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THE KANSAS FARMER.

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Topeka, Kansas.

Communications.

A Sheep Raiser Who Comprehends the Situation.

As so much is said about dogs just now I'll send my views on the subject.

In the year 1878 I lost 15 sheep out of 400 by dogs. I could recover nothing for my sheep but by levying on the dogs and six dogs paid the penalty of loving mutton too well, but some of the owners of said dogs not liking to lose their valuable (?) canines accidentally (!) dropped a match near one of my hay stacks and I lost 30 ton of good hay. In the year 1879 I lost 10 or more by dogs, and a few dogs died. In the fall of 1880 while I was in Illinois 10 of the best lambs were killed in one night, and about 15 killed out of 1,200. But I feel proud to say that I made way with about fifteen dogs during the year. I haven't lost a sheep for five months. I have built me a large sheep barn with a yard around it with a fence five feet high, and I think that by furnishing a free midnight supper occasionally that the dogs will be so sickened of my mutton that I shall have but small losses to report.

I believe in the shot gun policy, but the dogs in this vicinity make their raids when all honest men are asleep. I have declared war on all those coming on my premises without an owner and I shall further politely request all persons coming here with dogs that if they value the lives of their dogs they will leave them at home in future. And I think that by continued persistent effort we can so reduce the number that our sheep will not suffer and that too without legislation. D.

Woodson Co., Kas.

Cottonwood Chat.

ED. FARMER: Will you permit me to say a few words to John Worth and others intending to plant cottonwoods in the spring? In the first place let me say I have had experience as an agriculturist in four different states, and have been an earnest observer and ardent admirer of beautiful trees and shrubbery, from the cedar hedge highways of the "Old Dominion" to the silver spruce glens of the Rockies, and a range of latitude almost equal in extent.

My cottonwoods (some 4½ acres) are from two to four years old, mostly from cuttings. With a man to help me accurate measurements were taken to-day of average rows with the following results: Four-year-olds, from the cutting, average height 18 feet 6 inches; diameter 4½ inches. The largest one measured 23 feet in height and 17 inches in circumference at the ground. The two-year-old trees from the cutting, notwithstanding both seasons have been very dry, and that they were planted four feet apart each way, (one-half however were dug out last spring), averaged over 11 feet in height and are 1 and 2 inches in diameter at the ground, the largest 12 feet 5 inches high and 3 inches in diameter. If any one in the state can show a better record, let us hear through the FARMER of his method.

My way is this: For cuttings choose old ground that has been deeply plowed; fall plowing is best. In the spring when you want to plant is the time to take the cuttings from the tree. Lateral limbs of last year's growth from yearling and two-year-old trees are best. Never take older wood or the shoots that start out at the ground. Throw the cuttings as fast as prepared into water. Double a thick piece of leather to protect the hand, (cut a hole through for the thumb); take pail one-third full of water and fill with the cuttings, sharpened ends down, and you are ready for work. Having the ground marked both ways, and with a boy to walk between and carry the pail and hand cuttings, two men can plant about three acres a day, eight feet apart each way, which is as close as they should be planted. Insert the cuttings nearly vertically as far as their strength will admit. It is most important to have the lower ends strike firm soil. When they have grown eighteen inches high prune to one shoot, taking off all lateral branches; when four to six feet high prune again. Just how much better they would do by mulching it would be interesting to know.

My experience has led me to believe that either the ash, elm, honey-locust or box-elder

can stand more drouth than the cottonwood, and could give plenty of proof, but will only ask a few questions:

Is not the fact that the cottonwood is more generally scattered over the plains region due to the greater facility with which the seeds are distributed more than its ability to withstand drouth? Who ever saw the cottonwood on the plains except along the streams or in a natural basin? On the other hand do we not find the ash, elm, oak and other trees growing with vigor, withstanding summer's drouth and winter's cold upon precipitous bluffs where the rains penetrate but a few inches?

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I most heartily concur with you in the planting of ash and other valuable trees among the cottonwoods. E. T. DANIELS.

Downs, Osborne Co., Kas.

System and Brains Required in Farming.

Our wheat is in excellent condition with bright prospects for a good crop, and the hurry and bustle of the farmer is heard everywhere in preparation for a heavy spring's work. As the ground froze up so early and has kept frozen, there has been no fall and winter plowing done, therefore every one will have more to do this spring than he can accomplish.

If farming is a success and a trade, as we believe, then it ought to be done by rule. It has a system in principle and it ought to have in practice. There is a time and place for everything connected with the business and the best success is to be found in following the best system. If it is not done systematically it is done at a great disadvantage. There is a waste and loss at all ends and corners; the waste in time is the greatest; the waste in material is much; so if the management be wrong in production and cultivation, a failure must follow. How many farmers there are who do everything by guess or at random. They plow all soils alike for all crops; they sow or plant when they happen to get ready whether the season, the soil or the weather is right or not. They have no idea of the size of their fields or the quantity of seed they put on the acre; they guess it is about right. They have no system or rotation of crops, and no way of feeding their stock so as to do them the most good with the least feed.

Now in order to obtain the greatest degree of success in the cultivation of the soil and to reap the richest harvest, brains, common sense and practice must be employed. The popular idea has been that any man with a fair intellect could manage a farm and make it produce to its fullest extent without any study of principles and with the smallest degree of experience. But in order to excel in any branch of business in general and farming in particular, he must become a thorough master of this branch of business.

A good, practical knowledge of the soil one cultivates will always be found of great importance in order that such crops as are best adapted to the land may be cultivated. When the farmers have learned to classify their soils practically and have studied the requirements of the different crops, then we believe they have gained one great step towards successful farming. F. F. DOWNS.

Ray, Pawnee Co., Kas., March 1st.

Not Partial to Pups.

The address of F. D. Coburn on "Dogs in Relation to Sheep Husbandry," published in your paper of March 2d, is a most excellent paper, and should be printed in every county paper in the state; and also read once a week for three months in every district school in the state. I have the honor of being a country postmaster, and it does seem that every man or boy who comes to the postoffice brings with him all his own and all his neighbors' dogs. Then every nook and corner is interviewed by these curs—stables, pig pens, chicken houses—all visited. Eggs worth \$2 per dozen go down the throats of dogs not worth \$2 per load for bologna. If the cellar door should be left open for air, down goes a dog, and down goes a ham. Even the pump-stock must be interviewed.

It began to snow yesterday about two p. m., and is nearly a foot deep now. The ground had been free of snow, and the wheat looked fine. Stock is doing well, but feed is about all gone, and should the snow remain long, many will suffer. The Saline river was higher than for ten years. Rees' toll bridge at Lincoln was carried a mile or more down the river and broken. It was one of King's iron bridges.

Merriman & Masterson's mill at Sylvan Grove was not injured much.

A. S. Sutton is getting another car load of sheep from Ohio, which, added to those he had, will make nearly 5,000 head.

Those having millet seed for sale should advertise it in the FARMER. There will be quite a demand for it.

Straw over three years old is being bought up for feed at \$1.50 to \$2.00 per load. This shows the necessity of farmers stacking their straw well. LINCOLNITE.

Vesper, Lincoln Co., March 7th.

Information in General.

Winter yet stays with us. Our cattle and hogs have done very well thus far, although much extra feed has been used. We have not suffered any from lack of stock water although the ground is frozen from sixteen inches to two feet in depth. The thermometer has run as low as 23 degrees.

Hogs are very generally marketed; 4c to 4½c per pound is a very fair price. Corn is selling at 18c; hay, \$3.50 to \$4; wheat, 65c to 80c.

The railroad freight from Centralia to Atchison, 65 miles, is 30 cents per 100 pounds on grain—an outrage, but we are like the slave under the master's lash—dare not cry out for fear freights may be advanced. Farmers, as a class, are jealous of each other, and rather than vote to send one of their own best men to the legislature, will vote for almost any other class of professional men, and until they will forego their petty jealousies and quarrels and support one another by some preconcerted action, they will wear the yoke of servitude and oppression and give one-half of their crops to the railroads to pay the transportation charges on the other half, and then give that half to country merchants for goods at 50 per cent. profit.

I saw an inquiry in the FARMER of February 2d, How to raise flax? Any good corn or wheat land free from weeds will do. The newer the land the better. Plow your ground if possible in the fall; in early spring replot and sow as quickly as possible. If plowed and sowed the same day so much the better. Three pecks per acre of good clean seed will give the best satisfaction. Flax can be successfully raised on breaking. If the breaking is fresh no harrowing is needed. Cut with a harvester when the bolls are a light brown; let all lay in gables until dry enough, when thrash immediately or stack. It is not a paying crop in this vicinity and it is certainly injurious to the land. Flax should never be followed with corn. I would not advise to sow on old weedy ground as your crop will certainly be a failure. X. Centralia, Nemaha Co., Kas.

Ness County.

I see signs of prosperity noted in almost every county in our state except ours, yet we are really organized and have polled at our elections five hundred votes of legal electors, showing quite a population which has been attracted here by the beauty and richness of the soil. Notwithstanding the past two seasons have been dry, and many people have become discouraged and are temporarily absent. Our prospects for future prosperity are as good as can be boasted by other counties. Our mail facilities are excellent. The Iowa postoffice at Ness City (the permanent county seat) has twelve mails weekly; every other day east and west, and bi-weekly from the railroads north and south; one weekly, northeast and southwest. Our railroad facilities are not so good as we hope they will be in the near future. The A., T. & S. F. on the south, and the U. P. on the north, leave goods to be freighted 40 to 60 miles.

The experience of the last two years has proven that broom corn, sorghum, rice corn and millet are sure crops, while partial success has attended attempts to raise corn, potatoes and other special crops.

Tree growing has not been tried sufficiently to pronounce it either a success or a failure.

Our prospects for a crop another year are bright indeed. The ground is in good condition, with a fair show for dampness—enough to make everything boom, so to speak. The present season bids fair to surpass all the past and Ness will without doubt secure a goodly share of the immigration which is already commencing.

There was never a better chance to obtain farms already opened up than at the present. Stock looks remarkably well, and our county boasts a goodly number of large herds and flocks, while almost every man is striving to get a little stock of some kind. A. B.

Unprofitable Wheat Raising.

I am thoroughly convinced that wheat raising is the most unprofitable business that the farmers of Kansas can engage in.

In the first place, Kansas is not as good a wheat country as many of us thought it was seven or eight years ago. I have been engaged in raising wheat in Sedgwick county for eight years, and during that time have only kept even by using all the economy that my limited understanding was capable of. While I have been able to keep the sheriff from my door, I know many, very many, that have been compelled, through repeated failures and low prices, to resort to the money lender and mortgage their homes, in the hope that a good crop and better prices would square them up. But, contrary to their hopes, the better crop and better prices don't come, and they are compelled to re-mortgage and by this time they lose all hope of ever redeeming their farms, and the consequences are that hundreds of good, industrious farmers have been closed out of house and home just on account of trying to make money out of wheat raising. Any enterprise that will pay expenses is not dangerous to engage in; but one that lacks a little of paying expenses is certain to bring ruin to those that are engaged therein, sooner or later—and wheat raising in Western Kansas is one of those enterprises. I don't say so to discourage immigration, for I know that many people in the east have been led to believe by puffing advertisements that they could harvest from thirty to fifty bushels of wheat to the acre in Kansas; that they could make enough on their first crop of wheat to pay for their land. They come and put every thing in wheat, it don't pay expenses, they do the same thing over, thinking next year will be better, and next year is a failure. It is the same old story over again. They are "busted." They are ready to "shake the dust off their feet," and with curses on their lips return to their "wife's people," to tell what big liars the editors and people of Kansas are. One reason why wheat does not pay is the low price. With the great European demand for wheat during the last two years, we have been compelled to sell the greater part of our wheat crop for from fifty to sixty-five cents per bushel—less than the cost of production.

Second. It costs enough to get implements to put in and harvest wheat to buy a pretty good farm in Kansas.

Third. It is the hardest work on teams that is connected with farming, as we are compelled to work them continually through July and August, the hottest and driest season of the year.

Fourth. It costs from one-third to all of the crop to harvest it.

Fifth. The railroads charge nearly three times as much for a grain car to Kansas City as they do for a stock car.

Sixth. It costs ten per cent of the crop to get it to the railroad station.

Seventh. It costs ten per cent of the crop to board hands and teams during harvesting and threshing.

Eighth. Because everything connected with it from beginning to end is money out.

Ninth. Because it is not a certain crop.

Tenth. Because it is subject to more vicissitudes of the weather than any other crop.

J. BERGER.

Mulvane, Sedgwick Co., Kas.

Letter from Osborne County.

Nothing could be more favorable to winter wheat than this snow, and indeed it will leave the ground in excellent condition for any kind of spring crops. Already the wheat has commenced growing. Wheat which did not get through the ground last fall is coming up now, showing that late sown wheat as well as early sown is all right.

On last Saturday we had a meeting of the Horticultural Society. It was largely attended and much interest taken in the discussion of hedge and forest tree growing. The people of this county are waking up to the importance of growing trees and hedge, and unless I am wonderfully mistaken the next five years will make a great improvement in this section. On next Saturday we hold the annual meeting of the Horticultural Society, and when the officers are elected for the ensuing year I will give you some report.

A meeting was also held on Wednesday last for the purpose of obtaining knowledge in relation to the manufacture of sugar from sorghum. No sugar company is yet organized but it is believed that the manufacture of sugar

will be an important interest in this county, and all that is wanted here to commence operations is the requisite knowledge for the business. There seems to be a secret about the manufacture of sugar from sorghum which is considered by those who have it to be worth about \$500; at least the Silver Lake Company in Illinois asks that amount. Now if any of your readers know anything about this matter and are not under obligations to withhold their knowledge, we would be glad to have it through the FARMER.

