

# THE KANSAS FARMER

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## THE KANSAS FARMER.

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### Correspondence.

#### Millet.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

The season for sowing millet will soon be at hand, and as there is some diversity of opinion about the value for hay of the German and small or common millet as we call it here, I thought I might benefit my brother farmers by giving them the experience of some of my neighbors and myself.

Both the German and common varieties of millet have been grown in this vicinity for several years, and with good success. And so far as I can learn of others, and judge by five years' experience, horses and cattle relish one as well as the other, and do as well on one as the other. But we do think the small or common is preferable for the following reasons:—

1st. It can be sown from the middle of May to the middle of June with almost a certainty of making a full crop, as it matures much sooner than the German millet.

2nd. It has smaller stems than the German, which stock mostly devour, while they universally leave the coarse stems of the German unaten.

3d. We always have rains here in June, which cause the common millet to seed well, but the German being of slower growth does not always seed well.

It was not that German millet seed sells much the highest, I don't think any would be sown any here. There is not above two per cent sown any way.

B. P. HANSEN,  
Arlington, Reno Co.

#### Things in Mitchell.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

During the month of March we had some very warm weather. On the last day mercury was 90 deg. above zero in the shade, and on April 3d it was 94 deg. and very dry. Our first rain this spring came April 3d, during the next three days we had the most rain that I ever saw fall here so early in the season, in such a short time. The ground is thoroughly soaked and small grain is doing remarkably well. Some pieces of both rye and wheat, that was sown, were nearly dead. Grass has started nicely, but needs the sun now. Has been cloudy and cold for three days. Froze a little yesterday and 1st night, but did not hurt the peaches. Trees are fairly covered with young fruit. There have been but little wheat or oats sown, but there will be a larger area sown to millet than usual. Much gardening has been done, and most potatoes have been planted and nearly all are mulching their potatoes.

Potato bugs have made their appearance already. Chinch bugs were flying very thick on the 1st of April. A great many farmers have burned off their grass to kill the bugs. Some corn has been planted, and others are very ready to plant. A good deal will be put in with listers, and others will clear off the cornstalks and plant without plowing. Teams are many of them in very poor condition to do much plowing. Corn is very high and money scarce. There will be a large amount of idle land this year. Quite a number of families have moved away to other parts. Some men have gone east or west to earn a living. Those who remain have the best prospect now, for a good crop that I have seen in several years.

But few are putting out trees this spring. I have over 600 seedling box elder trees set 4 feet by 8. I raised them myself, last year. They made a good growth for a dry season. Where they were not too thick they averaged two feet. In setting them I plowed a deep furrow where I wanted the row, and then used a hoe to set with. In this way we set 975 in one day, and dug them up with a spade.

The officers made it lively for the whiskyites in this county a short time ago. About 20 arrests were made. Each one paid \$100 and promised to abide by the law in future. The general health of people in this community is good at present.

Naomi, April 12. F. W. BAKER.

#### Improving Stock.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

I am glad to see that the farmers of Kansas are awakening up to see the necessity of improved blood in all kinds of stock, especially cattle, for it seems to me that cattle are the main dependence of the farmers of Kansas and that there is more money in grading them up by using Short-horn bulls in the herd, which will improve our native cattle both in milk and beef, especially the latter. Kansas is being fenced up so rapidly that range for our stock is getting very scarce and the people find out that they have to change to meet the new order of things; hence they find there is nothing better than improved or well bred stock.

With all fine stock I want a good pedigree. Not that a piece of paper—or pedigree, as we call it, makes the animal any better; but simply to show how the animal has been bred, or how many and what crosses have been made. Then a good animal descended from good animals with judicious crossing, or a good pedigree, as it is called, is what we all should strive for.

I cannot urge too strongly for the readers of the FARMER to buy directly from the breeders of the various kinds of live stock, rather than dealers, or more appropriately speculators in live stock. A good breeder knows all about his own stock and what is most likely to make good animals of their respective kinds even at an early age; and my advice is to buy as near home as possible, and buy of a reliable and successful breeder. It is not every one that attempts breeding fine stock that makes a success of it; or anything else for that matter; for some rush headlong into the business, and not finding it to be as they imagined, they give it up and sell off as fast as they can. Others, not having experience and judgment soon run the good qualities of the breed out, and you have frequently seen a man's stock of hogs run out

with the objections raised by some of your correspondents, and in fact any objection that can be raised to it. One of your correspondents says "cold in the northern states and fire everywhere are serious drawbacks." The Osage will not flourish in the extreme northern states, neither can it be controlled in the southern states. But we say in Missouri, Kansas or Nebraska, or states in the same latitude it can be trained as wanted with proper treatment. As to fires, we wonder if a prairie fire would not burn down any fence, and they would have to be rebuilt. But we are informed that a hedge fence may be burned down and it springs up better than ever. The Eureka hedge layer and tier meets a want long felt, as the process of laying and tying by hand has been tedious. One layer can do the work of a whole neighborhood. It cannot injure the hedge when used at the proper season of the year. We have seen nothing as yet that would cause us to change our fences and representations made in your paper four weeks ago. On the other hand we are daily strengthened in our position by the testimony of those who have had the experience and who have looked into the matter. We are aware that all the barbed wire dealers will talk it down, but we are satisfied that a thorough investigation of this matter will result in the adoption of the Osage hedge, and a saving to Kansas alone of many thousands of dollars.

Many might think we are interesting ourselves in the matter on account of the money in the seed, but at the present time we are selling good seed at \$5.00

I think that Texas cattle-men, as well as we, will see the folly of buying of these speculators, for all real nice fat young stock do not come up to expectation when matured.

It is not safe to expect a calf to make a good animal when matured unless its ancestors are good animals even if they are pedigreed animals.

Carbondale. M. WATKINS.

#### What the Matter Is.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

I have noticed several articles in your paper on political management, especially in regard to lobbies and sending farmers to the legislature. I have had at least forty-five years experience in politics in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Kansas, all together. Have attended a goodly number of conventions and have almost uniformly found the farmers so divided among themselves that it has been impossible for them to accomplish anything satisfactory as to themselves. And now for the cause of this. The farmers have had little or no consultation, and every locality has its own notion as to what it desires, and determines to yield nothing so far as they have their own notions of what is to be done, and adhere doggedly to the same until they have lost everything they desired to accomplish.

In the town where the people have ample time and opportunity for consultation, understand each other well, and consequently their plans are well laid. They encourage the various localities to stick to their candidates this time; and they will be sure to fetch them. In this way the towns, by uniting with one locality or more defeat the farmers' candidates, one after another, until the towns or cities have obtained all they desired; and the farmers go home cursing the towns or cities. I have seen this done frequently until the cities become alarmed for the success of the ticket and so nominate a man or two in the country. Now it does not follow that the farmers are not smart naturally, but as has been said before, they have had no consultation with the several localities of the county or district, and consequently no concert of action. Now, where is the farmer or farmers who are going to visit the various localities and organize a concert of action? Until they do that I think they have no cause for complaint. That is really what is the matter with the farmers "you bet."

Muscotah, April 14. H. S. HEATH.

