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## The Kansas Farmer.

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### WHEAT CULTURE.

#### Observations and Experience of a Practical Farmer.

The how-to-do-a-thing or the successful accomplishment of an event is the end and design of intelligence. When one man with given circumstances and influence demonstrates the possibility of success in a given problem, the problem of its laws are established beyond contradiction. It only, then, becomes essential to a general success that its laws be understood and practiced.

#### CHARACTER OF SOIL.

A soil may possess all of the essential elements to the highest success in plant life, but from the presence of too much water they are counterbalanced. Then, to success, there must be drainage and deep tillage to overcome; or soils that are of too high a gravity must be so compacted by harrow and roller as to give a fitness of condition, dictated by laws of the specific plant-life to be grown in the highest perfection. Every husbandman, at all acquainted with the vegetable physiology, knows that the wheat plant requires dry soil. A soil that readily gives out by evaporation its excess of water from rainfall is a prime essential; a soil too rich in vegetable humus is the best of soil for corn, but fails in profitable wheat growth. It is a prime essential then that our grounds for wheat shall be well selected and prepared. There is but a small portion of our grounds too wet, or too greatly abounding in vegetable humors, or too compact not to be overcome by plow, harrow and roller. One of the most common causes of failure is in the lightness of our soil at the time of seeding and fall growth. In order to overcome that natural difficulty present in our soil, my

#### PLAN OF PREPARATION

is to break in June, and at no time later than the 15th or 20th of July, which gives my ground time, with repeated harrowing, a well settled condition. I usually run a harrow over it from ten to twelve times, varying its use with the condition of my grounds, as to its compactness and pulverization. A light harrow is a fraud—it does not answer the essential want of a well pulverized seed-bed of three or four inches, nor that compactness which is its prime want. I have in some cases in early broken land for wheat, re-broke with a stubble plow to get rid of weeds, shortly before seeding, and each time has demonstrated its positive injury, until the practice with me is not repeated under any condition, but with harrow and walking cultivator I get rid of weeds. To harrow and pull them out, as a rule, is the most profitable method. The selection

#### OF SEEDS AND VARIETIES

are of equal importance to success. My experience and observation is to the effect that no wheat yet introduced to culture under the influence of our climate and soil is so well to be depended on as the "Red May." All other varieties have been exceptional in profitable culture. Some other varieties only from climatic causes would do better in our lighter soils; as the May wheat is partial to rich soils and in thorough tillage. Then the selection of seed is a prime essential. That wheat of the best bread qualities is not the best for seed.

All the noted seed wheats when analyzed by the chemists are found to contain all of the different elements of which they are composed in nearly the same proportions, especially in starch and gluten. For bread, that which contains the most gluten is preferred, but to produce a perfect vegetation there should be no excess of this substance, and no deficiency, and the seed should have arrived at perfect maturity. Some districts in England and elsewhere in Europe are noted for their excellent seed wheat. Certain conditions of soils maintain such a balance in the element of which the seed is composed as to give the most perfect vegetation. My observation makes it certain that, as is our practice, without selection there is deterioration, either from some defect in the seed or imperfect fertilization. Perhaps it is the universal law to deteriorate, when selection and balance in the elements of the soil are not maintained to give a seed of the highest vegetative power. I have never known a case in which seed had grown in the timbered lands of Platt and Clay counties, Missouri, in which the yield and quality of the wheat was not increased, and often in the most marked

manner. Whether wheat grown in our soils would be reciprocal, I have no means of knowing. Perhaps the district referred to is peculiarly adapted to the maintenance of the essential elements of a higher vegetative power than our own. It is a well known fact that wheat growing in warm soils require the habits of early spring, which it maintains when transferred to soils of more sluggish energy, which is an important consideration to the grower, as it lessens its liability to accidents of its growth. A few days of earliness in ripening often is the salvation of crops. To the vegetable physiologist it is a well known law that by selection, new varieties of greater reproductiveness are brought into use, and I have no doubt but, with a careful selection from heads of early maturity, as well as of the best size and form, instead of being met by deterioration, and improvement of marked excellence would be established. Plants are under the climatic influence of their geography, but many of the cereals have great flexibility, and none more so than the wheat plant. I think there can be no doubt but that the best results are obtained by improvement and culture of some variety known to be the best acclimated and suited to the soils where grown, rather than some variety of a remote and different geography. I feel certain that when we do produce a variety of the highest profit and use, it must spring from our own order of selection of the best of a field, and selections from its product through a series, or by accidental hybridation of two varieties the best suited to our laws of growth.

#### THE TIME OF SEEDING.

The time of seeding is an important consideration, but if the issue is presented of early seeding on an ill prepared seed-bed, or its thorough preparation and late—by all means let it be late, because no after conditions can supply the defects of bad husbandry, but good husbandry may overcome the defect of late seeding. This last proposition is a derivation of my universal experience and observation. There are seasons of such meteorological conditions that all who sow wheat reap returns of profit, but even with the most perfect natural conditions, good husbandry is rewarded by a just return on its care and labor. With me it is well settled that the best time to sow, if well ready, is from the 1st to the 15th of September, in this latitude. When the Hessian fly is present, as it is at periods, from the 1st to the 15th of October is a safe time to sow. These insects do not remain long at one period in a district; they are followed up closely by their enemies, to escape which they migrate to other localities. One objection is raised—that the wheat plant attracts, increases and perpetuates the chinch bug. But I have never had wheat injured as I have corn. In the fifteen years that I have steadily grown wheat in Miami county, Kansas, never has my wheat been shrunken by this insect, with the exception of the year 1873; and in spots of my field, of that year, where the wheat was not frozen out, and injured by freezing it escaped any injury and was plump and well formed. But when the plant is badly formed and, as a consequence, of feeble growth and late, the chinch bugs often render it worthless—but it is as well to be food for the chinch bug as to rust. I have never had a crop of wheat shrunken by rust, nor do I believe it a condition that need occur, only in very exceptional seasons, and they at very rare intervals. I have grown more full crops of wheat than corn. I have grown it with success in all classes of soils. I have made more clear money in wheat growing than any other special crop. I have grown four crops of wheat in succession without any apparent deterioration, though it is a plan of doubtful practice. The wheat crop is a powerful exhauster of certain elements of growth, which to maintain the integrity must be supplied by rest, or manurial agencies. Rest is a slow process—taxes must be paid on capital at rest—which burdens few can afford. Commercial manures are prohibited by transportation tax, and barnyard manure, unexcelled as far as it goes, is entirely inadequate as a recuperative power—but clover is in the reach of all, and established to be in the experience and practice of some of the best farmers of the country as being a perfect and one of the cheapest fertilizers. It matters not what the virgin power of any soil is in vegetable production it will exhaust its power. Continued cropping of corn or any favorite crop with Kansas farmers will do it as effectually as wheat. The power of good farming in maintaining a balance of fertility is not fully appreciated. The celebrated Jothro Tull made the fallow the sole basis of

his farming operations, maintaining that the elements of the atmosphere and the increased roots of crops more than compensate for the straw and grain taken from the soil—but in the end his theory did not hold good, though his success was great at first. But there is no doubt, as the experiment will prove on its practice, that stirrings of the soil enables it to absorb more readily the fertilizing gases from the atmosphere, and by thoroughly pulverizing it to allow the roots to grow so vigorously as not only to insure a good crop, but also add to the fertility of the land.

#### DEPTH OF SOWING.

Another consideration of great importance is the depth which the seed is sown. If sown to the depth of five or six inches but a small portion of the seed will reach the surface, and such as does will be in such an enfeebled condition as not to develop well. It matters not, then, what other favorable conditions may be present, if the seed is sown at any unusual depth, a partial failure will be a result. Wheat should not be sown at a greater depth than from two to three inches; and we can only secure the proper depth by breaking our wheat ground early and by repeated harrowing with a heavy harrow. A roller compacts well but does not pulverize. A heavy harrow does both effectually. Never use either when the soil is wet, as injury is done without any compensation. If from any cause land cannot be broken for wheat early, it is best to break shallow, not deeper than four inches, for the wheat wants a rather solid base. Carefully conducted experiments have settled this principle, and one principal cause that our soil lands prove so much more safe and productive is in the fact of their shallow working. But it will not do to depend on shallow breaking, only exceptionally. If followed as a rule exhaustion of soil soon results.

#### THE AMOUNT OF SEED.

There is a wide range of opinion as to the amount of seed that should be sown for the best results. The range of opinion is based on doubt on individual experiences. The farmer whose land is light and loose will, in sowing, deposit some of his seed so deep that it never reaches sunlight; his experience teaches him that two bushels to the acre is the proper amount. But the farmer who follows his land in time and thoroughly pulverizes and compacts it with the harrow, has an entirely different experience, if sown from the 1st to the 10th of September. One bushel with him is ample, and often three pecks will so tiller as to give the highest results. The best wheat I have ever grown has been with one bushel to the acre. I have grown twenty-five bushels to the acre, with three pecks of seed to the same. One bushel of seed saved in the preparation of an acre will pay for eight or ten times harrowing it. As a rule, all things else being equal, the greater amount of labor expended to the acre, the greater the profit—the greatest profit follows the doing of the entire work of a wheat crop in the best possible manner, and I may add all others. As a rule, drill-seeding is the best; less seed is required and there is less liability to freeze out, or heave out.

#### SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

Thirteen wheat crops sown and harvested by me will average twenty-one bushels to the acre. The crop sown in 1874 was an entire failure; what survived the winter following was destroyed by the grasshoppers. On the 7th day of March, 1875, it was in a sound condition. The week preceding had been warm, giving an active growth to the plant. On the evening of the 7th it turned suddenly cold, which killed it—except where manured and protected by banks and fences. But while I lost the crop entirely, wisdom was taught me by its adversity. Several straw piles were scattered through the field; which were moved off during the winter. Along the tract of its removal the straw was lightly littered forming a light mulch, which protected and saved the plant. Spots of the field that I manured, also survived. It gave the plant such a vigorous fall growth as to form a mulch of blades to the plant. Also fence rows on the north side formed a protection of a rod or more. The crops of wheat sown in 1874, on account of the grasshoppers, was not sown until the 1st of October. Had it been sown on the 1st of September it would have made such a growth as to have formed a natural mulch for its own protection.