It is also believed that this is the best broom-corn county in the world, and many farmers are intending to grow it largely. I will merely add that the people of this county never were more hopeful and never had a better prospect before them. M. MOHLER.

Osborne, Kas., March 7th.

Mr. Coburn Not "Clamoring."

In the FARMER of last week I observe that Dr. Chase says many persons, including Mr. Coburn, in his address before the Kansas Breeders' Association, are clamoring for a dog tax law.

The Doctor may be right as to the other fellows, but is wholly mistaken as to myself. I am not aware of having anywhere expressed myself in favor of taxing dogs or having the legislature interfere with them. I am in favor of killing the dogs! That put in practice would settle the whole question in twenty-four hours, rid the state of an abominable nuisance that costs us millions of dollars annually to maintain and would cause wool to be so abundant that economical farmers like myself and ten thousand others, who for fifteen years have been arrayed in purple and fine cottonade could have for Sunday a suit of all-wool jeans and some warm socks.

The sheep raiser who expects the legislature to protect him from dogs might about as consistently demand legislation to cure him of the itch. I believe that in wool growing as in all other human enterprises, the gods help those who help themselves, and I have no patience with the shepherd who sits around and whines because the law doesn't protect his mutton. The average Kansas or Missouri dog is law proof! Twenty-five cents worth of strychnine judiciously used by each breeder will give more and better protection than all the taxation and all the legislatures in America are likely to give in the next fifteen years. F. D. COBURN.

Topeka, March 14.

Cottonwood Cuttings.

Slips should be cut six or eight inches long or of such a length that they may be stuck down when the ground is quite wet, leaving only one bud above the ground. Cut from young trees and not until the buds begin to start, for if cut before the growing season arrives the sap dries out and the cutting dies. This promises to be a wet spring and if so, it will be a good time to start trees. "D. G." of Saline county, says, "There is no use in trying to raise timber on dry uplands." Such statements, assuming knowledge, but really made through ignorance, are calculated to do Kansas a great amount of injury, for the crying need of Kansas to-day is more timber. Timber for fuel, timber for wind breaks, timber for a thousand purposes. "But," says one, "we are told that we cannot raise timber on the prairies of Kansas." Don't you believe a word of it. I know by an experience of seven years in raising various kinds of timber on as high dry upland as there is in this county, that most kinds of trees do grow exceedingly well and I stand ready to disprove all such assertions by the trees and hedges themselves.

It is true that it is difficult and sometimes impossible to start trees and hedge in a very dry season, but is not this true also of any other crop? This is probably the reason why some have become discouraged trying to raise timber. Another reason is because it requires several years to raise a grove large enough to be of much service. Yet I believe there are few crops which pay so well during a series of years with the outlay as trees. I would like to say a great deal to encourage my brother farmers in Kansas to devote more time to the raising of fruit and forest trees, but I will close for the present by making this one bold assertion, which I can prove by the several thousand trees I have which have stood the test of the last seven years without the loss of a single tree by dry weather. When trees are once well started with one year's growth, nothing but neglect will cause them to die. F. M. WIERMAN.

Mildred P. O., Morris Co., Kas.

The Farm and Stock.

Corn Culture by the Listing Plan.

The reported increase of acreage of corn of 1880 over 1879 is 611,823 acres, and throughout the state 3,554,396 acres were exclusively devoted to this cereal the past year, showing its great importance among our productions. With the increased interest in stock-growing its demand must become continually greater. Every item of information we can obtain with regard to its most profitable culture will be of the greatest practical value.

From statements in the KANSAS FARMER and other papers it seems there is a great diversity in the mode of culture and profits therefrom; some counties and individuals reporting the crop profitable and others the reverse. Brown county, for instance, reports over a million bushels of old corn on hand and the largest average yield to the acre of any county in the state. Other counties adjacent with equally as good corn land report from 15 to 50 per cent. less average yield. This diversity cannot surely be owing to the greater amount of rainfall in that particular county for successive years. I think the secret is found in the short report appended: "That most of the crops in that county were put in with plow and drill," which so far as my observation goes is something of a revolution in corn culture.

An article from Mr. J. S. Taylor, in the N. Y. Tribune, from that county, says: "A cheap method of raising corn which has been successfully practiced here for several seasons past, is to throw two furrows together every four feet, leaving the ground in high ridges and deep furrows. The corn is drilled in the bottom of the furrows as fast as made with a one-horse drill; says that twice cultivating with a two-horse cultivator is sufficient to level the ground and generally leaves the field clear of weeds. In this way corn yielding fifty bushels to the acre is produced at a cost of not more than four cents per bushel; the whole expense of planting and cultivating being not more than two dollars per acre."

A statement made in the KANSAS FARMER, by J. M. B., of Fairview, in the same county, is that a piece of sixty acres averaged him 67 bushels to the acre, and that the cost of raising and husking was only 4½ cents per bushel, being a profit where corn brings only 20 cents per bushel, of \$623.10 as the result of forty-five days' labor with self and team. He did not give all the particulars of culture, but presume he used plow and drill.

A statement made in our Farmer's Club by Mr. E. Kimball, was that by this same process of culture he put less labor on sixteen acres with large yield to the acre, than on six acres which he cultivated in the old style.

The question arises whether the yield of corn in our state might not be more than doubled with far less labor did we only know and practice the best way of culture. For one I would be glad if those finding this crop the best of any would give, through your valuable paper, the particulars of their mode of culture.

Manhattan, Kas. J. S. GRIFFING.

This process of cultivating corn which seems to have obtained extensively in Brown county, Kas., was minutely described in the KANSAS FARMER last spring in a communication written by Prof. C. W. Johnson, of Hiawatha, and the results have been such a decided improvement over the old plan, that we will be rather surprised if it doesn't come very largely into use by the readers of the FARMER next season.

Onion Culture.—No. 1.

BY E. B. BUCKMAN.

In onion culture we must learn as near as possible the needs of the crop, and select such soil as will best meet the demands of the crop, and if deficient in such plant food the want must be supplied by manure. The first thing to be considered is

THE SELECTION OF THE SOIL.

The following things should determine the choice of soil:

- 1st, It should be free of weeds.
- 2d, It must be rich.
- 3d, It must contain and be capable of retaining moisture.
- 4th, It must be susceptible of being made mellow.
- 5th, It must contain the amount of plant food demanded by the crop.

Some or all of the above conditions are necessary in the selection of soil. Such are found, or may be produced by artificial means, in nearly all good garden soils. A light sand or gravelly soil is an exception—such seldom produce well; also a heavy clay until brought to a proper state of cultivation. But the onion as well as other crops has a choice. I think that if the varieties usually raised in this country could choose for themselves they would prefer a low, mucky soil, free of water on the surface, for onions are hard drinkers. It has been my experience and observation that a reclaimed swamp or marsh is the best soil for this crop. If large onions and large profits are expected such a soil is ahead of all others, but if a lesser yield and a better quality of onions is required then I would recommend a lighter and dryer soil. On swamp land it is not uncommon to raise from six to nine hundred bushels to the acre, but on upland from three to four hundred is a good yield.

Much depends on the soil, also much on the season, the amount of rain, etc. In a dry season the lower lands will far exceed the yield on the uplands, while in a very wet season the reverse will be the case. But none need despair on account of soil for almost any

good farmer can find some portion of his farm adapted to this crop, which will well pay for the labor bestowed upon it.

New land just cleared of timber, if well burned over the surface, if worked just deep enough to furnish a seed bed, is well calculated to produce a good return. Much depends on how the seed is sown, but this will be noticed further on.

New prairie land when broken long enough to become well rotted, will always produce a good return in any favorable season; and some tell me the new prairie just broken and harrowed will produce a good crop. The objection that some make to this method is the seed does not come up well, but if some do come up and do well is evidence that the fault is not in the ground but in the seed or in the manner of planting. I would say here that in this case roll the ground well after planting; but as I never had experience with this kind of soil I would leave it to some one else to recommend. I expect to try it this season and may give the result of the experiment. But that new prairie land is well adapted, perhaps the best of all upland if properly managed, is evident for several reasons, two of which I will mention: 1st, Clean ground is very desirable and this we have in all new beds; 2d, The prairie contains much of the food necessary to the growth of this crop. I believe it is considered that either leached or unleached ashes (leached is said to be best) is only excelled by that of hen manure as a manure for the onion crop. This we have in the new prairie soil, produced by the burning of the prairie grass for years, hence the onion finds in such soil its natural element.

The kind of soil required being determined, the next thing of importance is the

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

The first thing is manuring, if this is needed, and it is true that land never is too rich. The amount of manure depends on the character and condition of the soil. In all cases it is best to apply the manure in the fall, unless it is very fine, such as ashes, then I think it is best to apply it as a top-dressing either before or after planting. If applied after planting it should be scattered along the rows so the cultivator will mix it with the soil. I prefer spring manuring as it brings the young plant in immediate contact with the manure; but this method cannot be adopted with coarse manures, and also it requires more labor, but he who wishes to raise onions without labor will surely fail.

The plowing should not be deep unless it be done in the fall, then it will do to plow deep as the ground will settle during the winter, which is necessary in order that it will retain the moisture better.

Fall plowing is preferable to that of spring for at least two important reasons: 1st, The subsoil must be sufficiently compact as referred to above to retain the moisture, which it always does; 2d, It is always important to plant early if a good crop is to be raised. Fall plowing soon dries on the surface and can be worked before spring plowing can be done. Then also the freezing helps to mellow the ground, and the manure has become mixed with the soil, so the crop gets the benefit of the manure while the plants are small, which is preferable, and the soil is rid of lumps. On fall plowing the surface should be made as mellow as possible to the depth of three or four inches, and if necessary it should be raked with steel rakes, but often a brush harrow will be all that is sufficient. One thing is important to aid the cultivation; it is this: All stone, sods, weeds or sticks should be removed, as they will greatly interfere with the cultivator if one is used; also be in the way of the hand-hoe.

(To be continued.)

Poultry.

Asiatic Versus Barnyard Fowls.

I would like to reply to friend Chase's exceptions in regard to the Light Brahmas as the best fowls for the farmer. He speaks of once having been the owner of a trio of Buff Cochins whose united weight was 31½ lbs., or an average of 10½ lbs. each. I suppose they weighed this alive, and that is a good weight for Buff Cochins. But I can show three times three Light Brahma hens that will weigh from 10 lbs. to 11 lbs. each, and only one year old at that; and I have had Dark Brahma hens that weighed 13 lbs. at two years old.

Again, he says they (the Light Brahmas) rarely lay more than six eggs until they want to set. I can never get my pure blood hens to sit as soon as I wish them to, and they do not get broody until warm weather, and then they can be cured of their setting propensity in from three to five days time, and will commence laying and lay for weeks before again becoming broody.

It is a fact admitted by all intelligent breeders of the Light Brahma, that they are of a very quiet, peaceable disposition, and can be fenced in or out, as the case may be, with less trouble and expense than any other breed of fowls.

As to their eating peas, and having an especial appetite for them more than any other fowl, I have not found it out yet, although I always have a garden and plenty of peas, and usually let my fowls have access to the garden a part of each day. But you cannot have a garden and have the fowls run in it at their pleasure.

Mr. Chase says the Brahmas are slow in maturing, and are not fit for the table. They will not mature as quickly as some of the smaller breeds, but they will make better broilers at from sixty to ninety days time than any other, and will bring more in the market at nine months old, as dressed poultry, by from two to

four cents per pound than mongrels or barnyard fowls. If the farmer as a rule keeps poultry for his special use, to eat, etc., then he should keep the Houdans, as they are the very best table fowl we have. But I believe, as a rule, they keep poultry for profit and not for their own table use.

As to their being bare of feathers, long-legged, etc., that depends on the stock you raise them from; if you breed them from fowls that walk on stilts, you can look for the same kind of offspring; if you hatch them out late in the season, when the sun burns their tender backs to a blister, they may be bare of feathers. I have no trouble of this kind with my Brahmas. As young chicks they do not need, nor will they consume any more food than the common chickens. Mr. Chase may have such a cross that one exceptional pullet would lay at five months old, but I think he will admit that they are few and far between.

The greatest mistake he makes in his exceptions, is when he would advise the farmers of this state not to raise poultry for market. There may be a profit in selling eggs at 8 cents dozen but I cannot see just whose it is. But I fancy the majority of farmers would prefer a breed of fowls that would lay the most eggs when they bring the highest price, like the prices this winter, for instance. Because some people sell their chickens for \$1.50 per dozen, he would advise not to raise chickens to sell, as it does not pay. I agree with him that it will not pay to sell at that price; but that is not the way to sell them. If you keep them till they are matured, or have their growth, they should only be sold as dressed poultry; and if they are of the right kind of stock, and have been properly fattened and dressed, they will bring more than twice that price per dozen. Up this way we have a good market for dressed poultry in season, and get from 6 cents to 10 cents per pound, and a dozen fowls will bring from \$3 to \$8. Take either the Light or Dark Brahma, pure blood, and a dozen of them when a year old, will dress at least 72 pounds—an average of 6 pounds each. Take the lowest price of poultry in this market, 6 cents per pound, and you get \$4.32 per dozen for your fowls. I have given the lowest weight as well as price. I have seen fowls of the improved breeds or crosses that have brought as high as \$8 per dozen, as dressed poultry, in this market, at 7 cents per pound. I was told by a gentleman, the other day, that having more young male fowls than he wished to keep, he killed them and they netted him over \$6 per dozen. If the farmer raises the right kind of fowls, and handles them as they ought to be, he can make it pay a handsome profit. No danger of overstocking the market if the quality is all right.

