties. I use the bark of the root, which is very bitter. It grows in the woods and along fence rows, resembling somewhat wild cherry, and produces a black berry.

*Polygala Senega*, Seneca Snakeroot. Expectorant, diuretic, diaphoretic, emmenagogue, stimulant, sialagogue, alterative, emetic, cathartic and resolvent. This is a useful plant. Very rare in the state. The *P. polygama*, *P. sanguinea*, are also medicinal.

*Cassia Chamacrista*, Sensitive Pea. *C. Marilandica*, American Senna. These two species may be used for the same purpose. They are among the most important herbal cathartics furnished by America, but they have to be used in one-third larger doses than the senna of the drug-shops. Common.

*Cercis Canadensis*, Red-bud, Judas tree. This is the common Red-bud of our woods. Astringent. Used in diarrhea and dysentery. A valuable article.

*Baptisia Cucuphas*, *B. leucantha*, Wild Indigo. The bark of root. The *B. tinctoria* is the species generally used by physicians. It is not found here. The ones mentioned here can be used for the same purpose. They are antiseptic, astringent, tonic, emetic, cathartic and alterative. They are valuable as topical agents in all kind of ulcers.

*Lepedeo capitata*, Bush Clover. This plant is not mentioned in any medical work. It is emetic and diaphoretic. Common on the prairies.

*Amorpha canescens*, Lead Plant. A very powerful astringent. The leaves and root are the parts used. I never saw the mention of this plant in any medical work.

*Prunus Virginiana*, Wild Cherry. This tree is well known. Tonic, sedative and astringent.

*Rubus ridibundus*, Blackberry. Valuable astringent. Highly extolled for its efficiency in chronic dysentery, etc.

*Gemma Virginiana*, White Avena. Energetic, astringent and tonic. In the New England states it is a popular remedy in diarrhea and chronic dysentery.

## Pretty Holiday Work.

A pretty ornament for the center of the ceiling where one has no hanging lamp or chandelier, is an air castle made of tiny Japanese parasols. Take three of them, cut a slit in the handles, and put through them a silk thread suspending three of them below, then two above that, then one. The idea of what is meant will readily suggest itself to you if you take five of these and try the effect. The least bit of air will sway them. This is particularly pretty in the tiny boudoir that girls delight in arranging.

The birds-eye maple (or other wood) plaques, with their fine grainings, are pretty, even if not decorated, with two gilded pipes, crossed and tied in the center of the plaque with blue or cardinal ribbons. Whichever colored ribbon is used, the pipes should be painted inside with the same color.

The large ox horns, polished and undecorated, unless with hand painting—never use a scrap book picture on any of Nature's works, it cheapens them—finished at top and bottom with a gilt or silver rim and hung up with chain to match, or wide ribbon, are beautiful filled with grasses or ferns and suspended from a chandelier or under a picture.

Birch bark and rustic twig make a pretty wall ornament in the shape of a portfolio or envelope, with the sides sloped towards the bottom—that is, narrower at the top. This, filled with ferns or leaves, is both rustic and uncommon. There are many things birch bark may be used for; it is a good material to point on, made into tiny books and painted in fern designs or tiny shells; anything that is "woodsey" looking is pretty on birch bark. The

leaves of the book may be put between flat-folding shells and tied on with ribbon. A bird's nest, a stump or an old log covered with lichens, mosses, sea weed are good subjects. The mind will suggest many designs that are not yet worn out by too frequent usage, such as apple blossoms, pansies, etc. The woods and swamps give so many lovely ideas to the artist's eye, it's strange that they will cling to old, worn out and stereotyped subjects.

A pretty basket for shopping purposes can be made of birch bark, by cutting it in the flat straw baskets that close at the top, lined with silk, shirred at the top and drawn up with a draw-string. Where the edges are joined cover with ribbon and stitch with machine. You can stitch birch bark the same as a piece of cloth.

The little boxes of thin wood which are used to carry butter or lard in, when covered with cambric or silk make pretty work boxes. Ordinary sized wooden pails may be converted into receptacles for work in the following manner (not an original idea with me): A piece of satin drawn in a frill around the top and fastened with small tacks and drawn in again with a draw string round the top and bottom, and satin twisted round the handle. A top of card board, covered neatly with a ruche around the edge and a fall of lace was attached by a ribbon on the side so that it came off and hung down when the receptacle was being used. It is not necessary to have a handle, as these pails are generally kept in one place, by the side of a chair, or in the customary place of the lady who owns it, as it is heavy to move. It is extremely useful for keeping wools in, or a piece of work that is only occasionally taken up.

Black satin with a ruche of gold-colored satin round the edge, with a fall of cream colored lace, looks well and suits all furniture, though all red or blue is very pretty and bright looking. Basket pails can be had or made at any basket shop, and these are much lighter than the others, and can be easily carried about in the hand. These are often used for carrying croquet balls on the lawn. A piece of embroidered crash, sheeting or serge, or a broad band of patchwork can be utilized for covering, or pretty cretonne. They are pretty, also, for keeping wood in by drawingroom or bedroom fire.