#### WHEAT AND CHINCH BUGS.

There are some peculiar phases manifested by chinch bugs to the observant farmer, one of which is that they attack the feeble spots in a

grain field. The crop sown in the fall of 1873 was in spots heaved out in my wheat fields, not entirely, but leaving some feeble and scattered plants. Along the wheat, corn was planted. Those spots where the wheat grew strong and vigorous, along the corn, there was no strikingly injurious invasions, but where enfeebled they went out on the corn in such force as to take it clean for some rods, leaving the corn presenting a jagged and uneven surface. Poor farming gives enfeebled plant life, and my observation is to the effect, as a rule, that an enfeebled growth gives a more savory sap to the chinch bugs than a vigorous one. My crops, outside of '74, have, at no time, sustained much injury from the chinch bugs, but when injured in has been confined to poor spots in the field; and as a rule, those farmers who most complain, of their ravages are noted for their thoroughbred farming. Farmers as a rule give too little attention to insect life, their tastes, habits and periods of existence. As a rule, insects are periodic in their manifestations. They seem to multiply with man's capacity to an increase of production. It seems to be a fundamental law of supreme controlling force, that man shall be subject to the necessity of mental and physical labor. Indeed, without it he would gravitate to conditions so low and beastly as would extinguish him from the face of the earth. Insects are a benefaction—man need their stimulation—they are promoters to his industry and wisdom. Perhaps when the chinch bug has taught us the lesson of their design they will seek new missionary fields. Their history proves them to be migratory. They have ravaged districts which are exempt from them now.

Now, in conclusion: No amount of industry and labor, unless directed by a wisdom that comprehends all of the elements of a result can be profitably successful. That husbandman who does not labor mentally will never reach a permanent success, let him labor as he will, physically. To fossilize into prejudice is not the part of wisdom, but of stultification and decay. Too many farmers adhere to the methods of their youth, which methods may have been applicable to the soil and climate of their nativity. New conditions ever subject us in a degree to new modes—which to ignore invites failure. In Kansas the husbandman has conditions to deal with peculiar to itself, his past experience and practice must be varied to meet its conditions. An experience of sixteen years confirms and qualifies my judgment that few districts of the earth's surface have so varied and diversified a productive power in the varied elements of food as Anderson and Miami counties. But wisdom and labor alone can develop it.—J. H. Pratt, in Paola Spirit.

## Crop Notes.

### From Shawnee County.

Harvest is about completed, wheat well only yield a medium crop. Oats almost a failure, corn looking well, prospects look fair for a good crop. Early potatoes good. Stock doing excellent. Most of the farmers plowing for wheat, there will be a larger amount of acreage sown this fall than ever before on Mission creek. Weather extremely warm with an occasional shower. A. N. G.

### From Anderson County.

The number of acres of wheat and rye sown in Anderson county, is small, but the yield is good. The oat crop is almost a failure, on account of the wet weather, which caused rust. A large amount of corn is planted, and is looking well, but weedy. Vegetables are in great abundance. Fruit an average crop.

### From Allen County.

Harvesting is all done, some grain threshed. Wheat is turning out an average yield only, not as good as was anticipated before harvest. Oats were badly damaged by rust. In most localities the corn prospect is very flattering, some pieces however, much injured by wet weather and weeds. I think the acreage above last year. Potato prospect is excellent, early potatoes abundant and cheap. All kinds of vegetables very plenty, and too cheap to give away. The apple crop will be good; peaches short. Plenty of rain, no chinch bugs, farmers happy. Herd-law question has been agitating the public mind to some extent, but it has not become a law. J. D.

We are in need of rain very bad at present, have not had any for the past 14 days, had too much all spring. Some corn looking well

where it was well tended, but it was too wet to cultivate as it should be, if we do not have rain soon, will not make a half crop. Owing to the rust wheat did not make but about 10 bu. per acre. Oats badly hurt with rust, the same with flax. There will be a large breadth of wheat sown this fall. Early potatoes good. Apples and small fruit good. Weather very hot, a good deal of sickness. All live stock in fine condition. Grass abundant. No immigration in this part. Corn worth 23c, oats 23, wheat 80¢@85c, potatoes 20c, butter 8c, eggs 8c. J. L. L.

### From Centralia, Illinois.

August.—In passing from Chicago to this city, 250 miles. The corn on level land and flat bottoms was very poor, fields utterly ruined by rain. On uplands that are rolling is some very good corn. The hay crop generally good and very good weather to save it. Oats, generally a good deal of straw and in some dry localities well filled, but generally not No. 1. In a few counties northeast of St. Louis, is good wheat, but generally it is poor. In this region 50 miles east of St. Louis, not 8 bushels per acre in the average. In southern Illinois a good amount of apples, few or no peaches. Good weather now and the farmers are more hopeful than a year ago. But Kansas farmers should be thankful that their prospects are so good for crops. J. A. BENT.

### From Franklin County.

We have had a remarkable amount of rain, this spring, too wet for successful farm operations. It is the general opinion in this section, that the corn crop is not quite equal to last year. There are fields of corn equally as promising, but most fields are horribly weedy. Some fields in the bottom ground, late planted became so weedy that they have been given up; notwithstanding this drawback, the crop will be plentiful. Grasses excellent, oats somewhat damaged by the rust, but plenty of straw. Castor beans and flax seed have also received too much rain. We never experienced finer growing weather. The apples and peach crop will be slim. This year has developed the injury caused by the locust rain in '74 in eating off the leaves of the young apple trees. They became sun-scalded and the borer has been committing its ravages. The injury was not fully estimated at the time. J. H.

### From Osborne County.

August 3.—Harvesting done, except hay making. Fall grain good, spring wheat not more than half a crop. Oats poor, corn looks well and promises a large yield this year. Vegetables mostly looking well, yet the potatoes have been rather troublesome, but they have left and the potatoes are growing nicely now. We are having plenty of rain now. The hoppers are not bothering us any yet, though they have been flying over some. The FARMER is a welcome visitor. J. W. WINSLOW.

### From Neosho County.

Corn most all splendid, flax fair crop. Oats some fair other not worth cutting. Wheat so far as I have heard from threshers from 10 to 23 bushels per acre, nice and plump berry. Price of wheat from 70c to \$1.00, corn 20c to 25c with hundreds of bushels in the market daily. No chinch bugs, grasshoppers or other pest. Every thing lovely, our fall will be held at Chanute Sep. 6, 7, 8. S. J. HATCHER.

### From Chase County.

Wheat half crop. Oats entire failure caused by chinch bugs, corn prospects very flattering. Potatoes good crops, abundant of rains last week and this; condition of stock excellent. Farmers preparing for a much greater breadth of fall wheat, considerable plowing done. W. S. ROMIGH.

Corn is "earing" rapidly—that is, early planted—and should have no more rain at all (which, by-the-way, is not at all likely) this season, we shall have a good crop; and if the weather continues as favorable as it is at present a few weeks longer, we shall have such a crop of corn as was never before seen in Kansas.

The crops of flax, Hungarian millet, &c., are now matured, and being harvested in good shape; for, be it remembered, no destructive deluges or tornadoes have visited us yet; consequently there has been no "lodged" grain or grass to harvest. Vegetables of all kinds were never more abundant, or any better quality.—Jackson Co. Recorder.

The salt works are now in full blast. A wind mill and three large vats are at work. Other vats are being constructed, and a steam engine is to take the place of the windmill before long. Another and larger well is also to be bored, and Junction City is to be the saltiest center of trade in all the West. Next in order is a beef and pork establishment. We have a good outlet to the ocean, and there is no excuse for delaying.—Junction City Tribune.



Written Expressly for the Kansas Farmer.

# NOTES FROM OUR AGENT'S SADDLE-BAGS.

No. VIII.

I find the crops with the exception of corn, in the eastern part of Chase county, along the Cottonwood Rivers to be very poor.

The general complaint is that the season has been too wet. I found a great deal of farming land in this valley to be entirely under water, the crops having been drowned out. Up the smaller streams north of the river, the wheat and corn were better, but it was on the valley of the South Fork of the Cottonwood, that I saw the best crops. Even oats, in this valley will make on an average 20 bushels per acre. Wheat with a very few exceptions, was better than the average, of the past five years, and will undoubtedly, average 20 bushels per acre.

Corn is very large, and bids fair to be a larger yield than ever before, although this valley is not over a mile wide, yet it is by far, in my opinion, the best part of Kansas. It is settled by Eastern people, many of them from New York, who are in good easy circumstances.

Among so many thrifty farmers in this valley, it was hard to decide which one of them was the most successful, but the farm of J. S. Mitchell, Esq., was acknowledged by the old residents, to produce the most per acre. This farm is composed of 160 acres of farming land, and forty acres of timber. Mr. Mitchell estimates the yield of wheat on his farm this year, to be 30 bushels per acre. His plan is to drill in his wheat six or seven inches deep, running the drill east and west always. I am confident that this is a most excellent plan, as the ridges break the force of the winds and storms from the north and south in the winter.

I also saw in this neighborhood, a very fine lot of Poland-China pigs, belonging to Mr. G. W. Hays.

While at Elinoir, in this county, I visited the stock farm of Messrs. Prather & Bennett. This farm contains 2,100 acres. Although it lies in the valley of the Cottonwood, yet there was only 100 acres of this large farm, that was under water. This firm have shipped off most of their stock, having at present, only about 400 head of cattle. Among them was 16 head of full blooded pedigree Short-Horns. I saw here, 6 very large and fine pigs, a cross between the Berkshire and Poland-China.

About five miles west of Emporia, is the commencement of a settlement, that extends about 15 miles westward, mainly composed of people who have immigrated from the Southern States. They do not belong to the reading class of the community, and have therefore been most sadly duped by traveling Jew peddlers, who have sold them dry goods to the amount of many thousand dollars, of very inferior quality, and at exorbitant prices. A few *cute* Yankees have also been humbugged here by these sharpers. The plan of these rascals, is to travel through the community with a large amount of dry goods, claiming that they were bought in New York under forced sales and at very low rates.

They then offer a \$2.00 shawl, for instance, for \$20.00, but will finally drop down to \$10.00 and the unsuspecting, non-reading farmer, will snap at the bargain, thinking he is getting it "dog-goned cheap." Many farmers in this community have given their notes to these sharpers, for goods, to the amount of \$250 to \$300 each, which notes are now just due, and are being collected from these disappointed and sadly duped farmers.

I saw no sheep in this county, but understood that a large flock of over 2,000 are on the way, from Illinois, their final destination being near Cottonwood Falls.