#### Hedge Fencing.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

We notice the articles on hedge fencing in the last issue of the FARMER, and are pleased to see the attention given to this matter, as we consider there is no question that is of more importance to the land owners in the west. We are satisfied that the more this matter is ventilated the more money will be saved in fencing, the more the farmers will be convinced that in a climate like Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska, where the osage orange can be controlled and trained to grow as it is wanted, a country virtually made for such a fence, that is, what they want. Show us a hedge fence in either of these states that is a failure and we guarantee to give good reason for it, and that the fault was in the party who put it out. What we claim is that if it is put in deep enough, layered, twined and trimmed properly that it will not take enough strength from the ground to cause any damage, that it will make an effective fence that will turn all kinds of stock, that it will beautify and enhance the value of the farm more than any other, that the first cost would not be more than one-sixth to one-fourth as much as any other fence, and even finished at the end of 3 to 4 years a perfect fence and all the work hired done would not cost more than half as much as any other fence. We are talking now about perfect hedge, wire and board fences, not make shift fences such as your correspondent D. S. A. talks about in last week's FARMER. The great trouble has been that most of the hedge fences have not been put in properly and no attention paid to them afterwards, at least not the proper attention. Where they have not been planted deep enough and plowed wide and deep after the hedge got started the roots would run near the surface and when plowed would be cut and shoots spring up, thus scattering it; and when allowed to grow at will to small trees they would take strength from the ground, roots would spread around, no plowing or dwarfing had been done, no attention had been given to re-setting when a plant had missed, the stock could run through here and there, and no account and a nuisance generally. To those planting and caring for a hedge we will send directions prepared by one of the largest and most successful hedge growers in this section of the country, which if followed out will do away

per bushel, or less than cost, and furnish directions for sprouting which is done mostly in the months of April and May. TRUMBULL, REYNOLDS & ALLEN, Kansas City, Mo.

#### Eggs by Express Only.

To the Editor of the Kansas Farmer:

I take this method of answering a large correspondence in regard to the how to get eggs. There is only one way that I can send eggs so they will hatch and that is by express. I cannot send eggs by telegraph or telephone nor by the United States mail. I have had frequent letters asking if I cannot send eggs by mail. Even if eggs were mailable matter it would not do to send them in that shape for the rough handling they would receive would forever spoil them for hatching. My method of packing and shipping eggs has proved entirely satisfactory to my customers and I have the first one yet to hear from that has had a single broken egg. I use new, light elm splint baskets, and pack the eggs in some light material such as corn chaff, cut hay, or straw, with a good strong piece of cotton cloth firmly fastened over the top. This makes a light and neat package and one that the express messenger will handle with delicacy. I had a sad experience in the egg line last season. I ordered a sitting of eggs from a noted breeder, way down east, in Connecticut. Paid a big price and expected great results. But all is vanity and foolishness to send money to a man that does not know any better than to send eggs packed in a box, as this noted breeder did. It makes me laugh to think what fun the many express messengers had through whose hands the box passed, giving it a toss from one to the other, and perhaps at last giving it a final sling to the other end of the car. They do not use a basket in this way. It is just as easy for them to take it by the handle and put it where they want it. "Well, did the eggs you received hatch?" No. Nor did the second lot which I ordered from noted breeder No. 2, and with which I had the same disastrous result. There is no trouble to get eggs from almost any distance that will hatch as well as at home if they are properly packed, and in the style of baskets I have mentioned. The breeders import eggs from England, Scotland, and almost all countries and they hatch. For the last few years the American breeders have sent a great many eggs to Europe and they have hatched with good results. That eggs well packed and all in good condition will hatch after a journey of over two thousand miles has been proved, the great trouble is in the packing and the thing they are packed in.

F. E. MARSH,  
Manhattan, April, 1882.

#### Short Letters.

PRINCETON, April 15. Easter is past and gone, and the storms which generally precede and succeed it. Are having beautiful weather now. Oats sown and up, looking well, flax all sown, corn nearly all planted, a splendid rain about a week ago, which was an abundant supply of fruit this season. The prairie is beautifully green, and stock of all kinds are living on the range. Stock is generally looking well, some horses looking thin on account of the scarcity of feed

and hard work, no diseases among cattle or horses in the vicinity. The ground is in fine condition for planting corn, farmers are anticipating a large crop this season, and are feeling quite jubilant over it. Wheat looks well. Chinch bugs are thick in the old grass, and by burning it a great many are destroyed.

A. M. G.  
SMITHTON, Mar 28. Spring has again opened, which gladdens the hearts of many farmers who are out of feed. Cattle are lying in large numbers. They say at soldier City they get from 18 to 20 hides per week. The last snow storm was hard on stock. Last Monday and Tuesday were terrible days. Such a storm of wind and dust we seldom see and would be glad to see no more such. A great amount of real estate changed hands without the consent of the owners. Wheat looks well, oat-sowing in progress; hogs all sold; hay gone and not much grass yet.

R. J. TOLIN.  
MASON, Gray Co., April 13. Stock of all kinds doing finely. All busy plowing and some have planted sorghum. We have had two hard frosts that have killed all the wild fruit, I fear. S. P. WOOD.

Sedgwick county, April 11. Harvest will be here before corn planting is done in parts of Ill, Mo, and Iowa, unless sooner done than usual. And we will surely have a good yield and quality of wheat, and I wish to see the most made of it possible. I thought I would say a few words and you can use your pleasure in accepting or rejecting. First I prefer to head my grain, letting it get ripe and cut it very short except two or three loads for topping off the rick. Make a good bottom of old straw or hay to build on, and before you begin get some ducking and make stack or rick covers that will be in two strips of four or six feet wide if you wish it; and make good eyelets in each edge or sew on leather loops about thirty inches apart, and when you finish a rick put on your cover, bringing the loop edges together, lacking a foot or near that. The opening at top lets the wind, when it's blowing, escape without disturbing the covers, and the space will not let water enough in to do any damage. A covering thirty feet long by eight wide will protect two hundred or more bushels of grain, if headed short, and will bring five cts more on the bushel when you come to sell, to say nothing

about your being able to thresh the grain at any time you may elect, and to be able to go on with the threshing when the good woman has prepared for it is worth the cost of covers a second time; and five cts per bushel on the grain they protect will pay first cost. All this for one crop. Your covers will last many years if taken care of properly. If all grain stacks in Kansas last year had been covered they could have been threshed in one-third or less time, to say nothing of the enhanced value to the growers.

J. C. H. SWANN.

GRAINFIELD, April 12. As I have recently emigrated to this state, and feel like joining the fraternity of farmers, I naturally incline to such literature as the KANSAS FARMER sends out to the world. We, in Western Kansas, have not a very good record as farmers, the past two years the terrible drought held us spell bound. We are now planning our work differently, making agriculture a secondary pursuit—stock the leading, and profitable. Creameries are being started in our county, and butter is commanding a good price. We challenge any state in the union, or any country in the world to compete with our good butter makers of this part of Kansas! This may seem preposterous, but we mean just what we say. We have lived in Illinois, Wisconsin and New York, have eaten of the best butter of those states, and I repeat without fear of successful contradiction, that the butter produced from the buffalo grass in this part of Kansas, is the greatest altitude considered, out ranks any butter made in Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin or anywhere else! One of our best butter makers realized 40c for his butter in Denver during the past fall and winter. Butter making is fast approaching a science. Good butter makers are few! Let the distinction be made at once between the good and poor butter maker—patronize only the good. Let the poor butter makers come to terms and be taught how to make the article, that when we take our butter to the store and demand the price above the poor article, the merchants may not see the difference as they now do and say, "I cannot make any difference or I shall affront my customers!" I stop, or I may create a sensation in the rural districts.