A cross on the common barnyard fowl may be good, and is an improvement; but good pure bred stock is the best, let it be chickens or any other kind of stock. I know there are many farmers who, although they are good farmers in other respects, are very slovenly and negligent in regard to their poultry. They are apt to forget the small things, as they consider the poultry part of farming; but there is money in it. Farmers, try it this season by giving it more attention and care.

F. E. MARSH.

Manhattan, Kan.

Apiary.

"The Cyprus Apiary."

SOMETHING ABOUT THE NEW RACES OF BEES.

It has been a long though unwilling absence from the circle of your contributors that I have been obliged to undergo, and I am glad to be able now to resume writing, as, during the months of my stay on this side of the world much of interest has come under my observation, and many points that I believe would be of interest to brother bee-keepers in America.

As indicated in a former article in the Magazine, "the Cyprus Apiary" consisted in the spring of something over one hundred colonies of bees, which had been collected through great exertion and much expenditure of time and money, from various parts of the Island of Cyprus. It would avail little to detail the many difficulties which had to be overcome in order to obtain these bees, since a mere mention of some of them will enable the bee-keeper of even a little experience to understand the most of what lay in our way.

The crops of Cyprus had been poor in 1879, and so the combs had been cut from the hives as closely as the native bee-owners thought would answer, then a severe winter had followed, and cold rains in the spring, lasting much later than usual, had caused the destruction of many of the colonies which the winter had left. Every lover of bees knows how hard it is to part with the last stock, and hence that with those who had but few hives left, no bargains could be made except the owners were much in need. Then, too, we found frequently a notion existing that if bees were exchanged for money as though they were not fully under the control of man, the remainder of the colony would follow those sold. No purchase could be made from people of this class—a class, I am sorry to say, which not only exists in Cyprus, but has representatives in many other parts of the world, even in Europe and our own America. Then when at last bees were purchased, it was often in a distant part of the island, whence they had to be transported on the backs of mules over rocky, break-neck roads, or rather mere paths, where a mule or donkey could scarce find footing. It is an actual fact that in the fatigues of these journeys I often slept several minutes at a time while riding on the top of a mule-load of bees, trusting to the sure-footedness of my faithful animal

when the roads were not too bad, or when it was too dark to distinguish the way. The Cypriote—Greek or Turk—is a careless, incautious fellow who only takes warning when disaster results from his heedlessness, and even then, instead of learning a lasting lesson, he soon relapses into his former ways. If things go wrong he says: "We have committed some sin and the God is punishing us." When, by chance, things are prospering, he says: "God is with us," and heeds his own way very little. "Never fear, never fear!" is constantly falling from his lips. Some writer has said that only cowards use profane language. Be that as it may, a case occurred which gave a good trial to several Greek muleteers I had engaged to move a lot of bees some thirty-five miles over the mountains, and though one of them proved himself pretty courageous, the rest fled like sheep. We were loading the mules, eight in number, and though I had repeatedly cautioned the men that each loaded mule should be taken away and tied by himself, I found they had assembled the whole eight, with twenty-nine hives on, and were heedlessly disputing as to where the baggage should be put. I had scarce given the order to have the mules separated, and taken one by the bridle, when some disturbance among the animals occurred, and one of them then broke open a hive roaring full of bees. In a twinkling a perfect panic followed. Several more hives were broken, and the air was filled with enraged bees. All the muleteers but one fled instantly, leaving their poor animals to their fate. The latter reared and plunged about wildly, endeavoring to rid themselves of their tormentors. The single muleteer and myself endeavored to loosen, by unbuckling or cutting the saddles from the mules, as well as free the animals from each other and get them into the courtyard, thence into stalls. We had no bee veils, and soon lost our hats in the work. Hundreds of bees stuck in our hair, on our faces, hands and clothing. I was soon left alone to extricate the remainder of the mules as best I could. When the eighth mule was driven in I entered the room leading to the court, only to find, when I had closed the great door after me, that the second door was closed also, and moreover was locked on the other side, so I was in this small room with its stone walls and paved floor with four or five mules wildly plunging about me. It was terribly suggestive of fractured limbs and ribs to say nothing of broken skulls; but after a minute or two I was fortunate enough to break the door open and get through. Here was a mule trying to roll on the pavement, his load of bees half detached, just as the driver had left him. I got the dangerous load away from him and put all the mules into stalls, then, not seeing a soul about, went up-stairs, where I found the people of the house, with three or four German naturalists who were stopping there, shut tightly in one of the rooms. I was suffering greatly by this time from the stings I had received, scarce a spot on my face and head having remained untouched. The removal of the stings and the application of cold water relieved me somewhat, so that with a veil and a good smoke I returned to the scene of the disaster to remove the wrecks. In two hours all was cleared away and not a bee was to be seen. I do not think with common bees the place would have been approachable during the day. I thought it fortunate that the life of no human being or mule was lost in this very dangerous disaster. Two of the men who had run away at the first alarm went with me that night with the bees, or such a part of them as could be got ready for the journey, yet I could see no greater inclination on their part to be cautious. Such are the people, so inclined to cheat and extort in trade, and so prone to lie that it seems as if they really feared to tell the truth—with which we have had to deal, and I have shown a few of the difficulties under which we labored. Even after the bees were once collected and transferred there were serious difficulties to be met. Cyprus is for the most part during the summer months a barren-looking, desert-like, arid region, and Larnaca, the only port where the steamers landed, until very recently, is in one of the poorer districts. Early in the summer the streams become dry, many of the streams cease to flow, dew no longer falls, and the air parts with its moisture. The winds seem to come from a hot-air furnace, and unless irrigated the vegetation soon becomes brown and crisp. No rain fell after the first days in May, until late in September, and the honey yield which at best had been very scant, soon ceased for the year. Those who own bees in the Larnaca district say it is the worst season for the bees known in ten years. For my part it is the very worst I ever saw. I have good authority for saying that two-thirds to three-fourths of the bees in Cyprus died this summer. Of course there was but one way for me to do, namely: feed sugar.

One of the worst bee enemies in Cyprus and Palestine is the hornet. Great numbers of large, yellow and brown, very fierce hornets, lurk about the hives, seizing upon the hapless bees without mercy. Toward the latter part of the season these pests become very numerous and often concentrate about one hive in such numbers as to make it necessary to stand by with a switch of branches and kill them off. I have killed a quart of them some days and found the number scarcely diminished the following days. They pounce upon nuclei, and going into the hives are quite as likely to seize upon the queens as any bees. They eat meat with great avidity, and I mean to try poisoning them this next season. If these fellows would come singly the bees would make way with them, for whenever one comes near the entrance of a strong stock, or gets into a nucleus hive, he is seized by the courageous bees and comes out a corpse. Wax-moths (*Galleria cereana*)

and bee-lice (*Brachia caeca*) are numerous in Cyprus, Syria and Palestine.

It is easily comprehended that every queen bee landed from these eastern shores in Europe or America costs the producer quite a sum—that he cannot furnish genuine queens at a low figure. Only one other party has tried to ship queens—an agent of a European queen breeder. But few queens were sent and part of those died on the way, then the queen breeder wrote to me for queens, his letter arriving, however, too late for him to get any queens during 1880.—Frank Benton, in *Bee-Keepers' Magazine*.

Advertisements.

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Of Strawberries, Charles Downing, Crescent Seedling, and Capt. Jack. Of Red Raspberries, Turner and Brandywine. Of Black Raspberries, Mammoth Cluster, \$1.00 per 100. Linnaeus Rhubarb, large and early, 75 cts. per dozen. Apple, 4 to 5 feet, nice, Ben Davis, Jonathan, &c., \$8.00 per 100.

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Send for prices stating kinds and amount wanted. Catalpa and White Pine specialties. Samples 6 cents.

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Hedge Plants, Gregg Raspberry, and a general Nursery Stock. Descriptive Catalogue and Price Lists free.

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We are prepared to fill orders to any extent for this NEW VARIETY of Spring barley. This is a choice article grown and acclimated under our own personal supervision during the last few years. It weighs 50 lbs. per measured bushel, and with other qualities of 30 bushels per acre. Samples and our Treatise on Barley Culture free by mail. J. D. SOMMER & CO., (Established 1865), Barley Dealers exclusively, 186 and 197 Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

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Nursery Grown and Sure to Grow! Write for Price Lists. Address: BAILEY & HANFORD, Makanda, Jackson Co., Ill.

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For sale CHEAP. All leading Western varieties. Write for Price Lists to BAILEY & HANFORD, Makanda, Jackson Co., Ill.

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GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS

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CASTOR BEANS,

CLOVER, BLUE GRASS, TIMOTHY.

Orders promptly filled.

S. H. DOWNS,

Opposite Shawnee Mill, Topeka.

Osage Orange Seed.

Warranted to Grow.

Selected under our personal supervision in Texas. Write for sample and price.

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Honey Locust and Coffee Bean.

I have a quantity of Honey Locust and Coffee Bean, or the Kentucky Coffee Tree Seed. I will send the Locust Seed at 25 cents per lb., and the Bean at 30 cents per lb., by express C. O. D., or by mail if the necessary amount for postage be added. Address: C. C. KING, Jewell, Jewell Co., Kan.

FOR SALE.

One Thousand Bushels of SEED SWEET POTATOES of 6 best kinds. Also Plants in their season. Also a lot of budded Peach, 1-year old and a lot of Apple trees 2-years old, by N. H. PIXLEY, Wamego, Kas.

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Hedge Plants at Wholesale and Retail.

BABCOCK & PEYTON, North Topeka, or Valenta.

Farm Letters.

CORR, Jackson Co., March 3; 16 miles NE of Topeka.—The only consolation I get out of the severity and much snow and rain with thaws and freezings of the last three weeks, is, that I think it will put a quietus to the chinch bugs. Long may they rest. The snow and much humidity of February and the present month to date will, I think, increase the wheat crop.

Some farmers entertain the idea that the fruit trees are much injured by the severity of the winter. On an examination of various kinds of fruit trees and vines I cannot discover any injury scarcely to any kind. Even the Lawton blackberry with me seems all right yet. In pruning grape vines yesterday I find them right, and I have various kinds, viz Concord, Clinton, Catawba, Champion, Hartford Prolific, Isabella, &c.

Many new comers are on the lookout for farms to rent; wishing to rent and try Kansas before purchasing. Pretty wise plan I think. They will not be apt to leave Kansas after a year's trial.

J. W. WILLIAMS.

PAVILION, Wabaunsee Co., March 1; 36 miles west from Topeka.—There is every prospect for a favorable season for farming. A cold, stormy winter is likely to be followed by a bountiful summer and fall.

Tree planting will soon be in order. Let no one make the frivolous excuse that they have no time to plant trees. If every thing has been done in season, the season for planting trees will come at its appointed time, and when that time comes no other work should interfere. The great need of Kansas is more trees, and every tree planted is a step in the right direction.

Wheat is looking badly, but the roots are thought to be sound. Stock is doing well generally, but some are out of feed, so if the winter season does not move along many more soon will be. All are hopeful and have bright anticipations for the future.

The constitutional amendment meets with general satisfaction. We believe it will be enforced and will spread to other states. So let it be.

H. A. S.

WILSON, Russell Co., March 2; 150 miles west from Topeka.—The wheat looks all right. The great amount of snow has been its salvation. Stock has had a severe time through this long, cold winter. Most farmers were not prepared for the cold in respect to warm hog pens and stables and the consequence was many were frozen.

The temperance question is causing some excitement here. A great many old country people talk of leaving the state if they can't have their usual quantity of liquor. Some temperance people think that it will be an injury to Kansas in that way; but I say let them go; there will be plenty of men to take their places. Men, with the stamina and strength of character that will not yield and twist to every habit that they may chance to pick up. Our proud state has led in all just and moral principles of advanced civilization and is she ridiculed for it? Far from it. Our state is spoken of with pride all over the Union. Every one is looking ahead for a bountiful harvest and expect to make up (partly at least) for lost time.

How far apart should catalpa trees be put to make the best shade? T. W. HEY.

NESS COUNTY, KAS., Feb. 20.

Two hundred miles west of Topeka, midway between the K. P. and A., T. & S. F. Railroads.

We have had a severe winter; for three weeks snow has covered the ground. Stock has suffered for feed and shelter; people have suffered for fuel. Roads have been almost impassable, and mails have been hindered. But the snow has gradually disappeared and plowing has commenced, and the prospect for planting is excellent. Wheat could not look better, and the ground could not be in a better condition.

There have been some cases of want and destitution, but for all that, the people, as a rule, are cheerful and much elated by favorable appearances, and the general opinion is that we are to have a season of reward for our labor and trials on the western frontier.

With the prosperity of the farmer and the laboring men, all kinds of business is looking up, and Ness is receiving her share of the benefit of immigration.

Stock men who have for weeks been shut in doors, as it were, by storm and snow, while their herds have been drifting and starving, are now on the alert gathering them up. Their losses as yet cannot be computed. Where few were kept and cared for in a humane manner losses have been but slight, and stock generally is doing well.

FRANK SHELTON.