This county offers very many advantages for sheep raising. Among which will be found an unlimited range, an abundance of water, and shelter and good shipping facilities. Men of capital in the East, would find a good opening for this business in Chase county.

I did not see any cheese factories in the county, and I believe there are none. Here again, is an important industry which should not be overlooked by the resident farmers, or those contemplating a residence in this county. Besides being a better paying business than butter making, it is less laborious for the farmer's wife and daughters, and wherever the milk is manufactured into cheese, I find the women in that neighborhood, are more cheerful and contented, and have more time for other duties.

Millet seems to be a very good crop in the south part of the county, and farmers have been very busy the past week in cutting it. I measured some that was seven feet tall, with enormous long heads.

One of the best farmers in Chase county is the Hon. Wm. Jeffrey, of Elm Dale. His corn was far ahead of any that I saw in that vicinity, and his other crops looked remarkably well. Near here I saw a boy only ten years old plow with a Skinner Riding plow, and driving three horses. He managed the team and plow, entirely alone, and the plowing was well done. When turning around at each end, the boy had to throw his whole weight on the lever in order to throw the plow out. The plow cut a 16 inch furrow and turned it well.

The village of Matfield Green, is in a beautiful valley, near the head of the South Fork of the Cottonwood. A blacksmith, tinsmith, and a shoe-maker are very much needed here.

Matfield Green, Chase Co., Aug 1, 1876.

Written Expressly for the KANSAS FARMER.

## LOCKS AND LOCK-PICKS.

The disposition to covet what is not our own, is a species of depravity deeply fastened upon the human family, even before Moses delivered to the Israelites the wonderful Decalogue.

There has been from that to the present time, a lively strife between the light-fingered gentry, and the sober, pains-taking, industrious getters of this world's goods.

Law makers have decided time and again, that the thief ought not to be at liberty, society has built stately edifices of iron and stone, in which to incarcerate those violators of law; inventors have taxed brains, and skilled labor to protect property from those who do not recognize the rights of ownership.

Perhaps no subject has received more thought or attention than how to resist the attempts of the burglar and lock-pick. Perhaps no single instrument of human production has had more skill or labor bestowed upon it, than the lock.

It is met with at every turn, on church, palace and hovel, in doors, out of doors, and is as necessary to protect the owner of property against the pilferings of a petty sneak-thief, as against the boldest bank burglar, who attempts to steal hundreds of thousands.

Locks were used by the Egyptians over 4,000 years ago. They were however, very simple of construction, consisting of little more than simple bolts or bars moving backward and forward in a groove, by means of a short arm mortised into a stick, which was thrust through a small hole in the door. This instrument answered to the modern key.

Prior to this, the Chinese used locks not unlike the modern tumbler locks, and far superior to the locks used in England and Europe one hundred years ago.

The English locks prior to the last century, consisted of a bolt which moved backward and forward fixed in a groove and fastened to the door by iron clamps.

The back end of the bolt, was so constructed that it could be raised, and on the under side of the bolt were two notches, which rested on a pin, one, when the door was locked, and the other when it was unlocked. The bolt was pressed down upon the pin by a spring on the top. The key operated the lock by first raising the back end of the bolt from the pin which held it, and then by entering a notch in the middle of the bolt, thus moving it forward or backward.

Such locks are now sometimes seen on old trunks and boxes. It is evident that an instrument by which the bolt could be raised and moved forward or backward at the same time, would answer as well as the proper key.

In the time of Henry VIII, and Elizabeth, locks were improved by making curiously shaped bills or arms to the keys, with notches and openings; then the lock was filled with corresponding pieces to pass through the openings, and enter the notches in the key. These pieces were called "wards," and would of course prevent any key unlike the one fitted to the lock from turning in the lock so as to move the bolt.

For a time these locks were considered safe and the ingenious lock-smith was held in high repute. Keys were elaborately made of gold or silver, and decorated and worn as an emblem of power. The locks as well as the keys at this time were massive, and many were so large that it required the united strength of both hands to move the bolt.

Burglars soon found however, that outlines or skeleton keys would operate these locks, if made so as to avoid the inner projections or wards, as well as the proper key, and in the hands of a persistent thief a flattened, bent wire, answered all the purposes of the original key.

The skill of inventors was again called into requisition, and in 1778 Barron invented and patented a lock, which consisted of a bolt, on the one side of which was a thin piece of metal about one-half an inch wide at the front end, and about one and one-half inches at the back end. This he called a "tumbler." This tumbler was fastened by a pivot at the narrow end to the front end of the bolt. This left the back and wide end free to rise and fall. In the wide end was a deep notch or "slot," as deep as the distance the bolt was required to move backward. On the case was a projecting pin, which, when the bolt and tumbler were moved backward, entered the "slot" in the tumbler, provided the tumbler was raised to the exact height. If too high or too low, the end of the tumbler would strike against the pin and prevent the bolt from being moved.

The wards were to a great extent dispensed with, the safety of the lock depending upon the inability to raise this tumbler to the exact height, necessary to move the bolt.

For a long time Barron's lock was considered safe, but lock-picks discovered that by pressing the bolt and at the same time raising the tumbler, the exact height could be discovered and the lock could be opened by a "wire or skeleton key."

Barron then increased the difficulty of picking his lock by adding another tumbler.

Chubb, another Englishman, invented a lock, using the slotted tumblers similar to Barron's, but he increased the number to five or six, each of which was kept down in position by a spring. To conceal the real slot, he placed a number of shallow notches in the end of the tumblers.

This was considered as a very effective lock. About this time Messrs. Brahma, of London, invented the celebrated Brahma lock.

This lock differed from its predecessors by having the slotted tumblers attached to the case, and the pin that moved the slots attached to the bolt. The number of tumblers were increased to ten or twelve.

So great was the confidence in the safety of this lock, that the inventors at the English Exposition offered a prize to any one who could open it.

A Mr. Hobbs, an American, made the attempt, and after fifty-one hours labor, succeeded in picking it.

Hobbs was also the inventor of a lock of the same form as the Chubb lock, with the addition of an attachment which prevented a pressure being brought to bear upon the bolt at the same time the tumblers were being raised to their proper position.

Hobbs' lock was picked in turn by Linus Yale, the inventor of the Yale lock.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## HOW SHALL WE RISE?

In a former article, I suggested that farmers should make a practice of reading agricultural books and papers, as a means of becoming more intelligent as well as more skillful in their business. I think it does not admit of a single doubt, that if we as farmers, would keep pace with the progress and intelligence of the age, we must educate. We must understand, not only the principles of a common English education, but also the principles that underlie our own business—the science, the real systematic knowledge of agriculture.

But how can the great mass—the 90 per cent. of farmers be brought up, not only to an appreciation and admiration, but also to the adoption and practice of the higher and better modes of enlightened agriculture? Here is the difficult question. In order to its solution, we must understand the difficulties that lie in the way. The symptoms of the disease must be understood in order to prescribe a remedy. One leading difficulty is, self conceit, an idea that they have learned all that can be learned on these subjects. Nothing closes the eyes to facts, and shuts out all new light more completely, than this self sufficiency. You must convince men of their ignorance before you can awaken or create a thirst for knowledge.

The isolation of farmers in general, has done much to hinder intellectual activity among them. Nothing more surely awakens thought, quickens the apprehensions and reveals our own ignorance than discussion—the contact of mind with mind. When a man begins to look around for arguments to sustain his own theory, or to overthrow that of an opponent, he will often, for the first time, be led to respect that of his opponent, while he begins to suspect his own. Much has been accomplished already in this direction, through the influence of the Grange.

Could the business of all its meetings be so arranged that something outside of the regular routine business of the order could be introduced at each meeting, something in the way of discussions, it would add much to the interest and profit of the meetings.

It is a good plan to have some question on record for discussion at every meeting. It is well to have this subject submitted at the meeting previous to the one at which it is to be discussed, as in that case, each member will be able to give the subject such thought and investigation as will make it more interesting and profitable to both himself and the other members of his Grange. A very good way to call out those who are diffident and backward about engaging in formal discussion, is to propound questions as to their views on any point relating to agriculture, or as to their method of performing the various operations of the farm. The main object is to lead men to read, observe and think.

But with all the importance that we attach to this method of elevating our class, and, as a result, in our calling, there is nothing that can supersede the agricultural papers of the day.

Books are important for teaching general principles and for an exhaustive treatment of each subject. And without such a general knowledge of first principles, as can be learned only from books, one can not expect to reach that broad intelligence that every aspiring farmer should strive for. But these are times of great mental activity. Observation, experiments and discoveries are crowding each other with astonishing rapidity, so that to keep abreast of the times in information, it is absolutely essential to read regularly and carefully, the weekly publications devoted to the discussion of those subjects that relate directly to our calling. Could every farmer be induced to take and carefully read a good weekly agricultural paper, it would astonish even the farmers themselves, to see the vast increase of intelligence, energy and enterprise that would be forced into the business of farming in the country.