GRANGER

Sedgwick Co., April 18. I will drop a line for the benefit of those who may chance to have stock get loose and stray off. To such the first thing to be considered is, what direction the wind was coming from at the time of their leaving, unless it was raining. Stock always travel against the wind if left to themselves, and will change their course as the wind does. I have had considerable experience in new countries in hunting stock, and afterwards learned they were successful, if at all, in taking the advice. Shall I tell the host of readers of your good journal that the coming summer will not average in heat the past one by ten to fifteen degrees? I have every reason to believe that only occasional hot days will come, as did the cold ones of the past winter. Notice and see if I am correct.

J. C. H. SWANN.

FENWICK, Republic Co., April 11. Farmers are busy plowing and planting. I think they are at least 40 days in advance of last year with their work. From first to seventh we had a total of 5 inches of rain which thoroughly soaked the ground. It is barely dry enough for planting. Mercury this morning in-

dicated freezing point which will I think curtail our fine fruit prospect. Growing crops look well. General health in man and beast good. Considerable land changing hands at low prices. Acreage of corn will I think be increased considerably over last year. Spring wheat diminished. The demand for stock is in excess of supply.

CARM, Pratt Co., April 17. Since I wrote you last we have had all kinds of weather. Beautiful spring, pleasant summer and, well, pretty snug winter. Ice formed nearly 1/2 inch thick April 11, and on the 12th at noon the ice had not disappeared, although the day was clear. I was going to have some early potatoes, they were up nicely, but now they are as black as you please; some of the chickens hearted say the wheat is ruined also, but your humble servant cannot see it that way. To be cold enough to kill wheat I should think it would need to be cold enough to kill weeches, which it has not done, for I have some growing nicely, notwithstanding the freeze. Farmers are generally in good spirits. Everything they have to sell brings good prices. Corn is worth 70c in loka; cattle are way up in price, and as a general thing doing well. As to horses, I hear no complaint since pinkeye left. Sheep and hogs are also good property in this part of Kansas. If everything turns out as well as it now promises to do, Pratt county will come to the front next fall.

D. G. BENTON.

### Miscellaneous.

#### Sales of Short-Horns, Herefords and Polled Cattle.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

M. R. Platt made the following sales at Kansas City, Mo., April 18 and 19. A large number were present and Kansas got a good proportion. The class of short-horns was good and sold at fair prices. The Herefords and Polled cattle attracted considerable attention. A few grades were also sold. The following is the result of the sale:

SHORT HORNS  
Dyke Creek Beauty, E. C. Simmons, Salina, Neb., \$180  
Brunnette 10, L. B. Hargrove, Monrovia, Kas., 125  
Susan Prince, do 110  
Red Rose of Moresley, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 150  
Mary Blye, A. Love, Hector, Kas., 145  
Sir Charles, J. B. James, Hector, Kas., 160  
May Lass, J. C. Clark, Lathrop, Mo., 105  
Mary Jane, Cooper & Slough, Abilene, Kas., 85  
Francisco, Wm. Carter, Belle Plaine, Kas., 190  
Red Rose, H. C. Childs, Mayview, Mo., 155  
Abraham, A. Love, Hector, Kas., 145  
Rose 5th, J. J. Davis, Everett, Kas., 215  
Rose Powell, Mr. Cartwright, Columbia, Mo., 120  
Zelle of Kaw 2d, Wm. Carter, Belle Plaine, 100  
Lady Goodness 6th, J. J. Davis, Everett, Kas., 205  
Waterloo Goodness, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 150  
Belina 4th, L. B. Hargrove, Monrovia, Kas., 110  
Kate Dunn, E. C. Simmons, Salina, Neb., 105  
Belle Howard, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 115  
Col Howard, F. H. Strickler, Solomon, Kas., 85  
Red Eye 3d, Cooper & Slough, Abilene, Kas., 85  
Lady Oneida, Col. H. Childs, Mayview, Mo., 170  
Col Ward, Wm. Carter, Belle Plaine, Kas., 90  
Fair Rachel, J. B. Stanley, Neodesha, Kas., 90  
Laura Temple, L. B. Hargrove, Monrovia, Kas., 115  
Jessamine of Gonard, A. Love, Hector, Kas., 85  
Sam, F. T. Allen, Neodesha, Kas., 75  
Rosette, W. Carter, Belle Plaine, Kas., 135  
Rosette 2d, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 160  
Kate, A. Love, Hector, Kas., 90  
Mary Powell, do 90  
Ettie Cass, do 150  
Ninitta, W. Carter, Belle Plaine, Kas., 110  
Lollette 2d, C. B. Stanley, Neodesha, Kas., 85  
Loto 6th, L. B. Hargrove, Monrovia, Kas., 95  
Louan Blye 2d, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 120  
Allie Adair, W. Carter, Belle Plaine, Kas., 105  
Lillie 2d, W. H. Hurd, Sedgwick, Kas., 150  
Willis, J. B. Stanley, Neodesha, Kas., 95  
Lucy 2d, L. B. Hargrove, Monrovia, Kas., 135  
Kathrina, W. Carter, Belle Plaine, Kas., 100  
Rosy Buckner, F. McHardy, Emporia, Kas., 110  
Nina 5th, W. H. Hurd, Sedgwick, Kas., 130  
Famosa 6th, M. James, Kansas City, 95  
Gracie 3d, F. J. Jones, Strodg City, Kas., 140  
Col White, B. F. Morgan, Salem, Neb., 135  
Sharon Belle's Oxford, W. Carter, Belle Plaine, 210  
Duke of Dyke Creek, C. M. Dickinson, Edgerton, Kas., 155

Col Bass, Col. Childs, Fairview, Mo., 120  
Honest George, Cooper & Slough, Abilene, Kas., 85  
William, do 70  
Jim Sheldon, N. B. Stockton, New Mexico, 95  
Jim Blye, W. H. Russell, — Kas., 85  
Moses, Capt. Payne, Kansas City, 45  
John, Cooper & Slough, Abilene, Kas., 65  
Andy, M. D. Stockton, New Mexico, 90  
Lumber Jim, Cooper & Slough, Abilene, Kas., 75  
Alexander, T. C. Marshall, Gardner, Kas., 100  
Aldridge, Barrington, F. McHardy, Emporia, 90  
Master John, W. H. Jones, Fairview, Mo., 135  
Mary Buckner, T. F. Dickinson, Merrick, Kas., 125  
Hopeful, W. H. Hurd, Sedgwick, Kas., 50

HEREFORDS  
Duke of Connaught, J. G. Stone, Strong, Kas., 355  
Euko, Abe Johnson, Kansas City, 260  
Wistful, T. F. Dickinson, Merrick, Kas., 245  
Necklace, W. Libbey, Ottawa, Ill., 355  
Lottie, H. Coppock, Westport, Mo., 380  
Fred, W. Libbey, Ottawa, Ill., 360  
Pearl Necklace, do 355  
Julia, do 145  
Randolph, J. C. Clark, Lathrop, Mo., 260  
Rose A, H. Coppock, Westport, Mo., 250  
Daisy, do 290  
Jupiter, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 215  
3/4 bred yearling bull, F. McHardy, Emporia, 75

