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A Manual on Silk Raising.

BY REV. JNO. SCOTFORD, LOUISVILLE, KAS.

Prepared Expressly for the Kansas Farmer.

CHAPTER V.

POINTS TO BE OBSERVED IN GATHERING AND ASSORTING THE COCOONS, ETC.

Time must be given after the last worm has spun his cocoon, for the chrysalis to form, this will take from six to eight days. It is easy, however, to learn if the last up has been transformed. This is done by shaking the cocoons, or a few of them, if they give a dull sound, the transformation is completed.

You will then remove the ladders by shoving them at the bottom, being careful not to injure the cocoons that may be found near or in proximity to the top of the ladder. They should be carefully examined to see if there are any stained or spotted ones; if so they must be removed at once, and placed by themselves, lest they stain or spoil the perfect ones.

Then the clean ones are taken off one by one, neatly, the firm or compact ones should be placed by themselves, and the soft ones by themselves. These latter if mixed with others would be crushed, and so stained and spoiled. This precaution is necessary, especially when the cocoons are to be shipped. When the baskets are full in which they are placed, they should be carefully weighed and weight noted, and then spread out in the boxes. They need to be handled with care, and not heaped too thick, not over six or seven inches.

The next step is to select the finest ones for seed for the next year. To do this select the strongest and most elegantly shaped, and those whose thread is the finest; if white, take them of the purest white, if yellow, give the preference to the straw colored.

No one can tell with certainty which are males and which are female cocoons; though it is generally supposed that the male cocoons are smaller and sharper at one end. It may be observed that whether you try to select or pick them out at random, there will always be nearly an equal number of both sexes.

In selecting the number of cocoons you need for seed, you will need from twelve to thirteen ounces of eggs, unless the males are in excess of the females. One hundred females will give 40,000 eggs; and if these eggs come out well they will produce 130 pounds of silk.

When you have selected the cocoons for seed, the balance should at once be prepared for market or for reeling. To do this, you will need to stifle or kill the chrysalis, to prevent its becoming a miller, and so spoiling the cocoon for reeling.

TO STIFLE THE CHRYSALIDES.

There are several ways in which this can be done, as follows:

1st. Where there are large ovens such as bakers use, put your cocoons in broad shallow baskets; cover them with some old clothes, and after the bread is taken out, fill the oven with these baskets; after half an hour, remove them from the baskets to the floor, and cover them with blankets to stiffen them, and after a few hours, dry them on shelves, after which they can be examined and assorted.

2nd. The surest way to do it is by steam; for this purpose, have a very tight box made like a kind of wardrobe, arranged with shelves one above another. On these shelves place your cocoons; say in the boxes the worms were reared in. When your box is full, seal it hermetically and let on a current of steam for ten minutes; let them remain ten minutes more, when the steam has done its deadly work, then dry them in the sun.

Probably the cheapest way to stifle the chrysalides in Kansas is to expose them to the direct rays of the sun, from 9 o'clock in the morning to 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Two or three days of such exposure will be amply sufficient. Any arrangement by which you can intensify the heat of the sun will hasten the work. A good way to do this will be to place them in long boxes, four feet wide and six inches deep and cover them with glass frames, this will not only increase the heat, but by absorbing the air, will do it more quickly and effectually.

THE SILK MILLER OR MOTH.

Having selected the best of your cocoons for seed, you can pursue either of two methods; with a needle and thread you can string the cocoons like a chaplet or string of beads; in this case taking care in putting your needle through the cocoon not to injure the chrysalis. These can be hung in a well ventilated room on the wall, where mice cannot get at them. The second method, and the one that is the least trouble, is to spread them on a shelf, so placed that mice will not reach them. They should be spread at least an inch apart. Let the warm summer air reach them, but not the direct rays of the sun. After twelve or fifteen days, the millers will begin to come out; they will come out from 4 to 8 o'clock in the morning. You can at once single out the males, they are smarter than the females, more slender, with incessant fluttering of their wings, while the females are heavier and more quiet; they will pair themselves together naturally. They need watching, shouldany be too far apart to meet readily you can bring them together. After the male and female have been coupled together six hours, they should be uncoupled. For instance: If they were coupled at 8 A. M. they should be uncoupled at 2 P. M. During this work of impregnation, it will be well to visit them occasionally, so that if any have got uncoupled before complete impregnation you can unite them again.

Should there be more males than females put them in a box for future use.

If on the other hand you have more females than males, instead of separating them at 2 P. M. take as many males as you need by uncoupling some pairs, say at 11 A. M. taking care to uncouple those who have been together longest, for some may have coupled themselves as early as 5 or 6 o'clock A. M. also take the best looking for they are the strongest.

As fast as you uncouple, place the females on a cloth or paper (tissue paper is good for that purpose, or old worn out cotton,) hung on the wall, the reason of this, is to insure cleanliness, for the female in throwing off her impurities would otherwise stain her eggs, as well as the cloth or paper; by suspending the cloth or paper, her droppings fall on the floor, or ground. The female thus placed will not remove but will deposit her eggs near where you place her. She will occupy but an inch or two square, so that the females can be placed in rows of not more than two inches each way.

It is well also to place the males by themselves in a box, being careful not to mix them with the males that have not been used, so that should those that come out the next morning have more females than males, these others can be used, if necessary, but the fresh ones are preferable.

The female whether paired or not will commence laying her eggs at 2 o'clock. They will be yellow when first laid, and if impregnated will grow darker till they acquire their natural color, otherwise they will remain yellow, and will after a while perish.

The miller or silk-worm-moth will live about twelve days from the cocoon. After the eggs are laid it is well to let them hang a few days to get thoroughly dry. They may then be taken down and placed in a cool, dry place.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

HEREFORD BULL "SUCCESS."—Imported and Owned by T. L. Miller, Beecher, Illinois.

The following are the exact measurements of this excellent animal: Length from muzzle to buttock, 9 feet 2½ inches; height, from ground to top of shoulder, 5 feet 1 inch; girth, just behind the fore legs, 7 feet 10 inches; girth around the flank, 8 feet; girth just above the hock, 1 foot 8½ inches; distance from flank to ground, 2 feet, chest to ground 1 foot 8½ inches; brisket to ground, 12½ inches. We shall give our readers next week an article from the pen of Mr. Miller, which was published in the *National Live Stock Journal* for June, comparing the merits of the Herefords with the Short-Horn Cattle.

GROWING SILK AT SILKVILLE, KANSAS.

EDITOR FARMER:—I have the honor to send you a short report about our silk crop this spring. The eggs began to hatch the 26th of April; we are gathering the cocoons just now. The weather has been quite bad, cool and wet. Dampness produces flatness, a disastrous disease hereditary but not contagious, which can be cured by dry temperature and fresh food. The real cause is fermentation of the food.

The French, yellow breed we brought from France last year raised on a large scale, could not resist such temperature, we have saved only a few of them. Bred on a small scale by Mr. Glair, the white and yellow French breeds have succeeded so well, that it is not possible to find better—not a single one died. I bought the whole crop for seed, quite sure they are now stout enough to pass through all inclemencies of the weather without accident. We must notice that those breeds giving the finest silk, can be gotten only from diseased countries, where the race has degenerated more and more every year, for twenty years, if not quite lost. The astonishing progress made in Kansas by our Kansas breed, so-called because it is now five years, bred in Kansas, encourage me to make an experimental breeding every year on those beautifull races. Mr. Philippe Boyer disciple of the celebrated Aradenluian Pasteur says in his report after a careful examination; "We have now a well grounded hope that our best breeds can be re-generated. That regeneration will come from Kansas."

The Japanese breed sent from France last year has succeeded very well, 350 to 400 cocoons make the pound. The past year for our breed as for this last one 400 to 420 were needed. Kansas breed originated from Japan, fifth generation.

It is our great success. All the cocoons will be sent to France with the eggs in order to make them believe the great progress they have made. They are as large as the yellow; the weight very nearly the same. Now let us speak the numbers.

1st year,	2nd	generation	one pound	400	cocoons.
2nd "	3rd	"	" "	350	"
3rd "	4th	"	" "	300	"
4th "	5th	"	" "	237	"
The best yellow breeds.....				200 to 230	"

Many of our readers want to know where to send their first crop. I hope you will be pleased to announce to them, that I pay for live cocoons, sent in boxes containing two pounds or only three for every box, or for every part of the box, by express as follows:

Common Japanese, bred one year in Kas.	$1.00 per lb.
Japanese bred several years in Kas.....	1 20 " "
I will furnish silk worm eggs, yellow.....	1.20 " "

I insist upon this condition: that the eggs must have been sent out by me, because I bought years ago from Mr. Cameron, from Lawrence, Kas., a lot of eggs quite diseased by the pebrine, the contagious and hereditary desease which has killed all the European races. The year after all the races bred in the same cocoonery were sick. We washed the walls, and posts and shelves with carbolic acid, and kept only the seed breed by neighbors from our own breed, or it would have been destroyed and the success won in four years quite lost. Be careful now breeders, or if you get eggs from unknown producers you will say with Mr. Cameron: Kansas climate is not fit for silk-worms.

Note. Steamed or dead cocoons not accepted. Special rates and modes of shipping silk cocoons will be given to sellers in a few days. These first being for seed must be sent soon, in small boxes or large ones with two or three parts, filled up as completely as possible by baking the box, but not in pressing the cocoons with the hands. L. S. CROZIER.

Silkville, June 4, 1877.

DITCHING FOR LOCUSTS.

EDITOR FARMER: I have just received a long and interesting letter from Mr. J. I Salter, of St. Cloud, Minnesota. He has had extensive experience with the locusts in that region, and he writes:

"From what I have seen, I believe that on the smooth, open prairie, where ditching is properly done, it is one of the best means of protection against the young hoppers."

Mr. A. H. Gleason, of Little Sioux, Harrison Co., Iowa, also in a long letter of experience, writes:

"They can be fought, and fought successfully. Pans with kerosene, or with coal tar may be economically used. *But ditching is the thing; yes, the very thing.* This season, in this county, hundreds of bushels have been destroyed by this method; whole farms, reaching hundreds of acres have been perfectly protected. One of our citizens has taken over one hundred bushels, and this at a time when the insects were not one-third grown."

As I was the first to recommend the use of a 2 foot ditch as a protection from young locusts, and had it pretty thoroughly tried before doing so, I am glad to record such experience as the above; because it shows that as I wrote in my last, experience differs, and that around Leavenworth seems to have been decidedly exceptional. C. V. RILEY.

Malvern, Iowa, June 15th, 1877.

GLEANINGS FROM FARMS AND FARMERS.

"What shall the harvest be?" is the all-important question that comes to the mind and observation of the practical worker and thinker in every branch of industry and in every profession. To the practical farmer it comes with a real meaning; on the *harvest* depends his all. "If I sow what shall I reap?" for a few years past in the west has been an unanswerable question. Especially since the appearance of the grasshopper which has deprived a great many farmers of the privelege of reaping at all. This by way of introduction to a trip we have just returned from, will explain how it was that we found the farming communities, in places greatly disheartened and pondering over the first of the above questions with an air of doubt, and sometimes dolefulness. As we passed down the Kaw valley, from Topeka we found many farms under water, and the bottoms badly flooded, while the enthusiasm of the farmers was dampened proportionately. On the higher lands the crops had a better cast, and promised well, yet we found but little wheat back from the river bottoms until we reached Douglas county, the grasshoppers last fall having destroyed all the small grains on the high lands. Rye seems to have suffered more from wet weather than other grain and the crop will be light. The wheat crop will not be as heavy as was anticipated but will be good where saved from floods and last year's grasshoppers. The fruit crop in the portion of Shawnee and Jefferson counties, we visited, will be light. Blight or rather a parasite, has destroyed the peaches and in places, the trees, to an extent that will severely damage the peach crop in these counties, Douglas county seems to have escaped this disease and will have an immense crop of all kinds of fruit.

In the Wakarusa valley we found several fine fruit orchards and vineyards. A pear orchard of 15,000 trees owned by Wm. Oslone, is bearing largely, though the trees are yet young. Horace Stone, Mr. Benson and Capt. W. B. Kennedy in the same neighborhood have extensive vineyards of from five to nine thousand bearing vines, which will yield greater than ever before. Yet with all this proof, we found seemingly intelligent farmers complaining that Kansas could never be a successful fruit growing State, which assertion needs no contradiction here to the readers of the FARMER.

The grasshopper crop is a failure, and it is the universal opinion of the people of these three counties that these pests are going to let us do our own harvesting this year, and that the harvest will be such that Kansas farmers will rejoice over it.

The KANSAS FARMER meets with a hearty welcome, and the intelligent and practical hard workers in agriculture, who farm for a business and an income, are looking up to the fact that it is necessary for them to lend their support to a *good agricultural journal*; it awakens in them an interest in things they have long considered of minor importance, and leads them to the only possible channel of exchanging thoughts and experiences; combines them into an association where they meet in the columns of their journal, and gain knowledge from the experiences of each other.

A. G. A.

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

GOLD.

To purchase Heaven has gold the power?
Can gold remove the mortal hour?
In life, can love be bought with gold?
Are friendship's pleasures to be sold?

No! all that's worth a wish, a thought,
Fair virtue gives, unbribed, unbought,
Cease, then, on trash thy hope to bind;
Let nobler views engage the mind.

—*Johnson.*

TRIALS.

Even as in the days of Winter,
When the snow drifts whiten the hill,
Some birds in the air will flutter,
And warble to cheer us still;
So, if we would hark to the music,
Some hope with a starry wing,
In the days of our darkest sorrow,
Will sit in the heart and sing.

—*Phœbe Cary.*

LOVE.

Mysterious Love! uncertain treasure,
Hast thou more of pain or pleasure?
Endless torments dwell about thee,
Yet who would live, and live without thee?

—*Addison.*

THE RAINBOW.

Be thou the rainbow to the storms of life!
The evening beam that smiles the clouds away,
And tints to-morrow with prophetic ray.

—*Byron,*

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

BY MARY W. HUDSON.

This story will be continued next week.

SAVED BY A FLASH OF LIGHTNING.

My name is Hunt. Yes, sir; Anthony Hunt. I am a settler and drover on this Western prairie. Wilds? Yes, sir; its little else than wilds now, but you should have seen it when I and my wife first moved up here. There was not a house within sight for miles. Even now there are not many neighbors; but those we have are downright good ones. To appreciate your neighbors as you ought, sir, you must live in these lonely places, so far removed from the haunts of man.