L. J. TEMPLEIN.

## PACKING BUTTER FOR MARKET.

A correspondent in the American Grocer gives the following excellent suggestions for packing butter for market:

Having experience in the butter trade for the past 21 years and having been connected with the commission trade for the past 13 years, I offer a few suggestions and words of caution in regard to the packing and making of butter, hoping they may result in some benefit. I wish to impress upon the minds of the Western shippers and makers of butter the necessity of paying strict attention to this great interest, which is yearly growing in magnitude, if they wish to compete with other sections. The packing and package used are almost as essential points as making, and this fact should be remembered. Of course all packages of butter are not alike and cannot be sold at the same

price, but a little more care and attention paid in this respect (packing) would do considerable toward bringing about a greater uniformity in prices. Very often commission merchants receive complaints from country shippers stating that their butter was as good as their neighbors', which sold as choice butter, and probably from 2 to 5 cents higher than theirs. This may be so in their estimation, but other parties may differ. Their neighbors' butter may have been put up in more desirable packages, probably in new tubs; then again their butter may have been streaked, probably only a least trifle, while their friends' goods may have been straight and uniform in color, all which would naturally tend at times to make a vast difference in prices and create dissatisfaction. Makers and shippers should be careful and pack butter uniform in color, and should particularly remember that streaked lots, no matter how sweet and choice, cannot be brought in competition with lots running uniform in color, the latter always commanding a much quicker sale at a fair premium, and in every way compensating makers and dealers for their extra labor and care. Another fault is that a large portion of the butter during the hot weather turns sour and rancid very suddenly, sometimes before received, although it may have left in good and sweet condition from whence it was sent. The fault lies with the makers to remedy to some extent; for instance, the cream may have stood too long, or not worked sufficiently to take out the butter-milk, while another fault would be in not salting properly. These minor points, although but trifling at first, are more noticeable after they have gone through second hands and finally reach other markets. The packing and package used are, however, of no secondary account in the matter of realizing the best market prices, and during hot weather particularly should shippers be especially careful in regard to packages. Jars and boxes should be avoided as much as possible, the former costing more freight, besides being a package not easily handling. In handling at the stations and express offices and even forwarding jars and boxes are often placed on top of each other, and as there are no other covers for protection, the quality is damaged by defacement and the price is considerably lessened. Tubs, pails and firkins should be used exclusively, but in this some discrimination is required. Oak firkins and tubs are taken in preference to others on account of their neater appearance, though some parties use home-made tubs, which they claim answer their purpose. Another reason why these packages are becoming more in favor on the part of dealers is the fact that they sell more readily to shippers, and parties can also more readily agree to take if a certain make of tub is used to which they are accustomed. Therefore I recommend tubs, pails and firkins as the most desirable and, in the end, the most economical packages used. Parties should be careful to soak their packages well before using. In butter making always the best salt: Ashton's filled diary is most generally used. Parties should be careful to pack their butter solid, completely filling the packages, and to spread a piece of clean new bleached cotton over it dipped in brine, neatly tucked in at the edges so when moved it will damage the appearance. Knowing that these instructions are old to few and new to many, I offer them for the purpose of having uniformity in trade as well as in packing. Hoping I may soon again have the pleasure of seeing other ideas in print regarding the commodity.

## REVIVAL OF TRADE.

The New York Merchant Journal opens its market review with the following remarks.

Shakespeare's enunciation that "the wish is father to the thought" was true when uttered, is true now, and doubtless will continue true until the end of time. The prolonged dullness of trade, and the increasing difficulties of collection cause our enterprising merchants to chafe at their enforced inactivity, and they welcome with joyful hospitality any suggestion as to how to improve things. We are really sorry to notice a tendency, clearly seen by all (and rather eulogized even in very conservative quarters) to give and take longer credit—in fact to inflate still farther the fearful balloon of debt, discernable on examination of any merchant's bank ledger as compared with what it was some ten years ago, when the volume of distribution, though with a smaller population, aggregated much larger than it now does. Even the staid old *Commercial Advertiser* (born in 1794) says in its issue of July 25th:—"This anticipated increase of trade the coming Fall can be realized, it is believed, if our merchants will extend their credits. The time has come, it is argued, when Eastern merchants can safely grant longer time credits, provided they restrict such accommodation to those whose notes thus far have commanded confidence and had a selling price." We say emphatically DON'T YOU DO IT. No man can lift himself by his boot straps, and it is equally impossible for this nation to extricate itself from its present commercial and industrial besetment by any other course than stimulating production; but a market will speedily follow well paid labor. Set one million idle men to work to-morrow, and the next day their wages, say \$2,000,000, will be expended for the cumbrous merchandise which now loads your shelves, and gives you a headache every time you look at it.

## THE CORRECT WAY TO HANDLE SHEEP.

There is a right way and a wrong way, a hard way and an easy, an awkward way and a skillful way to catch and handle a sheep. A great many men will seize the sheep by the wool on the back, with both hands, and lift the animal clear from the ground by the wool only. Barbarous! Let some giant grasp you by the hair of your head and lift you from the ground by the hair only! Would you not wriggle and squirm worse than the mute sheep does when lifted by the wool? And would not there be a complaint of a sore head for a week or two? If you do not believe it, try the experiment. We have slaughtered a great many sheep in years past, and when handling by the pelts of such sheep as had been handled by their wool, we never failed to observe that beneath the skin wherever the animal had been caught by the wool, blood had settled. In many instances, the skin had been separated from the body so that inflammation was apparent. We have known proprietors of sheep to be so strict in regard to handling them, that they would order a helper from the premises if he were to catch a sheep by the wool on any part of the body. Some owners of sheep direct their helpers thus: "When about to catch a sheep, move carefully toward the one to be taken, until you are sufficiently near to spring quickly and seize the beast by the neck with both hands. Then pass one hand around the body, grasp the brisket, and lift the sheep clear from the ground. The wool must not be pulled. If the sheep is a heavy one, let one hand and wrist be put around the neck and the other pressed against

the rump." We have always handled sheep in the way alluded to. We never grasp the wool. Others seize the sheep by a hind leg, then throw one arm about the body and take hold of the brisket with one hand. But ewes with lamb should never be caught by the hind leg, unless they are handled with extreme care. When sheep are handled roughly, especially if their wool is pulled, the small bruises and injuries will render them more wild and more difficult to handle.—*Western Rural*.

The Kansas City Times of last Sunday has one of the best descriptions of Kansas at the Centennial we have yet seen, from their special correspondent. In this letter is transmitted the following:

WALDEMER, BRIDGEPORT, Conn., July 17, 1876.

To the Kansas Commissioner:

GENTLEMEN—I intend to spend a few hours at the Exhibition next Thursday, 20th inst., and hope to reach your building by 12 o'clock. I would like then to speak definitely and finally regarding my exhibiting your corn, oats, and other specimens throughout the United States and probably Great Britain, Germany and France, in the museum department of my great traveling Museum, Menagerie and Hippodrome. An average of 20,000 persons per day will see it, and if I don't start thousands of emigrants for Kansas I am much mistaken. Hoping to meet you, I am,

Truly yours, P. T. BARNUM.

## AN OPEN LETTER.

BY PETER COOPER.

To the Candidates for the Presidency, Nominated by the Republican and Democratic Parties.

[We print, because of its importance, the greater portion of an open letter addressed to the Presidential Candidates of the Republican and Democratic Parties, by Peter Cooper; being supplementary to his letter of acceptance of the nomination to the Presidency by the Independent (or Greenback) Party. Comment at our hands is unnecessary, as the letter is sufficiently long, while it is its own commendation.—Ed.]

NEW YORK, July 25th, 1876.

Hon. R. B. Hayes, and Hon. Samuel J. Tilden.

GENTLEMEN—

I find myself impelled by an irresistible anxiety for my country; by the palpable facts of distress and suffering that surround me, and which I am compelled to know pervade the families of the great mass of our people; by the earnest calls that have been made to me from all parts of this great country; and especially, by the solemn and deliberate act of an earnest and intelligent body of my fellow-citizens, in convention assembled, who, setting forth clearly their convictions as to the real cause of this widespread distress among the masses of our countrymen, have called upon me to represent those convictions, and nominated me as their chief executive to carry them out;—by all these considerations I feel called upon to address a few words to you, who now hold the nominations of the two great organized political parties in this country for the highest positions of responsibility as to the future happiness and prosperity of this great people.

Far be it from me to attribute any want of patriotism or any unworthy motive to your honorable selves, or to the leaders of those Conventions which have nominated you both, respectively, to the high office of the President of the United States. But the eminent question of the day, that which touches the cause of the present financial ruin and suffering of so many, is one of such palpable facts and simple deductions therefrom, that I must think there is some mistake in the radical principle by which these facts are viewed by you and the great parties which you represent. I find in the platforms of the conventions of the two great parties, no adequate expression either of the facts, the causes, or the principles that underlie the present great distress of our nation, when thousands of honest, industrious people are filled with anxiety for the bread of their families, or are suffering already from an inadequate supply. This seems to me the great and paramount question of the day, to which our chief thought and most efficient action should be directed, and before which all other questions should sink into insignificance.

What is the cause of this wide spread ruin and present distress? and what is the immediate remedy?

The panic (or Paper Money famine) of 1873 and all the consequent distress of the industrial classes of our country, and its baffled enterprise, is distinctly due to the contraction of the currency to an enormous extent during the eight years preceding 1873. It stopped credit, production and consumption, and made much of what currency was left, rush, in a panic, to the head money-centers—as the blood in an apple-pit rushes to the head—where this money is now vainly seeking investment, "in first-class security," at two per cent.; while the country at large is paled in its enterprises and industries for want of this very currency. And what was all this done for? To change the debt of the country without reducing its real amount, from a shape beneficial to the people, and incorporated as an integral part of the very life-blood of all their rising industries and their growing trade—this paper currency was turned, almost with the suddenness of a conjuration, and by the force of an arbitrary construction of law, into another shape, twice in amount as measured by the same paper, and taxing the people interest on it in gold, to the amount of \$94,684,260 per year, [see statement of the public debt, June, 1876.]

Most of this interest is now paid to foreign bondholders, alien to our institutions and uninterested in our prosperity, except to keep up our ability and willingness to bear taxation.

And what is the specious reason for this change? "To return to specie payments!" What can this policy result in but a further distress and impoverishment of this people and the building up of the interests of a class, whose business it is to invest or to lend money, and whose policy will be to get the highest rate of interest? Such are apt to forget that the immediate gain of such a policy, is far less than that which arises from the prosperity of the whole people, and the multiplication of wealth that comes from enterprise unimpeded and industry constantly employed.

We may concede all that is claimed of the necessity of "specie payments," and our currency being made on a par with gold. But this disastrous and ill-judged method of reaching specie payments, by the past and present contraction of our currency, is very unjust and cruel to our people; for it shrunk the value of all property, so that it could not be sold, or mortgages obtained on it, for more than one-



half the amount that the same property would have brought three years previous, and reduced the wages of labor to the same degree. This return to "specie payments" may be made without such injury, by honoring the green-back in every way; by making it exclusively the currency as well as the legal tender of the country; by receiving it for all forms of taxes, duties, debts to Government, as well as the payment of all private debts; by establishing its value on a firm basis, at a fixed, equitable rate of interest, which it may always find in bonds convertible with legal tenders; and by determining the volume of the currency, where the unobstructed laws of the internal trade and industry of this country may require it to be, under the free use of the interchangeable bond. This great national debt ought to be held as a great trust by the government of this people, and made the receptacle of all the trust funds, and the savings of all the poor among our own people. It should be an investment put within the reach of our own people, instead of being sent abroad to swell the coffers of the rich in other countries.