POLLED CATTLE  
King Jacob, G. M. Kellam, Topeka, \$680  
Galloway Boy, Abe Johnson, Kansas City, 385  
Aberdeen, do 360  
Uncle Joe, J. A. Funk, Paris, Mo., 450  
Uncle Sam, J. C. B. Hargis, Belton, Mo., 450  
Silver King, G. W. Peters, Wellington, Kas., 300  
John Brown, W. H. Jones, Agency, Mo., 355  
Gov. St. John, H. H. Davidson, Wellington, Kas., 245  
Jim Crow, B. B. Butler, Mo., 315  
Half bred bull, W. H. Henry, Sedgwick, Kas., 150



## The Stock Interest.

### Creameries—Their Origin and History.

There are three general classes of creameries—

a.—The two-product creamery, in which both butter and cheese are made from the same milk. This is the style of creamery more generally in use east of central Northern Illinois.

b.—The whole-cream creamery, answering to the old style butter factory, in which only butter is made, and the skimmed milk is returned to the dairyman for feeding purposes. Although this system was first popularized in northern New York, it is in more general use in the west, and is sometimes called the Iowa creamery system.

c.—The cream-gathering creamery, to which only cream is brought to be made into butter. This system is more especially adapted than the others to sparsely settled sections of country and small and remote dairies. The cream is collected by the creamery instead of being delivered by the dairymen as in the other systems, and the collectors travel over long routes from house to house measuring the cream and skimming it themselves.

The development of the creamery system was at first very slow but it has of late been very rapid. THE FIRST CREAMERIES were the depots of the market milkmen in the neighborhood of the larger cities where the surplus milk was set in deep narrow vessels to raise cream for market, the skimmed milk being either sold on the market or worked up into skim cheese according to circumstances. Whenever cream accumulated it was made into butter as in the creameries of to-day. These were appropriately named creameries, and this was the origin of the name.

Many of the best practices of the most modern creameries, and much of the most valuable apparatus of the present day were known to those pioneer creamery men.

The cheese factory system was inaugurated at a later day, but had a much more rapid growth. It was soon discovered, at least it was so claimed, that it was impossible under the new practice in cheese making to work all the fat of the milk into cheese, and, as skim-cheese had been a common dairy product from the earliest settlement of the country the part skimming of the milk in cheese factories became a very common occurrence, a good deal more common than was generally admitted. Taking a little cream led to taking more till the butter became an important part of the product, and, so, step by step, the TWO-PRODUCT CREAMERY practice was developed from the old cheese factory system, with an innocent attachment for making butter from just so much of the cream as could not be worked into the cheese.

When butter became the leading product the name creamery was appropriated and the new banner thrown to the breeze. Under this system the dairymen deliver his milk to the creamery and takes away his proportion of the whey. Of course these customs are in some cases modified, but such is the general rule. Many of these creameries are still operated upon the co-operative plan, so general with all the earlier cheese and butter factories, while some are run upon the more modern plan of buying the milk by the hundred pounds. A very great variety of "improved" apparatus has been introduced into the newer of these establishments, but a majority of them still use the old "Orange county creamery pails" for setting the milk and much of the old time cheese factory apparatus in that department. Only in the churns and butter workers has there been a very radical improvement in apparatus. They who have carefully investigated the matter believe there is quite as much profit in the use of the older and less expensive apparatus as in any of the newer.

THE WHOLE-CREAM SYSTEM differs from the former chiefly in the disposition made of the skimmed milk, which is returned to the dairyman to be fed to calves and swine, though in a few cases it is fed profitably to cows and horses. Near large cities and manufacturing centers considerable quantities of it are used for other purposes, but there is not enough of the demand for those outside purposes at present to be of any special account to the dairy interest at large. More pains to get all the cream from the milk is supposed to be taken in this system than in the other. The value attached to a little cream to enrich a good deal of skim cheese and the necessity for working the milk before it acquires too much age prevent so close skimming in the former case. But few of the creameries of this class are co-operative. Most of them are in the hands of men who buy the milk outright, many of whom are merchants in the dairy produce trade.

In the CREAM-GATHERING SYSTEM the milk is set by the dairymen at home in cans or pails—a style common to all the patrons of the same ceremony. In the side of the can is a pane of glass with a graduated scale, upon or beside it, for measuring the amount of cream by inspection alone. Some of the cans are a foot across at the top, in which case an inch in depth of cream is treated as the equivalent of a pound of butter; others are of the Orange county pattern and eight and a half inches in diameter when two inches in depth are taken for pound of butter; if only eight inches are used, two and a quarter inches in depth are taken. The milk has hitherto been set at various temperatures, although it was understood to be cooled; but most of the creameries have adopted the rule lately that it must be cooled below 60° and not below 50°. This system of measurement is found in practice to vary somewhat, but as the average results vary but very slightly, the great convenience of the system

more than compensates for any little discrepancies; and for those sections where other and better facilities for manufacturing and marketing the butter are wanting it is highly appreciated. By far the greater number of the new creameries in the West and Northwest are of this kind.

In regard to THE RELATIVE MERITS of the three systems there is much difference of opinion, and the subject has been discussed at the various dairy conventions with much spirit. But the various circumstances which affect men's judgments and the difficulties to be overcome, and ends to be reached in the establishing of a creamery, all have such an important bearing upon each individual case that it is difficult reaching any general conclusion upon so broad a question. The data upon which to found an unbiased opinion are altogether too meagre. The man who would decide that question for himself must study the position in the light of all the information he can obtain and then decide for himself. He ought to be expert in the business of taking testimony or he will be very liable to be led astray despite his best efforts. If men would acquire the habit of taking exact statements of what has been accomplished under this or that system with them to the conventions, or send them to the press, it would save a good deal of wrangling over mere opinions. That either of the systems is best under all circumstances is very doubtful. That each is better under some circumstances than either of the others is undoubtedly by most intelligent men who have given the matter careful attention.—Breeder's Live Stock Journal.

### Points in the Art of Breeding.

Mr. Howard, an English authority, whilst "recognizing the uncertainties attending the breeding of animals," is nevertheless "convinced that there are certain laws pertaining to the process, which, like all of nature's operations, are fixed and unalterable, and which cannot be disregarded with impunity. From my own observation, from conversations with the late Mr. McCombie, and comparing notes with other breeders, I have come to the conclusion that the following cardinal points in the art of breeding have been fairly established: 1. That from the male parent are mainly derived the external structure, configuration, and outward characteristics—the locomotive peculiarities, inclusive. 2. From the female parent are derived the internal structure, the vital organs, and in a much greater proportion than from the male, the constitution, temper and habits. 3. That the purer the race of the parent, the more certain there is of transmitting its qualities to the offspring. Say two animals are mated, if one is of purer descent than the other, he or she will exercise the most influence in stamping the character of the progeny, particularly if the greater purity is on the side of the male—he apart from disturbing influences and causes, if of pure race, and descended from a stock of uniform color, stamps the color of the offspring. 4. That the influence of the male is not unfrequently protracted beyond the birth of the offspring of which he is the parent, and his mark is left upon subsequent progeny. 5. That the transmission of diseases of the vital organs is more certain if on the side of the female, and diseases of the joints if on the side of the male parent."