What I am about to tell of happened ten years ago. I was going to the distant town, or settlement, to sell some fifty head of cattle—fine creatures, sir, as ever you saw. The journey was a more rare event with me than it is now; and my wife had always plenty of commissions to charge me with in the shape of dry goods and groceries and such like things.

Our youngest child was a sweet little gentle thing, who had been named after her aunt, Dorothy. We called the child Dolly. This time my commission included one for her—a doll. She had never had a real doll; that is, a bought doll; only the rag bundles her mother made for her. For some days before my departure the child could talk of nothing else—or we either, for the matter of that—for she was a great pet, the darling of us all. It was to be a big, big doll, with golden hair and blue eyes. I shall never forget the child's words at starting, as she ran after me to the gate, or the pretty picture she made. There are some children sweeter and prettier than others, sir, as you can't but have noticed, and Dolly was one.

"A very great big doll, please, daddy," she called out after me; "and please bring it very soon."

I turned to nod a yes to her as she stood in her clean, whitey-brown pinafore against the gate, her nut-brown hair falling in curls about her neck, and the light breeze stirring them.

"A brave doll," I answered, "for my little one—almost as big as Dolly."

Nobody would believe, I dare say, how full my thoughts were of that promised doll, as I rode along, or what a nice one I meant to buy. It was not often I spent money in what my good, thrifty wife would have called waste; but Dolly was Dolly, and I meant to do it now.

The cattle sold, I went about my purchases, and soon had no end of parcels to be packed in the saddle-bags. Tea, sugar, rice, candles—but I need not weary you, sir, with telling of them, together with the calico for shirts and nightgowns, and the delaine for the children's new frocks. Last of all I went about the doll—and found a beauty. It was not as big as Dolly, or half as big; but it had flaxen curls and sky-blue eyes; and by dint of pulling a wire you could open or shut the eyes at will.

"Do it up carefully," I said to the storekeeper. "My little daughter would cry sadly if any harm came to it."

The day was pretty well ended before all my work was done; and just for a moment or two I hesitated whether I should not stay in the town and start for home in the morning. It would have been the more prudent course. But I thought of poor Dolly's anxiety to get her treasure, and my own happiness in watching the rapture in her delighted eyes. So with my parcels packed in the best way they could be, I mounted my horse and started.

It was as good and steady a horse as you ever rode, sir; but night began to set in before I was well a mile away from the town; it seemed as if it were going to be an ugly night, too. Again the thought struck me—should I turn back and wait till morning? I had the price of the cattle, you see, sir, in my breast pocket; and robberies, aye, and murders also, were not quite unknown things in the prairie. But I had my brace of sure pistols with me, and decided to press onward.

The night came on as dark as pitch, and part of the way my road would be pitch dark besides. But on that score I had no fear; I knew the road well, every inch of it, though I could not ride so fast as I should have done in the light. I was about six miles from home I suppose, and I knew the time must be close upon midnight when the storm which had been brewing broke. The thunder roared, the rain fell in torrents; the best I could do was to press onward in it.

All at once, as I rode on, a cry startled me; a faint, wailing sound, like the cry of a child. Reining up, I sat still and listened. Had I been mistaken? No, there it was again. But in what direction I could not tell. I couldn't see a thing. It was, as I have said, as dark as pitch. Getting off my horse I felt about, but could find nothing. And while I was seeking the cry came again—the faint moan of a child in pain. Then I began to wonder. I am not superstitious, but I asked myself how it was possible that a child could be out on prairie at such an hour and in such a night. No; a real child it could not be.

Upon that came another thought—one less welcome: Was it a trap to hinder me on my way and ensnare me? There might be midnight robbers who would easily hear of my almost certain ride home that night and of the money I should have about me.

I don't think, sir, I am more timid than other people; not as much so, perhaps, as some; but I confess the idea made me uneasy. My best plan was to ride on as fast as I could, and get out of the mystery into safe quarters. Just here was about the darkest bit of road in all the route. Mounting my horse, I was about to urge him on, when the cry came again. It did sound like a child's; the plaintive wail of a child nearly exhausted.

"God guide me!" I said, undecided what to do. And as I sat another moment listening, I once more heard the cry, fainter and more faint. I threw myself off my horse with an exclamation.

"Be it ghost or be it robber, Anthony Hunt is not one to abandon a child to die without trying to save it."

But how was I to save it?—The more I searched about, the less could my hands light on anything save the sloppy earth. The voice had quite ceased now, so I had no guide from that. While I stood trying to peep into the darkness, all my ears alert, a flood of sheet lightning suddenly illumined the plain. At a little distance, just beyond a kind of ridge or gentle hill, I caught a glimpse of something white. It was dark again in a moment, but I made my way with unerring instinct. Sure enough, there lay a poor little child. Whether boy or girl I could not tell. It seemed to be three parts insensible now, as I took it up, dripping with wet, from the sloppy earth.

"My poor little thing!" I said as I hushed it to me. "We'll go and find mammy. You are all safe now."

And, in answer, the child just put out its feeble hand, moaned once and nestled close to me.

With the child hushed to my breast I rode on. Its perfect silence soon showed me that it slept. And, sir, I thank God that he had let me save it, and I thought how greatful some poor mother would be! But I was full of wonder for all that, wondering what extraordinary fate had taken any young child to that solitary spot.

Getting in sight of home, I saw all the windows alight. Debora had done it for me, I thought, to guide me home in safety through the darkness. But presently I knew something must be the matter, for the very few neighbors we had, were collected there. My heart stood still with fear. I thought of some calamity to one or other of the children. I had saved a like one from perishing, but what might not have happened to my own?

Hardly daring to lift the latch, while my poor tired horse stood still and mute outside, I went slowly in, the child in my arms covered over with the flap of my coat. My wife was weeping bitterly.

"What's amiss?" I asked in a faint voice. And it seemed that a whole chorus of voices answered me.

"Dolly's lost."

Dolly lost! Just for a moment my heart turned sick. Then some instinct like a ray of light and hope, seized upon me. Pulling the coat off the face of the child I held, I lifted the little sleeping thing to the light, and saw Dolly!

Yes, sir. The child I had saved was no other than my own—my little Dolly. And I knew that God's good angels had guided me to save her, and that the first flash of the summer lightning had shone just at the right moment to show me where she lay. It was her white sunbonnet that had caught my eye. My darling it was, and none other, that I had picked up on the drenched road.

Dolly, anxious for her doll, had wandered out unseen to meet me in the afternoon. For some hours she was not missed. It chanced that my two elder girls had gone over to our nearest neighbors, and my wife, missing the child just afterwards, took it for granted she was with them. The little one had come on and on, until night and the storm overtook her, when she fell down frightened and utterly exhausted. I thanked Heaven aloud before them all, sir; as I said that none but God and his holy angels had guided me to her. It's not much of a story to listen to, sir; I am aware of that. But I often think of it in the long nights, lying awake; and I ask myself how I could bear to live on now, had I run away from the poor little cry in the road, hardly louder than a squirrel's chirp, and left my child to die.

Yes, sir, you are right; that's Dolly out yonder with her mother, picking fruit; the little trim light figure in pink—with just the same sort of white sunbonnet on her head that she wore that night ten years ago. She is a girl that was worth saving, sir, though I say it; and God knows that as long as my life lasts I shall be thankful that I came on home that night instead of staying in the town.

TWO SIDES OF ONE CANVAS.

BY WENDELL PHILLIPS.

One beautiful afternoon in August, there came to me the heart-broken wife of a State prison convict. We tried to plan for his pardon and restoration to home and the world. It was a sad case. He was the only surviving son of a very noble man—one who had lived only to serve the poor, the tempted and the criminal. All he had, all he was, he gave unreservedly to help thieves and drunkards. His house was their home; his name their bail to save them from prison; his reward their reformation. It was a happy hour to hear him tell of the hundreds he had shielded from the contamination and evil example of prisons, and of the large proportion he had good reason to believe permanently saved. Out of hundreds—yes, thousands—only two left him to pay their bail, forfeited by neglect to show themselves in court according to agreement—only two!

Bred under such a roof, the son started in life with a generous heart, noble dreams and high purposes. Ten years of prosperity, fairly earned by energy, industry and character, ended in bankruptcy, as is often the case in our risky, changing trade; then came a struggle for business, for bread—temptation—despair—intemperance. He could not safely pass the open doors that tempted crime. How hard his wife wrought and struggled to shield him from indulgence, and then shield him from exposure! How long wife, sister, and friends labored to avert conviction and the State prison! "I would spare him gladly," wrote the prosecuting attorney, "if he would stop drinking. He shall never go to prison if he will be a sober, honest man. But all this wretchedness and crime comes from RUM."

Manfully did the young man struggle to resist the appetite. Again and again did he promise, and keep his promise perhaps a month, then fall. He could not walk the street and earn his bread soberly while so many open doors—opened by men who sought to coin gold out of their neighbors' vices—lured him to indulgence. So, rightfully, the State pressed on, and he went to prison. An honored man disgraced, a loving home broken up, a wide circle of kindred sorely pained, a worthy, well-meaning man wrecked. Sorrow and crime *"all come of rum,"* says the keen-sighted lawyer.

As I parted from the sad wife on my doorstep, I looked beyond and close by the laughing sea stood a handsome cottage.

The grounds were laid out expensively and with great taste. Over the broad piazza hung lazily an Eastern hammock, while all around were richly painted chairs and longues of very easy and tempting form. Overhead were quaint vases of beautiful flowers, and the delicious lawn was bordered with them. On the lawn itself gayly-dressed women laughed merrily over croquet, and noisy children played near. A span of superb horses pawed the earth impatiently at the gate, while gay salutations passed between the croquet players and the fashionable equipages that rolled by. It was a comfortable home as well as a luxurious one. Nature, taste and wealth had done their best. It was a scene of beauty, comfort taste, luxury and wealth, *All came from rum.* Silks and diamonds, flowers and equipage, stately roof and costly attendance, *all came from rum.* The owner was one who, in a great city, coined his gold out of the vices of his fellow men.

To me it was a *dissolving view.* I lost sight of the gay women, the frolicsome children, the impatient horses, and the ocean rolling up to the lawn; I saw instead the pale convict in his cell, twelve feet by nine; the sad wife going from Judge to attorney, from court to Governor's Council, begging for mercy for her *overtempted* husband. I heard above the children's noise, the croquet laugh, and the surf waves, that lawyer's stern reason for excepting the full penalty of the law—*all this comes from rum.*

"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink. Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness and his chambers by wrong, for the stone shall cry out of the wall and the beam out of the timber shall answer it."

EXTRACTS FROM THE JUNE FASHIONS.

Light blue is Mrs. Hayes' favorite color, and the White House will be so furnished.

The trimming of some of the small checked silks is a revival of an old and favorite method. It consists of a plaited ruching, composed of the two shades of color, in plain silks, the light or white one being placed underneath and projecting very slightly beyond the other. The edges are notched very plainly. A new idea in the making up of handsome dresses, applied recently to a black and black and white armure, consists of a Princesse back, with fan-shaped train, and basque front, confined by the pleated "Hortense" band, and buckle. Newest collarettes around, with a standing ruffle of lace fronting a double pleating of *crepelisse.* They are very soft and pretty, made in all lace, valenciennes or duchess but simple ruffles with bows are very convenient wear for summer.

The broad brimmed hats turned up high on the side, which we sent abroad last year, have returned to us emphasized, as Louis Fourteenth styles, and are very striking for tall beauties, who can exhibit the long, sweeping plume to advantage. Miss Fanny Davenport wears one as the "Princesse Royal," and has another in all black for the street.

The white figured Swiss muslins are untilized this season for morning wrappers, and look very pretty trimmed with Smyrna lace and pale pink or blue ribbon; but white Princesse polonaises for afternoon wear must be made of thicker material, and the new satin stripped and damasked linen and figures are utilized for this and other purposes, and may be trimmed with flat, white braid, or Madeira embroidery, with velvet bows, if, as is often the case at the seaside or in cool localities, the skirt is of velvet. There is one thing to be said in regard to a white polonaise of this description, and that is, that it is economical. Two of them well made and prettily trimmed with needle work would go a long way towards furnishing a summer wardrobe. One condition of their good appearance, however, is that the bows which trim them shall match the brown, navy blue, or black skirt over which they are worn, and that these bows shall be confined to one on each of the sleeves, one on the pocket, and one on the throat. The ornamentation down the line of opening, whether it be straight down, or across must be effected by buttons in one, or one or more rows. The prejudice in favor of dark suits for churches and street wear renders the black grenadine costumes of the utmost importance. In summer it takes the place of black silk, and is useful on an infinite variety of occasions and in an infinite variety of ways.

RECIPES.

RAILROAD CAKE.—Break two eggs into a teacup, beat well, then fill the cup with sweet cream, one cup of sugar, one and one-half cups of flour, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, and one-half teaspoonful of soda.

TO BAKE BEEF.—Lay the meat on some sticks in a dripping pan or other vessel, so that it will not touch the water which it is necessary to have in the bottom. Season with salt and pepper, and put in the oven three or four hours before it is wanted for the table.

Baste it often with the water in the bottom of the pan, pouring in boiling water as often as it gets low. Tough pieces of beef are best cooked by steaming an hour and a half, and then baking as we have described.

Beware of vinegar. A great deal of it is rank poison. The Washington Board of Health, after sampling specimens, says: When) we think that oil of vitriol (sulphuric acid can be bought at five cents a pound, and that a pound of said acid would render a barrel of fluid as acid as the strongest vinegar the wonder will cease that it is sold cheap. This, therefore, is a fraud upon commerce and a dangerous substitute for vinegar.

TO COOK OYSTER PLANT. Scrape and wash it; boil it in water, with a little salt added; when soft cut it in pieces and fry in butter, or else serve hot without frying, but with drawn butter; you can also mash them and form into cakes and brown in butter; it will turn black if exposed to the air after scraping or when it gets cold.

POTATO PUFF.—Mashed potatoes, two cupfuls; melted butter, two tablespoonfuls. Work well together, and add milk, one cupful, and two well-beaten eggs. If the potato was not sufficiently seasoned for the table, salt will be required. Bake in a quick oven until the top is a light brown.

HOW TO POST A STRAY.

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved Feb. 27, 1866, section 1, when the appraised value of a stray or strays exceeds ten dollars, the County Clerk is required, within ntdays after receiving a certified description and appraisement, to *"forward by mail, notice containing a complete description of said strays, the day at which they were taken up, their appraised value, and the name and residence of the taker up,* to THE KANSAS FARMER, together with the sum of fifty cents for each animal contained in said notice."