If the Government, after the war of rebellion, had been as anxious to heal the wounds which that unhappy war created, to alleviate the poverty which it brought on a large section of our country, to re-instate the broken industries and enterprises of our whole people, as it had been to carry that war vigorously, at any cost, on to victory, the Government would have seen that peace had its demands as well as war. If a Government is bound to protect the people from the aggressions of war, it is also bound to save it from commercial distress, and the sorrows of a laboring population without work.

Sorry am I to see, and I say it without any approach cast upon the integrity of those concerned, that in the platform of neither the Republican nor the Democratic party is this great question of finance, either discussed or recognized in its principles or bearings upon the happiness and prosperity of this people—except in a way that seems to me, adverse to both.

I have, therefore, consented with great reluctance, to go before the people to vindicate the great principle, that underlies all true Republican or Democratic Institutions—namely, that the interest and happiness of the whole people are superior to the demands or interests of any one class; that in the neglect or defiance of this principle, the great debt of this people, incurred by a war to save the life of this nation, has been administered too much by the advice, and in the interest of a small class that care for their income, but cannot look out for, or attend to active investment; hence, they prefer the Bond to the Currency; and for another class who desire the highest interest for the smallest investment; hence they prefer gold, to a paper legal tender; and for still another class who alien to our institutions and country, care only to tax its energies and wealth for the highest interest they can draw for an immediate investment of their money. But these are not the interests of the people of this country. Neither honor nor justice requires such administration of the public debt of this country.

I feel, therefore, constrained by every principle of honor and love for my country, to come forward at an advanced age, and with a mind that would gladly seek repose, after the toils of a long and laborious life, to answer the call of a portion of my countrymen, to try these issues before the people of the whole country; to test these truths which we hold to be as self-evident, as soon as they are honestly examined, as are the truths of the Declaration of Independence. One of the chief of these truths is that as all rightful Governments are made for the people and by the people; they must be administered with a parental care in the interests of the whole people and not for a class. No single interest touches the domestic comfort and prosperity of the people as this one of the currency; and in the present condition of the country, none is of so much immediate importance, or calls for more immediate solution. To put off this question, therefore, with vague expressions of reform, and the desirableness of "specie payments," is to ignore the ruling interest of the hour. It is to surrender the people to their sufferings without any promise of remedy.

I appeal, therefore, from those who seem insensible to the cry of the people, to the people themselves. I appeal from the political parties, organized to control the Government, and distribute the offices and emoluments of office, to the great industrial classes who are organized to protect their interests and obtain some recognition of their rights from the Government of the country. Let them substitute co-operation for "strikes," and unite to save themselves and the country from the present disaster and distress to all the industrial classes. Let no man think of the ballot while he has the ballot in his hand. It needs but the use of that simple instrument of political power to rectify all our discontents and social evils.

Let us have our national currency duly honored; let us take the testimony of the nation's experience, and that of other countries, as to what such a currency can do for our prosperity; let the gold par be reached by rendering our currency of higher and indispensable uses, as now exemplified in France, and not by contracting its amount; and let its volume and its value be determined by the interchangeable Bond, placed at the disposal of the wants of the people and governed by the forms and sanctities of law; and not surrender the currency to the ever-changing basis of a commodity like gold—and we shall have peace on this question; "justice will be established, again, will revisit us, and we shall vindicate the wisdom and superiority of our free institutions before the world."

France, with her 600,000,000 of legal paper, has kept her industries profitably employed by keeping her paper receivable for all forms of taxes, duties and debts.

My views upon the currency I have heretofore briefly expressed as follows:

"The worth or exchangeable value of gold is as uncertain as other products of human labor, such as wheat or cotton. The exchangeable value of anything depends on its convertibility into something else that has value at the option of the individual. This rule applies to paper money as to anything else. But how shall Government give an exchangeable value to a paper currency? Can it be done by a standard which is beyond its control and which naturally fluctuates, while the sign of exchange indicated by the paper remains the same?"

"This is the unsound theory which possesses the minds of our people and of our politicians."

"We must cut loose from this unreasonable theory, or we shall be subject, for all time, to these periodic disturbances of our currency which bring such widespread ruin and distress to our commercial industries, and work

on the part of the Government, positive and cruel injustice. The remedy seems to me to be very plain.

"First—We must put this whole power of coining money or issuing currency, as Thomas Jefferson says, 'where, by the Constitution, it properly belongs'—entirely into the hands of our Government. That Government is a Republic, hence it is under the control of the people. Corporations and States have hitherto, in some form or other, divided this power with the Government. Hence come the embarrassments and the fluctuations, as may be easily shown.

"But now we must trust our Government with this whole function of providing the standards and measures of exchange, as we trust it with the weights and measures of trade. So far from putting the people in the power of our Government and at the caprice of parties in power, I contend it will bring the Government more under control of the people and give a check to mere party rule. For the more stake the people have in the wisdom and honesty of the Government, the more watchful and firm they will be in its control.

"Secondly.—We must require the government to make this currency, at all times, and, at the option of the individual, convertible. But the currency must be convertible into something over which the Government has entire control, and to which it can give a definite as well as a permanent value. This is its own interest-bearing bonds. These are, in fact, a mortgage upon the embodied wealth of the whole country. The reality of their value is as sound and as permanent as the Government itself, and the degree of their value can be determined exactly by the rate of interest the government may think proper to fix."

The time has come when the claims of a common humanity and all that can move the manhood of an American citizen, must unite in a demand for an act of common justice now due to the American people who have saved our country from ruin, and will, I trust, forever protect it. The Constitution has made it the first, and the most important duty of Congress "to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

To my personal friends I need not say that this sacrifice of peace and rest, is like the surrender of what remnant of life I may have. But to the country at large, I will say that I am willing to stand in the place where I have been put by the judgment of an intelligent and honest portion of my countrymen, to stand with them, and try before the whole people this cause of the people's money, and the true financial policy of this Government.

Most respectfully yours,  
PETER COOPER.

### Patrons of Husbandry.

The Patrons' Hand Book, which is mailed to any post office in the United States for 50 cents, is acknowledged to contain more practical grange information than any book yet published. Examine the testimony of the officers of State Granges all over the United States.

The use of subordinate granges of the set of receipt and order books issued at this office will prevent confusion and mixing of accounts; they are invaluable in keeping the money matters of a grange straight. The three books are sent, postage paid, to any grange, for \$1.50.

### A NUISANCE AND HOW TO ABATE IT.

About this time of the political year, the horny-headed candidate comes to the front and undertakes to "capture" the "grange vote." Of course he hasn't the slightest knowledge of the grange's object and means, and he wouldn't have any sympathy with them even if he did know what they were; neither does he know what the grange organization is. If he did, perhaps—though this is by no means certain—he would be rather less confident of his success in accomplishing a task that no one else (and there have been many who have attempted it) has been able anywhere or at any time to perform. Between the broken down political hack who courts the support of the farmers by calling himself a grange candidate and the city newspapers that attempt to crush any candidate from rural parts by calling him a "granger" and giving the farmer for wearing home-spun and having "hay seed in his hair," there is nothing to choose. Nevertheless, and it is always well to have the order kept in the right light before the public and to expose designing frauds upon it, who would prostitute it to their own selfish ends, we have two suggestions to make:

I. Whenever the "grange candidate" comes round soliciting the sweet-voiced of the Patrons, let the brothers ask him about five questions, something like this: 1. What is the grange? 2. How old is it? 3. What are the names of its officers? 4. What are its objects? 5. By what means is it proposed to attain these ends? Now, if the candidate can't answer these questions satisfactorily, he has no adequate idea of the scope of the great agricultural order, and deserves to be repudiated; and if he has he has no business to go round using the order for political purposes, and deserves equally to be repudiated.

II. Whenever any newspaper alludes to any candidate as the "grange candidate," let the master of the nearest grange, or some other good Patron send the newspaper a short letter containing the express prohibition of the order against political interferences by its members as such, and explode the fallacy on the spot. Let this be done and the grange will be a gainer in every way and to an indescribable extent.

Sounder advice than the above, it would be difficult to give. We have alluded to this "itching" of demagogues to capture the "grange vote" before, and at the risk of monotony we call attention to it again. Under all circumstances vote for the best man: the man of presence, of diligence, of brains and of honesty.—Vermont Farmer.

### IMPROVE THE SINGING.

The frequent songs in the ceremonies of the Grange work is one of its beauties, which gives life and variety to the work of the Order. Frequently we have visited Granges where they have no music or such poor singing that it chilled our ardor for the work before us.

We trust a general effort will be made in Granges to improve the singing. Leaders are wanted, and to secure these the best singers should be selected and requested to assemble alternately at each other's homes and practice the pieces to be sung in the Grange. Frequently we have visited Granges, in which a brother leads off the song with a soft, smooth voice, followed by a number of soft, musical voices, which causes pleasant thoughts of highest joy to fill the heart. Let the Patrons strive to improve the music in the Granges.—Southern Agriculturist.

### THE DUTY OF PATRONS AS CITIZENS.

As we are approaching a political canvass, which may become heated and excited, it may be well enough to call the attention of our brethren to the principal of our Order, as set forth in our "Declaration of Purposes."

The Grange knows no politics. Members of all parties may assemble in our halls as friends and brothers, and no allusion ever made to their political creed—no partisan harangue—the claims of no candidate for an office ought ever to be heard when we are assembled as Patrons. Yet we constantly teach those grand principles of purity and honor and patriotism which underlie all true politics. We teach that no candidate of any party ought to be voted for, for any office, who is a political trickster—who will resort to unjust and dishonest means to get office, and who will not advocate the right and interest of the people against monopolies, frauds, bribery and political knavery of all kinds.

It is the bounden duty of every Patron as a citizen, to take an active interest in all doings of the party with which he may be affiliating, to attend all its primary meetings and conventions, and see that none but pure and honest men are nominated or supported for any office; to work hard to break down all tricky rings in his party, and try to send up delegates to conventions who will represent the true interests of the farmers of the country, and give them that influence in the legislation of the land which their interest demand. No one can object to this, for only in this way can the politics of the country be purified, and rings stealing and trickery, credit mobliler frauds, and salary grabs, and our depraved political systems crushed out forever.

Then, Patrons, assert your rights as citizens. Insist, at all times, that only good, true and pure men of any party shall be placed in the front, and we will soon see reform everywhere, our taxes reduced, monopolies restrained, our laws honestly administered, and then comes that 'good time' for which we have been so long hoping and waiting. How can we celebrate the 'Centennial' of our glorious Republic any better?—Monthly Talk.