### Parasites in Sheep.

The parasite found in the lungs of sheep is known to zoologists as Strongylus bronchialis, Strongylus filaria, Filaria bronchialis, etc. It belongs to the class of nematoid, or threadlike worms. When full grown the males are about two inches in length, and the females three or four inches. In the spring the females are found full of ova, and the young worms within the egg appear sufficiently developed to maintain an independent existence. Unfortunately the complete natural history of the parasite is not understood. That in another stage of its life it infests some other animal or insect, or is to be found in the earth, or in water, or upon herbage, is considered probable, though in none of these situations has it yet been recognized. Strongyli are found in most of our domestic animals. Calves suffer as much, or even more, from their attacks, than sheep. Colts, pigs, goats, deer, dogs and rabbits have all been found infested by them. Since the latter part of the last century it has been known that the disease in poultry, called gapes, depended on thread-worms in the windpipe. Quails, meadow larks and many other birds are similarly affected, and even fish have been found infested with strongyli. Insects, such as crickets, grasshoppers and caterpillars, are preyed upon by parasite nematoid worms. The Gordius aquaticus, or hair-snake is supposed to pass one stage of its existence as a parasite within the bodies of the insects just named; another portion of its life it lives in mud or in water. Whether the changes of strongyli are similar to those of gordii, remains to be proved. If farmers were more frequently good naturalists, their peculiar opportunities for observation would enable them to solve many of these mysteries. In Great Britain and on the continent of Europe the idea prevails that the ova, or strongyli, are taken with food or drink in summer or autumn, and that sheep feeding on wet, springy or over-flowed lands, are more liable to be affected with these parasites. Until the changes of the worm are better understood it will be impossible for farmers to devise effective measures for the protection of their flocks from its ravages.

The proper treatment for sheep suffering from this affection should have regard to two points: First, to support the strength of the sheep; and second, to expel the parasites. To sustain the strength and vitality of the affected

sheep is very important, and for this purpose the most generous feed is better than medicine. To expel the worms, fumigation in a close room has been employed; the sheep is compelled for several minutes, to inhale the fumes of tar, burning sulphur, tobacco, or chlorine gas. This method is said to secure the expulsion of the worms in large quantities. A more convenient and equally effective treatment consists in the frequent administration of small doses of oil of turpentine. This article, given in large doses passes off by the bowels or the kidneys, and is not as effectual to remove lung worms as when administered in small and repeated doses, that will be eliminated by the respiratory apparatus, and so come directly in contact with the worms. Oil, or spirits of turpentine, as the article is usually called, is probably the best anthelmintic known, but it should be used with circumspection. If administered by force, and in the pure state, a few drops passing into the windpipe may occasion serious trouble; it is therefore better that it should be diluted with whisky, which converts it into an essence, or with linseed oil, which partly conceals its extreme pungency, and renders it less irritating to the throat. To remove lung worms from sheep, the dose of turpentine should never exceed a teaspoonful, and less will answer equally well if given daily for a week or more. A convenient form for the administration of turpentine to lambs, is to mix an ounce of the oil with half a pint of whisky, shake them together thoroughly, and give a tablespoonful once a day so long as necessary.—Dr. N. S. Townshend, in Ohio Agricultural Report.

## The Apiary.

### Artificial Swarming.

The season is rapidly approaching when the bee-keeper will wish to take every advantage to secure the early flow of honey. Many may have bees in box hives which they do not wish to transfer, either from want of time or timidity, or, perhaps, they may prefer to keep them in the boxes, and to run the swarms into frame hives. For this purpose we suggest the following methods of artificial swarming, which will be found preferable, we think, to natural swarming; as they are attended to with no risk, but little loss of time to the bee-keeper, and scarcely any interruption of work with the bees, as is always the case with natural swarming, occurring as it does, just at the time when time is most valuable with them: Select some bright, clear day, when the workers are busily engaged in the fields, remove the hive ten to twenty feet from the stand, and put in its stead a frame hive, with half or two-thirds its complement of frames filled with bright, clean combs or good foundation and division boards at the sides; turn the old hive bottom up, and invert an empty box over the open end; now blow in a little smoke from the lower end of the hive, and commence a series of sharp drumming or rapping on the sides of the hive with a small hammer or stick; do not drum hard enough to loosen the combs or start them to dripping; after rapping four or five minutes, cease for a minute, then resume again, and keep it up for five minutes longer, or until the bees have deserted the hive and clustered in the box, which is a pretty sure indication that the queen is with them. Now cover a sheet over the old hive, and empty the bees from the box on a sheet in front of the new hive on the old stand; watch them as they crawl up, to discover the queen; if she goes in, place the old box on a new stand and your work is accomplished.

If the bees to be operated with are in frame hives, remove the old hive to a distance, and place a new or empty one on the old stand, when the bees are working busily; lift the comb on which you find the queen from the old hive, destroy queen cells on it if any, and place in the centre of the new one, with the queen; fill in frames each side filled with clean combs or foundation, proportionate to the strength of the colony, and confine to the center of the hive with division boards; put on the blanket and hive cover; now take the frames one at a time from the old hive, and shake most of the bees off in front of the new hive, destroy all the queen cells in the old hive but the two best, or give them a laying queen after destroying or removing all the cells; put in an empty comb or frame of foundation in place of the one removed to the new hive, spread the blanket over or put on second story with sections or extracting combs, and place the hive on a new stand well removed from the old one. The above methods are usually an effectual cure for "swarming fever," and interferes but a few hours with work.

Another method which can be practiced, with good results, is to examine the colony threatening to swarm, remove all queen cells started, then remove the hive to the stand occupied by a very weak colony, and remove the weak colony to the stand formerly occupied by the strong colony. In strengthening and depleting in this manner, however, it is much safer to confine each queen on the surface of a comb in her respective hive for twenty-four hours, to protect her from the returning bees, which sometimes regard her as an intruder. For this purpose a cap from a Harris introducing cage will be found best.

In all cases where foundation or empty combs and division boards are used in dividing or artificial swarming, care must be used to spread the brood chamber and give additional combs or foundation as fast as the bees are ready for it. Use good foundation in preference to doubtful combs.—Am. Bee Journal.