FAIRVIEW, Brown Co., Kas., March 4th.—We, in the northeast corner of Kansas, are still surrounded by winter snows and ice; although there have been bare spots at times, there has been snow on the ground ever since the 24th day of last December. The biggest snow storm of the winter was in February, on the 11th and 12th. The snow drifted so much that many lanes for miles were filled even with the fences on both sides. As the ground had a crust of ice formed by the sleet a few days previously, the snow was unmixd with dirt, of a pure white, and so solid that it held up stock and wagons on the big drifts. There is much corn to gather yet. We never before saw so many long corn cribs filled in towns and on farms. Price, only 20 cents. By a standing

order of the railroad company the farmers are prevented from loading grain into cars and shipping it, and we think the elevator men are not paying us fair prices. Many emigrants have already come to this county this spring, and some are still expected. Real estate is changing hands and prices are advancing. Farms to rent very scarce—\$2.50 per acre cash rent is asked. Farmers are beginning to hire hands at \$16 to \$17 per month.

I like the decided stand which the FARMER has taken in favor of the laboring classes against monopolies and grasping corporations. But I am sorry that our farmers' paper takes such an unqualified position in favor of the prohibitory law. We think the law is a fruitful source of litigation and neighborhood feuds, espionage and ill-will. The editor will recollect that, in a communication some time ago, I expressed my apprehension that the sacramental wine would be prohibited; to which the editor replied in the FARMER that there would be no danger. We would like to have it pointed out now in the FARMER how it can be bought without violating the law. I am serious in this matter; in discharging a deacon's duty I do not like to violate a law. I am one of those who abstain from the habitual use of intoxicating drinks and tobacco for sanitary reasons; yet have always been accustomed to keep a small quantity of the now forbidden stuff among our family remedies; will the law interfere with this, our custom?

H. F. MULLENBACH.

Our correspondent will have to try and console his disappointment by considering the overwhelming public sentiment that forces the prohibition of liquor dealing in this state; and by contrasting the vast amount of good to the youth of the land which must result from shutting up all grog shops. The good results are one hundred-fold greater than any imaginary evil that can result, and every good citizen should say, amen!

HARVEYVILLE, Wabaunsee Co., March 7th. 25 miles S. W. from Topeka.—A good deal of stock was lost during the late storms. One man lost two cows—all he had. But in every case it was the fault of the owners in not providing shelter; all stock that has shelter and is properly cared for, looks well, while those that are not well cared for are looking very badly. There is a considerable portion of the corn crop not gathered yet on account of the bad weather. Wheat not so badly injured as was supposed a month ago. Peaches are all killed; also the canes of the Lawton blackberry. Fat hogs are about all gone; a great many small hogs have been shipped from here, and the result is, there is a less number in this county than for several years.

SEPHUS.

Advertisements.

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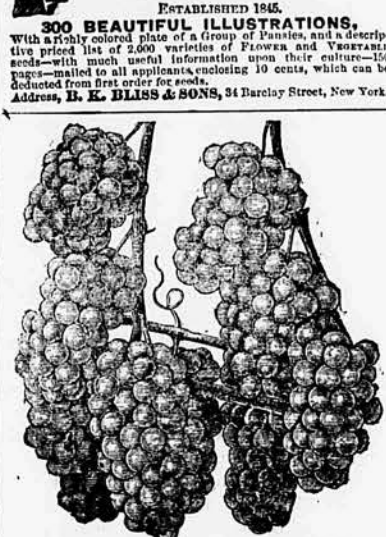
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Our Novelty Seed, giving full particulars, mailed free.

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GARDEN REQUISITES
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300 BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS.
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sent free on application which contains many useful hints on hives, bees etc. Extra inducements for early orders.
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Vastly Superior to Tobacco, Sulphur, etc.
This Dip prevents scratching and greatly improves the quality of the wool. One gallon of the Dip properly diluted with water will be sufficient to dip one hundred sheep, so that the cost of dipping is a mere trifle, and sheep owners will find they are amply repaid by the improved health of their flocks.
Circulars sent, post-paid, upon application, giving full directions for its use; also certificates of prominent sheep-growers who have used large quantities of the Dip, and pronounce it the most effective and reliable exterminator of scab and other kindred diseases of sheep.
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SYMPTOMS OF A
TROPID LIVER.
Loss of appetite, Nausea, bowels costive, 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, Flustering of the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow Skin, Headache, Restlessness at night, highly colored Urine.

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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 Micturition is produced. Price 25 cents. 35 Murray St., N. Y.

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Hambletonian's VISION, bay stallion, foaled May 17th, 1874, sired by Croton by Rysdyk's Hambletonian.

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F. L. TWISS, by Florida by Hambletonian.

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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 (or World's Fair) in 1878. 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 now on hand 140 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 Register of Norman Horses.

E. DILLON & CO.,

Bloomington, McLean Co., Ill.

Merino Sheep for Sale.

MASON & WRIGHT of Vergennes, Vt., have just arrived at Emporia, Kas., with 1.0 head of

Choice Thoroughbred Merino Ewes

selected from some of the best flocks in New York. Sheepmen in want of good sheep will do well to see them before buying.

Short-Horn Bulls For Sale.

CLAUDE WETHERBY, 16484, a grand Short-Horn Bull of the Princess family, and 30 other young thoroughbred Bulls for sale. CLAUDE WETHERBY is one of the best bred bulls in America.

G. W. GLICK,

Atchison, Kas.

The New Sheep Dip.

LITTLE'S CHEMICAL FLUID.

"All doubts as to the efficacy and safety of this new and wonderful remedy for scab, and sore eyes in sheep, hving been effectually exploded, by practical test, during the past two months, no one need hesitate to use it.

In Cold Weather, in Cold Water,

at any season of the year. It has more than vindicated every claim that has been made for it, and numerous testimonials can be furnished in proof of this fact, two thousand & millions could have been sold the past two months if I could have secured it. I have now seven barrels on hand, and the General Agent, T. W. Lawford, P. O. Box 504 Baltimore, Md., has promised to furnish sufficient in the future. This fluid is a safe and sure cure for foot rot, kills ticks on sheep, lice on cattle, and all internal and external parasites. Send 3 ct stamp for circulars and testimonials.
JAMES HOLLINGSWORTH,
210 LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.

WALTER BROWN & CO., WOOL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

152 Federal St., Boston, Mass.

CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED.

CASH ADVANCES MADE.

Commissions to cover all charges on wool after it is received in store. (excepting interest on advances.) including guarantee of sales; on Washed Wools, five per cent; on Unwashed Wools, six per cent. Where wools are held under instructions of the owners for more than three months, an additional charge of one per cent will be made to cover storage and insurance. Information by letter will be cheerfully given to any who may desire it.

WALTER BROWN & CO., 152 Federal St., Boston.

REFERENCES.—E. R. Mudge, Sawyer & Co., Boston. Parker Wilder & Co., Boston; Nat'l Bank of North America, Boston; National Park Bank, New York.

Breeders' Directory.

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

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

Nurserymen's Directory.

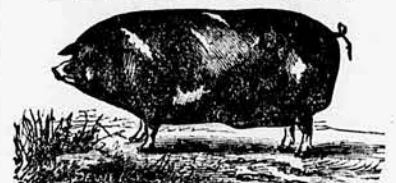
D. W. H. H. CUNDIFF*, Pleasant Hill, Cass Co., Mo. Breeder of thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle of fashionable strains. The bull at the head of the herd weighs 3000 pounds. Choice bulls and heifers for sale. Correspondence solicited.

MIAMI COUNTY NURSERIES.—12th year, 160 acres stock first-class, shipping facilities good. The bulk of the stock offered for fall and spring of '80-'81, consists of 10 million osage hedge plants; 250,000 apple seedlings; 1,000,000 apple root grafts; 30,000 year 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.

HOGS.



Southern Kansas Swine Farm.

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

RANDOLPH & RANDOLPH,

Emporia, Kansas.

A. PRESCOTT & CO.,

TOPEKA, KANSAS,

[Have on hand

\$100,000 TO LOAN

In Shawnee and adjoining Counties on good Farm security

At 8 and 9 per cent.

Per Annum.

KANSAS

Loan & Trust Company

TOPEKA, KANSAS.

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

LOANS MADE

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.

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AND UTENSIL STAND.

AGENTS WANTED for the most convenient and useful article offered to housekeepers. Agents need greater success than ever. One made \$100 in 15 days, another \$35 in 2 days, another \$27 in 1 day. Boxings and Freight Free to Agents. Send for circulars to nearest address. J. E. SHEPARD & CO., Cincinnati, O., or St. Louis, Mo.

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Poultry World

(Monthly) and

The American Poultry Yard,

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C. C. GRAVES, Brownsville, Mo.

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Breeder & Shipper.

EGGS FOR HATCHING

In Season.

Send for Descriptive Catalogue, Free.

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DAIRY AND POULTRY FARM.

I breed and have for sale Partridge Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, Pekin Ducks, Embury Genes, Bronze Turkeys, White Guinea, Silver Duckwing Bantams, and Canary Birds. Eggs in season.

I also offer for sale Grade Jersey Heifers.

J. W. ANDERSON,

Box 610, Salina, Kansas.

F. E. MARSH,

GOLDEN BELT

Poultry Yards,

MANHATTAN, KAS.

EGGS—Eggs for hatching from Light or Dark BRAHMA. The best in the west. Choice fowls for sale. Brahmas are the very best to raise with your common fowls. Circulars free.

SEMPLE'S

Scotch Sheep Dip,

Prepared from Tobacco and other vegetable extracts. Warranted to cure scab, destroy ticks and all Parasites infesting sheep. Is non-poisonous, and improves the wool. 75 cents per gallon. 25 gallons will do 100 sheep. For circulars, address

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, .75
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, whisky bitters, and quack 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 "12" expire with the next issue. The paper is sent 12 weeks discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, and to avoid missing a number renewals should be made at once.

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.

Be Careful with the Farm Horses.

By the time this issue of the FARMER reaches its readers, many of them, especially in the southern half of the state, will be ready to begin or have begun, spring work. The effectiveness of that work will depend largely on the condition and strength of their teams. Owing to the shortness of both the corn and hay crop, in many localities, and the unparalleled severity of the winter, vast numbers of work animals are in a very debilitated condition, and full of worms that each day still further deplete their vitality. Often their true condition will not be realized until hard work is begun, for their coats of very long hair will give them an appearance, so far as plumpness is concerned, that is very deceptive. They will sweat profusely from even moderate exertion, showing great weakness, and the long hair will lie close to skins found to cover little else than frames of bones. The intestines of such horses, if examined, would be found to contain almost millions of white worms, from the size and appearance of the smallest white thread to that of a darning needle; and no animal infested by swarms of such parasites can be reasonably expected to render any one much valuable service. No little skill is necessary to obtain a reasonable amount of service from them without their breaking down about the time grass is fairly started.

Many farmers, whose horses have been wintered without much grain, entertain the erroneous opinion, that if they could get corn to feed, even when they are ready to begin spring work, that their teams could stand it to put in and cultivate a crop. Corn, especially hard, whole corn, is not what such horses need to make them strong and fit for work. Corn is considered "strong" feed, but if it really is so, these poor brutes are not in a condition to properly digest and assimilate such, or derive much benefit from it in any way.

The best horsemen learned, long ago, that dry, whole corn is far from being the most appropriate food for well horses, much less for those that from poverty and abuse are hardly able to drag themselves about. If corn can be had, and no other grain, why feed the corn of course, but either have it chopped (coarsely ground) at the mill, and wet it up and sprinkle with a little salt twelve hours before using, or if you must feed whole corn, have it soaking in water 24 or 36 hours before feeding. Half corn and half oats or rye, chopped together and wet up for some hours, is much better feed than either alone. In some parts of the state, wheat will be the cheapest and most available feed, and it should be treated the same as the corn and other grain, and not be fed whole.

Caution should be used in feeding wheat to mares in foal, as there are many complaints of abortion that seem to be accounted for in no other way.

Above all, use teams with patience and moderation, and never without having in mind the fact that with most horses as with many men, this has been the most trying winter of their lives.

Try and raise some oats this year for your horses, instead of using so much corn, and be sure to keep a lump of salt in their feed-boxes as a tonic and preventive of worms, etc.

Raise Larger Horses.

One of the great needs of this state is to raise horses of more weight and strength than those now in common use. A large per cent. of them are descendants of the ponies used here by the Indians when the state was newly settled, and perhaps are the toughest, strongest and hardest horses of their size in the world, but are too light to do thoroughly the ordinary work of well conducted farms. Three hundred pounds in weight added to Kansas horses would double their value. This could easily be accomplished in a few years by using a better class of stallions of the larger breeds, such as Clydesdales, Percherons, or Cleveland Bays. This does not necessarily mean violent crosses by the largest, overgrown and overfed specimens of either breed, but closely made, short backed, broad breasted, up headed, clean limbed, smooth stepping stallions, weighing from 1,250 to 1,650 pounds in plump, hard condition.

The services of such horses cannot, of course, be obtained at three or five dollars, but so long as our farmers persist in patronizing the com-

KEEP THEM OUT!

As our readers know, thousands of animals, more especially calves, have been shipped west during the last six months and some of them unquestionably from eastern states where the fatal lung plague is known to exist. We do not think any have yet come into this state and if our people do themselves justice none will come. The stock interests that constitute nearly one-fourth of our taxable property must not be jeopardized by any attempt to make a few paltry dollars out of animals the most insignificant of which may bring into our midst the seeds of disease that millions would not eradicate.