### LEADERS WANTED.

The N. Y. World says: "The true sphere of action of the Grange is just as unostentatious as it is important. It is reform, not revolution. If the Grange, instead of aiming to inculcate economy, co-operation and practicality, were to enter the field as a political organization it would at once command attention, become notorious and inefficient. If Brother Jameson insists on paying thirty-five dollars cash for a sewing machine instead of seventy-five dollars, credit, there is no disturbance in the trade. There have been forty dollars saved to Brother Jameson, but there have not been forty dollars lost to the man who produced the machine. Society and commerce feel no shock, and the superfluous middlemen, who are only tolerated through ignorance, goes into some more useful business or transfers himself to another field of operations."

### DEBT.

Living beyond their income is the ruin of many of my neighbors; they can hardly afford to keep a rabbit, and must needs drive a pony and chaise. I am afraid extravagance is the common disease of the times, and many professing Christians have caught it, to their shame and sorrow. Good cotton or stuff gowns are not good enough nowadays; girls must have silks and satins, and there's a bill at the dressmaker's as long as a winter's night, and quite as dismal. Show and style and smartness run away with a man's means, keep the family poor, and the father's nose on the grindstone. Frogs try to look as big as bulls and burst themselves. A pound a week apes five hundred a year, and comes to the county court. Men burn the candle at both ends, and then say they are very unfortunate—why don't they put the saddle on the right horse, and say they are extravagant? Economy is half the battle in life; it is not so hard to earn money as to spend it well. Hundreds would have never known what if they had not first known waste. If all poor men's wives knew how to cook, how far a little might go.—John Ploughman, in Farmers' Journal, Ky.

### OUR DUTY IS TO PROGRESS.

We cannot cover or excuse any imperfections in our organization with the darkness and mould of remote ages, but must be ready to be passed through the moral, social and political evils of the present, with the blaze of civilization and the light of the world's advance civilization shining upon us. And we rejoice in this, that we are not to dig among the tombs of buried centuries for our record and tenets—rejoicing that they are fashioned by great minds and warm hearts to meet the needs of the times, and catch the glow and enthusiasm from today, and this is why woman is elevated to a position never hers before. Do we, my sisters, properly appreciate the great possibilities for doing good opened to us here? Do we realize that we are solemnly pledged to work for the Order, the elevation of our class and the best interest of our country? Have we not promised the world, through our declaration of principles, to do more than any society ever promised before? All other reform associations are waiting an expression from us in reference to the corrections of evils that vex the philanthropist everywhere, making this the most opportune time for decided, successful action, that will come to us in lifetime. Mothers, dare we fritter away the precious moments and let this golden opportunity pass? Will not God measure our responsibilities by the magnitude of our privileges?

Let us strive to prove ourselves worthy the trust and confidence reposed in us, worthy the high privileges we enjoy, and worthy the holy relationship of mother, by united, earnest effort to fulfill our promises to the world, our duty to ourselves, our children and our God.—Cyn. Grange Bulletin.

The Farmer's Home Journal thus expresses itself: "There is nothing which the Grange movement now needs as much as leaders. Thus far, there has been a superabundance of talkers, that have served every purpose that such people can serve. Action—prompt action—must now take the place of speechifying. And it is important that the Patrons should understand accurately the quality of man fitted for action on a great many matters that deeply concern them. Now is the time for the great captains to appear; and, ere, when you come to examine, you will find that these are exceedingly rare. There is nothing being done. Big meetings are held, and great expectations are raised, but the movements toward the settlement of vital questions are very slow. There is too much time spent in mere palaver and debate—smoke, the greater part of it, with hardly a bit of fire below."

## OSBORN'S Grain & Seed Cleaner,

MANUFACTURED BY

E. H. OSBORN & CO.,  
QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

Some valuable improvements are now being added to these celebrated machines, making them as nearly perfect as possible. They are the only machines made that will separate Rye, Chess, Cockle, and other impurities from Wheat. Remove every foul seed from Flax, clean Oats, Rye, Barley, Castor Beans, etc., etc. They are well known in nearly every section of Kansas. For sale by leading dealers. If not kept in your place, orders sent to the factory will receive prompt attention. All orders sent by strangers must be accompanied by remittance.

Price \$35. Flax Screens \$3, extra. Warehouse size, \$50. Flax Screens, \$5. Terms—CASH.

## IMPORTANT TO FLOCK MASTERS

—AND—  
Sheep Owners.

The Scotch Sheep Dipping and Dressing Composition

Effectually cleans the stock, eradicates the scab, destroys ticks and all parasites infesting sheep and produces clips of unstained wool that commands the highest market price.

For 200 Sheep, 200 lbs. (package included), \$24.00  
" 400 " 100 " " " 13.00  
" 200 " 50 " " " 7.00  
" 100 " 25 " " " 3.75

MALCOLM McEWEEN,  
Scotch Sheep Dip Manufacturer,  
Portland Avenue, Louisville, Ky.  
General Agent for State of Kansas,  
DONALD MCKAY,  
HOPE, Jackson County, Kansas.

## To Sheep Raisers!

For sale at the Victoria stock farm, a flock of 600 yearling Bucks, they are from half and three-quarter bred Merino Ewes, by long woolled English Rams of the highest strain, and are a class of sheep admirably adapted for Kansas and Colorado, combining as they do the finer qualities of the Merino with the larger frames and mutton producing qualities of the English breeds.

They will be sold in lots of ten and upwards, at \$10 per head, and singly \$15 each. Apply to  
GEORGE GRANT,  
Victoria, Ellis Co., Kansas.

## PURE BRED BERKSHIRE PIGS.

The undersigned would announce to the farmers and breeders of the West that he has now over 100 head of

THOROUGH BRED BERKSHIRE PIGS,  
from imported and premium stock. Correspondence solicited. Address  
SOLON ROGERS,  
Prairie Centre, Johnson Co., Kansas.

## New Crop Turnip Seed.

Early Flat Dutch,  
White Strap Leaf,  
Red Top Strap Leaf,  
Large White Globe,  
Yellow Globe,  
Ruta Baga.

By mail, post-paid, 60 cents per pound. Special prices to dealers on application.

B. J. GRIMMETT & CO.,  
Seedsmen,  
No. 3 N. Main street, St. Louis, Mo.

## AMSDEN PEACH.

The Best Early Peach in the world. Originated at Carthage, Missouri. Specially adapted to Kansas, Missouri and the South-west. Highly recommended by Downing, Barry, Husman, Thomas, Berckman and others. Select Trees four to six feet, twelve for \$5, one hundred \$25. Five three to four feet trees by mail, twelve for \$5, by express \$20 per hundred.

Full history on application, order at once, we will keep Trees that will do to plant until May 1st.

Address JOHN WAMPLER,  
Carthage, Missouri.

## Grapes! Grapes!!

Those who want Grapes this season will do well to order of the undersigned. His crop is mostly Concord, some Clinton, Delaware, Salome, Catawbas, and other kinds; amounting to some 20,000 pounds, probably, of about four acres. Will be shipped to any place, in quantities of one hundred pounds or less, on 24 hours notice, in August and September.

Put up in good handle baskets or in boxes. Cash orders attended to promptly and consignments made to responsible parties on favorable terms. Correspondence solicited. Local orders may be left with Rodgers and Bro., 132 Kansas Avenue, or at the Vineyard, two miles West on 6th street, cross place.  
C. H. BARTON, Gardener,  
Box 467, Topeka, Kansas.

## BURKHARDT & OSWALD,

Manufacturers of  
HARNESS, SADDLES, COLLARS,

BRIDLES, HALTERS, WHIPS, etc. This establishment is one of the oldest in the State. Good work for reasonable prices. Prices sent by mail to persons living at a distance.

BURKHARDT & OSWALD,  
155 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

## THE WALL STREET INDICATOR.

This Week's Issue Sent Free.  
Contains Pictorial Illustrations of Bulls and Bears. Also, full and complete instructions how to operate in Stocks and Stock Privileges. Capital hits and suggestions. Also, a list of Valuable Premiums to Clubs. "Send for it."

BUCKWALTER & Co., Bankers and Brokers,  
P. O. Box 4377. 10 Wall St., New York City.

## AMSDEN JUNE PEACH,

Earliest, Hardest and Best.  
Ripe June 27th, 1876, large as Hale's, highly colored and delicious. Buds by mail \$1 per hundred, by Express \$5 per 1000.

L. C. AMSDEN, Carthage, Mo.

## THE GALT HOUSE,

TOPEKA, KANSAS.  
Corner 6th and Jackson Streets. The best \$1.00 per day house in the city.

A. J. RYAN,  
Proprietor.

## WANTED 500 SHEEP.

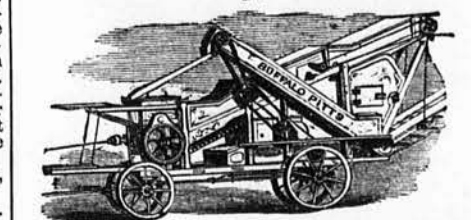
Address with price.  
G. CHAPMAN, Hope, Kansas.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

## SMITH & KEATING,

Kansas City, Missouri.



## BUFFALO PITTS THRESHER,

With the Famous End Shake to Riddles, with either Horse Power or Steam Engines.  
All Pitts Machines are not alike. The Buffalo Pitts is the only "Farmers' Friend." Be sure you buy it, and no other.

Threshers—If you would have a machine that will earn you the MOST MONEY with LEAST EXPENSE for repairs, and give your customers the best satisfaction, buy the Buffalo Pitts.



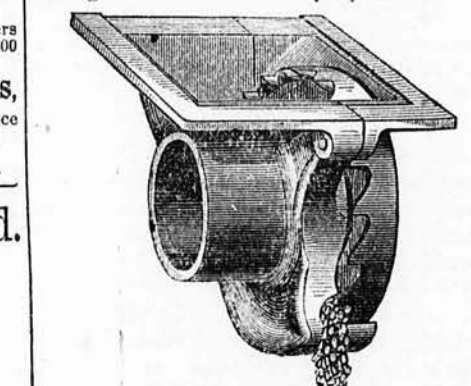
FARMERS—If you want your threshing well done, if you want all your grain saved and cleaned fit for market engage a Buffalo Pitts, and if there is none in your neighborhood, help some good fellow to buy one, and thus benefit your neighbors as well as yourself.