THE STRAY LIST.

Strays for the Week Ending June 1st, 1877.

Franklin County—Geo. D. Stinebaugh, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by T. O. Embry, of Centropolis Tp., May 1st 1877. One sorrel mare pony, some white in forehead, white hind feet, stifled in right hind leg, about 15½ hands high, supposed to be 11 years old, medium sized. Valued at $20.00.

Also, One dark bay horse pony, saddle and bridle marks, two white hind feet, black mane and tail, about 14½ hands high, 8 years old. Valued at $20.00.

Cherokee County—Ed. McPherson, Clerk.

HORSE—Sorrel horse colt, 3 years old, no marks or brands visible.

Also, horse colt, red roan, 1 year old, no marks or brands visable. Both taken up May 2, 1877, by Presley Martin, Lola Tp. Both valued at $40.00.

HORSE—Taken up by E. W. Defew, Pleasant View Tp, April 30, 1877, one sorrel horse, four years old, blaze in face. Valued at $20.00.

La Bette County—L. C. Howard, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by James Goodwin in Elm Grove Tp. April 27, 1877. One sorrel horse colt, white face, three white feet, 1 year old. Valued at $18.50.

Also, One brown mare colt, one white hind foot, 1 year old. Valued at $18.50.

Cowley County—M. G. Troup, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by S. D. Cole, of Vernon Tp. One black horse 15½ hands high, 10 or 12 years old, star in forehead, and white on end of nose and hind foot, stringhalted in both hind legs—swaybacked. Had an old leather halter on when taken.

Morris County—H. W. Gildemeister, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Oscar Olesan, of Ohio Tp. One bay mare, 14 hands high, 8 years old, no marks or brands. Valued at $30.00.

Neosho County—C. F. Stauber, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by A. T. Gass, of Grant Tp., Neosho county, Kansas, on the 16th day of April, 1877. One dun mare Indian pony, flax tail and mane, brown stripe running from the root of the tail to the withers, about twelve hands high, and about 12 years old. Valued at about $10.00.

Butler County—V. Brown, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Robert Edwards, of Rosalia Tp. One cream or dun mare; about 14 hands high, dark mane and tail, legs black up to knees, white spot in forehead, supposed to be about 8 years old. Valued at $38.00.

Sumner County—Stacy B. Douglass, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by J. A. Leach, of London, Sumner county, Kansas. One dark chestnut sorrel mare, about 6 years old, blind in right eye, about 13 hands high, with large star in forehead. Saddle and harness marks.

Wabaunsee County—G. W. Watson, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by Mark Sage, Mission Creek Tp., May 8, 1877. One bay horse about 14 hands high, branded (N) on left shoulder; no other marks or brands except collar and saddle marks, 8 years old, gelding. Valued at $35.00.

Wilson County—G. E. Butin, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by A. J. Manuen, of Clifton Tp., March 1st, 1877. One 4-year-old Texas steer; color—black and white speckled; medium, rather small than large; ear marks, none; branded on left hip and shoulder, but not plain enough to make it out. Valued at $18.00.

PONY—Taken up by Thos. M. Marmon, of Centre Tp., April 25th 1877. One bay mare pony, 7 to 8 years old, star in forehead, one white hind foot, branded "S. S." on both shoulders; saddle and harness marks; no other marks or brands preceivable. Valued at $25.00.

Jackson County—J. G Porterfield, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by Daniel Birkett, of Franklin Tp., May 12th, 1877. One chestnut sorrel horse, collar and harness marks, star in forehead, white spot on left hind foot, 12 or 14 years old. Valued at $20.00.

HORSE—Taken up by W. H. Fairbanks, of Grant Tp, May 25th, 1877. One bay horse pony, right hind foot is a little white, and a little white in forehead, collar mark on top of neck, has plates on all his feet, 10 or 12 years old. Valued at $30.00.

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.**

SMALL FRUITS IN GARDENS.

But few people seem to know the value of small fruits to a family, when grown in their own gardens. You commence with strawberries; they continue about a month. You pick, perhaps, from six to twelve quarts a day. You have them on your table as a desert, if you please, at noon, and your tea table is loaded with them at evening, and you want but little else but your bread and butter. Your family consumes, in one way or another, about eight quarts a day, and while they last, no medicines for bodily ailments are required, as a quart of strawberries daily, will generally dispel all ordinary diseases not settled permanently in the system. After strawberries, raspberries come, to continue about three weeks; then we have blackberries, where the climate is not too cold for cultivated varieties; then the currents ripen, which remain until the early grapes mature; and taking the season through, any family with a half acre of land in a garden, can grow fruits that make country life delightful, and at the same time hundreds of dollars can be saved in the supply of the table.—*Chatauqua Farmer.*

HOW TO COMMENCE FARMING.

It is said there are more beginners at farming that in any other business. It is a fact at least, that each year many whose hands are strangers to the plow-handle, embark in agriculture, and many more long to quit the counter, the office or the shop, to breathe the pure air and realize the independency belonging to a well regulated farmer's life. With some, the idea prospectively of becoming lord of a farm, such as their fancy pictures, and the master of innumerable flocks, becomes an infatuation, and they launch their bark on the great sea of agriculture expecting to glide swiftly over a smooth surface into luxury and ease, without preparation for "ill winds or a rough sea." It is but natural that many such fail to realize their anticipations, grow discouraged, and fall back to their former avocations wiser if not wealthier men, not because farming is unremunerative and unattractive as a business, but because a wrong conception was formed of what farm life really is. Many beginners think farming is a life of perfect ease and independence, and that all that is required is to invest in a farm, hire a man to run it, and the work will go on while *they* sit in the shade, and the crops will grow while they sleep. Others think that farming can be conducted successfully in connection with other business. Of course, men of ample means can run a business for profit and a farm for pleasure, but this is not the class this article is intended for. I am talking now to such as expect to make farming a life business. To such let me say there is no business that requires more vigilant personal attention. The corn never grows so well as when we guide the plow ourselves, neither do the pigs thrive as well as when given our own personal care.

Others try to ride too high a horse. They attempt to step on the topmost round of the ladder at one single stride, when it would have been wiser had they commenced on the lower round, and gradually worked their way up. They think they see the mistakes of all their neighbors, (and no doubt they do see some egregious blunders), and they set to work to revolutionize the business of farming and show to the world what *vim* and *brains* can do. The result is often too much *vim* and not enough of *brains*.

I have indicated some of the mistakes the beginner is liable to make. I will now try to suggest a plan to avoid them; in other words I will give my idea of how to commence farming. The first requisite, of course, is the farm, which may be large or small in proportion to your means to buy with, and your capacity to run it. Never overreach yourself for fear of being called a small farmer at the risk of being a poor one. Ten acres cultivated to produce to its full capacity will make more than one hundred poorly cultivated. Small farms are always more profitable in proportion to the amount invested than large ones. Get good implements to work with. Patronize home manufactories when you can do as well, and buy no more than is actually necessary to meet your wants. Don't try to get every new thing that comes along because neighbor A or B has it. They have been long in the business and can afford to experiment, and, if a good thing, can afford to purchase it. Better hire your machinery for a year or two than to go in debt for it. Start with some good stock. This is indispensible if you expect to succeed, for the western farmer who does not convert his surplus product into beef, pork and mutton, will surely pull up behind. Don't buy a scrub of any description. Start with thorough-breds if your means will permit, otherwise the best grades you can get, and breed only to thorough-bred males. I have reference particularly to cattle, hogs and sheep. If you can buy but one or two of each, they will pay you better in the long run than a dozen native scrubs. The short-horn breed of cattle stand with a rival for profitable breeding, both as to quality of beef and early maturity, and when bred for milk are not excelled for this purpose. The Southdown is the sheep for this climate. They are medium wooled, hardy, and make the best mutton in the world. As to hogs, there are several deservedly popular breeds, and it makes but little difference which kind you start with so they are well-bred and of good constitutions. Keep but one kind and keep them pure. Make your home as neat and attractive as your means will permit without ostentatious display. *This* will add much to the happiness of the better-half and little ones, and be a source of pleasure to yourself and friends. Make your plans for the improvement of your farm, but don't try to do it all at once. What you can't do this year do next. Have a fixed purpose and keep hammering away till your plans are consummated. Make no debts that you cannot clearly see your way out of, and you have the whole thing in a nutshell. Lastly, but not leastly take one or two Agricultural and Stock Journals. You cannot expect to succeed unless you keep posted in your business.

Now, if you are almost pursuaded to begin farming, or are a discouraged beginner, let me say by way of encouragement, that it is the noblest pursuit of man, as well as the most ancient. The time is not far distant, if the day has no already dawned, when Agriculture will rank as the most honorable occupation of our race.—*Joe Bowers in South West Farmer.*

WEATHER REPORT FOR MAY, 1877.

Prepared by Prof. F. H. Snow, of the State University.

STATION—Lawrence, Kansas, corner of Tennessee and Pinckney streets; elevation of barometer and thermometer 875 feet above sea level, and 14 feet above the ground; anemometer on the University building, 105 feet above ground.

Mean temperature 64°,50, which is 1°,35 below the May average for the nine preceding years. Highest temperature, 85°, on the 28th; lowest, 37° on the 1st, when there was a light hoar frost. Range of temperature 45°. Mean at 7a. m., 59°.69; at 2 p. m., 72°.30; a 9 p. m., 63° 03.

Rainfall, 6.45 inches, which is 2.45 inches above the May average. Rain fell on 17 days. There were 6 thunder showers and two hail storms.

Mean cloudiness, 62 93 per cent. of the sky, the mouth being 16.99 per cent. cloudier than usual. Number of clear days, 7 (entirely clear, 1): half-clear, 10; cloudy, 14 (entirely cloudy, 4). Mean cloudiness at 7 a. m., 67.74 per cent.; at 2 p. m., 86 22 per cent.; at 9 p. m., 62.93 per cent.

Wind—S. W., 22 times; S. E., 22 times; N. E. 21 times; S., 14 times; E., 6 times; N. W., 5 times; calm, 3 times. The entire distance traveled by the wind was 11,522 miles, which gives a mean daily velocity of 371.68 miles, and a mean hourly velocity of 15.49 miles. The highest velocity of 50 miles an hour, on the 15th.

Mean hight of barometer, 29.015 inches; at 7 a. m., 29 040 in., at 2 p. m., 28.992 in.; at 9 p. m., 29.012 in.; maximum, 29.264 in., at 7 a. m., on the 25th; minimum, 28 657 in., at p. m., on the 31st.

Relative humidity—Mean for the month, 72, at 7 a. m., 784; at 2 p. m., 59 9; at 9 p. m., 77.8; maxium, 97.3, on the 16th; minimum, 27.8 on the 1st. No fog.

Crops, Markets & Finance.

Opinions, Facts, and Figures from Various Sources

Ellsworth County.

We have rain frequent, and wheat is growing very fast and filling nicely. Heavy winds from the southwest are making the young fruit trees lean to northeast, and I find the best remedy is to *push* or force the tree back so that it leans well to the southwest and then pack the dirt *firm* on the north side. Apple trees not old enough to bear. Small fruit a success, even to currants, which are generally said to be a failure. W. E. FOSNOT.

Barton County.

June 8.—Winter wheat and rye is filling rapidly; there never was a fairer prospect for a bountiful harvest. Harvest will commence here in about two weeks. There is no rust in the wheat, or any other grain. Weavil is reported in some places, though I have seen none. There are no 'hoppers here to speak of, and no chinch bugs worth mentioning. There is plenty of rain, and a few spots are drowned out on the low lands, but not much. Corn is looking well; some of it is knee high. Many immigrants are passing through; not a few are stopping here. Farmers feel greatly encouraged, and prices of farms are rising rapidly. Prairies looking beautiful, and stock growing fat. B. B. S.

Franklin County.

June 8.—Floods of rain since May 30th. Hoppers seem to be all out, but doing no damage, except to a few gardens and very small millet. They seem to be gradually disappearing. The acreage of corn is large, and looking well. Many castor beans planted, but a large per cent. failed to germinate, and were plowed up and corn planted in their place. The grass is excellent, and stock is flourishing. Hog cholera is unknown in this section, and many good hogs raised. The FARMER is a welcome visitor, and duly appreciated. Success to it. F. D. COLBURN.

Wabaunsee County.

June 4.—Spring grain seems to be backward. Not much fall grain. The corn is pretty weedy; early potatoes looking well. There will be a large acreage of millet sown this season. Harvest will be very late and of short duration. Stock is getting fat. Corn is selling at 35 cts., per bushel; no wheat selling. Oats 20 cts., butter 8 cts., per pound, eggs 7 cts., per dozen. Grasshoppers seem to be scattering, but doing little damage. We have had more rises in the streams than for many years. A. N. G.

Osborne County.

June 14.—Grasshoppers from the south appeared to-day for the first, flying over Osborne county in considerable quantities by times, then again but scattering ones or none at all. At present—4 o'clock P. M., there are none visible. I think that the main body of 'hoppers south are about commencing their northern flight. Long since the people of this county have felt relieved from all anxiety, so far as the 'hoppers hatched here, were concerned; and the sight of 'hoppers overhead no longer calls forth those deepheavy sighs so frequently indulged in by even brave hearts, a few years ago. A general feeling of security prevails. But if the 'hopper should come down and condescend to stop with us awhile, he would certainly fare sumptuously. The Solomon valley has never before offered so tempting a treat as now in vegetables and waving fields of grain. The crops are all that could be desired, even after the severe rain and hail storm of last week. The storm came from the west and extended over the entire county. In some places considerable damage was done; light houses were blown over, and trees uprooted or broken off. But grain, generally, is all right. The hail was not long, and did not fall in large quantities. Stock of all kinds are in excellent condition. M. MOHLER.

Lena Valley, Greenwood County.