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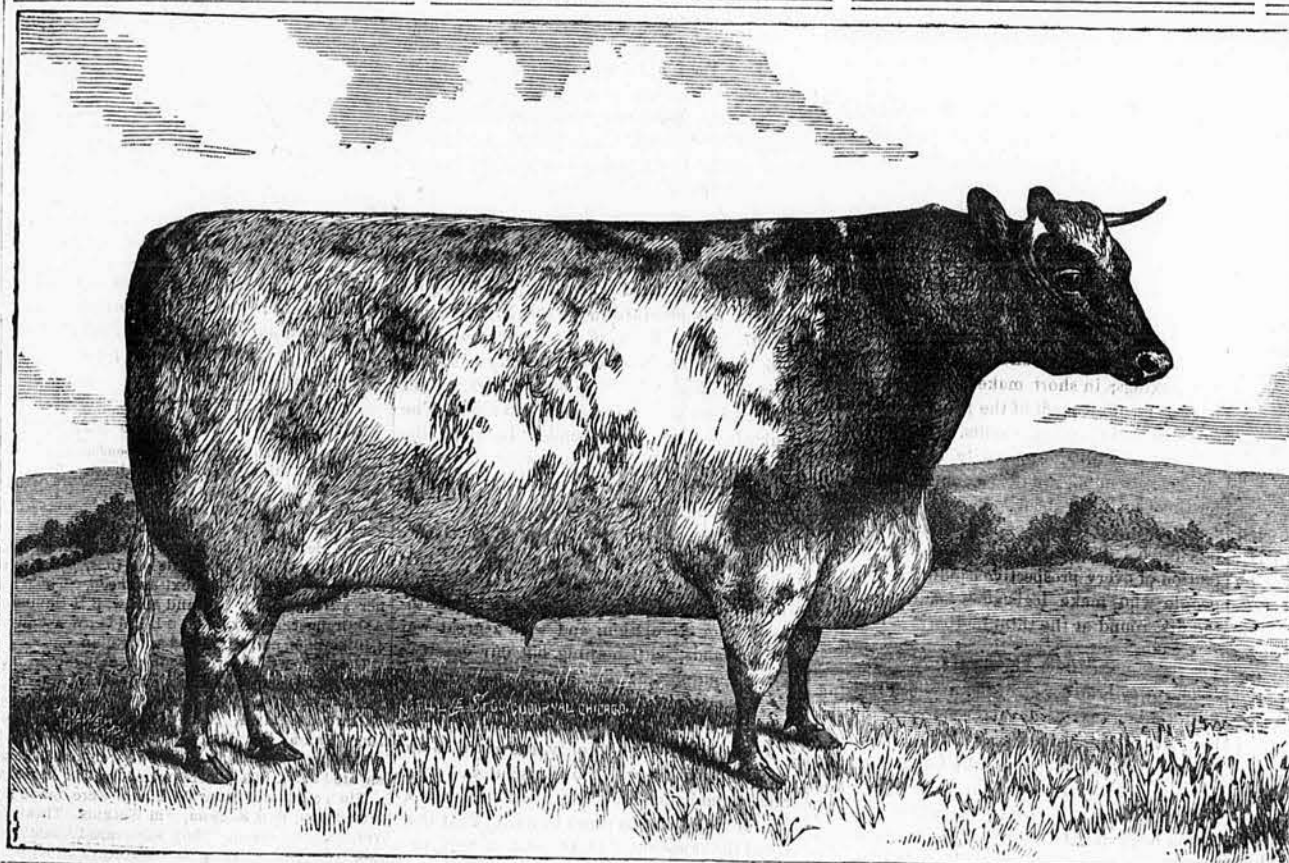
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The Kansas Farmer Company, Proprietors,  
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## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers should very carefully notice the label stamped upon the margin of their papers. All those marked with the number 18 expire with the next issue. The paper is at no time discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, and to avoid missing a number renewals should be made at once.

When subscribers send in their names, write plainly the name, postoffice, county and state.

When an address is to be changed from one postoffice to another, give the names of both offices, the one where the paper is now sent, and, also, the name of the one to which it is to be sent.

## Post Office Addresses.

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

H. A. Heath is a duly authorized traveling agent and correspondent of the KANSAS FARMER.

By the time this reaches our readers a great deal of Kansas wheat will be in head.

The poison of a bee sting may be forced out by pressing the barrel of a small key firmly for a minute over the wound.

The FARMER office was honored by a brief call from W. H. Sotham an Illinois veteran stockman, and his son, who is following in the way of his father.

Kansas is happy. Fruit prospects very good and wheat never looked better. The prairies are green, cattle are fattening up, and the young corn may be traced in the rows.

The Women's National Anti-polygamy Society, of Salt Lake City, have commenced the publication of a newspaper called the Standard. Sample copies sent for ten cents.

J. Bondurant's pigs have disease of the lungs. They need warm, dry, well ventilated quarters with plenty of fresh water. A little saltpeter in gruel is very good. Feed bran or other soft feed, no dry corn.

We are in receipt of an invitation to visit Bismarck during the great fair there next September. We expect to be present, and we warn the management in advance, that if they permit the grounds to be turned into an enormous beer garden and drinking area, they will hear thunder from this office.

White clover honey, when produced in good marketable shape, always demands a good price. If the bee-keeper has managed his apiary intelligently, he knows what he has to sell and what it is worth, and will not dispose of it until he can realize its full value. There is a time to "sell" as well as to produce.

Walter Brown & Co's wool circular of the 22d says that there has been but little change in the tone of the market during the past week, prices are not any higher than those quoted in their last report, but the previous decline had been sufficient to induce consumers of the washed fleeces, to enter the market for more liberal purchases than they have made for some time past.

The correspondents of the KANSAS FARMER have no reason to be ashamed of themselves. Every week we see their letters to the FARMER copied in papers in other parts of the country, and sometimes we receive letters inquiring for further light on subjects treated by our correspondents. Only last week we received a letter from Florida inclosing another letter sealed, with a request that it be forwarded, properly directed, to one of the FARMER writers.

The case of Mr. Knight's sheep mentioned in last week's FARMER, was presented to Dr. Borrow, veterinary surgeon, of Topeka, and he is of opinion that the disease is Liver Rot, caused, by incidents of the drive from New Mexico, and he recommends just what the editor did to Mr. Knight privately: high and dry pasture; plenty of nutritious food, and the following prescription, in three doses given one every second day: Sulphate of magnesia 8 oz, oil of eucalyptus 3 drops.

Maggie, of the Ladies' Department, wonders if the editor is not sorry he opened that department. No. He is not sorry. It is so seldom that women abuse a privilege that it may be said, in general terms, they never do. Already the department has done good; and as it becomes a fixed feature of the paper, and especially when we get a new dress and improve our appearance generally, that will be the most interesting part to many readers. We do not expect anything improper to be presented from any woman; and should anything irrelevant, or without interest to some one besides the writer, come in, why, the editor would have no hesitation about consigning it to that dreaded appendage of every well regulated printing office—the waste basket. The only thing he has feared is, diffidence on the part of writers. We believe in equal rights for men and women, and we want our female readers to

know that they, as well as the male readers have a friend in the KANSAS FARMER, where they may always have a hearing.

## Experiment Stations.

Several of the eastern states have established what are denominated Experiment Stations in the interest of agriculture. These same states, like Kansas, have agricultural colleges; but the experience of our eastern neighbors has been just what that of Kansas will be, namely: That while the colleges are doing all, and possibly more and better than was expected of them, they cannot do all that the people need to have done in the direction of practical agriculture, without extending their duties beyond the legitimate sphere of college work. The tilling of the soil is the chief occupation of men; and every year, with its multiplying millions of new workers to live on the same number of old acres, forces upon our attention the necessity of continued and varied experimenting with soils and plants and animals on scales large enough to be of practical benefit to husbandmen.

There is not a better conducted institution of the kind in the country than the Kansas State Agricultural college, and none are doing more good. Its work is showing better every year. Its usefulness must increase as the years pass. But our college cannot, as the eastern colleges cannot, extend its duties out into elaborate fields of experiment, unless its endowment and working forces are largely augmented. There is such a thing as weighting down even so good an institution as an agricultural college. In order to equip it with all that is needed for work outside its regular duties in manner to effect all that is needed, it would become too cumbersome for efficient work; and it is because of this fact in general that experiment stations are being established elsewhere.