SMITH & KEATING, Ag'ts,  
KANSAS CITY



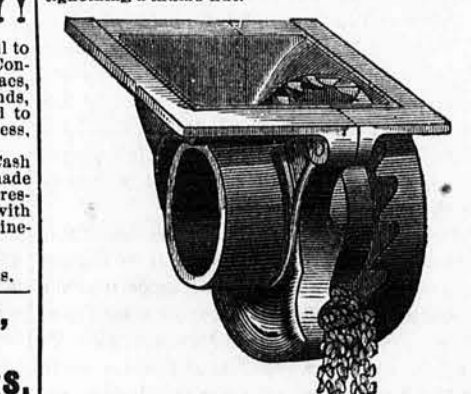
## THE AMES THRESHING ENGINE.

This make of Engine is used and recommended by nearly every manufacturer of Threshing Machines who does not make engines. They are the most complete "mounted" Engine now in the market. We furnish steam and water gauges, governor, whistle, etc., with the Engine. Send for illustrated pamphlet.



## View of Feeder set for Small Quantity.

This New Feed BUCKEYE DRILL, which regulates the quantity of grain sown without change of gears, is positively the best Drill in the world. It is acknowledged by manufacturers and dealers all over the grain growing portions of the world, to be the leading drill in the market. Its reputation is not confined to the United States, but it is favorably known in England, Germany, Russia and other parts of Europe. Farmers have long demanded a positive force feed which could be regulated to sow any desired quantity, anywhere between one-half bushel of wheat to three bushels of oats in an instant without change of gears, and not be compelled to change a peck at once. They are tired of carrying so many cog-wheels, hunting out combinations to find the quantity, and then often get them wrong or discover that some of the wheels are missing. All this annoyance is avoided in the New Feed Buckeye. You can regulate it for any quantity desired. It has an adjustable rotary disk in the feed cup, and so arranged that all the feeders are set at once, by merely moving the indicator on the end of the hopper and tightening a thumb-nut.



## View of Feeder set for large Quantity.

## THE CELEBRATED

## Prairie State Corn Shellers.

Six Styles Hand and Power in Stock, for Farm and Warehouse Use.

## DICKEY FANNING MILLS,

For Perfect Cleaning of Wheat, Barley,

Oats, Flax, Castor Beans, and all  
Kinds of Seeds.

## Bain and Schuttler Wagons,

## BUCKEYE DRILLS,

Three Spring and Platform Spring Wagons,

## GARDEN CITY PLOWS and

## CULTIVATORS.

## Haine's Illinois Header.

And other First-Class Implements and Field Seeds.

Send for Illustrated Circulars and Price Lists. Sent Free.

## SMITH & KEATING,

Kansas City, Mo.

Manufacturers Agents for the State of Kansas.



## The Kansas Farmer.

J. K. HUDSON, Editor &amp; Proprietor, Topeka, Kan.

## To Advertisers.

Advertisers will find the *Kansas Farmer* on file at reference at the Advertising Agencies of Chandler, Lord & Co., Chicago; Howell & Chesnut, St. Louis, Mo.; E. N. Freshman & Co., Cincinnati; Geo. P. Rowell & Co., New York; S. M. Pettengill & Co., New York; Bates & Locke, New York; Wm. J. Carlton, New York; S. M. Pettengill & Co., Boston; T. C. Evans, Boston; N. W. Ayer & Son, Philadelphia; W. H. Dismore, Rochester, N. Y.; C. A. Cook & Co., Chicago; Geo. W. Rust & Co., Chicago; Chas. G. Foster, Chicago; G. W. Sharp, Chicago; Edwin Allen, Cincinnati; S. H. Parvin, Cincinnati; St. Louis Advertising & Pub. Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Alex. Charles, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

## TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.

One Copy, Weekly, for one year, \$2.00  
One Copy, Weekly, for six months, \$1.00  
Three Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$5.00  
Five Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$8.00  
Ten Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$15.00

## RATES OF ADVERTISING.

One insertion, per line, (nonpareil) 20 cents  
One month, " " " " 1.50  
Three months, " " " " 4.00  
One Year, " " " " 10.00

## STATE AND DISTRICT FAIRS FOR 1876.

STATE.	PLACE.	DATE.
Illinois	Ottawa	Sept. 4-9
Connecticut	Hartford	Sept. 12-15
California	Sacramento	Sept. 18-23
Chicago Ind'l Expo'n	Chicago	Sept. 6-Oct. 9
Central Ohio	Mechanicsburg	Sept. 19-22
Central Ohio	Orville	Oct. 11-14
Des Moines, Iowa	Burlington	Sept. 19-22
Indiana	Indianapolis	Sept. 25-Oct. 18
Iowa	Cedar Rapids	Sept. 11-15
Michigan	Lansing	Sept. 18-22
Kansas City Exposition	Kansas City Mo.	Sept. 18-23
Minnesota	St. Paul	Oct. 3-6
Nebraska	Lincoln	Sept. 25-29
New Jersey	Hartford	Sept. 18-22
New York	Albany	Sept. 11-15
Northern Ohio	Cleveland	Sept. 11-15
Northeastern Iowa	Dubuque	Sept. 4-8
Ohio	Columbus	Sept. 4-8
Oregon	Salem	Oct. 9-15
Southern Ohio	Dayton	Sept. 25-29
St. Louis Ag'l & Mech'l	St. Louis	Oct. 2-7
St. Joseph Ag'l Expo'n	St. Joseph	Sept. 25-29
Texas	Houston	May 2
Virginia	Richmond	Oct. 31 to Nov. 3
W. Virginia Central Ag'l	Charlottesville	Sept. 19-21
Wisconsin	Milwaukee	Sept. 11-16
Western Ohio	Piqua	Oct. 3-6

## THE INSTITUTE NORMAL SCHOOL AT TOPEKA.

This very excellent arrangement for the benefit of teachers, is something new in the way of a Teachers' institute, as it is going to extend the term four weeks, and has employed an experienced tutor, Prof. Ripley, to teach them how to teach, according to the most improved and newest methods.

Teachers who cannot afford to attend one of our Normal Schools, and are isolated from well conducted city schools, could not do better than to attend the August Institute in Topeka. There are present now, about 75 teachers. The managers are the energetic County Superintendents as follows: W. E. Richey, Superintendent Wabunee; Chas. Smith, Superintendent Jefferson; Una Hebron, Superintendent Shawnee; E. C. Newton, Superintendent Osage; J. J. Hostutler, Superintendent Pottawatomie.

## OUR NEXT PAPER.

A letter or two from Penna. one from Ill. one from Washington Territory and a number from Kansas, will appear next week. "June Berry" from her pioneer home far out west in Kansas, sends us reminiscences of her trip last year in Europe. Our original matter will be rich and varied containing something of interest for every member of the household. Wet or dry, hot or cold, the old FARMER comes freighted with the labor of many minds and hearts and hands, every one hoping it may find a welcome in the homes of its patrons all over the great west.

## THE END OF THE LOTTERY BUSINESS.

Congress has at last passed an act which the President has signed, which thus becomes a law, preventing the United States Mails being used for the transmission of circulars and tickets of all lotteries, whether made legal by State law or not. Where the Post-office officials do their duty, this effectively puts a stop to this kind of swindling.

We still continue to hear occasionally from indignant patrons of the Topeka lottery swindle. The last is a man by the name of Chas. M. Boller, of Marion, Plymouth county, Mass., who sent our Topeka thieves \$183. He complains that none of those who stood by this outrageous Penitentiary swindle, as principals, officers or references, will answer his repeated letters, asking them to return his money or pay the prizes he drew.

We are asked to secure the collection of this claim. This we cannot do, as it is not our business, nor can any other person do it as the bogus bank, its officers, its deposits, etc., have all gone where the wood-bine etc., etc. To enable us to draw a practical and useful lesson for Mr. B's sake, we take the privilege of reminding him that an investment of \$2.00 in the FARMER for one year, would have saved to him \$180. Such is life however, hind sight wisdom seems to be most sought for although it is expensive.

We can cheerfully say to Mr. Boller, although it may not be the kind of consolation he is after, that the house breakers, the sneak thieves and the high-way robbers are all deserving of more leniency and more respect for the means they adopt to secure a living, than the thieves who carried on the swindle known as the Topeka Library Aid Association, and that he or some other philanthropist would do a public service by bringing them to justice.

This county has been visited with frequent rains for the past three weeks, and crops of all kinds are looking finely. Corn is certain to be a good crop and the small grain yield exceeded the expectation of many, some pieces of wheat turning out 30 bu. per acre and a few even better than that.—*Stockton News.*

Silkville, although not as lively as when the silk-worms were moulting and making their cocoons, is still in an active state. There are no drones in this hive and all find enough to do on the farm. The cheese factory is running at full blast, and Mr. Seares is busy superintending improvements on the farm.—*Ottawa Republican.*

## THE SUBSIDIARY SILVER BILL.

The Subsidiary Silver Coin Bill, that passed both houses of Congress, July 14th, does not as many imagine 'reinstates the silver dollar as a unit of value. It is intended to relieve the present want of trade for small change.

The first section provides that the Secretary of the Treasury may issue \$10,000,000 of silver coin in exchange for an equal amount of legal tender notes. Section two, provides that the trade dollar shall not hereafter, be a legal tender. Section three, provides that the silver coin and fractional currency outstanding, shall not at any time exceed \$50,000,000. It will be remembered that fractional silver coin is legal tender in sums not exceeding \$5.00.

The question in which the people are most interested, is whether the money gamblers of this country are to be permitted in their own interests, to change legislation upon this question, whenever it is to their advantage. Whatever may be the supplies of money in centres of trade and in the vaults of the banks, there can be no question of the fact that our manufactures are paralyzed and the general business of the country is in distress. The mortgages that plaster more than half the entire West, are proofs beyond dispute, that the people are suffering and need national legislation upon the money question, that will give confidence and relief. The sneer of the press that echoes the bullionists, wishes is, that lunatics upon the money question, desire printing presses set to work to give every man a hat full of money, is a contemptible subterfuge, unworthy a word of refutation. There is but one honest way to get money, and that is to earn it, and all that men who have advocated a National Currency have desired, is to secure to the country a currency which cannot be locked up in the few money centres of the country and subject to speculation at the expense of the manufactures and commercial interests of the country. It is desirable that confidence be restored and that millions of money to-day idle, be put to work thus securing prosperity to the country. The resources and possibilities of our country are almost beyond conception, and the fact that thousands and tens of thousands of idle men are to-day asking for labor, is due to legislation in the interest of those who hold bonds and loan money and at the expense of the people.