The people of this state have their fortunes at stake in this matter and can afford to make no misstep. Cattle from states east of the Mississippi Valley are excellent property to let severely alone. Cattle raisers of Kansas, your legislature has refused you protection; see to it now that you protect yourselves! See to it that none of those eastern cattle come within our borders!!

mon horses of the neighborhood, which are, in breeding, a little of everything and not much of anything but scrub—which the owner usually attempts to conceal with a name and pedigree that is "fearfully and wonderfully made," there can be no perceptible improvement.

A stallion is by no means good because he stands at a high price, but the owner of a really valuable horse has too much money invested to justify a fee less than twelve or fifteen dollars at the lowest. A colt from such a horse and a reasonably good mare will in most instances, be worth in money, at any age, almost or quite double that from a mongrel, besides the satisfaction of rearing, caring for and using the more valuable one.

The mania for raising "something fast," and consequent patronage of sharp rumped, spindly shanked, nine hundred pound "trotting" sires, purporting to be in some way related to Hambletonian or Abdallah, has been a curse to our horse interests that years of common sense breeding will not rid us of. The true farmer has no more business fooling with a "fast" horse than with a prairie fire, for if by accident one is produced it is in most cases used as a gambling machine and not for honest, legitimate business.

What the 370,000 horses in this state lack is size and symmetry; with that, we do not object at all to good action and reasonably rapid movement.

The New Administration.

The Cabinet selected by President Garfield seems calculated to assist him in giving to the country an honest, business like administration. That his sympathies are on the side of the people is shown by placing at the head of the Treasury department senator Wm. Windom, of Minnesota, one of the most fearless and clear headed anti-monopoly men in the nation.

James G. Blaine, of Maine, is a statesman who will be recognized everywhere as a suitable Secretary of State.

Thomas L. James, of New York, has, by long and successful management of the New York City postoffice, shown himself a proper person for Postmaster General.

The Attorney General is Wayne McVeagh, of Pennsylvania, and although a son-in-law of Simon Cameron, has had sufficient independence to keep outside the "Cameron ring" in Pennsylvania politics.

Robert Todd Lincoln, of Illinois, son of the martyred president, a young man of fine ability and clean record, is Secretary of War.

Ex-Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa, is Secretary of the Interior.

Wm. H. Hunt, of Louisiana, is Secretary of the Navy.

If the President displays the same sagacity in the selection of a Commissioner or Secretary of Agriculture, he will receive the hearty congratulations of the industrial classes generally. In his inaugural address in speaking of agriculture he said: "Its interests deserve more attention from the government than they have yet received, since the farms of the United States afford homes and employment for more than one-half our people, and furnish much the largest part of all our exports. As the government lights our coasts for the protection of mariners and the benefit of commerce, so it should give to the tillers of the soil lights of practical science and experience."

American Meats in Europe.

Speculators in England and other countries have long been devising schemes to injure the trade in American meats, for their own purposes, and one of their recent tricks was to mislead the British Consul at Philadelphia into telegraphing his government that 700,000 hogs had died of cholera in Illinois alone in the past year and that it was raging in America generally. Similar reports have been circulated industriously in other foreign countries, and one of the first official acts of Secretary of State Blaine was to notify at length the British Minister that the reports sent by the Consul to his

government were false, and to request that they be denied. At the same time American representatives abroad are directed to protest most decidedly against all such reports as unfounded and misleading. The Chicago Board of Trade and the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, on Saturday last, adopted resolutions denouncing these stories as false and mischievous, and declaring that the hogs of the whole west were never more free from disease than during the past year. The directors of the Merchants' Exchange at St. Louis, on Monday, unanimously resolved that, in its opinion, the alarm caused by reports that a disease of a malignant character is prevalent among swine in this country is entirely without foundation, and the assurance is given that the hog product of this season is free from disease and more healthful than ever before. A committee of five was appointed to confer with similar committees appointed by other exchanges, gather statistics, and report all facts relating to the matter to the British Minister at Washington.

The New York Produce Exchange also sent a committee to Philadelphia to interview the British Consul, and get from him the facts on which he had based his report. He replied that he got the figures from responsible sources in Illinois; but if, on investigation, they prove to be incorrect, the present Consul, Capt. Clipperton, engages to make the necessary correction.

The French Government has taken possession of forty cases of long clear sides which were shipped to Havre from Keokuk, Iowa, and these are being subjected to a most scrutinizing inspection by eight experts. Upon the result of this examination depends to a great degree the immediate future of the pork trade between this country and France. M. Tirard, Minister of Commerce, having stated in the Chamber of Deputies that the government would not remove the prohibition until it was sure there was no danger.

Sales of Cattle and Horses.

Messrs. Smiths & Powell, of Syracuse, N.Y., breeders of horses and Holsteins, report recent sales as follows:

To Messrs. Whitman & Burrell, Little Falls, N.Y., the two-years old Holstein heifer, "Lucetta Mott Matchless" (898); yearling bull, "Victor Knight," and imported "Gipsy Queen's" heifer calf. To D. H. Burrell, Esq., two-years old heifer, "Orange Girl" (860), and "Finesse 2nd" (561). To J. H. Ives, Esq., of Little Falls, two-years old heifer, "Undine" (913). To E. I. Burrell, Esq., two-years old heifer, "Octroon" (916); "Coral" (907), and a heifer calf from imported "Clothilde." To E. B. Ward, Esq., Detroit, Mich., the elegant imported Clydesdale stallion, "Perfection," Clydesdale mares, "Middy Morgan," "Molly Baun," "Madame Christy" and "Highland Girl"; and imported Holstein cow, "Mabell" (371), and yearling bull, "Ingomar." To Geo. Stilson, Esq., Livingston Co., Ill., yearling bull, "Vicar."

Messrs. Dye & Stillwell, Troy, Ohio, the Holstein cow Imogene (333), which made a two-year-old record of 47 1/2 pounds in a day, 1,262 1/2 pounds in a month, and the past season about 11,000 pounds in a little over 11 months; the imported cow Finesse (298) with a record of 49 3/4 pounds in a day, 1,366 1/2 pounds in a month, and 10,330 7/16 pounds in ten months and 23 days; the imported 2-year-old heifer Gazelle (312) which gives promise of being a remarkable milker; the imported yearling heifer Ione (844); the yearling heifers Music (565) and Juniata 2d (562), the heifer calves Neilson 2d, Finesse 3d, and Leontine, and the bull calf St. Elmo, weighing at 10 months 900 pounds, an elegant animal, and suitable in all respects to head such a herd as Messrs. Dye & Stillwell are founding.

Tree Seeds.

There is not a week passes that we are not bored with long letters asking to know all the particulars about some seed or other, which the writers have seen some casual allusion to by a correspondent; and we have answered for the hundredth time, to drop a postal card to any advertiser of plants and seeds in the FARMER, and they will receive all the information they desire. Do those stupid people never read the advertisements? It would seem so. Write direct to the advertisers of the goods you want, and oh, cease to consume our precious time with letters that should be sent direct to the seed men!

Seeds.

The readers of the FARMER will find in the present issue the advertisement of F. Barteldes & Co., the popular and reliable seed firm of Lawrence, Kansas. A number of our correspondents have inquired for seed. They will find all kinds at the KANSAS SEED HOUSE.

We hope that the firm have made sure that they have the hardy catalpa. The small kind is very plenty about here and grows to about the size of a sassafras or other medium-sized trees and is of small account. The native of the Mississippi valley and Indiana forests is a real forest tree of great endurance and merit as a timber tree. Great care should be exercised by both buyer and seller in dealing with the catalpas or great loss will be sustained by planting the more common small and worthless species.

Kansas at the International Exhibition.

The legislature provided for the creation of a board of seven managers for Kansas for the International Exhibition to be held in New York City in 1893, and appropriated fifteen

thousand dollars for their use in making a display of Kansas productions and resources. The latest advice is that the exhibition will possibly not be held. Gen. Grant, who is President and head of the enterprise, says it will be abandoned unless a much larger subscription to its stock is made within a very short time.

Customary and Courteous.

A certain live stock and farm paper, published not far from Chicago, used, word for word, as its leading editorial on its cattle page last week the article written for and printed in the FARMER of February 16, entitled "Don't Raise Scrubs." It then, on the page facing the same, says:

"When an article is clipped for a publication in another paper, it is always customary and courteous to give credit to the paper in which it originally appeared. Will the Indianapolis Live Stock Journal please give credit where credit is due?"

It was a tiptop little article, and we are glad to have our cotemporary reprint it, and also do then what it calls "customary and courteous."

Anonymous Communications.

Parties who send communications without giving their names have no right to expect that they will receive any notice. The mere initials of the writer [do not indicate to us who the writer is.]

Fruit Recorder Premiums.

Our clubbing premiums for Purdy's Fruit Recorder FARMER has been closed, and no more Recorders will be sent after this date, as premiums.

Premium Scales.

Our contract for furnishing premium scales with the KANSAS FARMER has been closed, and no further order for scales can be supplied after this date.

Seed Distribution.

My offer in the FARMER of February 9th to send small packages of thornless honey locust seed on receipt of two green stamps, has been accepted by about fifty. Perhaps more would have applied but feared they might be too late. I have since gathered a half bushel more seed and will keep the offer open till the first of May if my stock is not sooner exhausted. The seed are about the size of navy beans. I have sent about 120 seed to each applicant with the following directions for handling: Place them in moist earth till near corn-planting, then put them in a tin cup and pour boiling water on them till full; let stand till cool, then keep in warm moist earth till they begin to sprout, then drill in a row and cultivate as corn.

Will Prof. E. Gale, Manhattan, please give through the FARMER his method of handling the honey locust, and state if he thinks my directions on scalding, if followed, would be scalding too thorough or not?

Since my article on the Hardy Catalpa, in the FARMER of February 25th, I am receiving many inquiries for that kind of seed. I had anticipated the demand and gathered a large quantity of seed, and have now concluded to distribute them also to the readers of the FARMER, in sacks of about 1,700 seeds each, post-paid, on receipt of twelve green stamps (36 cents) per sack. Where many send from one place they should unite and send money order. I would keep the seed dry till about the first of May when I would have good soil thoroughly prepared, as if for onion seed, and plant in drills four feet apart, the seed two to six inches apart in the drill, and cover about one inch deep. The seed may be sprouted before planting by soaking in water kept slightly warm and changed every day.

I shall start for my home at Hutchinson, Reno county, Kansas, in a few days. All who wish can address me at that place, and I will mail the seed from there on receipt of application. Any who fail to get their seed by the first of May, should notify me by card.

March 7th. C. BISHOP.

Letter from Walter Brown & Co.

In your issue of the 2d inst. we notice a letter from J. M. Allen, of Urbana, charging us with figuring interest on his advances at the rate of ten per cent. per annum.

The object of our present writing is to deny this allegation. The interest charged in his account on advances and disbursement for freight was at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, as can be easily proved by an examination of the account of sales sent him, of which we have a press copy.

Regarding the price obtained for his wool, all we have to say is that it was a good price on the market when sold. It is not surprising that many shippers should be disappointed with the result of their consignments in a season when the markets have been constantly declining, as has been the case since last spring.

WALTER BROWN & CO.
Boston, March 7th.

Timber for the Plains.

In a recent issue of the FARMER F. J. Garrett, of Hill City, Graham county, inquires for allanthus seeds. He can obtain them of the Plant Seed Co., St. Louis, Mo., whose advertisement appears in the FARMER. If he will send them his address on a postal card he will receive their seed catalogue, which gives

prices of allanthus, catalpa and other forest tree seeds.

I planted a quantity of allanthus and catalpa seeds last spring. It was very dry; in about four weeks the allanthus came up but it was so late the wood was green and soft when frost came. They have been exposed to the cold weather all winter without any protection. The tops are dead, but the root and about two inches above the ground are alive and look healthy. I think they will come out all right. From what I can learn of the tree I believe it will be a good tree for western Kansas. Only three or four catalpas came up—they are still alive. I shall plant a quantity of seeds of both varieties this spring. I also planted a peck of burr oak acorns last spring, five or six inches deep, in poor, sandy soil, and they came up about the first of July. Although they were exposed to the hot winds the leaves did not wilt a particle. They have had no protection and look green and nice now.

It is a tree of rather slow growth, but a slow growing tree is better than none, and all are acquainted with the value of the timber. Hundreds of bushels of acorns should be planted in western Kansas, but should be planted where the tree is to grow. I believe black walnut would do well here, and it is a very valuable tree.

We have been having a thaw for several days, the first of any importance since the ground froze up last fall. Snow all gone except the deepest drifts and the ground is full of water, which will leave it in prime order for spring work.

Some of my neighbors who sowed wheat say that they think it is all right, and we are all expecting good crops this season.

I made 2,233 gallons of sorghum last fall. The quality was very good. It has been selling at from thirty to forty cents, wholesale. I used wood for boiling until I could obtain no more at a reasonable price, then fixed for burning the crushed stalks. When properly handled they make as good, or better fire than wood or coal, and are cheaper. I had a quantity of cane freeze up, and think of trying to make vinegar of it. Will some reader of the FARMER tell me the proper density B. for good vinegar?
F. P. LUCAS.

Walter Brown & Co.'s Monthly Wool Circular.

Fine fleeces.—The demand for these has been of a slow character throughout the month, and the transactions have been mostly confined to those lots which owners have been willing to shade from previously quoted rates. There has been considerable looking around on the part of manufacturers, and had dealers been disposed to make concessions undoubtedly a much larger amount would have gone into consumption. The situation, however, is considered a strong one, and we cannot quote values more than one cent per pound lower than our last price current.