The pretty straw baskets that flowers are offered in, when the flowers are withered, be used for Lake Superior mosses, grasses, autumn leaves for ferns. Then the money spent for them does not seem wasted, for they can be converted into pretty objects for the center table. The smaller ones can be left filled with sand, and if dampened occasionally flowers may be kept for a long time in them.

Irish guipure laces, four or six inches deep, with square points, make very pretty lambrequins or shelf covers, if lined with Silesia or silk. Get linen thread and tie a heavy fringe in each point. The linen can be purchased at the places where it is sold for macramé lace making, and the effect is nearly as pretty as the creamy lace mentioned.

## Diphtheria.

Diphtheria is one of those diseases that develops slyly and demands prompt treatment. It indicates its coming by chills, dullness and headache. In a day or two difficult swallowing and stricture about the throat. The tonsils are swollen and redder than usual. Slight, ash specks may be seen upon the tonsils that in due time may extend to the uvula, palate and adjacent parts. But it may begin and nearly end its course without alarming its subjects or their friends. A few days delay may lessen greatly the chances of checking its rapid and fatal course. It should have at its outset efficient treatment. When it exists in any place parents should examine their children's throats and note and attack the outset of the malady. The slightest soreness of the throat is always worth attention. It is wise for the mother to consider every white or dingy patch upon the tonsils or fauces as an indication of diphtheria. We have usually seen it first upon the tonsils, or have observed a redness of the throat, and that the child had a feeling of soreness and fullness, or that the mucous membrane of the throat may be swollen. The mother should not wait for white patches to appear but attempt at once to reduce the inflammation, and so check the development of the malady.

At the outset, diphtheria is a local malady, but neglected, it soon becomes a general one. It is a germ disease and starting into existence by germs or spores that find a proper place for growth on the inflamed mucous membrane of the throat, extend their multiplication to other parts of the system and intensify their usual results. At first the malady may be limited to the throat but in a few days may appear in other parts, as the nose or feet, if wounded. A young girl tripping across the floor, forced a needle through her foot. The wound healed well, but four days afterwards she had diphtheria of the throat. On the third day a sore appeared upon the spot the needle punctured. In a few hours it assumed a dark diphtheric aspect, and ultimately the little patient died.

The first thing to be done on the discovery of indications of diphtheria is to make some applications to the throat that may destroy the germs or spores and so check the extension of the malady. We usually in mild cases apply by a swab or brush a saturated solution of the chlorate of potassa or a weak solution of carbolic acid, ten drops to ten teaspoons of water. Other applications may be equally efficient, as chlorine water, one part to three of water, or a solution of common salt composed of one teaspoon of salt, two tablespoons of cider vinegar, and four tablespoons of water. Any of these may be used as gargles or may be applied by a

swab. Cleanse the swab after each application. The patient should expectorate the mucus that may accumulate in the mouth or throat. It usually contains the germs or spores, and so by swallowing may be absorbed and mingled with the blood and tissues and increase the violence of the disease. We are apt to give every third hour a teaspoon of the saturated solution of the chlorate of potassa in a teaspoon or more of milk. It is often useful to apply to the throat flannels wrung out of hot water. The flannels should be large enough to cover the neck. The best way to apply hot fermentations to the throat is to partly fill a woolen stocking with small bits of sponge, wring it out of hot water and apply it to the throat. This fomentation should be so large as to fill all the space between the chin and chest. It is elastic and so keeps the skin always covered. If the child bends his head to the right or left, or throws it back, this fomentation follows the head and keeps the neck always warm. It should fit closely under the chin. Whatever fomentation should be used it should be renewed every five to ten minutes or as often as it begins to cool. Inhaling vapor formed by pouring diluted vinegar on unslacked lime often gives great relief to difficult respiration. Place the lime in a coffee pot, pour on the vinegar and water, close the spot and let the child inhale the vapor as it passes through the spout. It may be wise to lengthen out the spout and so cool the vapor somewhat before it enters the patient's mouth. In bad cases of diphtheria and membranous croup, inhaling lime vapor is often very useful. —Prairie Farmer.

I remarked to an old farmer back in the country, whom I had not seen for several years, and whose farm, in the meantime, had improved wonderfully, that his place was so changed I hardly knew it. "Yes," said he, "I've been fixin' up a little. The old woman pestered me to death about the garden, and so I slicked it up a little, and fixed about the house, and it looked so nice I went at the farm fences and the brush, and saved more manure, and kept killing the weeds, and the crops got better, and so I kept going on, and things do look pretty good now. Wife takes a paper, and I take one, and I get time to read it too, and I used to think that I hadn't time for anything." And so he ran on, seemingly much pleased with what he had done, and his life and his home without doubt the happier for it. Examples of a like kind may be found all over the country.—Ez.