No fact has been more startling than that Congress could and did, at the dictate and in the interest of the moneyed powers, demonetize silver.

It requires no profound financial wisdom to note the plain and unmistakable tendency of legislation that seems to be over anxious in guarding the interests of the bondholders. Mr. Thurlow Weed, a sagacious and close observer of affairs, in a recent letter discussing silver as a lawful money, says:

"The government agreed to pay its creditors 'in coin,' i. e., silver or gold. The creditor lent his money upon this condition. Has either party a right to impair the contract? If silver instead of gold had appreciated, could the government for that reason have refused to pay its creditors in silver? And is the creditor, because we have more silver than was expected either by him or the government, at liberty to refuse it? The government should be held strictly to its obligation as 'nominatee' in the bond. But the creditor in demanding his 'pound of flesh' may not, at his peril, draw 'one drop of blood.' Let the government pay all it owes, and all that it agreed to pay to its creditors. I cannot, however, sympathize with those who are so fastidiously watchful of the interests of the bondholders, for I have failed to discover in that class of creditors, either at home or abroad, anything which entitles them to more consideration than the other and much larger class who receive for their labor depreciated paper. The former, by the forces which capital knows so well how to utilize, have been greatly favored. The large bondholders, foreign and domestic, paid less than par for securities which now bear a high premium. This was their privilege, but this does not give them, in justice or equity, the right to refuse silver and demand gold, because since the contract was entered into the manipulations of capital have depressed the former and appreciated the latter."

## KANSAS CITY EXPOSITION FOR 1876.

The greatest fair held west of St. Louis, is the Kansas City Exposition to which Kansas contributes not only as exhibitors but visitors quite as largely as Missouri. The management this year propose to make their Centennial Exposition one of unusual merit with many attractions not presented heretofore.

The premium list aggregates about \$20,000 and may be had by addressing the Secretary, Dan'l L. Hall, Esq., Kansas City, Mo. As Kansas will not hold a State fair this year our citizens will largely attend the Exposition at Kansas City. Among the premiums we find one of \$75.00 for best display of agricultural productions by Grange or Agricultural Society, etc., etc. \$25.00 for best display of grain from any one farm. \$75.00 for best display of fruits. \$100.00 for best display of flowers. \$25.00 for best display of vegetables. With correspondingly large premiums in classes.

The Woman's Department, this year, promises to be quite interesting, \$50.00 is offered for best display of ladies' fancy work by one exhibitor, and large premiums for all kinds of ladies' work, especially preserves, canned fruits, etc., etc.

The premiums for Live Stock, especially, sheep, hogs and cattle, are unusually large. We look upon this, as an enterprise in which Kansas are interested, and shall give further particulars hereafter. Meanwhile our readers who wish to examine the rules, regulations, and full premium list, can address the Secretary.

## AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS.

It is a very creditable literary Monthly for boys and girls.—*Arkansas Grange.*

## SOME PLAIN TALK ABOUT FEEDING HOGS FOR PROFIT.

There is a table that regularly travels the rounds of the press each year, which states that farmers who feed corn to hogs, have a return of ten cents per bushel on their corn for every cent per pound they get for their pork—that is, if they get four cents per pound for their pork, they are realizing forty cents per bushel for their corn. Upon this proposition it is very easy indeed, for the farmer to figure out a profitable business, but the misfortune is, that this accepted statement of a bushel of corn making ten pounds of pork, is about as accurate as to say that a three-year-old steer will weigh 1,500 pounds.

The common "hazel splitter" or "razor back" as he is more familiarly known, never produced profitable pork if the time, labor and crop of the farmer was considered of value, and hogs that are allowed to hunt their own living for eight months in the year, to be put up in a close pen and full fed on dry corn for sixty or ninety days, will not return to the farmer a profit based upon the statement mentioned above. To make good healthy, profitable pork, it is not only essential to have a good stock of hogs to begin with—such at least, as are in advance of the common scrub, and that they should have fair treatment, a variety of food and good water, is a common-sense fact to every farmer who has undertaken to grow pork for profit.

Summer pasture of clover or blue grass or some other equally nutritious green food will be found useful and necessary to profit. Occasionally salting, feeding once each week, sulphur or charcoal or soft bituminous coal with one or two ears of corn to each head per day, while on pasture, will prepare the stock for profitable fall and winter feeding.

We know of no domestic animals that give profitable return for carelessness in breeding or neglect in feeding. Hogs may be profitably grown for market throughout the corn growing belt, but the essential conditions heretofore mentioned, must be present.

## COMING TO HARD-PAN.

It has long since become a worn out truism, that the way to get rich is to expend less than we make, to live within our income. What is true of individuals is also true of the nation. The wild speculation era of prosperity has passed and contraction in expenses must keep pace with the rapid and ruinous tumbling in values of all kinds and the great decrease in trade. The people are responding to the demand for economy as is shown in the fact that our exports for the fiscal year of 1876, exceed by \$76,000,000 our imports. Whatever may be the blunders of legislation, the enforced economy of our people and the possibility of becoming self sustaining will in time remove the curse of being the debtor nation. The following statement is an encouraging one:

The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics furnishes the following statement of our imports and exports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876. (The figures for June not being all in, the figures for that month are partly estimated.)

Domestic exports of merchandise, specie	value	\$522,000,000
Foreign	value	14,000,000
Total	value	\$536,000,000
Imports of merchandise	value	460,000,000
Excess of exports over imports	value	\$76,000,000
In the previous year the imports exceeded the exports by over	value	19,000,000
A favorable showing in 1876 as compared with 1875 of about	value	95,000,000
Our exports of specie and bullion in 1876 exceeded the imports by	value	53,000,000

## THE CENTENNIAL COLLECTIONS FOR SHAWNEE COUNTY.

Our friend Ripley, who has consented to take charge of making up a collection for Shawnee county, is working industriously to give the county a creditable showing.

He urges that special efforts be made to make a good showing of grasses. What is wanted, are fine specimens put up in bundles of from four to six inches in diameter of Hungarian, millet and all the varieties of our wild prairie grasses.

These should be cured in the shade, carefully handled and lightly bound in three places. These specimens should all be delivered before the 15th, at the old stand of Morrison & Peck, north of the Post-office. In taking up your giant corn stalks, be careful to take them up by the roots.

Let every citizen who wants to see his county well represented, give this matter a little time. Prepare some choice specimens, put on them a card stating where grown and by whom collected. Bring along your best.

## THE NEW ERA SULKY PLOW.

In referring in a recent issue to an advertisement of the New Era Sulky Plow, we stated that the machine was made by the Bouton Plow Works. This firm is the same as the Chicago Plow Company, whose goods have so favorable a reputation in this State. Mr. N. S. Bouton, is now sole owner and proprietor, hence the misstatement. The Sulky Plow was described as possessed of independent adjustable axles. This is not the case, by a superior mechanism the whole machine is self-adjustable and only one simple lever is required in operating it. Mr. Bouton writes us our advertisement has attracted unusual attention from the farmers of this State.

## THE OBERSON SEED CLEANER.

The firm of E. H. Osborn & Co., of Quincy, Illinois, is one not new to our readers. The Seed Cleaner, patented and manufactured by this firm, has proven to be just what was represented to be. A large number are in use in Kansas, and all are giving satisfaction. Some new improvements are added on this year's machine. They are warranted to separate rye, chaff, cockle and other seeds from wheat, and to perfectly clean flax, oats, rye, barley, castor beans, etc., etc. We know the manufacturers to be reliable and honorable men to deal with.

## SHORT-HORN CATTLE SALE OF F. McHARDY &amp; CO.

We take the following from the *National Live Stock Journal* of Chicago, concerning the herd of F. McHardy & Co., which will be sold at Topeka, Kansas, September 6th. This sale is attracting the attention of the breeders and farmers of Kansas, and will present the best opportunity ever offered our citizens to secure first-class animals at a reasonable price.

"There does not appear to have been any over-straining to make up a list of strictly fashionable offerings. Fashion depends upon mere fancy, and many of the so-called fashionable bred animals are inferior in point of real pedigree, and still more inferior as breeders, to the average of those sorts that are not classed among fashion's random favorites. These gentlemen seem to have paid but slight attention to the requirements of mere fashion or fancy, and to have contented themselves with animals of good, fair breeding, and of such families as can be offered at the reasonable prices practical men and farmers are justified in paying. Of course, in a catalogue containing the pedigrees of about 50 head, the pedigrees of some show more careful and systematic breeding than others, but, as a general rule, we observe that the so-called objectionable crosses have been avoided—but few of the pedigrees showing anything that the most fastidious could object to. On the other hand, the list is not wanting in animals which, if subsequently crossed in fashionable lines, will bring as fashionable produce as any one need desire. Thus, there are an even half-dozen of Young Marys, descended from imp. Young Mary by Jupiter (2170), a sort that when our Kansas friends come to know them as well as other people know them, they will think very highly of. The Kentucky Red Rose is among the most fashionable and desirable of the catalogue, and, as a general rule, we observe that the requirements of mere fashion or fancy, and to have contented themselves with animals of good, fair breeding, and of such families as can be offered at the reasonable prices practical men and farmers are justified in paying. 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**THE SHEPHERD LADY.**  
—  
ELEANOR INGELOW'S LAST POEM.

Beyond the hills her voice is heard,  
She sings when light doth wane;  
"My longing heart is full of love,  
Nor shall my watch be vain.  
My shepherd lord, I see him not,  
But he will come again."

BY HENRY SEDLEY.

felt sure. Save his own, there was no express office within more than twenty miles. John Wilde had never been known to go further from his home than Boone's Bar. Derrin shrewdly inferred that all the gold that had far been dug on the Island remained on the

"I don't like the man, my dear," whispered Margaret to her husband, "and I don't like him to be so near the children at night."

sticking to your hands, flatten them half inch thick, and bake a nice brown on a griddle; turn them over when one side brown. Split and butter them, and send the table hot.

Screw Cutting, CORN SHELLING,  
Churning, Washing, Hay Cutting, Mowing,  
Chopping!! All on one Cabinet Lathe  
on Wheels. Price \$5 to \$50. \*  
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