Medium fleeces.—Since the opening of the season these wools have been in much less request, comparatively, than for several years past, the improvement in general business creating a demand for a better class of fabrics than previously existed. But with the return of manufacturers, during the past few weeks, to the production of heavy weight goods, a better inquiry has sprung up for medium grades of wool, and prices have been well maintained throughout the period under review. The demand, however, does not extend to the lower qualities, which continue to be neglected. We call the attention of growers in those sections, such as Kansas, Colorado, and the western territories, where the flocks have been largely increased during the past year, by purchases of coarse-wooled sheep, to the importance of improving the character; first, by obtaining a large fleece through the Cotswold cross, and then by an infusion of pure Merino blood, securing a sound, even staple of good length and quality; the yield being more wool per head and a better marketable price than any other class.

Comb and delaine grades continue to be in good demand with no material change in prices, the inquiry being particularly for washed wools of this class. The supply both at the seaboard and in the interior is not excessive, and will probably all be wanted before another clip is available.

Pulled wools.—The improved demand for medium fleeces has extended also to super wools, and desirable pullings of eastern make have met with fair sale at prices well sustained. Western supers have not moved so readily, owing to the uneven grade and frequent introduction of poorly bred skins with those of better character, thus producing a wool difficult to sell and causing much dissatisfaction to manufacturers from the difficulty of sorting.

California wools have been in fair demand during the month, with a slight shading in prices from previous rates. The largest transactions have been in fall clips at prices ranging from 16 to 28 cents.

Texas and territory wools.—As the fall clip of Texas is in unusually good condition, it has been freely taken by manufacturers using such stock, although the desire of dealers to effect sales has somewhat reduced prices from the extreme figures of last month. For territory wools of light shrinkage there has also been a fair demand, consumers finding them cheap and desirable wools for the goods to which they are adapted.

Ewes in lamb should, as far as practicable, be fed and sheltered separately from the non-breeding animals, as the crowding and more rapid movements of the latter are apt to result injuriously.

Literary and Domestic
Going Home.
BY JAMES G. CLARK.

Kiss me when my spirit flies—
Let the beauty of your eyes
Beam along the waves of death
While I draw my parting breath,
And am borne to yonder shore
Where the billows meet no more,
And the notes of endless spring
Through the groves immortal ring.

I am going home to-night,
Out of darkness, into light,
Out of weakness, war and pain;
Into power, peace and gain,
Out of winter gale and gloom
Into summer breath and bloom,
From the wand'ring of the past
I am going home at last.

Kiss my lips and let me go—
Nearer swells the solemn flow
Of the wondrous stream that rolls
By the borderland of souls—
I can catch sweet strains of songs
Floating down from distant throngs,
I can feel the touch of hands
Reaching out from angel bands,

Anger's frown and envy's thrust,
Friendship chilled by cold distrust,
Sleepless night and weary morn,
Toll in fruitless land forlorn,
Aching head and breaking heart,
Love destroyed by slander's dart,
Drifting ship and darkened sea,
Over there will righted be,

Sing in numbers low and sweet,
Let the songs of two worlds meet;
We shall not be parted long—
Like the fragments of a song,
Like the branches of a rift,
Parted by the rock or hill,
We shall blend in tune and time,
Loving on in perfect rhyme.

When the noontide of your days
Yields to twilight's silver haze,
Ere the world recedes in space,
Heavenward lift your tender face,
Let your dear eyes homeward shine,
Let your spirit call for mine,
And my own will answer you
From the deep and boundless blue,

Swifter than the moonbeam's flight
I will cleave the gloom of night,
And will guide you to the land
Where our loved ones waiting stand,
And the legions of the blest
There shall welcome you to rest—
They will know you when your eyes
On the isles of glory rise.

When the parted streams of life
Join beyond all jarring strife,
And the flowers that withered lay
Blossom in immortal day—
When the voices hushed and dear
Thrill once more the raptured ear,
We shall feel, and know and see,
God knew better far than we.

Uncle Bent's Great Boulder.
BY J. T. TROWBRIDGE.

"Good morning, Uncle Bent! I've come over to see if you can give me a job."

Uncle Bent stood looking at a huge boulder in a field beside his house. He was something of a boulder himself; well-rounded, massy, hard, with a jaw as set and firm as if it had been modeled out of the granite hills.

He turned and looked at his nephew, and a grim smile flickered like April sunshine over the compact, gray visage.

Wallace Bent was as little like his uncle as a boy of the same name and race could well be. There was nothing of the boulder about him. He was small and rather delicate yet with a certain decision and strength in his plain, honest face.

He saw the slightly derisive smile, and was conscious of looking very puny indeed in the eyes of his stern relative. He blushed, and aware that such evidence of weakness would not tend at all to raise him in the old man's estimation, blushed redder still.

"Want a job, do you? I declare!" said Uncle Bent. "What do you think you can do?"

"I should think there might be a good many things about your place, or your mill, or your store, that I might do," Wallace replied, with awkward diffidence. "Anyway, mother said I ought to apply to you before going to any one else. I've got to do something now, you know; I'm not going to let her support me, now I can support myself."

"Yes, I thought both of you ought to come to that conclusion long ago," said the old man. "A poor boy like you ought to have been put to earning his living sooner."

"I suppose so," Wallace assented. "But mother wanted to keep me in school as long as possible."

"You're a pretty good scholar, I hear," said Uncle Bent; "but what good will that ever do you? You haven't the means to go through college and take a profession."

"That's true; but I believe a little education will be good for me, whatever I do for a living," said Wallace, with a firm and intelligent look, quite forgetting his blushes. "That may be a mistake. But I am ready to go to work now, and I thought I would please mother by calling on you."

Uncle Bent was greatly annoyed, for he said to himself, "If I hire a nephew and a poor widow's only son I shall have to favor him and pay him wages, or folks will talk. Boys that work for me must be tough! I don't want anything to do with him!"

Then he said aloud, "But you are kind of weakly! You ain't stubb'd enough to take hold and do real work! You always have been puny!"

It was Wallace's turn to smile. "You blame me for not having gone to work before, and now you say I am not able to work."

Uncle Bent wasn't pleased to be convicted of inconsistency in this easy, off-hand way by a school-boy nephew.

"There may be some things you can do," he said, "but my work is man's work. I have man's work enough, if you could do that."

"I am sure I can do something at it, and I don't expect any more pay than I can earn."

Uncle Bent was afraid he had already said too much. "I shall have the family on my hands if I give him the least encouragement; that's what the widow wants!" thought he. So he hastened to reply to the boy's last remark: "Here's a man's job, right here. I want to build a barn, and I've been wondering how I should get rid of this boulder. If you want to tackle that, you can!"

As the rock was large and Wallace looked quite small beside it, the old man smiled again at the grotesqueness of the proposal.

"Very well," Wallace replied, "I'll take hold if you'll pay me by the week."

"No, no," cried Uncle Bent, growing good natured over what he considered a capital joke. "Take it by the job and then you can be as long as you please about it. Lilt a little in the forenoon, sit down in the shadow of it and eat your dinner, then lift a little in the afternoon."

"What shall I do with it when I take it away?" Wallace asked.

"I don't care; only get it off from my place. An what do you propose to give for the job?"

"Ten dollars," said the old man, promptly, for he had already calculated that it would cost much more than that to drill the rock and break it up with blasting powder.

"I'll think about it," said Wallace, after a little hesitation.

Uncle Bent laughed. But there was something in the boy's face he didn't understand.

"He can't be in earnest," he said to himself, and he thought it wise to add "I'll give you six weeks to do it in; say till the first of June."

"All right," said the boy. "Meanwhile isn't there some other little job you'd like to have me try my hand at? There's all that brush back there which the woodchoppers have left; wouldn't you like to have me take that away?"

"Yes."

"What will you give me?"

"Nothing!" said the old man shortly.

"That isn't very large pay," the boy replied.

"I know it," said his uncle. "The brush can be burnt right where it is and the ashes are worth something on the land. Besides some of the large limbs will cut up into good wood."

"Well," Wallace replied, after a little meditation, "I'll take the boulder, Uncle, and I'll burn the brush-heaps on your land and leave you the ashes. You shall give me ten dollars for the rocks and what wood I choose to cut out of the brush. Is that fair?"

"Well, fair enough," the old man was obliged to say; "but if you are in earnest I must say you are a blamed fool."

"That's my lookout," laughed Wallace, starting to walk towards the brush-heaps.

"And see here!" cried his uncle, "you are not to damage the trees or endanger the corded wood by your fires."

"Of course not," consented Wallace, without looking back.

"He talks that way just to carry out the joke," thought Uncle Bent. "He didn't act like it, though. 'See here!' he again called out, 'I suppose you know there's only one way of moving this rock?'"

"You suggested lifting," said Wallace, smiling over his shoulder.

"It will take a quantity of powder and a good many days' work," said the old man, anxious to get at the boy's real intentions.

"I haven't any money to buy powder or to hire men, so I shall have to try other means," Wallace replied.

"Do you mean it?" cried his uncle, growing astonished.

"I'm going to try," said Wallace.

"But what—how—how are you going to manage?"

"I can't say until I have studied into the matter a little," and again Wallace walked on towards the woods.

Uncle Bent also went off, irritated and puzzled. He was really inclined to set the boy down for a fool, and he was confirmed in his opinion on coming out after dinner and finding what Wallace had been doing.

He had got another boy to help him, a tall, gawky fellow, whom Uncle Bent recognized as Simple Jack—one of those weak minded youths who are to be found in almost any village. He was dragging brush from the land and placing it in piles near the boulder.

"Go'n to have some fun," he said, when the old man asked him what he was about.

"What sort of fun?" Uncle Bent inquired.

"Go'n to make a big fire and burn up the rock," replied Simple Jack.

"Burn up the rock!" growled the old man with angry impatience. "That nephew of mine is certainly a fool, and he has taken another fool in company!"

He walked off towards the woods, where he saw Wallace disentangling the brush-heaps. The boy looked up from his work, wiped his brow under his old hat-rim, and turned a red and sweaty face towards his uncle.

"So you're going to burn up the boulder, are you?" cried the old man, with somewhat savage sarcasm, "that's a bright idea!"

"I didn't say I was going to burn it up," Wallace replied, embarrassed and nettled.

"Simple Jack says so."

"Simple Jack isn't the boss of this job."

Wallace gave a pull at a large branch, and then added in a rather dry, drawing tone, "But I won't dispute what he says. I've been thinking about that boulder a good deal, uncle. I can't tell you what I'm going to do, for I'm not sure my experiment will succeed."

"Well, mebbey you know what you're about, but I doubt it." And with a scowl and a puzzled expression the old man went off to his mill. He thought a great deal that afternoon about boulders, his brother's poor widow and his nephew Wallace, Simple Jack, and the problem of using fire to remove rocks. He finally became so worked up by his thoughts that he left his business at an early hour and went home. His mind was not at all relieved to find that the boys had actually built a raging fire of brush against a broad side of the rock. Nor, I must say, was Wallace at all pleased to see his uncle approaching. The critical moment in his experiment had arrived, and although he felt reasonably certain of success the old man's presence made him nervous. But then he reflected it would be pleasant to have him there to witness his triumph.

Wallace was adding bits of dry brush to the fire immediately beside the rock, while Simple Jack was bringing water from Uncle Bent's well and filling tubs.

"What's the water for?" the old man demanded of the tall, awkward youth.

"To put on the rock when it burns too fast," replied Simple Jack, lugging his pails.

"Goin' to have a great fun?"

"So you're really trying the fire!" cried Uncle Bent, approaching the scene of the experiment. "I don't see that the boulder has burnt up much yet?"

"No, not yet. It is getting pretty hot though, and we have plenty more brush, you see," replied Wallace.

"It will be some time before you need the water if it is to put the rock out when it burns too fast, as Jack says," observed the sarcastic old man.

"Jack don't get things quite right, though I've tried to explain them to him," replied Wallace. "We shall need the water pretty soon, I think. That will do, Jack! Now stand by that tub and do just as I tell you."

There was a tub on each side of the fire, which was rapidly dying away. Instead of replenishing the fire, Wallace hauled what was left of it quickly away from the rock, with an iron rake.

"Now dash on!" he cried, and set the example of throwing water from one of the tubs upon the heated face of the porous rock. Jack hurried water from the other tub. It was cold water from the well. As it struck the boulder it hissed and steamed furiously.

Uncle Bent stepped back to avoid being splattered. He had hardly stationed himself at a safe distance when he was startled by a succession of sharp reports, Crack—crack—crack—crack!

"I declare!" he cried, "the boulder is flying to pieces!"

Crack—crack—again. Then after a little while the reports grew dull and ceased. But in the meanwhile flakes and masses of the rock had broken away and fallen, some light fragments flying across the fire and lighting at his feet.

"Stop now!" cried Wallace. "Save the water and put on the brush again!"

He shoved what was left of the fire back against the rock and in a short time there was another brave blaze.

"I declare nephew," said Uncle Bent, (he had never called him nephew before,) "I believe you'll do it!"

"I know I shall," laughed the excited Wallace. "It's only the surface of the rock that's cooled by the water, and we'll have it heated up again, soon."

"But what made you think of it?" Uncle Bent wished to know.

"Why, I knew perfectly well that heat expands all such substances and that cold contracts them again, and when they expand suddenly and unequally they break. And once when our class in natural philosophy was reciting, the teacher told us how, when the great fire was in Boston, granite flew to pieces, especially if a column of water struck them when they were hot. I remembered it when you said you wanted to get rid of the boulder, and when I saw that the rock was quite porous and saw also the brush-heaps, I concluded I would take the job."