## 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.

Agents Wanted. **C4S50** S. M. SPENCER, 115 Wash'n st., Boston, Mass.  
50 CHROMOS, name in new type, 10c. by mail. 40 Agts. Samples, 10c. T. S. & Co., Northford, Ct.  
62 Golden Chromo, Crystal, Rose, Diamond, Navy, etc. Name in gold and jet 10c. Winslow & Co., Meriden, Ct.  
\$777 A YEAR and expenses to agents. Outfit Free. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.  
50 New Style Cards, Lithographed in bright colors. 10c. 50 Agts. Samples 10c. Conn. Card Co., Northford, Ct.  
\$777 A Month and expenses guaranteed to Agt. Outfit free. Shaw & Co., Augusta, Maine.  
50 Pin-4, Chromo, Lily, Lace, Marble, etc., Cards, in case, 10c. GLOBE CARD CO., Northford, Ct.  
50 Perfumed cards, best assortment ever offered, 10c. Agts. Outfit, 10c. CONN CARD CO., Northford, Ct.  
50 Landscape, Chromo Cards, etc., name on, 10c. 249 Agts. Outfit, 10c. SHILLON CARD CO., North Haven, Ct.  
50 All Gold, Chromo & Litho. Cards, (No 2 Alike) Name on, 10c. Clinton Bros., Clintonville, Conn.  
50 Chromo, Glass, Scroll, Wreath and Lace cards 10c. Try us. CHROMO CARD CO., Northford, Ct.  
50 ELIZANT CARDS, 10c. each, with name, 10c. 40 Transp. 10c. 10c. Samples taken. W. Moore, Brookport, N. Y.  
50 Gold and Silver Chromo Cards, with name, 10c. 20 post paid. G. W. REED & Co., Nassau, N. Y.  
18 Elite, Gold, Bevel, Edge cards 25c. or 20 Chinese Chromos, 10c. J. B. HUSTED, Nassau, N. Y.  
\$66 a week in your own town. Terms and 50 outfit free. Address H. HALLIST & Co., Portland, Maine.  
50 Gold, Chromo, Tortoise Shell, Marble and Bow CARDS, 10c. SEAVY BROS., Northford, Ct.  
50 Chromo, Tortoise Shell, Cupid, Motto, Floral cards, 10c. outfit 10c. Hall Bros., Northford, Ct.  
10 cents pays for the Star Spangled Banner 3 months. Nothing like it. Nineteenth year, 8 pages filled. Specimen FREE. Address BANNER, Hindsdale, N. H.  
50 New Styles All Chromo Cards, no 2 alike, 10c. 45 Agts. Samples 10c. SHILLON CARD CO., Shelton, Ct.  
\$5 to \$20 per day at home. Samples worth 5c free. Address STINSON & Co., Portland, Maine.  
\$72 A WEEK. \$12 a day at home easily made. Costly Outfit free. Address THUR & Co., Augusta, Maine.  
50 New Year Cards. Elegant designs, with your name on each for 10c. U. E. Kay, New Haven, Ct.  
50 Lithographed Chromo Cards, no 2 alike, 10c. Name in fancy type. CONN. CARD CO., Northford, Ct.

## Various Causes—

Advancing years, care, sickness, disappointment, and hereditary predisposition—all operate to turn the hair gray, and either of the malady it is shed prematurely. Ayer's hair vigor will restore faded or gray, light or red hair to a rich brown or deep black, as may be desired. It softens and cleanses the scalp, giving it a healthy action. It removes and cures dandruff and humors. By its use falling hair is checked, and a new growth will be produced in all cases where the follicles are not destroyed or the glands decayed. Its effects are beautifully shown on brash, weak, or sickly hair, on which a few applications will produce the gloss and freshness of youth. Harmless and sure in its operation, it is incomparable as a dressing, and is especially valued for the soft lustre and richness of tone it imparts. It contains neither oil nor dye, and will not soil or color white cambric; yet it lasts long on the hair, and keeps it fresh and vigorous. For sale by all dealers.

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Sample copies by mail 10 cents each. 50 cents per dozen. Illustrated chromo mottoes, 8x22, 15 cents each, 2 for 25 cents, or \$1.25 per dozen. 9x11 chromo, 35 cents a dozen by mail or 30 cents by express, or \$2 per 100. Send for Price List.

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A first-class Two-horse TREAD MILL POWER suitable for farm use, has been used but little and kept house in in good repair, ready by D. K. Woodcock & Co., of Albany, N. Y. We intend utilizing water power. Call on or address

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CHEAPEST HOUSE IN AMERICA. 1st-class instruments, all new, for cash or installments; warranted 6 years. Illustrated catalogues free. Agents wanted. T. LEEDS WATERS, Agt., 28 West 14th st., New York

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