With such institutions, endowed liberally with land and machinery, the colleges can work in harmony. They would then be left to their own legitimate field of labor, and could work out the best results. The planting of forests, and subsiding of fields, and underdraining of farms is hardly proper work for a college professor; and with our present limited facilities in these respects, too much, often, is expected of these men who are already overworked with efforts in their proper and narrower line. The people want experiments in their interest, and the college is bound to do all it can, and is doing all it can in that way; but it cannot do much, and ought not to be expected to do much outside of what properly belongs to the work of the college.

We called attention to this subject in outline some time ago, and now present it again with the encouragement given by the success of experiment stations in other places. There is not a state in the Union more in need of an experiment station than is Kansas. No state would be more benefitted. Our location with respect to surrounding climatic influences is exceptional and peculiar. The eastern and western, southern and northern portions of the state are all unlike one another. Crops and trees which thrive in one part are not successfully grown in other parts. In the east we have native timber; in the west no trees appear unless men plant them; spring wheat does well in the north, but is unknown in the south. Rain clouds are carried, often, across one-half or two-thirds of the state before reaching the earth. Our surface and sub soils also, are varied and exceptional. There are many reasons why extended experimenting in the interest of agriculture in Kansas would be of very great benefit to this state.

Our state is large enough for two of these stations; one west, one east on a central line. Let large tracts of lands be purchased with reference to their usefulness for the purpose intended. Let them be put in charge of competent commissioners selected because of their special fitness for the work to be done. Give them ample means and facilities for successful experimenting on a scale large enough to be effective; let them test soils and methods, crops and machinery; stock and meat and butter and egg makings; in short make a great state farm worked for the benefit of the people, and then, at stated periods report results.

These thoughts, necessarily crude, because our space is small, are thrown out to the people for them to think about. It will not belong until our next House of Representatives will be elected. This subject is well worthy the attention of every prospective candidate; and the people who make legislators ought to have the first round at the thinking part.

## Stock Interests.

The growth and expansion of stock raising in the western states of this country is surprising. A comprehensive history of stock interests in the United States during the last twenty-five years would astonish even the stock men. The writer of this well remembers when the first China hogs and Durham cattle were introduced into south-central Pennsylvania; and at that time a thoroughbred horse there was a whole show himself.

In those days every farmer had his pigs, sheep, cattle and horses, and fed them well. A good, a real good hog, at the age of two-and-a-half years, with his head off, weighed from 175 to 200 pounds. It had eaten as much corn as five of our modern 300-pounders at 15 months old.

Improvement in horses, cattle and sheep has been equally marked. People are learning not only that it is less expensive to raise good stock, but they are learning better methods of care and feeding. They find it cheaper in the end to pay large prices for good breeding animals than to pay small prices for scrubs. In the production of meat, milk, butter, cheese and

eggs, the best article is always the cheapest in the end to the producer. The average prices paid for short horn cattle in 1881, according to the Country Gentleman were:

Kentucky.....	\$191 98
Illinois.....	137 00
Missouri.....	101 17
Iowa.....	106 62
Michigan.....	99 93
Indiana.....	94 65
Kansas.....	112 82
Ohio.....	112 60
Massachusetts.....	98 87
Virginia.....	100 50
Pennsylvania.....	106 55
Minnesota.....	120 13
Canada.....	409 71

Since, and including 1870, the recorded sales of short horns, up to 1881, was 29,859, which realized \$8,268,576, being an average per head, for the entire twelve years, of \$277, nearly.

Within a few years past other breeds have come into prominence and they are selling at high figures. Herefords, Holsteins and others are spreading on their merits as fast as did the shorthorns. All this shows that our farmers and stockmen are improving their cattle. And the same enterprising spirit is seen all through the line of productive domestic animals. Horses, hogs, sheep, poultry and even dogs.

Besides the general interest in improving breeds, the dealers are continually increasing their herds and flocks until the meat-producing industry and its auxiliaries are becoming of vast proportions. THE KANSAS FARMER is increasing its facilities for gathering information relating to these vast interests, and will make them a special feature of the paper in the future.

## The National Bank Charters.

Under the National banking act a charter lives only twenty years. That was the life of the old United States bank law. Our first national banks were chartered in 1863, and right along every year since, until now there are about two thousand of them. Those chartered in 1863 will be compelled to wind up their business next year unless congress passes a new act or amends the old one so as to extend the time of expiration.

The subject is now before congress, and it is evident that the banks have not as many friends as they had nineteen years ago. A motion was made the other day in the House, to suspend the rules and take up the national bank bill out of its regular order. It required a two-thirds vote, and failing to receive that, the motion was lost. This shows at least two things: First, that a large number of congressmen don't regard the consideration of the banking bill of more importance than some other matters that are now before the national legislature; and second, that it is intended to discuss this measure thoroughly before it is acted upon finally.

We look upon both these phases as very favorable and healthy symptoms. It will give time to congress and also to the people to review the whole subject and consider it in all its bearings.

Banking in itself, is a proper, legitimate and useful branch of business. It grew out of the necessities of commerce, and its beginning dates far back in the past. The Athenian banker was an important personage. Money changers were before the Christian era. They were the original bankers. They supplied traders and travelers with coin for convenience in dealing with different tribes and nations. They gradually became useful agencies in affairs of state; and two centuries before Christ state banks were known. The lending of money for usury is of very ancient origin. Banks of issue and circulation were established later. Of this latter class the Bank of Venice, founded in 1171, was the first in Europe. It continued in existence about six hundred years. Its circulation was based on deposits of funds which could not be withdrawn, which fact gave it currency a value steady and permanent. The Bank of Venice was destroyed when the Venetian government was overthrown by the French army in 1797. The Bank of Geneva followed in 1345; then came the Bank of Barcelona in 1401; the Bank of Amsterdam in 1609, and other nations followed from time to time. The Bank of England was founded in 1694; the Bank of France in 1716, and within the last one hundred years banks have become common among all nations.

It was their value as fiscal agencies of government that operated most powerfully in establishing our national banks. What gold and silver coin there was in the country was withdrawn from circulation; and with a great war on our hands, with nothing but our credit to use for purchasing and paying material, it was believed that a system of national banking which should aid in giving the people a currency that would always be of value equal to our government notes, would be a useful and economical establishment. These banks were creatures of the troubled times of war. That they served the purposes of their creation well, perhaps not many persons doubt. But war measures are not always equally good in peace. Now, that we are nearly twenty years away from the war, with our overflowing treasury, and a good prospect for unbroken peace, it is well worthy consideration whether we cannot get along without the aid of these banks. Especially is this true when we reflect that the banks are becoming a source of danger as well as of support. Only two years ago some of them threatened conduct which would have given the people a great deal of trouble, had it been generally adopted. We don't need any of these destructive agencies now. The people need and demand a safe, uniform, and convenient currency, and the time is at hand when we may wisely and safely determine whether

the government cannot establish a currency based on the gold and silver of the people's pockets, and their mountains, without assistance from any power which may at any time swell into dangerous proportions.