Uncle Bent had conceived a sudden respect for his nephew. That respect was heightened considerably four days later when he went out to look at the completely demolished boulder, and the following dialogue occurred:

"Well, nephew, you've got some pretty good heaps of stone here. I'll save you the further trouble of taking them away."

"But I don't want you to save me the trouble," said Wallace.

"What do you mean to do with 'em?" Uncle Bent asked in some surprise.

"Sell 'em!" said Wallace.

"Sell 'em?" echoed the old man. "What are they good for?"

"Good for wall-stone; especially for the foundation of a barn—if anybody is going to build one right on the spot." And Wallace turned up a keen eye at his Uncle.

"You mean I am to buy them of you?"

"They are worth more to you than to anybody else. But if you don't want them I've talked with the carpenters; I know who will take them."

Uncle Bent was astonished, but not displeased.

"Well, what do you ask for 'em?"

"Mr. Wilson looked at them this forenoon; he said they were worth ten dollars to you—

he would give me five dollars and haul them away."

"Well, well, nephew; it's a sharp bargain you are driving with your uncle! But it's all right. You shall have your ten dollars for breaking up the rock, and ten more for the rock now it is broken. And I'll tell you what! Come and work for me. You may choose your own place—in the store or in the mill. I guess a boy with such a head as yours on his shoulders can be made useful."

"You are too late," replied the nephew; "I've just engaged myself to a friend of Mr. Wilson's. I am going to be an architect."—Companion.

Recipes:
A GOOD PEA-SOUP.
In an article on "Summer Soups," Mrs. Beecher gives the following as a recipe for "a most delicious pea-soup." Put half a pound of butter into a soup kettle, over the fire, and add to it a quart of green peas. Shake them round constantly for fifteen minutes to prevent their browning. Then take out half the peas, and set aside; then pour in two quarts of vegetable stock, or some prefer boiling water. Cut fine about a pint of spinach, half a dozen green onions, a little mint if agreeable, and a head of celery. Set the kettle where this will stew slowly two hours, till all the materials are reduced to a jelly, then add the pint of peas reserved, three teaspoonsful of sweet butter rolled in flour, two tablespoonsful of salt and one of black pepper. Let it just boil up, then pour into a hot soup tureen, and serve immediately.

CHICKEN PILLAU.
Cut a chicken into pieces the size you wish to serve at the table. Wash clean, and put into a stewpan with about one-eighth of a pound of salt pork, which has been cut in small pieces. Cover with cold water, boil gently until the chicken begins to grow tender, which will be in about an hour, unless the chicken is old. Season rather highly with salt and pepper, add three teaspoonsful of rice, which has been picked and washed, and let boil thirty or forty minutes longer. There should be a good quart of liquor in the stewpan when rice is added. Care must be taken that it does not burn. Instead of chicken any kind of meat may be used.

WASHING DISHES.
Few housewives but are obliged sometimes to wash dishes. Monday mornings, and occasionally when there is an extra pressure of work, it is a great help to the kitchen maid to have the breakfast dishes washed. In washing use milk instead of soap. Fill a dishpan full of very hot water, and add half a cup of milk. It softens the hardest water, gives the dishes a clear, bright look, and preserves the hands from the rough skin or chapping which comes from using soap. It cleans the greasiest dishes without leaving the water covered with scum.

HAM WITH EGG CAKE.
Eggs have been very dear this winter, but are cheaper now; use them economically. Beat up two eggs well; put into them small squares of white bread; add some chopped parsley, pepper and salt, and a little nutmeg; stir in with a pinch of baking powder and some milk. Put a piece of butter into the pan, pour in the batter and fry on one side, then turn and fry on the other. Have ready a slice of ham fried in butter, and place a slice of ham frizzled or some cold ham that has been steamed. Never boil your ham; a small piece of a couple or three pounds cut thick and put above the boiling water, will go twice as far as when it has been boiled to rags.—Food and Health.

BISMARCK WAFFLES.
Half a pound of butter stirred to a cream, the yolks of five eggs mixed with half a pound of flour, half a pint of milk gradually stirred in, and lastly the whites of the eggs whipped to a stiff froth and beaten into the butter. Very rich and delicious.

OAT-MEAL MUSE.
Soak the meal over night in a bowl, set this in a kettle with a little hot water and steam 20 minutes or longer. Eat with salt and cream.

TO FRICASSEE EGGS.
Take hard boiled eggs and roll them in bread crumbs, seasoned with salt, pepper and nutmeg and fry them a delicate brown in butter.


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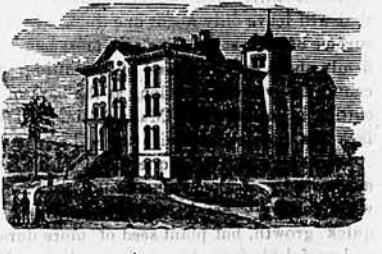
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Horticulture.

Fruit Growing.

Many, without a particle of practical knowledge of the business, will tell the people just how to set out, cultivate and care for an orchard, vineyard, or small fruits, when the facts are they never grew a bushel of fruit in their lives and are not likely to. This class of men have done more damage to fruit culture than is generally supposed.

A wise head from an eastern state tells his neighbors to trim their trees up from four to five feet to first limits so they can be plowed under. Some of them will do so. In four or five years their trees are making their bow to the rising sun in the long summer days, and in the afternoons he burns their nude bodies to a blister, then the bark peels off, the wood is seasoned, the tree becomes sickly, and its death is near at hand. There is just such an orchard as this near Topeka. Hundreds of the trees lean twenty to thirty degrees northeast, south-west side two to three feet high dead and seasoned. This orchard has near one thousand trees about fifteen years set. I doubt its bearing a hundred bushels in any one year, when if it had been headed low—one to two feet—it would in all probability have borne over four thousand bushels per year for the last five or six years. The public lost the fruit and the owner a fortune.

Another tells you to set your trees as they grew in the nursery, setting the same side to the sun. Ask him why, and he don't know. Another claims trees will not bear in a lifetime if grafted from young trees. This opinion is quite prevalent, when hundreds have experimented and tested it thoroughly say there is not a particle of difference. Some think a cion from a young tree makes the thirteenth and best growth. We have cut the cions for our nursery for years from bearing trees because of this prevalent opinion. At the same time we believe the bearing qualities of trees is all in the variety and the care they receive.

A man, some time ago, here at Topeka, told the people that if they wished to make a success of growing peaches they must bud them on the mountain ash—a thing unheard of and entirely out of reason. He had read somewhere that pear would grow on the ash, and it will; he forgot which fruit and guessed wrong.

Another person, writing on Forest Tree Culture in the FARMER, a year or so back, in closing his article, said: "Let me state again, as in former articles, that it is necessary to dry the roots of evergreens before planting." A more preposterous idea could not be advanced. Most fruit trees will stand considerable drying, but it is not good for any. Evergreens, grapevines, currants and blackberries will stand but little exposure; the latter three are very easy to transplant if it is done with care.

Parties wishing to engage in fruit culture should be very careful whose advice they follow, particularly in Kansas, as certain modes of operation seems to be adapted to this state that applies to no other. For instance, in other states a windbreak is nearly always on the north and west while we want them on the south and west. Fruit growers of Kansas must not be governed by eastern writers; they may know what to do there, but this is out of their latitude. Don't be governed by the advice of any but practical men of our own state. Don't attempt to theorize or make believe you know all about growing fruit because you knew something about it east, for you don't. I was quite smart when I came here, twelve years ago, from Illinois, but I soon lost all conceit; have learned considerable since and shall for years to come.

Nuggets of News.

Reports from Southern states show that the cotton crop has been damaged seriously by continued rains.

Fowls seldom tire of milk. They may eat too much grain or meal for health, but milk in any form is both palatable and healthful.

Almost all show animals which are exhibited at our agricultural fairs are overfed. Many are the defects in form which are covered up by a heavy coating of fat.

The introduction of pure bronze gobblers among a flock of mongrel turkey hens will add from three to five pounds extra weight per head to the turkeys raised the first season.

Ewes in lamb should, as far as practicable, be fed and sheltered separately from the non-breeding animals, as the crowding and more rapid movements of the latter are apt to result injuriously.

When feeding turnips or any kind of roots for cows in milk no diminution should be made in the rations of hay. Since the roots increase digestion and the flow of milk, more hay might be judiciously fed in place of lessening the quantity.

Some over-zealous shipper in Story county, Iowa, shipped in two or three car-loads of calves from New York, and a few days after their arrival blackleg began its fatal work, and in less than three days sixty-five head of them were dead.

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TIN-PLATE, WIRE,

SHEET IRON

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EVERY CLASS OF GOODS USED OR SOLD BY

TIN AND STOVE DEALERS.

SEND FOR PRICE LISTS.

H. F. GEE, Topeka, Kas.

PUBLIC SALE OF

SHORT-HORNS,

At Waukegan, Illinois,

ON THURSDAY, APRIL 14th, 1891.

THE undersigned will offer for sale, at the above time and place, 70 Head of Short-Horn Cattle. Representatives of the following well-known families:

CYPRESS DUCHESSE, BLOOM,

VELLUM, GWYNNE, GEM,

WINONA, OXFORD LASS,

FIDGET, AYLESBY LADY,

and LADY CHESTERFORD.

Many of the animals offered are of rare individual merit and pedigree. There are some

GRAND YOUNG BULLS and HEIFERS

included in the sale, and purchasers will have an opportunity to secure some very choice things.

Catalogues rec. y March 1st, 1891.

WILLIAM B. DODGE,

HARRISON LILLINGTON,

St. Louis, Mo.

The Canada West Farm Stock Association will hold a public sale of Short-horns, at Waukegan, April 14th, and H. Y. Atwell, at Dexter Park, Chicago, April 15th.

LANDS AND HOMES

Short winters, low taxes, good schools, convenient markets, superior climate, healthful surroundings, excellent for farming. The best tobacco region in the West.

acres well-watered timber and prairie lands along the line of the St. Louis and San Francisco R.R. for sale at from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per acre on seven years' time. Free transportation from St. Louis to purchasers of land. Send for maps and circulars.

W. H. DOWNS, Land Commissioner, Temple Building, St. Louis, Mo.

MISSOURI

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WEST

MISSOURI

5000 Enamel Blackboards

For Introduction into the Public Schools

AT HALF PRICE

It will not pay to patch up an old blackboard when a new one that will last 10 YEARS can be bought for less money. Send for descriptive circular and samples.

ALSO

For all kinds of new and second hand text books, maps, charts, slates and all other school supplies at wholesale prices. Address

Western School Supply Agency,

TOPEKA, KANSAS.

THE PASTILLE

Prof. Harris' Radical Cure

TradeMark

FOR NERVOUS DEBILITY

SOLVING

A valuable Discovery and New Departure in Medical Science, an entirely New and positively effective remedy for the speedy and permanent cure for the

deplorable disease resulting from indiscreet practices or excesses in youth or at any time of life, by the only true way, viz: Direct application acting by Absorption, and exerting its specific influence on the

Fascicles, Ducts, and Glands are unable to perform their natural functions while this disease pervades the human organism. The use of the Pastille is attended with no pain or inconvenience, and does not interfere with the ordinary pursuits of life; it is quickly dissolved and soon absorbed, producing an immediate soothing and restorative effect upon the

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Patrons of Husbandry.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master: J. J. Woodman, of Michigan; Secretary: Wm. M. Ireland, Washington, D. C.; Treasurer: F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.; Executive Committee.—Hon. J. James, of Indiana; D. Wyatt Aiken, of South Carolina; W. G. Wayne, of New York.

KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master: Wm. Sims, Topeka; Shawnee county: O. John F. Williams; Grove City, Jefferson county: L. Samuel J. Barnard, Humboldt, Allen county: Secretary: George Black, Olathe, Johnson county: P. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county: W. H. Toothaker, Olathe, Johnson county.

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.

"The Late Farmers' Convention."

There seems to be a desire on the part of some aggrieved parties, (who are not without excuse for their ill feeling) to publish their grievances over the late Farmers' convention. No possible good could result from a display of spleen at this time, while much harm, by discouraging future movements, would be the inevitable result.

Reply to "Observer."

In the FARMER of February 9th, I notice an article on transportation signed Observer, and I wish to offer a few thoughts in opposition to his view.

He says the demand seems to be for the appointment of commissioners to look after the railroads. I hardly think that call is from the alliance, as all the petitions I have seen have been for a lower rate of tariff, which the farmers and many others demand, and will work till they have it. A commission formed of men interested in railroads, would be a farce no doubt, and I hope it will not be appointed. What I want to review more particularly is his proposition about turning the railroads over to the governments, general and state. In the first place the ninety-two thousand miles of railroad, with their rolling stock, shops, etc., would cost the governments two and one-half billion dollars which would nearly double the national debt, and more than double the state debt; and the interest on that debt and the new roads that need to be built would take all the net earnings of the roads at any reasonable tariff, and if the debt was ever paid it would be by a tremendous strain on the state and national resources, and in the end would leave capitalists to go begging for a chance to invest their money. Secondly, he proposes to manage the roads by men who have acquired a military education but no experience in business. We think the expenses would be far less in case of loss of property by individuals than it now is. And furthermore, if the railroads are once put under the control of the Government and run by the military, as he suggests, a person could not take a tie passage on a scrub road without taking off his hat to every section boss and station agent, to say nothing of one of the main lines. I had about all the red tape I want, from '61 to '64. What we want is, that the general and state governments shall make such laws as will regulate all inter-state transportation upon a basis that will give capital a fair recompense for what is actually invested, and that new roads shall be built by new capital, or lawful earnings of capital already invested, and not by exorbitant percentage on imaginary stocks.