June 8.—Winter wheat in this part of the county is all of the last sowing, or rather of the second sowing after the grasshoppers left, and looks tolerably well, and will make from appearances, two-thirds of a crop. The first sowing far succeeded that of last year, but the last sowing will not amount to more than 25 per cent., of the first; so I think we will fall short 60 per cent., of last year's crop, in this part of the county at least. There was a small acreage of oats sown here this spring; not more than half as much as last year. Readers of the FARMER can imagine the condition of our crop on this bottom land. I don't want my brother farmers to think that I am taking our losses to heart, or grumbling; I am not, I am thankful it is no worse, and if they will all take hold as soon as the water drains off and go to repairing up the water gaps and washed away fences, and straighten up what corn is washed down and not washed out, we will yet make plenty to do us, and some to spare. Stock never did do any better on the prairie, than they are doing at present; all they have to do is to eat, drink, lie down and grow fat. Fresh milch cows are selling from $22½ to $30 per head; owing to quality. Work horses from $75 to $125, no other stock changing hands here. Hogs doing well, and no diseases among them. The new settlers are putting down fence posts, and turning over the prairie sod with a vim as though they mean business. There will be a larger amount of land fenced in and put in cultivation in this county this year, than any previous year since I have been in this county. F.

Kansas City Produce Market

KANSAS CITY, June 19, 1877.

WHEAT—Weak, but steadier; No. 3, $1.42½ spot; $1.40 June; $1.17 July; $1.10 August; No. 4, $1.25 spot; $1.30 June; $1.00 July; 92½c August.

CORN—Stronger; June sales higher; No. 2, 32½c@33¼c spot; 33¼c June and July; 34¼c August; rejected, 27c spot.

RYE—Quiet; No. 2. Nominally 42 spot and July; 41c, August.

OATS—Nominal.

PROVISIONS—Unchanged.

BUTTER—Weak and lower; dairy, 9@10c.

EGGS—Weak and dull at 7½@8c.

Kansas City Live-Stock Market.

KANSAS CITY, June 19, 1877.

CATTLE—Receipts, 330, shipped, 186; shippers steady; lower grades dull and lower; sales, native shippers, $4.25 @$5.25; native cows, $2.50@$3.25; stockers, $3.60.

HOGS—Receipts, 1,042; shipped, 128; driven out, 904; weak and lower; choice, $3 80@$3.90; medium, $3.75@$3.80; stockers, $3.10 to 3.75.

SHEEP—Receipts, 500; shipped, 500; market steady; choice, $3.50 to $3.75; medium, $2.25 to $2.75.

New York Produce Market.

NEW YORK, June 19, 1877.

FLOUR—A little more active; prices unchanged.

WHEAT—Higher; more doing; ungraded spring, $1.49; No. 2 Chicago spring, $1.61; No. 2 Milwaukee spring, nominally $1.60 to 1,68; common winter red western, $1,60.

RYE—Heavy, more active; western, 75 to 77c.

BARLEY—Quiet and unchanged.

CORN—Good demand; higher; unsound mixed western, 55c; ungraded do, 55 to 60c; steam mixed, 58½c; old mixed western, 56c.

OATS—Dull and heavy; mixed western, 40 to 61c; white do., 46 to 66c.

COFFEE—Quiet but steady.

SUGAR—Dull and nominally unchanged.

MOLASSES—Dull and unchanged.

RICE—Steady.

EGGS—Firm; western, 17 to 18c.

PORK—Firmer; new mess 13.78 to $14 spot; $13.80 to $13.85.

BEEF—Dull.

MIDDLES—Western long clear, quiet at 7c.

LARD—Firm; prime steam, $9.05 for old; 9.00 to $9.10 for new.

BUTTER—Unchanged.

CHEESE—Dull at 5 to 10c.

St. Louis Produce Market.

ST. LOUIS, June 19, 1877.

FLOUR—Slow.

WHEAT—Unsettled; sales higher; No. 2 red fall, $1.69 bid; No. 3 do. $1.64 cash; $1.30 July; No. 4 do. $1.51½ bid.

CORN—Higher, but fluctuating; 42¾ to 43½c cash; opened at 43½c, declined to 42¾c, advanced to 43c, and closed at 43¾c.

OATS—Dull; 37½c June,

RYE—Quiet; 63c.

BUTTER—Plenty; demand nominally lower; dairy, 14 to 19c; yellow store packed, 9 to 11c.

EGGS—Dull; lower to sell; 8½ to 9½c; in case 10 to 12c.

PORK—Quiet; $13 cash; $13.25 bid August.

BULK MEATS—Firmer; shoulders $4.90 delivered; clear rib, $6.50 bid cash; $6.75 bid June or July.

BACON—Firmer; 5½c, 7¼c, 7¾c.

LARD—Quiet; summer, $8.25 to 8.30

St. Louis Live-Stock Market.

ST. LOUIS, June 19, 1877.

HOGS—Steady, light, $4.30 to 4.50; heavy, $6.40 to 6.90. Receipts, 2,300.

CATTLE—Strong; good demand; choice shipping steers, $5.25 to 6.50; fair grass natives, $4.35 to 4 75; through Texans lower at $2,25 to 3.75. Receipts, 2,700

Chicago Produce Market.

CHICAGO, June 19, 1877.

FLOUR—Steady and firm.

WHEAT—Strong and higher; No. 2 spring, $1.47½ cash; $1.45¼@1.46¾ July; $1.26¾ August.

CORN—Moderately active and higher; 45¼c cash; 46c July; 47¾c August.

OATS—Dull and a shade lower; 37¾c cash, 36¾@36¾c July.

RYE—Steady and unchanged.

BARLEY—Steady and unchanged.

PORK—Active, firm and higher; $12.75 cash; $ 12.75 to 12.77½ July; $12.87½ to 12.70 August.

LARD—Steady and firm; $8.75 cash; $8.75 to 2.77½ July; $8.85 to 8.87½ August.

BULK MEATS—Irregular; shoulders, 4¼c; short rib, 7c.

Chicago Live-Stock Market.

CHICAGO, June 19, 1877.

CATTLE—Receipts, 3,000; quiet and weak; closing more active; stockers and feeders, $3.80 to 6.70; oxen $5.05 to 5.25; fair to choice shipping, $5.00 to 5.10.

HOGS—Receipts, 12,000; active, firm and steady; heavy packing, $4.50 to 4.70; light packing, $1.50 to 4.65; good to choice shipping, $4.70 to 4.80.

SHEEP—Receipts, 350; dull and nominal.

Baltimore Grain Market.

BALTIMORE, June 19, 1877.

CORN—Western, easier; closed steady; western mixed, spot, 57c; July 58¾c; August 59¾c; steamer, 55c

Topeka Retail Grain Market.

Wholesale cash prices by dealers, corrected weekly by W. Edson.

WHEAT—Per bu. spring	1.00
Fall No. 2	1.40
" No. 3	1.30
" No. 4	1.20
CORN—Per bu.	28
" White	28
" Yellow	28
OATS—Per bu	25
RYE—Per bu	40
BARLEY—Per bu	.25@35
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs	5.00
" No. 2	4.75
" No. 3	4.50
Rye	3 25
CORN MEAL—	1.20
CORN CHOP—	1.00
RYE CHOP—	1.00
CORN & OATS—	1.20
BRAN—	.75
SHORT—	.80

Topeka Produce Market.

Grocers retail price list, corrected weekly by J. A. Lee. Country produce quoted at buying prices.

APPLES—Per bushel	1.50@2.00
BEANS—Per bu—White Navy	3.50
Medium	3.00
Common	2.00
Castor	1.50
BUTTER—Per lb—Choice	09
Medium	08
CHEESE—Per lb	10to.15
EGGS—Per doz—Fresh	10
HOMINY—Per bbl	5.25to5.50
VINEGAR—Per gal	20.30
POTATOES—Per bu	$1.00@1,50
POULTRY—Chickens, Live, per doz	1.75@2,00
Chickens, Dressed, per lb	08
Turkeys, " "	10
Geese, " "	10
SWEET POTATOES—Plants	per 100 30
ONIONS—Per bu	50
CABBAGE—Per dozen	.75@1.00

Leather Market.

Corrected weekly by Hartsock & Gossett, Dealers in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.

HIDES—Green	.06@6½
Dry Flint	.12@14
Dry Salt	.10
Calf, Green	.09
Kip, Green	.08
Sheep Pelts, green	.75@100
Damaged Hides are bought at ⅓ off the price.	
TALLOW in Cakes	.06

Topeka Lumber Market.

Corrected weekly by Jno. H. Leidigh.

Joist and Scantling	$ 22.50
Rough boards	22.50
" " No. 2	20.00
Fencing	22.50
" No. 2	20.00
Common boards, surface	25.00
Stock " D	27.50
" " C	35.00
" " B	45.00
" " A	55.00
Finishing Lumber	35.00 to 60.00
Flooring	25.00 to 35.00
Shingles	3.00 to 4.00
Lath	3.50

Owing to low water in pineries lumber is stiffering in wholesale market. No change here yet.

Topeka Butcher's Retail Market.

BEEF—Sirloin Steak per lb	12½
" Round " " "	10
" Roasts " " "	10
" Fore Quarter Dressed, per lb	8
" Hind " " "	9
" By the carcass " " "	9
MUTTON—Chops per lb	12½
" Roast " "	12½
" By the carcass per lb	10
VEAL—Steaks per lb	15
" Roasts " "	12½
" By the carcass per lb	10
PORK—Steaks per lb	10
" Roast " "	10
" By the carcass per lb	7

Farm Seeds.

The following are current jobbing quotations for farm seeds in the Kansas City market:

Red clover	$9.25 to 9.65
Timothy	1.90
Red top	.70
Ky. Blue grass	2.10 to 2.35
Orchard grass	2.25
Top onion sets	2.50
Red and yellow bottom sets	5.25
White bottom sets	6.50
Osage Orange	4.00 to 4.25
Seed potatoes	1.00 to 1.15
Extra varieties	1.35 to 1.75

Chicago Lumber Market.

First and second clear.....Rough	$35.00@38.00
Third clear, 1 inch	30.00@32.00
Third clear 1¼@2-in	32.00@34.00
Select, 1-in. A	21.00@23.00
Select, 1-in. B	15 00@18.00
Select, 1¼@2 in. A	24 00@26.00
Select, 1¼@2-in. B	18.00@22.00
Wagon-box b'ds, 18-in. and upwards A	33.00@35.00
Wagon-box b'ds, 18-in. and upwards B	25.00@28.00
Stock boards, 12-in. A	30.00@33.00
Stock boards, 12-in. B	25.00@27.00
Stock boards, 10-in. A	26.00@30.00
Stock boards, 10 in. B	20.00@23.00
Stock boarks, 12-in. C	15.00@16.00
Stock boards, 12-in. D	12.00@14 00
Common boards	10.00@11.00
Fencing	10 [illegible]11.00
Joists and scantling, 12@18 ft	10.00@11.00
Joists and scantling, 20 ft	11.00@12.00
Joists and scantling, 20@24 ft	11.00@13.00
Flooring, first and second clear, rough	30.00@31 00
Flooring, first common, rough	25.00@27.00
Flooring, second common, rough	19.00@20.00
Flooring, first common dressed and Matched	26.00@28.00
Flooring, second common, dressed and Matched	21.00@23.00
Siding, first and second clear, dressed	16.00@17.00
Siding, first common, dressed	14.00@15.00
Siding, second common, dressed	12.00@13 00
Shingles, sawed A	2.35@ 2.75
Shingles, sawed No. 1	.75@ 1.50
Lath	1 50
Timber, sawed, 12 to 16 it	10.50@11.00
Pickets, square	10.00@11.00
Pickets, flat	8.00@10.00

HISTORY OF A PICTURE.

Two of the most celebrated artists the world has ever known dwelt in the same city. One delighted in delineating beauty in all its graces of tint, form, and motion. His portraits were instinct with the charm of physical vigor. The graceful, half-voluptuous outline of form and feature harmonized with delicately blended tints. On his canvas, the homeliest faces had an almost irresistible charm. The other found pleasure only in depicting weird and gloomy subjects. Above all, did he excel in painting the portraits of the dying. The agonizing death throe, the ghastly face and form, were all depicted with marvelous fidelity. There existed between these artists the most intense dislike. It length this dislike culminated. The beauty-loving artist had been engaged in painting the portrait of a beautiful woman. Connoisseurs pronounced it the most wonderful piece of art that had ever been produced. His brother artist was jealous of his fame and sought revenge. By bribing the keeper of the studio he gained access to the picture each night. At first he was content to only deaden the brilliancy of the complexion and eyes, efface the bloom from cheek and lip and paint a shadow on either cheek. Later, his strokes grew bolder and freer, and one morning the artist awoke to find the entire outline of the portrait changed. He could scarcely recognize in the emaciated form and haggard countenance the glowing conception he had embodied. The pallid face and expressionless eyes he had attributed to a lack of genuineness in his materials; but when the outlines were changed he suspected the cause and indignantly dismissed the keeper. What the revengeful artist marred by a few rapid strokes of his skillful brush was only restored by years of patient industry. Reader, need we name the artists,—Health, who paints the flowers and "grassy carpet" no less than the human form divine,—Disease, the dreaded artist who revels among the ruins both of nature and humanity,—and Carelessness, the keeper to whom Health often intrusts his portraits. And is it not the beauty of women, the most admired of all the works which adorn the studio of Health, that Diseases oftenest seeks to mar? The slightest stroke of his brush upon the delicate organization leaves an imprint that requires much skill and patience to efface. Restoration must be prompt. Carelessness must be dismissed. Let suffering women heed the warning ere Disease has marred their chief beauty—Health—beyond reparation. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has been used by thousands of these sufferers, and they are unanimous in their praise of its excellence. If you would be transformed from the pallid, nervous invalid into a happy, vigorous woman, try it.

Ormsby County, Nevada.

June 8.—Farms near Carson are worth from $50 to $150 per acre; 15 or 20 miles up Carson valley, land is from $25 to $50 per acre; this only includes naturally moist or irrigated land, all else is a desert, and worthless. Cows are from $25 to $50; common horses $80 to $50, heavy work horses $100 to $200; hogs scarce and high. I do not think the festive 'hopper ever visits here, there is nothing for him to eat but wild sage, and I do not think his stomach could stand that fragrant bush. There is, however, in portions of this State, Eastern Oregon and Idaho, a large grey cricket, which sometimes hatches out in in millions, and taking up a line of march, destroy every green thing. Their habits are similar to the locust, but as they cannot fly, their area is much smaller. Farmers here thrive and make money, but when the inconveniences and vices incidental to a mining country are taken into consideration, I think that farmers east of the Rocky Mountains are fully as well off. MARTIN STEPHENSON.

HARDLY to be credited, but it is nevertheless true, that a sick horse or a bad-conditioned cow can be brought up in a few days by the use of Simmons' Liver Regulator. The powders should be mixed with the food, and they will eat it readily; and it is surprising to see what improvement immediately takes place. It opens the bowels, strengthening them, and does all and even more than the best Condition Powders. A small quantity in the food for chickens will cure cholera, and keep the poultry healthy.