## Gossip About Stock.

L. Chamberlain, Johnson county, sold fifteen steers at an average of \$101.60 apiece.

Messrs. Stafford and Weaver began the shearing of 6,500 head of sheep last week in Harper county.

Mr. Hartford, of Lyon county, who recently sold a lot of cattle for \$1170, says he realizes 40 per cent per annum on his investment in cattle.

Says the *Pan Handle*: J. A. Hullum sold recently to Alfred Rowe his outfit, consisting of 1,500 cattle, 230 head of stock horses and 58 saddle horses for the neat little sum of \$40,000.

Mr. Rowe also purchased within the past few days, the cattle, horses and ranch outfit of Charlie Wills, of the Wills and Dorrance range on Salt Fork, paying therefor \$56,000.

A herd of four hundred broke horses arrived at Dodge City last week.

Fred Taintor bought stock of Farris and McGinnis—some 600 head of heifers, at \$20 per head.

The Messrs. O'Connor, of St. Mary's, have branded their cattle and put them on the range.

The *Wichita Eagle* says: W. L. Mullen has had on exhibition a heifer in this city, which for size eclipses all that we have ever read or heard of. She is a creamy white, of perfect form and weighs three thousand pounds, and no one will ever regret going to see her. She measures seventeen feet from nose to tip of tail ten feet in the girth and stands seventeen hands high. She is simply a magnificent beauty. She was raised in Cowley county and is four years old. When lying down the tips of her horns are as high as a man's head. She will be taken to Chicago and other eastern cities, and will be a good advertisement for Kansas.

Coffeyville expects a largely increased cattle trade this year.

Wm. Crotty, of Coffey county, took his stock last fall, over into Butler county where he fed them during the winter, and lately sold them, the hogs at Kansas City for \$7.15 per cwt, the cattle at Chicago for \$7.65. The hogs averaged 304 pounds, the cattle 1500 pounds.

Andrew Storer, Osborne county, Kansas, says he sold \$1,000 worth of sheep, \$800 of wool last year, and his flock is worth more now than it was a year ago; besides that, he did as much farming as any of his neighbors.

Mr. A. Scott, near Wamego, has purchased 1200 sheep at Rochester, N. Y., for his Kansas farm.

The Edwards County Wool Grower's Association meets the 29th inst. at Kinsley.

The Hamiltons hold their Tenth Annual sale of Shorthorn cattle at Kansas City May 10 and 11. They say they will have the best lot of cattle they have ever offered for sale, and as they propose to keep supplying this breed of cattle in the future to Kansas stockmen, they propose to offer such bargains as will build up their trade hereafter.

Mambrino King, said to be the finest horse in the world, was sold a few days ago at Lexington, Ky, to C. J. Hamlin, of Buffalo.

At Captain Kidd's horse sale, at Lexington, Ky, the average for 131 head was \$276.

The Solomon Valley Wool Grower's Association will hold their annual shearing festival at J. M. Venon's grove two and one-fourth miles east of Asherville, Mitchell county Kansas, and two miles north of Brittsville station, May 11th, 1881. The following program will be observed: 9 to 10, entering and weighing show sheep; 10 to 12 shearing show sheep; 12 to 1, dinner; 1 to 2, speaking and music; 2 to 3, shearing race; 3 to 4, judges' report.

We are compelled to omit two editorial articles this week: Books for Farmers; Quarterly Report of State Board of Agriculture; and a good letter from Reno county; but they will appear next week.

## Arkansas Valley Sheep Shearing.

[From our special correspondent.] Last week this association held their annual shearing at Wichita. The Arkansas Valley Wool Growers' Association has a membership of fifty, representing 30,000 sheep. David Fox, President, and Julius Jinkerman, Secretary. There are 3000 Gotswolds, 10,000 thoroughbred and high grade merinos, the balance Missouri, Colorado and Mexican sheep. The largest herds are owned by Fox and Askew, B. H. Hammond, A. J. Granger, A. Alexander, S. L. Riddle, W. A. Ransom, J. Jinkerman, and Kirkwood and Rutan.

The sheep entered were young thoroughbred merino or cotswold. Fourteen merinos were entered by Fox & Askew, W. C. Woodman, W. C. Little, J. Zody, Kirkwood & Rutan. Nearly all of these were yearlings, Kansas raised. The best ram weighed 114 lbs, and sheared 21½ lbs. Best ewe weighed 81 lbs and sheared 18 lbs. They were owned by Fox & Askew.

Nine entries of cotswold sheep were made by J. Jinkerman, W. H. Ransom, Wm. Watkins. These were very superior sheep. They were mostly lambs and two year olds. They made an average of about 185 lbs each, with an average fleece of 15 lbs.

Geo. Wilson was awarded the prize for best shearing.

This makes a good showing for Sedgewick county, showing that the sheep industry is booming in the Arkansas Valley. Quite a number of men from other states are here looking up a location to go into the sheep business.

## A Visit to the State Farm.

[From our Special Correspondent.] Through the courtesy of Prof. Shelton, your correspondent was enabled to visit the farm, see the stock, and learn other facts regarding the State Farm.

I found everything going on in an industrious and systematic manner. The boys were busy in the shops and on the farm; and everything was being utilized for the best interests of the farm. The stock are looking well and have been on pasture for some time.

## The college herd of cattle numbers twenty short-

horns, five Jerseys, two Polled Angus and two Gallows. The shorthorn herd consists of the noted Bell Bates family of Fidgets and Young Marys of the Grace Young branch. The Angus pair are very attractive; the bull is one of the finest that I have seen in the west. He was bred by the noted Scotch breeder, Thos. Ferguson, of Kinnochry.

The swine are of the Berkshire and Essex breed.

The college farm consists of 271 acres of upland prairie and is to be occupied this season with the following crops: experimental forestry, containing thirty varieties of trees, 7 acres; orchard and small fruits, 25 acres; lawns and ornamental grounds, 15; tame grass meadows, orchard grass, clover and alfalfa, 15 acres; corn, 25 acres; winter wheat, 10 acres; oats, 18 acres; millet, 20 acres; and experimental wheat, corn and other grains, 5 acres. Of experimental wheat they have 86 varieties in cultivation. The remaining 116 acres of the farm is broken bluf land and only fit for pasture purposes. The crops are looking well. The tame grasses are half-knee high and have furnished the best of pasture since the first of April.

With tame grasses they have verified their statements in regard to the successful culture of certain varieties. The experimental operations are to be greatly enlarged this year, especially with tame grasses and clovers.

This term they have 309 students, 221 males and 88 females. 52 counties of this state are represented, besides students from twelve other states.

In a future article we shall give a description of the farm, buildings results obtained, objects of the institution, and other items of general interest.

The college is doing good, efficient work, and is one of the most necessary institutions in the state. No state in the union has need of such an institution more than Kansas and it is a fact that our State Agricultural College at Manhattan stands second to none as a benefit to the state.

HEATH.

## This, That and the Other.

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Lawrence, Kas., June 6th, 1881.  
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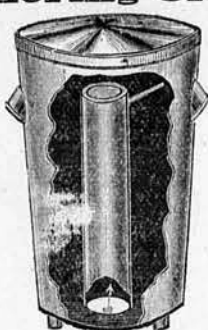
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