He winds up with the word wait. His version is that we wait for railroad managers to further pursue their pig-headed course that the radical measures he proposes may be adopted. (Of course he expects the adopting of such measures would be by an uprising of the people.) This word wait, to my mind has a far more significant meaning. Wait! until the supreme court is packed in the interest of monopolies. Wait! until all railroads are consolidated as one road, and all members of congress, state legislatures and state officers are interested on the side of these kings, and it would be years before a change could be made, and only then by the most vigilant co-operation of the people. No, brethren; we have no time to wait; we shall have to make a long pull, a strong pull, and all pull together.

L. A. GEORGE,
McPherson co., Kan. Pres. Center Alliance.

Co-Operation Illustrated.

The managers of the Spring Hill, Johnson county, Kansas, co-operative association have furnished their condensed report of transactions for the last quarter of 1890 to the *Journal of Agriculture*, which says:

"Here is an association with a cash capital of \$3,855 at the beginning of the last quarter of the year. During the year, the managers have sold goods amounting to \$22,621.50, or nearly six times the amount of this capital, and realizing a net income of \$1,665 on the invested capital, or over 43 per cent. Besides, the goods sold, as we understand, were sold at a less rate than similar goods have been sold for in and in the vicinity of Spring Hill. Of course, a private individual, with the same skill in management, could have made equal sales and with similar profits, had he been so minded. But, unfortunately, as we think, for both seller and buyer, the private individual does not do business on the co-operation plan. His plan is, like railroads and other corporations, to buy at the lowest price and sell at the highest he can secure. The result is fewer goods are sold and smaller profits are realized. Eye is his motto and the main-spring of his action, and he may succeed. But the motto and main-spring of co-operation is—each for the good of all—and this must succeed, equal intelligence and skill being applied. Why not,

therefore, every grange, or the granges of every neighborhood rather, have a co-operative store? But let every one read the report and judge for himself. It is as follows:

FOURTEENTH QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SPRING HILL CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, OCTOBER 1, 1890, TO JANUARY 1, 1891.

Capital at commencement of quarter.....\$3,855 00
Capital at the close of quarter.....5,320 00
MONTHLY SALES,
October.....\$2,601 55
November.....2,871 15
December.....2,282 26

Total sales.....\$7,754 96
PROFITS,
Net profits on sales for quarter.....\$626 25
DIVIDENDS,
Per cent. rebate to Stockholders on purchases 0.20 4
Percent. rebate to Patrons on purchases.....0.10 2

SUMMARY,
Total sales for year ending December 31, 1890.....\$22,621 50
Net profits on sales for year ending December 31, 1890.....\$1,665 08

Telegraph Consolidation.

The telegraph monopoly moves along swiftly. Suits have been instituted, it is true, to test the legality of the procedure which in its course has made one real dollar the basis of four in the capitalization of the monstrous consolidation. But the chances are that the company now controlling the lines will triumph. The courts must be governed by law, and the company have been smart enough to provide laws for such government. They are entrenched, not in equity, but in law, so, as matters stand, they are reasonably secure until the day of judgment, and to provide against this they are wisely moving to reorganize opinion. It is claimed that the recent consolidation had for its object better and cheaper telegraphic service. Thus it ever was. The wolves gather around the sheep, not with sanguinary intent, but to protect the flock. Will the public console itself with the reflection that the overflowing kindness of the men who have just put \$400,000,000 in their stock lists had as their only object the cheapening of telegraphy?—*Husbandman.*

Influence of the Grange.

Take any neighborhood containing a live, first-class Grange, and compare it as it is now with what it was before the organization of the Grange; it will give you some idea of the influence of the Grange. You will know for a certainty that the atmosphere of the Grange breeds sturdy independence, intelligent action, and kindly sympathetic feeling. Before the organization of that Grange, who ever heard such talk of the rights of the farmer, the prerogatives of the producer, the encroachments of combinations of capital, or the oppression of railroad monopolies, as you now hear? Did you ever hear anything of farmers maintaining their just position and gaining their rights by united action? No. Did you hear of farmers helping one another in distress and trying to strengthen the bond of common interests that binds them in friendly relations, before the Grange was organized for that purpose? Did you hear of farmers engaging in public speaking or writing for the press, to advocate some measure for their good and advancement? Very rarely. These and a dozen other things that you cannot fail to notice are but the result of the influence of the Grange.—*Grange Bulletin.*

The Object of the Alliance.

We have received inquiries as to whether the Alliance is political, and which party it favors. Certainly it is political; its constitution states that. But it antagonizes no party that will place in nomination men who are willing to place the producer upon an equal footing with monopolies—men who will repeal all class legislation and see that no more is enacted. Any party, whether democratic, republican, or greenback, which does not do this, may expect to have the consolidated vote of the Alliance against it, if either party puts in nomination a man who is known to be friendly to these principles. No independent party is contemplated. We simply mean to mass votes that will be cast for their owners' farms, pocket-books and families, instead of for blatant demagogues who care nothing for the farmer. Each political party can look out for itself and have an equal chance. If it nominates good men for office, men who are known to be opposed to railroad extortion, tax extortion, stock-yards imposition and other wrongs, it will be supported by the National Alliance, as we understand it; if it does not, there will be an effort to defeat its candidates. Partisan politics amount to nothing in this contest. It is a strike for self, for home, for family, for farmer, for perpetual liberty, and for justice. Anybody who does not esteem these far above any partisan victory, has no place in the great farmers' movement which is now thrilling the nation.—*Western Rural.*

Dogs vs. Sheep.

The usual annual crusade against dogs before the state legislatures is now at its usual blood heat. The same result as in other years is in prospect—a foregone conclusion. No amount of influence can be brought to bear upon the wise law makers (?) to induce them to vote relief to the oft and long preyed upon industry of wool-growing. A deaf ear must be turned upon sheep raisers, or the vagabond element of the various constituencies may withhold the future vote, so essential to the honorable position, etc., next year. Shall sheep men always beg of law makers redress from this wrong? Shall not dogs be made property, pay a tax,

and become responsible for their misdeeds? Are sheep to be counted a nuisance, to be killed by any prowling cur? It is to be a clever joke, on a flockmaster, that the dogs have been among his sheep and chased, wounded and killed a lot of them? Can the patience of such outraged, unprotected producers last forever? Their long suffering and supineness is beginning to be a shame to them. The remedy has to come from themselves and in effectiveness. Let dogs be as they are, a general nuisance to be killed when caught away from home. Capture him the same as a wolf or bear, and without any compunctions make away with him and then say nothing about it. Better kill a dozen dogs than have one sheep killed. The trouble is a man has sheep killed. He gets terribly angry, and wreaks vengeance on somebody's dogs and don't care who knows it. His neighbors know all about it, and a storm is raised about his ears, that is not in any way desirable. Maybe some irresponsible, malicious scamp has had his dog killed, and likely as any way, seeks opportunity to do an injury privately.

Say not a word of your sheep being killed, for you can gain nothing by making a fuss; but quietly feed suspected dogs and save your flocks from further harm. If your legislature won't help you, help yourselves. It ain't a bad rule. It is business. To lay still and quietly see your sheep destroyed, is nonsense; and a man who will, ought to suffer.

We are commanded to turn the other cheek when smitten, but it is not a parallel case with having sheep killed by dogs. Nor a dog for sheep either—ten dogs for every sheep killed is little enough, and twenty is better. Sheep men, don't be so very enduring. Be a law unto yourselves.—*R. M. Bell, in Rural World.*

Ladies who appreciate elegance and purity are using Parker's Hair Balsam. It is the best article sold for restoring gray hair to its original color and beauty.

The KANSAS FARMER, Weekly Capital, and American Young Folks, sent one year for \$2.50.

ROSES BY MAIL

12 splendid monthly roses for \$1; 15 bedding and basket plants for \$1; 20 Verbenas in variety for \$1. Other collections, and low to procure our premiums, see our Catalogue which we mail free to applicants. Address: HANS NIELSEN, St. Joseph, Mo.

"I am Directed"

by my uncle, Hon. A. H. Stephens, to say to you that he is inclined to believe that he has derived some benefit from the use of Simmons' Liver Regulator, and that he wishes to give it a further trial. Yours respectfully, W. G. STEPHENS, Crawfordville, Ga., March 31, 1870. Extract of a letter from Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, dated March 8, 1872: "I occasionally use, when my condition requires it, Dr. Simmons' Liver Regulator, with good effect." "A. H. STEPHENS."

THE STRAY LIST.

HOW TO POST A STRAY.

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved Feb. 27, 1890, section 1, when the appraised value of a stray or strays exceeds ten dollars, the County Clerk is required, within ten days after receiving a certified description and appraisement to forward by mail, notice containing a complete description (said strays, the day on which they were taken up, the price of value and the name and residence of the taker up, the KANSAS FARMER, together with the sum of fifty cents each animal contained in said notice.)

How to post a Stray, the fees, fines and penalties for not posting.

Broken animals can be taken up at any time in the year. Unbroken animals can only be taken up between the 1st day of November and the 1st day of April, except when found in the lawful enclosure of the taker up.

No person, except citizens and householders, can take up a stray. An animal liable to be taken, shall come upon the premises of any person, and he fails for ten days, after being notified in writing of the fact, any other citizen and householders may take up the same.

Any person taking up an stray, must immediately advertise the same by posting three written notices in as many places in the township, giving a correct description of such stray.

If such stray is not proven up at the expiration of ten days, the taker-up shall go before any Justice of the Peace of the township, and file an affidavit stating that such stray was taken up on his premises, that he did not drive nor cause it to be driven there, that he has advertised for ten days, that the marks and brands have not been altered, also he shall give a full description of the same and its cash value. He shall also give a bond to the state of double the value of such stray.

The Justice of the Peace shall within twenty days from the time such stray was taken up, (ten days after posting) make out and return to the County Clerk, a certified copy of the description and value of such stray.

If such stray be valued at more than ten dollars, it shall be advertised in the KANSAS FARMER in three successive numbers.

The owner of any stray, may within twelve months from the date of taking up the same, by evidence before any Justice of the Peace of the county, having first notified the taker up of the time when, and the Justice before whom proof will be offered. The stray shall be delivered to the owner, on the order of the Justice, and upon the payment of 1 charge and costs.

If the owner of a stray fails to prove ownership within twelve months after the time of taking, a complete title shall vest in the taker up.

At the end of a year after a stray is taken up, the Justice of the Peace shall issue a summons to the householders to appear and appraise such stray, summons to be served by the taker up, said appraiser, or two of them shall in all respects describe and truly value said stray, and make a sworn return of the same and its value.

They shall also determine the cost of keeping, and the benefits the taker-up may have had, and report the same on their appraisement.

In all cases where the title vests in the taker-up, he shall pay into the County Treasury, deducting all costs of taking up, posting and taking care of, one-half of the remainder of the value of such stray.

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the state before the title shall have vested in him shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall forfeit double the value of such stray and be subject to a fine of twenty dollars.

Strays for the week ending March 16.
Woodson county—H. S. Trueblood, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by Simon Lynn, Nesho Falls, Mo. Feb. 26 one yearling steer, white with some red on head and neck, red legs, marked with salt in right ear.

Strays for the week ending March 9.
Brown county—John E. Moon, clerk.

MARE—Taken up January 22, by G. Waller of Walnut Co. one bay mare 8 years old, white star in forehead, and valued at \$40.

Edwards county—R. L. Ford, clerk.

PONY—Taken up on the 25th day of February by J. E. Melly of Wayne Co. one bay pony mare, right hind foot white, valued at \$15.

hind leg white from hoof to hock, some white spots on right hind leg, blue in forehead, no brands, valued at \$15.
STEER—Taken up by H. S. Bridler, Dec. 17 one red steer, white spot in forehead and some white on belly, 2 years old, no marks or brands, valued at \$15.
STEER—Taken up by V. A. Ham Jan. 24, one dark red steer two years old, an unintelligible brand on right hip, valued at \$15.
HEIFER—Taken up by Chas. Stephens Scot. (p. Feb. 16) one white steer with red ears 2 years old no marks or brands valued at \$15.

Shawnee county—J. Lee Knight, clerk.
MARE—Taken up January 18 by J. M. Bryan of Soldier Sp. one brown pony mare about 10 or 11 years old, white spot in forehead and white spot on left hind foot, switch tail, some harness marks, valued at \$20.
MARE—Also by the same at the same time one bay pony mare about 8 or 9 years old, small white spot in forehead, little white on both hind feet, some harness marks, heavy with foal, valued at \$20.

COLT—Taken up January 22 by John C. Phillips of Williamsport on one light bay mare colt supposed to be 2 years old next spring, white spot in forehead, few white hairs near root of its tail, had on a halter, valued at \$30.

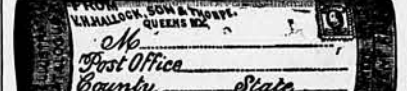
Wyandott county—D. R. Emmons, clerk.
COW—Taken up by S. E. Johnson, Armstrong, Feb. 21 one red cow 8 years old, left ear underbit, white on face and under jaw, letters J M S branded on horn, valued at \$25.

State Stray Record.
Anderson & Jones, Holden, Mo., keep a complete Stray Record for Kansas and Missouri. No money required for information until stock is identified. Correspondence with all losers of stock solicited.



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