HORSE HAY-FORK—PATENT INFRINGEMENTS.

In the case of A. J. Nellis vs. The Ashland Fork Manufacturing Company, in the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of Ohio, a decree has been entered in favor of the patents, and an injunction issued against the defendants, enjoining them from making and selling the Harris Double-Harpoon Horse Hay-Fork. We notice from the Court records that there are over one hundred suits now pending for the infringements of these patents, against parties in the state of Ohio. Evidently the owners of the patents are determined to protect their rights.

REMOVAL OF FURNITURE STORE.

Messrs. Bartel Brothers who have become so favorably known as dealers in all kinds of furniture have removed from their old stand north of the Court House to new and Commodious rooms, No. 152, east side of Kansas Avenue Topeka, where they will continue to welcome all their friends, promising the best of goods at the very lowest prices for which they can be sold. Call and examine their stock.

MONEY! MONEY!!

If you wish to borrow money upon Real Estate, and get your money without sending paper East, and at reasonable rates, go to the KANSAS LOAN AND TRUST CO. Topeka Kansas.

THE SEASHORE AND WATERING PLACES

Of the East become uninviting after frequent visits, but the wonderful scenery of the Rocky Mountains and the magic waters of the minerals springs have continued interest for the tourist and unfailing benefits to the invalid. The Kansas Pacific Railway is the highway to all the great resorts of the Mountains. Buy your tickets direct to Denver over the Kansas Pacific Railway. Send to E. D. Cornell, General Passenger Agent, Kansas City, Mo. for descriptive pamphlets.

That splendid Livrpool Dairy Salt so valuable and necessary in making good butter, is for sale at A. A. Ripley and Sons, Topeka, Ks

IN THE SWEET BY-AND-BY.

Cannot be but the happy thought as the fortunate recipient of the "ROCKY MOUNTAIN TOURIST" scans its wonderfully attractive pages and persues its fascinating descriptions. Most beautifully embellished with new and highly artistic engravings, its letter-press a model of typographical richness, and the arrangement throughout simply superb, the ROCKY MOUNTAIN TOURIST is worthy of comparison with *Picturesque America* or *The Aldine*. It is written in gossipy, graphic style, covering details of the tour through the garden of the Southwest (the Arkansas Valley, Southern Kansas), to the very heart of the Alps of America—the Rocky Mountains. Jaunts are made to all the famous resorts of Colorado, the remarkable ruins, the springs, the mines, and in short, to every point of interest to tourist, agriculturalist, capitalist, miner, and invalid. With the TOURIST, the SAN JUAN GUIDE keeps fitting company, and the two publications are mailed free to all writing for one or both to T. J. ANDERSON, Topeka, Kansas.

Cash paid for butter at Ewing's, 227 Kansas Avenue, Topeka.

25 Visiting cards with your name printed, 25 Flirtation cards, 25 "May I see you Home" cards, one parlor picture, printed in 10 colors, the whole lot sent postpaid for 25 cents. Postage stamps taken as money. Kurtz & Bro, S. E. Cor. Fifth & Chestnut, Philadelphia, Pa.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering an Advertisement found in these columns, you will confer a favor by stating you saw it in the KANSAS FARMER.

THE WONDERFUL MOWER.

The Eureka Center-Draft Mower.

Cuts 5, 6, 7, or 8 Feet.

Guaranteed to cut Six Feet with Less Draft than any Side-Cut Mower does Four Feet.

The grass is left in best possible condition for curing, saving from three to four hours in the day to care for the hay, and better hay.

From 15 to 20 acres Cut in one day, with a light span of horses.

650 ACRES CUT IN ONE SEASON, with one seven foot Mower, without costing a cent for repairs.

Awarded Centennial Prize. Awarded University Prize.

It is the simplest and most durable machine manufactured. For circulars, testimonials and prices, address EUREKA CENTER-DRAFT MOWER CO., Manufacturers, Indianopolis, Ind.

W. W. ESTILL, LEXINGTON, KY.

PROPRIETOR OF

Elmwood Flock of Cotswolds,

From imported Stock. Young Stock for Sale.

25 FANCY CARDS, all styles, with name, 10c.; 25 Morning Glory Cards, with name, 20c., 20 Fancy Scroll Cards, all styles, no name, 10c., postpaid. J. B. HUSTED, Nassau, Renns Co., N. Y.

PUBLIC SALE OF

SHORT-HORN CATTLE,

(July Series,)

THE ENTIRE OAKWOOD HERD.

July 19, 1877.

In offering the Oakwood Herd, I wish it distinctly understood that this will not be a culling out sale, or that the proprietor intends to quit breeding, but wishes to sell his entire herd in a legitimate way, without reserve or by-bid.

I will offer at Oakwood, six miles from Winchester, on the Vanmeter Turnpike, about sixty-five head, all good individuals, of the following choice and desirable families: *Roses of Sharon* (Renick sort), *Young Marys, Young Phyllises and Josephines*. Among the bulls catalogued are included the splendid Rose of Sharon, 2d Grand Duke of Clark 8704, S. H. R., reserved by Mr. A. Renick for a long time to be used exclusively on his herd; also the Rose of Sharon, Duke Dunmore 5007, S. H. R., and the premium Young Mary Bull, Joe Airdrie 9612, S. H. R. This is a grand offering, and worthy the attention of buyers.

TERMS—Notes at four months, negotiable and payable in bank with good security, bearing 8 per cent. from date.

Catalogues on application.

C. L. VANMETER, Winchester, Ky.

P. C. KIDD, Auctioneer.

Note.—Attention is called to the sales of Lowry & Metcalfe; Pine Grove; Ky.; July 18th; the day before my sale; and Hall & Guthrie, Lexington Ky.; the day after.

ACME WASHING MACHINE.

The BEST and CHEAPEST YET INVENTED.

Don't buy a washing machine until you see the Acme, the best machine in the world. An examination will satisfy the most skeptical that what we say of the machine are actual facts, as it is constructed on the principle of the hand wash-board. It washes articles of all kinds from the smallest fine collar to the largest bed clothing perfectly clean, without the use of the wash board. All we ask of the people is to look at the machine, and to furnish this opportunity D. S. Eckert, the agent for Shawnee and Osage counties in Kansas, will visit the following places and exhibit the Machine: Carbondale, Monday, June 25th Burlingame, Wednesday and Thursday, June 27th and 28th, Osage City, Friday and Saturday, June 29th, and 30th. All communications adddressed to D. S. Eckert, Topeka, Kansas, will receive prompt attention. Orders by mail promptly filled. Price of single Machine, $12.00

J. R. DUTTON,

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF

SEWING MACHINES &c.

"Domestic" "Singer N. F."

Needl's 50c. pr. doz. Tuckers $1. each. Rufflers $1.50 each. No extra charge by mail. Machines and Oil crated and delivered to the Railroad or Express Comapnies without extra charge.

Price $50 00 cash with order. Price $45 00 cash with order.

Repairing old Machines a specialty. All goods and work warranted strictly first class.

OFFICE 200 KANSAS AVE.

P. O. BOX, 696 TOPEKA, KANSAS.

PLANTS.

Late Cabbage, 3 varieties, $1.00 per 1.000.
Sweet Potato, 4 varieties, $2.00 per 1.000.
J. F. BARNETT, Louisville Mo

CLIMAX

Mowers and Reapers

These machines are used by the P. of H. throughout the United States, and are sent to them at wholesale prices.

Send for descriptive Catalogue and Price List.

GIBBS & STERRETT MF'G CO.,
5 South Main Street, St. Louis, Mo.

G. W. STUBBLEFIELD & CO.,

IMPORTERS OF AND DEALERS IN

NORMAN-PERCHERON HORSES.

Imported and Grade Stock for sale on reasonable terms. Parties wishing to buy will do well to examine our stock before buying elsewhere.

Correspondence solicited.

Stock Barn in Bloomington, Ill., Madison St., 104 South. Stock Farm Shirley, Ill.

GIDEON BAILEY,

Tipton, Cedar Co., Iowa,

BREEDER AND SHIPPER OF

PURE BLOODED

Poland-China Hogs.

BREEDING STOCK constantly for sale.

Stallion Season.

Prairie Dell Farm,

Breeds and has for sale the most fashionable trotting stock—Hambletonians and their most successful crosses.

The Chestnut Stallion Monroe—record 2:27½ over a half mile track will stand for mares at $50, the season; those not in foal, returnable free of charge next season.

Monroe has the sixth fastest record of any living stallion, decendant in the male line, from Rysdyk's Hambletonian. He has by all odds the fastest record of any stallion in Kansas. For beauty, elegance and purity of gait, he cannot be surpassed. He has trotted a mile in 2:23 and a half mile in 1:10.

Pedigree: By Iron Duke, son of Ryskyk, s Hambletonian; dam by Guy Miller also son of Rysdyk's Hambletonian, G. dam, (Jas. H. Coleman's dam.) record 2:31 1:14) by Pamunkey, thoroughbred son, of American Eclipse.

For sale, sons, and grandsons of Rysdyk's Hambletonian, as finely bred as can be procured any where, and of much intrinsic merit.

Apply to R. I. LEE, Agt. Topeka, Kansas.

TO FARMERS AND HORSEMEN.

Royal George!

PEDIGREE:—ROYAL GEORGE was raised by Mr. Thomas Betts, Montreal, Canada East, and was imported by John Dillon, in the fall of 1871. Royal George is eight years old this spring, and stands sixteen hands high, weighs fifteen hundred pounds, and is a beautiful bright bay without white; black legs, tail and mane; heavy boned, short jointed, long neck, heavy mane and tail, and fine style; good trotter; all sound, and well broken to either saddle or harness; is of good disposition. In short, he was said by the government officers at Buffalo to be the best horse they were ever called to examine and pass through the British line.

Royal George was sired by Mr. Cumberland's Old Royal George, imported from England, which horse always took the first prize in Canada, wherever shown, for general purposes; he is the fastest trotter at all shows, and weighs fifteen hundred pounds, compactly and smoothly built, and has left the most uniform horses of any other horse in Canada. His sire was Old Brown George, the property of Mr. Berridge, of Ingersby, England, and he was out of Mr. Burbage's brown horse Champion, of Croyton near Belvoir, Leicestershire. His dam out of Mr. Musson's celebrated horse Ploughboy, of Waltham; his grand dam by Mr. Goodwin's Old Sampson, of Nottingham, England, and he by Old Drayman, the property of Mr. Berridge, of Ingersby, and he out of Mr. Burbage's superior mare Smiler, of Loddington, which was sold to go to France as a brood mare, for four hundred guineas. Smiler was by Mr. Simpson's Farmer's Glory, by that very noted horse Old Black Legs, belonging to Mr. Wild, of Croton. Black Legs was always said to be the best horse in Croton or Warwick, and was sold for six hundred guineas to go to America. Black Legs was sired by Black Prince, dam Marytom, full blood English draft, imported from England in 1860, which horse took the first prize at the Royal Agricultural Show, at Norwich in 1846.

YOUNG ROYAL GEORGE

took the first prizes, for general purpose, in the fall of 1871, at Montreal, also at Kingston, also at Brampton, also at Guelph, also at London, also at Hamilton the fall he left the Province for the United States, always showed against from twenty to ninety horses in his own class, always beating trotting.

Royal George is a pure bred horse and will recommend itself to all competent judges. Has proved himself a sure foal-getter, and his colts are the most uniform of any horse's in the country, nearly all are his own color and style. Terms $15,00 to insure. Season $10.00.

KICKAPOO RAINGER

is a chestnut with a star and white on nose, left fore ankle white and white hind socks. Not surpassed for style and beauty in the State. Sired by Comus, he by Green's Bashaw, dam Baltimore Maid. He is a good traveler, has four crosses of Old Messenger and one of Mambrino. For extended pedigree, call on the owner on the Wilcox property, Northwest of the Fair Ground, Topeka Kansas. Terms: $25 to insure.

The above horses will make the season from April 1st to July 4th, at the above place adjoining Topeka. Persons from a distance can be accomodated with pasture. T. K. McGLATHERY.

Champion Hog Ringer RINGS & HOLDER.

Only double ring ever invented. The only ring that will effectually keep HOGS from rooting. No sharp points in the nose.

Brown's Hog and Pig RINGER & RINGS.

Only single ring in the market that closes on the outside of the nose. No sharp points in the nose to keep it sore.

Ringers, 75c. Rings, 50c. 100. Holders, 75.

CHAMBERS, BERING & QUINLAN, Exclusive Manufacturers, Decatur, Ill.

PATRONS' PAINT COMPANY.

INGERSOLL'S READY MIXED PAINT AND PARIS GREEN!

50 per cent. saved.

Freight paid on Paints to all parts of the country. Our book, How every man can paint, mailed free upon application to the **Patrons' Paint Company, 259 Front St., New York.**

TRUSTEES:

T. A. Thompson, Pres., Minn. — Mortimer Whitehead, N. J. — O. H. Kelley, Ky.
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J. W. English & Bro.,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Reaper and Mower Knives,

MOWER AND REAPER SECTIONS,

KNIFE and SICKLE HEADS,

Guard and Section Rivets, Brass Pitman Boxes, Thresher Spikes,

Patent Safety Couplings, Babbitt Metal, Rubber and Leather Belting.

1227 *Union Avenue,* Near Union Depot,

Kansas City, Missouri.

WRITE FOR PRICE LIST AND DISCOUNTS.

GOOLMAN'S

Improved Standard Scales,

PATENTED MAY 23d, 1874.—MANUFACTURED BY

The Goolman Company,

Corner of Walnut and 20th Streets, KANSAS CITY, MO.

ALL KINDS OF CASTINGS MADE TO ORDER AND SCALES REPAIRED.

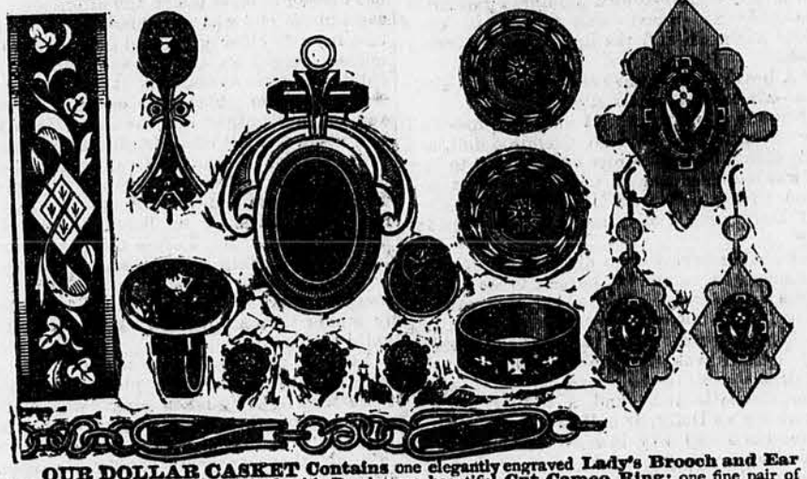
These Scales are superior in workmanship, accuracy, and durability, weighing from one pound to full capacity of the scale, with the utmost precision, and will be sold on as good terms as any good scale. We also manufacture Goolman's Folding and Stationary Top SCHOOL DESKS, and Warran the same to be the strongest and most convenient yet offered to the Western people.

Address for Ccirulars and lowest terms, **The Goolman Co.**

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY!!!

We will sell the largest stock Jewelry of a bankrupt firm, at one-tenth of the manufacturing cost This is a golden harvest for Agents and private individuals.

OUR ONE DOLLAR GOLDEN CASKET.



OUR DOLLAR CASKET Contains one elegantly engraved **Lady's Brooch and Ear Drops,** Amethyst settings, inlaid with Pearls; one beautiful **Cut Cameo Ring;** one fine pair of **Engraved Sleeve Buttons;** three (3) grand spiral **Amethyst Studs,** inlaid with Pearls; one nobby **Collar Button;** one latest pattern Gent's **Vest Chain;** one elegant **Cameo Seal;** one beautiful chased **Band Ring;** one Solitaire Lake George **Diamond Pin;** one pair (3) elegant engraved **Bracelets.** All the above are the **Finest Gold Plate,** and arranged in a beautiful white, pink-lined casket. Illustrated Catalogue of Jewelry and Watches sent with each casket. On receipt of **One Dollar** we will send **One** of these **Dollar Caskets** by mail postpaid, or **Four Caskets** on receipt of **$3.50.** Address **GEO. G. JACOBY & CO.,** Importers of Jewelry and Watches, 117 Wisconsin Street, **Milwaukee, Wis.**

Poultry Journals Given Away.

High Class Poultry.

Light and Dark Brahmas,
Partridge and Buff Cochins, Plymouth Rocks,
Houdans, Brown and White Leghorns,
B.B.R. Game, and Silver Seabright Bantams,
Bronze Turkeys,
Rouen and Muscovy Ducks.

The above stock is bred true to feather, and from the best strains in England and America. My fowls are not bred in confined city lots as many are. I have a large farm devoted specially to breeding and raising fine poultry. I select by the "Standard," and strive faithfully to please my customers.

EGGS FOR HATCHING

A SPECIALTY.

Pure Berkshire Pigs.

I have a few fine pigs of the above breed for sale now. Send stamp for prompt reply. Circulars, lists of mating, and premium list to purchasers.

Write name, P. O., County and State plainly, and address, D. J. WILLMER,

BADEN, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MO.

YOUR NAME PRINTED on 40 Mixed Cards for 10c. CLINTON BROS., CLINTONVILLE, CT.

STRAYED.

From the undersigned, at Scranton, Kansas, on May 30th, 1877, a light gray horse, heavy built, heavy light gray mane and tail. About 15 hands high, had halter on with rope attached. Will weigh about 1000 lbs. Any person finding this horse will please take him up and notify PAT RYAN, Scranton, Kansas.

Elmwood Stock Farm,

Springfield, Illinois.

Jersey Cattle, Berkshire Swine and Cotswold Sheep.

Elmwood herd of Berkshires contains the finest and most noted strains of blood in England or America, descending from the most successful prize-winning families.

Young stock of superior excellence and fashionable pedigree for sale at low prices.

Have some extra fine young sows, sired by the famous Imported Berkshire Boar Sambo 3d, 351, and safe in pig to imported Cherub, 501. Cherub has no superior in point of form, style and fashionable breeding, and is proving himself to be an excellent sire and is without doubt the best Boar I ever imported from England.

Our brood sows are not surpassed by any herd in America, and excel in all that goes to make up the model Berkshire—short legs, necks and heads, broad hams, loins, and shoulders, with fine thick coats of hair, large size, good feeders, reliable breeders, and healthy. Perfect satisfaction guaranteed, both in quality and price.

Pigs not akin properly mated for breeding purposes.

Breeding stock is recorded in the American Berkshire Record, and extended pedigrees furnished customers.

Parties desiring early pigs should send in their orders at once, so as to secure choice.

Correspondence solicited and promptly answered.

CHARLES F. MILLS.

EPILEPSY OR FITS absolutely and speedily cured by the use of Dr. Ross' Epileptic Remedies. TRIAL PACKAGES SENT FREE. Address, ROSS BROTHERS, No. 513 Main Street, RICHMOND, IND.

A NEW DEPARTURE. TRAVELING Men Wanted. STAPLE GOODS. NO PEDDLING. Salary $75 a month. Hotel and traveling expenses paid. S. A. GRANT & CO., manufacturers of ENVELOPES and PAPER, 2, 4, 6, and 8 Home St., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

"AGRICULTURE DEMANDS RECOGNITION IN THE HALLS OF LEGISLATION."

The *American Cultivator* sums up, from the Treasury statistics, the exports of agricultural products, for the years 1875 and 1876, as follows:

	1875.	1876.
Live animals	$8,359,471	$2,462,043
Breadstuffs	113,686,467	134,065,740
Cotton (unmanufactured)	194,397,293	187,668,425
Fruits	1,097,380	2,355,384
Hides and skins	9,118,282	6,004,127
Oil-cake	5,054,395	5,981,940
Meats	43,463,977	62,156,223
Butter and cheese	14,007,060	14,770,729
Lard	23,744,302	27,108,534
Vegetables	967,653	1,056,748
Seeds	1,124,298	2,912,405
Tallow	5,787,106	7,946,063
Tobacco, leaf	18,334,660	23,081,255
	$483,329,294	$484,403,615

and adds, that these have been the nation's dependence in paying foreign debts and improving and maintaining its credit abroad; and concludes by asking whether,

with this magnificent exhibit of actual results, is there any inconsistency in the demand of agriculture for recognition in the halls of legislation, in the expectation of a nation's fostering care, in a judicious outlay for its encouragement and development? And yet we are not only refused this fostering care by judicious outlay, but the most important interests of agriculture as connected with our commercial regulations are intrusted to those who, for want of information in regard to these interests, are wholly incompetent to deal with them. Take the case of the Treasury regulations in reference to the importation of cattle and other live-stock.

In the year 1875, on account of the prevalence of foot and mouth disease, etc., in Great Britain, the importation of cattle was prohibited. But, early in the year 1876, parties who were influential with the Treasury officials, desiring to import a lot of blooded cattle, had little difficulty in procuring such a modification of these regulations as would meet the case. And it is a fact full of significance, as illustrating the manner in which our government deals with such questions, that the first information the farmers and stock breeders of America had in regard to the modification being urged upon the Treasury Department, *came from an English stock journal!* We protested against the modification, and had the objections brought to the attention of the Secretary by a senator of high character and influence. This spring, in view of the prevalence of the foot and mouth disease, the pleuro-pneumonia and the still more dangerous and fatal cattle plague *rinderpest* in Great Britain, we have renewed the protest. What has the government done? The latest information we have on the subject is contained in a letter addressed to us from the Treasury Department, of the date of March 26th, as follows:

In reply to your letter dated the 21st inst., remonstrating against the importation of blooded stock [our remonstrance was not confined to blooded stock], on the ground that it may be affected with contagious or infectious diseases, you are informed that on the 16th of March last, this department authorized such importations, when accompanied by a consular certificate of non-infection. So far as now advised, the Department does not deem it advisable to modify the instruction then given.

Respectfully, H. J. FRENCH.
Assistant Secretary.

We had shown, in the discussion of this matter last year, that the most thorough and careful inspection by competent professional men could not detect the infection in its latent form, and that, therefore, these inspections were not to be relied upon, even at the port of debarkation, while at the port of shipment they were of no value whatever. In regard to this, all the authorities in Great Britain agree. What then shall we say of the folly of depending upon the certificate of a *consul* as to the appearance of the stock at the port of embarkation! We pointed out that the effect of this modification was practically to remove all restrictions from the importation of cattle from Great Britain, because—

1*st*. No cattle other than thoroughbreds were, or had been, imported; and,

2*ndly*. Parties interested would never ship stock in England with a view to their use or sale in this country, that *were known to be diseased*. It is protection against the *lurking and latent* infection that is wanted.

In a circular from the Treasury Department, issued upon the breaking out of the rinderpest in Great Britain, it is stated that

blooded stock coming from the countries named may be admitted when accompanied by a consular certificate of non-infection, as authorized by the Department's letter of the 16th of March last, it being presumed that such stock is selected with care, and that it would not be taken from herds which are infected with the diseases mentioned.

It seems incredible that interests so important should be intrusted to officials having so so little information in regard to them! If what is here said as to the care with which this stock is selected, etc., be true, then why require the consular certificate of non-infection? But the testimony of all medical men, and others who have had experience in handling stock infected with these diseases, is, that no amount of skill and care in selecting is a sufficient protection against the lurking infection; that, in fact, the rinderpest frequently breaks out in herds that have not been exposed, and in neighborhoods where no diseased cattle had been taken—the infection being carried by other stock, or, possibly in the litter with which diseased animals had been bedded. But a sufficient and most conclusive answer to this argument in favor of a most unwise regulation, adopted in the first place in ignorance of the subject with which the department was dealing, and from which it has not now the courage to recede, is the fact that all these diseases *have been brought across the ocean by the importation of blooded stock*, notwithstanding all the care that is assumed to be exercised in the premises. And, for this reason, the authorities in the Canadian Dominion prohibited the importation of cattle from Great Britain, as well as from other European countries. Meanwhile the government of the United States, whose people have a much larger interest in preserving the health of their live-stock, especially their cattle, than the people of any other country in the world, are advised by the Treasury letter that, "so far as now advised, the Department does not deem it advisable to modify the instruction then given,"!

There is reason to hope that we may escape the threatened danger; because the prices realized from blooded stock have been too low, as compared with prices in England, to encourage importations, and, so far as we are advised, none are contemplated. It has therefore turned out as we predicted last year, that prohibition, which was the plain duty of the government, would have been no detriment whatever to our live stock interests, nor occasioned the slightest inconvenience to legitimate breeders.

To the National government our farmers must look as the only adequate authority, not only to prevent the importation of these infectious diseases, but to provide the means to repress or "stamp them out."

Pleuro-pneumonia is prevailing in the dairies about the Eastern cities; and, not long since, the following appeared in the *Agricul-Gazette* (London):

The outbreak of foot and mouth disease in a cargo of American cattle sent to the Metropolitan market last week, is an additional proof that from whatever country cattle come, no amount of inspection is a safeguard against disease. * * * * *

In to-day's *Times* Mr. James Oldham refers to the fact of a large number of cattle, just imported from America, being infected with the above malady, though passed as healthy when landed, thus adding another instance to the many proofs already furnished, of the utter insufficiency of port inspection to intercept contagious diseases."

From which we are expected to infer that the foot and mouth disease has been carried from America to England, which we deem quite improbable. And yet how can we say, in the absence of all measures by government to prevent the importation of these diseases, or to discover outbreaks and prevent the spread of the contagion, that the country is clear of them? Self interest will induce owners of stock to conceal the existence of the malady, where there is no law requiring them to report to official authority.

As the London *Saturday Review* puts the case:

The effect that the importation of live, foreign animals has upon the introduction of disease into this country is *that it introduces it*. If there were no importation, there would be no disease;

that is, of these contagious diseases that are of foreign origin. And so it is in this country with foot and mouth, pleuro-pneumonia and the rinderpest. The government alone has the power to exclude them; if they have invaded our herds, the contagion will continue to spread, until the power of the government interferes to stay its progress and to stamp it out. The work is now comparatively easy; but, in a few years, without these precautionary measures, all these diseases will be naturalized in this country, as they are in Europe, and the work of eradicating them next to impossible. We therefore repent, in connection with this most important matter—"Agriculture demands recognition"! And it demands that well informed and competent men shall have charge of these interests, when the commercial policy of the government in relation to them is determined; and it especially demands that such regulations as we have here discussed should conform to general judgment of those interested in agriculture; that their wishes should be consulted, and that all action of the government in relation to such matters shall be promptly made know to the people through the agricultural press.—*National Live-Stock Journal.*

PREPOTENCY IN BREEDING AS A CAUSE OF SEX.

Naturalists and breeders, from the time of Aristotle and Hippocrates to the present, have speculated and theorized on the influences which determine the production of sex; and it must be confessed that, considering the time and thought bestowed on the subject, the results are meagre enough. The subject is one deserving the greatest attention, however, and if we can separate the wheat from the chaff, and get even a slight foundation to work on, we may yet be enabled, if not to decide positively in advance, certainly to have the probabilities in our favor. It is not my intention to discuss the theories of Hippocrates or Thury, or those which have been derived from them, for, though still attracting attention in certain quarters, they have long since proved valueless, and without the least foundation. According to what little light we have so far been able to obtain, sex appears to owe its origin, like all other characters of the individual, to the effect of the laws of inheritance. Obviously there are only a few of these laws which can apply, since this character can be inherited from but one of the parents; and I am inclined to think that the last two laws which I admitted when discussing prepotency are the only ones which have an influence on the production of sex. These relate to the vigor of constitution of the individual parents, and their relative physiological condition (probably relative vigor) at the time of impregnation.

Having made this statement, it is now in order to bring forward the facts from which it is derived. First, then, it is a matter of common observation among breeders that certain males or certain females produce offspring either invariably or in a large majority of cases of the same sex as themselves. I believe all admit this; this is owing to prepotency, and consequently we must conclude, until farther observations are made, that it is merely a question of vigor; and, in confirmation of this, I find a belief among breeders that males exhausted at the time of fecundation are apt to beget females. In one case it may be what I have called constitutional vigor, when the individual will continue year after year, even when mated with a number of individuals of the opposite sex, to produce offspring of its own sex; while in the other case the vigor is only relative—that is, if a male, in one year or with one female the produce will be males, in other years or with other females the opposite will be the result. In other cases, and with animals producing a number of offsprings from the same impregnation, there may be some of each sex, from which we may conclude that there is little difference in the vigor of the parents.

Giron de Buzareingues, who paid much attention to this subject, stated that "female domestic animals bear more females when themselves well nourished and left in repose, than when much worked and kept on spare diet. Also that fathers, among our domestic animals, which are neither too old or too young, produce with mature and healthy females more female than male offspring; while female parents that are too old or too young in proportion to the males, bear more males." (quoted by Dr. Sturtevant in *Scientific Farmer* for August.) The same authority also laid down the following rules:

"Young male, more females than males; young female, more males.

"Middle-aged male or female, equal proportions.

"Old male, more females than males; old female, more males." (Gayot in Bouley & Renal's Dict.)

M. Martigonte made some observations on his brother-in-law's sheep, of considerable importance. The time during which the ram was serving the ewes was divided into three periods, with the supposition that the vigor of the ewes would remain constant, while that of the male would be greatest during the first period, least during the second, when the greatest number of ewes were in heat, and again greater during the last, when there was less demand for his services. The result was as follows: first period, 13 males and 4 females; second, 3 males and 15 females; third, 9 males and 4 females; total, 25 males and 23 females—not far from the ordinary ratio. The same authority caused 34 young ewes to be served with a very vigorous, strongly-fed ram; the result was 25 males to 9 females. This ram also served some very exhausted ewes, when they were weaning their young. The result, in one lot, was 8 males to 4 females; in another lot, 27 males to 9 females, (Sanson.) It has also been observed in France, that Swiss and Brittany cows served with Short-Horn bulls produce constantly more females than males, which is quite probable, says Mr. Sanson, for no one would think of comparing the vigor of constitution of the improved Short-Horn with that of the Swiss and Brittany breeds. The same author mentions the case of a jack, which, as a result of founder, had the flexor tendons so contracted that the fetlock joint touched the earth at each step; he therefore kept the recumbent position continually, except the short time when forced to rise to serve the mares which were brought to him. Of course he was very much weakened by this circumstance, but in spite of this, the mule breeders of the district were all exceedingly anxious for his services, and as he was only able to serve a limited number, there was great dispute for the preference. Anxious to know why he was so highly prized, Sanson made inquiry among the breeders, and learned that his produce was almost invariably females; the price of these being superior to that of the males, completed the explanation. M. Colin had an old greyhound bitch (*chienne de chasse*), which he mated with a large vigorous Newfoundland dog only a year old; the result was six little ones, all resembling the father, and all males.—*Physiologie des Animaux.*

Dr. Sturtevant has lately treated the subject of "Sex in Breeding" to the extent of over ten columns in the *Scientific Farmer*, from which I should judge that he intended to give us an exhaustive article. It may, therefore, not be out of place to notice the more important conclusions. One of these is as follows: "We can find no evidence that sex production is governed by heredity; indeed, we think theoretical reasons would be against such a belief." This opinion, it will be noticed, is directly opposite to the one I have tried to sustain by this article. Can it be possible that facts can justify two so different conclusions? I think not, and we may reasonably ask the author what are the influences of age and vigor, of prepotency, of exhaustion, which he has considered in the order mentioned, but influences which are included in the term heredity? age has apparently no influence except by the difference of vigor at different ages; exhaustion is but the absence of vigor, and vigor, as I have already shown, is one of the most important elements of prepotency. But we find it stated that "prepotency has undoubtedly an influence on sex production," which is either a direct contradiction on an attempt to draw a line between prepotency and heredity, which hardly seems possible since the former is one of several influences which together form the latter. There is one other remarkable conclusion in this article to which I wish to call attention, and as it seems to be the main result of the whole essay, I will give the author the benefit of his own statement:

"We are led to believe that the vigor of the male can only be of benefit in determining the individual powers of each spermatozoon; and as but few of the immense number started for the egg, reach their destination and fulfill their function, and as there are little or no evidence that the spermatozoids themselves exercise any powers of volition, we must need believe that it is largely a matter of accident or circumstance which one of the spermatozoids is to have the opportunity of fulfilling its mission. Now in a drop of sperm, exhibited under the microscope, we find many spermatozoids apparently immature, and some more lively, and some showing slight differences from the others. It therefore seems probable that the male can exert but little prepotency as compared with the female, on account of the uncertainty concerning any individual spermatozoid in his case, and the certainty which attaches to the one egg in the other. The doctrine of probabilities in fact necessitates the belief that there is but little chance of any one of the numerous spermatozoa fulfilling its mission; and the prepotent ones are little likely, if such they are, to succeed against the many which are less prepotent."

This reasoning may be more comprehensive than the doctor intended, but if it applies to the production of sex, it is none the less applicable to prepotency in all its forms. And I am not sure that its application stops here; it looks very much like a re-opening of the old question as to which sex exerts the most influence on the offspring. It has long since been conclusively settled by actual facts, however, that the influences of the sexes are so nearly equal that a preponderance could not be decided on in favor of either. This brings us to the only other aspect of the question—does prepotency belong exclusively to the female sex? I say no, decidedly not; and the facts are so numerous to decide such a question, that it is useless to discuss it. No matter what the supposed facts that lead to this conclusion—no matter how scientific the reasoning, or how learned the man who broaches the theory, it is opposed to the great mass of facts with which every breeder is familiar, and it cannot stand for a minute when confronted by them. Do we not know of many cases where a stallion, or bull, or ram has been able to impress his likeness and characteristics on his offspring for several generations? And this was accomplished through his prepotency, if we understand what the word means; and if a male can be prepotent in transmitting his conformations and qualities, there can be no shadow of reason why he cannot be equally prepotent in transmitting his sex. And these cases of prepotency in the male are not so rare that they can be called matters of chance; on the contrary, they are so constant with certain individuals, that horsemen can often tell at a glance the offspring of certain stallions. It seems strange, indeed, that a practical breeder, and a man of scientific attainments, should allow himself to be carried to this extent by a mere theory supported by scarcely a single fact.—*D. E. Salmon, D. V. M., in Country Gentleman.*

FAMILIAR FARM TOPICS.

JAS. HANWAY.

NO. XLI.

THE AGE OF PROGRESS.

No one can appreciate the advantages of modern improvements in farm machinery equal to him who has lived to witness the progressive steps by which they have been introduced. The farmer of to-day, surrounded with all the labor-saving appliances which surround us, may reasonably remark "I don't see how farmers ever got along without them." There are many farmers living who can remember the time when threshing machines were first introduced, when the wooden mould board was the only plow in general use; when the hook or sickle was the only implement to cut off the grain.

If we come down to a more recent period, we may mention the mower, the horse hay rake, the sulky cultivator, the corn planter the corn stalk cutter, the horse hay fork, the grain drill, the gang plow and numerous other minor improvements which lessen muscular labor, and economize time and experience. The present generation who cultivate the soil for a living, can hardly appreciate the wonderful progress which has entered into the management of a farm. When we look back forty or fifty years and picture in the imagination the old awkward tools and implements of husbandry which were in use in those days, we cannot but believe that the Midas touch of inventive genius has been more than realized. And this wonderful march of progress is not confined to agricultural pursuits, but it has entered into all departments of manufacturing industry.

The arts and sciences are no longer confined to the higher schools of education, for they have found their way into the more humble walks of life. Every discovery increases the field of human knowledge and tends to make life more comfortable, for the burden of muscular labor is removed by machinery; the articles necessary for our domestic comforts are cheapened, and thus all are mutually benefited yet we are not happy, because we cannot obtain riches as fast as we desire. Our wants, it is true, increase as we advance in knowledge and civilization. Our Indians on the plains have few wants, and those chiefly to supply the cravings of hunger. The philosophy of life is to keep our desires within proper bounds, and not reach beyond our capacity to perform. The old adage of not having too many irons in the fire at one time has a significent meaning, but in the age of progress we may well afford to multiply our plans; all that is needful is to attend to them at the proper time; the more plans the better, provided we do not neglect them.

DARK BRAHMA CHICKENS—A REPLY TO TO MR. IVES.

MR. EDITOR.—I am surprised that among your many correspondents there are none who will not, or dare not, unsheathe the sword in defence of so noble a bird as the Brahma fowl; a bird so docile, so kind and so intelligent; one which minds her own business; never quarrelling and fighting like some birds, and one that don't require a fence as tight as a sieve, nor as high as a pine tree to keep them under control. They are one of the hardiest fowls raised, and has the most quiet disposition of any breed on this continent. They would not fly to the top of a wagon when they knew it was loaded with corn. They will begin laying just as early in the spring as the Leghorns; will average as many eggs through the season, for they are better winter layers, and are willing to deposit their eggs in nests you may arrange for them; while the Leghorn will run off and lay in some secret place, where no one can find them, and in fact, I don't know but the hen herself is not a little puzzled at times to find them; and I suppose she doesn't care much whether she does or not, as she does not receive the money they would bring, and the chicks that are in their shells she would not hover for three weeks for them nor would not feed them if some kind Brahma would hatch them and present them to her; although the most she cares for is roaming about, or undermining some plant in the garden or yard, which had a bug or worm on it last week, or pouncing upon some peacable mother that is leading her little brood through the garden or lawn in search of food; she flies upon her with fury, and as the mother directs the attention of her brood to the bug or worm on yonder plant she is pounced upon and her family is scattered in dismay.

Their meat is of a wild nature, tough, and are never fat, while the Brahmas' are the reverse, always ready for the table; the Leghorns will weigh only from three to four lbs. each, while the Brahmas average ten lbs. And to sum it all up if a person keeps only one breed of fowls they must keep some other breed than the Leghorn, or they cannot raise chickens.

G. W. BLACKROLL.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

CUTTING GRASS AND MAKING HAY.

Although this subject has been discussed for a long time, as much as any other pertaining to farm economy, it is hardly threadbare for there is still a difference of opinion as to time and methods of cutting and curing in order to get the best results from hay. Certain it is, however, that a great change has taken place in the minds of a vast number of farmers, in regard to the time of cutting grass, within a quarter of a century. For a long time the common practice was to allow the grass to stand until a portion of the seeds were ripe, and could be rubbed out of the head; and the reason alleged for allowing the crop to become thus mature was, that the hay would go farther in feeding; that it would last longer, or, as it was sometimes expressed, "spend" better. There is no question that it would take longer to feed such hay out, but the idea that it was therefore more valuable has been discarded. The majority of farmers have since learned what a few were not slow in discovering, that woody fibre possesses no nutrition and is of little use except in giving bulk to food, and that over-ripe hay has parted with a large percentage of its nutritive principles. Grasses attain their full development when in flower and they then contain the highest percentage of valuable materials, such as starch, sugar and accessories, as well as nitrogenous compounds, thus combining at that period more nutriment for sustaining animal life than at any other time. Intelligent observation in practice, as well as accurate analyses, have proved that in the transformation from flower to matured seed, the starch and sugar of the plant are largely converted into woody fibre, and this, as a matter of course, lessens its value. It is therefore simply a question of the value of woody fibre as compared with starch, sugar and vegetable oils and acids in building up and sustaining the animal economy; and the idea that hay cut over-ripe, will last longer than that cut when the grass is in flower, (which is still held by an individual here and there) losses its force. The time to cut, therefore, is that period when the grass contains the maximum of nutrition, and this point, as we have said, has been ascertained to be when the plant is in flower.

But curing hay probably is quite as important, if all of the nutritive properties it contains are secured, (or as nearly so as possible), as is the proper time of cutting it. It may be said, without risk of much debate, that this matter receives less attention among farmers generally than it ought to, or than its importance deserves. It hardly need be said that the process of curing is one which requires judgment and skill, for it is well understood that to be of value, hay must not be allowed to lie too long after it is cut before it is turned, and then put either into cocks, or the stack, or barn. The point to decide is, when the grass is cut; how to cure it so as to evaporate, a necessary quantity of moisture to secure its preservation, and retain the largest portion of its nutritive properties. The old method—and the one which a majority follow yet—is, to expose it to the action of the sun and the atmosphere—turning it in the swath so that both sides may be cured alike—until it has become fit for storing. But it has come to be understood by no inconsiderable number of our best farmers that in this rapid process of drying the hay parts not only with a considerable percentage of its moisture but with a portion also of its nourishing constituents. Herein is the *fine art*, so to speak, of curing hay; to arrest the loss of sugar and starch, or their change into woody fibre, just at the point where it is safe to put the hay into the barn. The practice of many is to expose it but a short time to the sun and atmosphere, put it into cocks, and in that way permit the heat generated by fermentation to dry it sufficiently to store in the mow, of its nutritious juices than when dried thoroughly in the sun.—*Western Rural.*

A writer in the *Floral Cabinet* asserts that the best thing she knows to keep bugs from plants, is to sprinkle onion water over the plants, and pour it also on the earth.

SLUGS ON ROSES.—These destroyers of the beautiful rose may be exterminated by using the following preparation: Take a quarter of a pound of white hellebore and steep it in a gallon of water. When cold, apply with a whisk brush. Two applicants will be enough.

GROWING PLANTS FROM SLIPS.

This process is described in a discussion at the American Institute substantially as follows:—"We must always bear in mind that a high temperatnre is necessary to grow plants from slips. They will seldom strike roots when the thermometer marks below sixty degress, and that is probably why so many fail. The best material to start cuttings of any kind, is in clean washed sand. If in the ground, make a hole an inch or two across, and fill it with sand. Grape propagators use nothing but sand and water at first. When roots start, the cuttings are changed to other pots filled with rich compost."

A neat and well arranged lawn adds great attraction to a home, whether in country or village, but a good vegetable garden from which is drawn the daily support of the family is of far more pleasure than nice lawns, delightful summer houses or vine-clad alcoves.

MULCH FOR SWEET POTATOES.

A correspondent of the *Rural Sun* advises that sweet potato hills be mulched with old straw, sorgo cane stalks, leaves, shavings, sawdust, old spent tan bark, or anything that will hold moisture, filling up between the ridges to the top; the mulch keeps down the weeds and grass, and keeps the vines from taking root between the ridges, and keeps the ground moist and warm, two very necessary conditions to the rapid growth of the tubers. Last spring the vines so mulched produced far more and better potatoes than the unmulched portion. The mulch is applied about the time the vines begin to form runners strongly.

Patrons of Husbandry.

STATE GRANGE DIRECTORY.

Master,	Wm. Sims,	Topeka,	Shawnee Co.
Overseer,	J. F. Willits,	Grove City,	Jefferson Co.
Lecturer,	J. T. Stevens,	Lawrence,	Douglas Co.
Steward,	W. D. Rippey,	Severance,	Doniphan Co.
Ass't. Steward,	S. W. Fisher,	Beloit,	Mitchell, Co.
Treasurer,	W. P. Popenoe,	Topeka,	Shawnee Co.
Secretary,	P. B. Maxson,	Emporia,	Lyon Co.
Chaplain,	W. H. Jones,	Holton,	Jackson Co.
Gate Keeper,	Geo. Amey,		Bourbon Co.
Ceres,	Mrs. H. A. Sims,	Topeka,	Shawnee Co.
Pomona,	Mrs. H. N. Barnes,	Manhattan,	Riley Co.
Flora,	Mrs. B. A. Otis,	Topeka,	Shawnee Co.
Lady Ass't. Ste'd	Mrs. A. Rippey,	Severance,	Doniphan Co

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

M. E. Hudson,	Mapleton,	Bourbon Co.	Cha'n.
W. H. Jones,	Holton,	Jackson	County.
Levi Dumbauld,	Hartford,	Lyon	County.

STATE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.

President,	M. E. Hudson,	Mapleton, Bourbon Co.
Secretary,	A. T. Stewart,	Kansas City, Mo.
Treasurer,	Wm. Sims,	Topeka, Shawnee, Co.

DEPUTIES.

The following named persons have been appointed Deputies for their respective counties, and are hereby authorized and empowered to perform all the duties of their said office in any other county of this state, where no deputy has been appointed.

"Deputies will be re-commissioned, or new appointments made, upon recommendation of County or District Grange or majority of masters in counties where no such organization exists."

W. S. Hanna,	Gen'l. Dep. Ottawa,	Franklin	County.
Geo. Y. Johnson,	Lawrence,	Douglas	County.
John Andrews,	Huron,	Atchison	County.
S. D. Underwood,	Junction City,	Davis	County.
S. W. Fisher,	Beloit,	Mitchell	County.
Geo. F. Jackson,	Fredoni,	Wilson	County.
D. C. Spurgeon,	Burlington,	Coffey	County.
Jas. W. Williams,	Risley,	Marion	County.
R. F. Ewalt,	Great Bend,	Barton	County.
C. S. Worley,	Eureka,	Greenwood	County.
Chas. A. Buck,	Oskaloosa,	Jefferson	County.
James McCormick,	Burr Oak,	Jewell	County.
L. M. Earnest,	Garnett,	Anderson	Co.
John C. Fohe,	Maywood,	Wyandotte	Co.
F. W. Kellogg,	Newton,	Harvey	Co.
J. S. Payne,	Elm Grove,	Linn	Co.
G. M. Summerville,	McPherson,	McPherson	Co.
W. H. Boughton,	Phillipsburgh,	Phillips	Co.
W. R. Carr,	Larned,	Pawnee	Co.
W. H. Pierce,	Oxford,	Sumner	Co.
James Faulkner,	Iola,	Allen	Co.
L. M. Hill,	Hill Springs,	Merris	Co.
W. J. Ellis,		Miami	Co.
George Amy,	Glendale,	Bourbon	Co.
E Herrington,	Hiawatha,	Brown	Co.
W. D. Covington,	Cedarville,	Smith	Co.
W. H. Jones,	Holton,	Jackson	Co.
J. H. Chandler,	Rose,	Woodson	Co.

Wm. Sims, Master.

LEAVING THE SECRETARY TO SETTLE.

The latest attempt to make the credit system and grange prices accord was made by the Secretary of a subordinate grange. He ordered a bill of goods for members of his grange from a merchant who sells to Patrons at reduced rates. The goods were sent as ordered, and were to be paid for as soon as they were received and found to be all right. But it so happened that the Secretary did not get the money for the goods before he ordered them, and he was not able to get it afterwards. The consequence is that the goods are still not paid for—except an inconsiderable portion—and the Secretary is liable for the price of them. Whether he will be forced to pay the bill, we do not know; but if he should be no blame can attach to the merchant who furnished the goods. The merchant has been long enough in business to know that there can be no harmony between the credit system and grange prices. He understands that to sell goods much below the usual retail prices he must sell more goods than retailers usually sell, and must sell them for cash. Otherwise he will speedily go to meet the Muscatine factory and the Louisiana agency.

For the Secretary, upon whom the obligation to pay for these goods rests, one cannot, however, help feeling some sympathy. It was merely a spirit of accommodation that prompted him to order the goods before he had received the money with which to pay for them; and, if he should now be compelled to pay for them with his own money, he would certainly be a victim of rank ingratitude, and might well pray to be delivered from his friends. But, while the Secretary's position enlists our sympathy, his course is not entirely closed to criticism. Ordinary business prudence would have prompted him to require the members who ordered the goods through him, to pay the money for them into his hands before he ordered the goods from the merchant. This could have been done without risk to the members, for the Secretary could have held the money until the goods has been received and examined. But by failing to make the requirement, the Secretary encouraged the violation of the first maxim of our organization, and assisted in a transaction that, if repeated often, will certainly bring the Order into disrepute and destroy its advantageous business relations.

If the Secretary is not wholly free from blame in this matter, what shall we say of the members for whom he acted? They ordered a certain amount of goods through him with, the understanding, expressed or implied, that the goods were to be purchased at grange—*i. e.* cash—prices. They knew that in ordering the goods for them the Secretary became personally liable. And yet, although they have received the goods and found them satisfactory, they have not furnished the cash with which to pay for them, but have left the Secretary to meet the obligation incurred in their behalf as best he may. This strikes us at last one degree worse than the shrewd operations heretofore noted in these columns. These members display all the short sightedness of the Patrons who use the grange agencies and co-operative stores to get "great bargains" from outside dealers, and, in addition, something that comes very close to dishonesty,—something that they would not hesitate to call dishonesty if it appeared in the conduct of the grange dealers. Their course is one that, however profitable it may have been to them at the time, cannot be long pursued without making the Order worthless as a business society, and is in effect appropriating that which belongs to another. By forcing the Secretary to pay their bills, these members in effect put their hands in his pockets and relieve him of his money. Their conduct, as Patrons at least, should be in effect something very different from this.—*Cincinnati Grange Bulletin.*

Young chickens frequently go blind in one or both eyes. Glycerine is a sure remedy. One small drop applied to each eye will soon cause the eyes to open, or so soften the edges of the lids as to admit of being easily opened with the point of a penknife. One or two applications will rulely fail to effect a cure.

Roses should be severely pruned annually, if you want new wood and large roses. Indeed if they were killed down to the ground by fr st about once in four years, it would do them no harm.

DECISION—A PATH TO WEALTH.

How long halt ye between two opinions?—*Elijah.* Halting is *mean, imbecile* and sometimes *wicked.* Come to one conclusion or another. Determination shows conviction, and an apprehension of a thing.

There can be no co-operation with a man who is undermined. He is a thorn, a stumbling-block, a dead weight, and a *deadhead.* Any attention to him will keep you back. He will stop you in the middle of a dangerous stream, and divert your attention when your house is on fire. When you say: "let us go," he will say, "wait awhile." He sees nothing distinctly, has feeble convictions, and no resolution. With him doubts prevail, and to dare and do *is sin.* The past has been a blank, or checkered with failures. He fails to learn anything from his failures, and yet he dreams he is a wise man, and able to tell a senator how to do; he reflects a great deal, and studies about cause and effect. He is thinking of planting corn, but when he has come to a conclusion, his neighbor's corn is up and worked once or twice; it is now too late. He intends to go to war, but Tom Jones gets to be a captain, and the war is ended before Mr. Irresolution enlists. Of course, *there is danger in doing;* but then there is but little danger in one doing his duty. To be out of place, is to be in danger. Moral duties are so plain that hesitation is a serious fault. In business matters a thoughtful man comes to a speedy conclusion, for the work of thought was mainly done long before the subject of decision presented itself. He has stock on hand. He is ready to say, "Yes," or "No," without any painful effort, and he makes but few mistakes, and these are slight ones. John Grigg said: "accustom yourself to think vigorously; mental capital, like pecuniary, to be worth any thing, must be well invested—must be rightly administered and applied, and to this end careful, deep and intense thought is necessary, if great results are looked for." This vigorous thinking makes decision possible; makes decision common instead of unusual. It helps one to decide at the right time, and to do the right thing. If perplexed in mind, go to God in prayer; the darkness may flee away and your path be made plain.

If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally. The fountain is inexhaustible. The giver loveth to give. The child and the aged, the humble and the exalted may have this wisdom, and may come to a prompt "*yea*" or "*nay*," with safety. "I will not," said a little boy stoutly; "what wont you do?" a passer-by asked, the little fellow answered: "That boy wants me to 'make believe' something to my mother, and I won't." There was safety. Cyprian, on his way to Martyrdom, was told by the Emperor that he would give him time to consider, if he had not better cast a grain of incense into the fire in honor of the idol gods, than to die so ignominiously. Cyprian replied "*there needs no deliberation in this case.*"

John Huss was offered a pardon at the stake if he would recant. His reply was: "I am here ready to suffer death." Thomas Hawks, in like circumstances, said: "If I had a hundred bodies, I would suffer them all to be torn in pieces rather than recant."

Rev. W. M. Punshon tells this beautiful story. Before the Reform Bill, the members of the city usually subscribed fifty guineas to the Edinburg races; and shortly after the election of 1841, Mr. Macauley was applied to on this behalf. His reply is a fine specimen of manly decision, he said: "In the first place, I am not clear the object is a good one; in the next place, I am clear, that by giving money for such an object, in observance to such a summons, I should completely change the whole character of my connection with Edinburg. It has been usual enough for rich families to keep a hold on corrupt boroughs by defraying the expenses of public amusements. Sometimes it is a ball, sometimes a regatta. The Derby family used to support the Preston races. The members from Beverly, I believe, find a bull for their constituents to bait. But these were not the conditions on which I undertook to represent Edinburg. In return for your generous confidence, I offer faithful parliamentary service, and nothing else. The call that is now made is one so objectionable, that I must plainly say, I would rather take the Chiltern Hundreds than comply with it."

His decision enabled him to save his honor and manhood, as well as his money, and to rebuke a base and ungrateful constituency.

Alexander the Great, on being asked how he had conquered the world, replied, "*By not delaying.*"

Of Stephen Girard it is written: "There seemed indeed to lurk, in the character of this individual, appreciations which the world could not understand. A deep sagacity, a just discrimination of what was right and proper, and a practical knowledge of the relation of things, and while other men were supposing that his mind was removed from the objects that surrounded him, he was in the solitude of his reflections, laying up treasures of knowledge, the result of observation and experience which enabled him to act with that promptitude and success that made his mercantile judgment almost the certain test of truth."

John Jacob Aster, found his most successful transactions to result from his decision, while others hesitated *he took the prize.* The hesitating man lets the strawberry spoil before his eyes, the ice cream melts before he gets ready to conclude how much he will eat, and the warm air settles the question—for there is now none to eat. Knowledge, reflection and decision go together; but decision must be nimble-footed. Knowledge may be gathered slowly—reflection like our breathing, constant and unconscious, but decision must be like the lightning's flash. Thus the work is done without the intermeddling of others. Counsel is well at times, but at other times the unity of one mind is best. When one line of policy is pursued, consistency of thought and action is maintained, and neither time, or opportunity is lost. Decision saved the thief on the cross, Peter on the sea, the three leppers from starving, and decision has lifted up, supported and made happy many of the worthy sons and daughters of earth.

"Many men are knowing; many are apprehensive and tenacious, but they do not rush to a decision. But in our flowing affairs a decision must be made—the best, if you can; but any is better than none. There are twenty ways of going to a point and one is the shortest; but set out at once on one. A man who has that presence of mind which can bring to him on the instant all he knows, is worth, for action, a dozen men who know as much, but can only bring it to light slowly."—*Emerson.*

Reflection on these things may help the reader to a manly decision, and the path to honor, pleasure and wealth will be opened wide.

John D. Knox.

Topeka, Kansas.

TO GROW FIRST-RATE CELERY.

Celery, above all garden crops, prefers a rich, moist soil. Where these conditions do not naturally exist, it is necessary, to make an attempt to compensate for their absence by means of composts and expedients. The very usual way of growing celery in trenches, and which is adopted in all sorts of soils, is not in every case practicable, or, if practicable, is not always best. In thin soils particularly, it is not well to excavate a trench to within a few inches of the subsoil. It is better to plant on the surface, and thus provide, as much depth for the roots to ramify as it is possible. In all such cases the trench should be excavated, but it should also be filled up with compost or manure about the present time so as to be in a nicely mellowed condition before planting time comes round. A compost of turfy soil enriched with about one-third of its bulk of old cow manure we have found to be better for the production of first-rate celery than of manure alone. The latter is apt to produce abundance of fibre and bulk, but these are the least essential qualities in high class celery. What is most appreciated is solidity combined with succulency and crispness. The compost is immensely superior to the manure in the development of these qualities, and it is advisible to use it if attainable, no matter what the character of the natural soil may be. If the soil is deep and moist, trenches of moderate depth may be made, but they should be made now, the benefits from other considerations, such as the ripe instead of raw condition of the medium in which the roots are placed, will be great.—*North British Agriculturist.*

RHUBARB AS FOOD.

Every now and then somebody is hinting that rhubarb is injurious to the human family. Having eaten freely for sixty years, cooked in every form, during April, May and June, and having fed my family with it plentiful, I can say with certainty it is the very best purifier of blood, and the most useful plant, used as fruit, in a garden. The reason for the pretended dislike to it is, that it takes a good deal of sugar, but if a barrel extra was used, it ought not to be grudged, as it will save more than two or three barrels' worth of sugar in keeping the doctor from the house. Where it is used all the year round (as it can be), there is no need for drugs or quack medicines.

Put a good deal of sugar with it and it is very nice. Why should people be so afraid of the cost of sugar? The money saved by stinting the family in sugar cannot be taken to the next world by any one. The stingiest kind of people, who think they save by being so careful about expenses, overreach themselves, as physic, pills and poisons cost them much more. A very few visits from the doctor cost more than a barrel of sugar. We ate rhubarb all last summer, and doubtless shall do it every year we live, and we cannot be made to believe a word of ill about this cheapest of all fruit.

A MOTE IN THE EYE.

Whenever a fly or other insect, a small flying seed, quick-lime, dust, or any other minute object, gets into the eye, (*i. e.*, under the eyelid,) do not adopt the common habit of rubbing, or even of washing with water, but gently raise, or get a gentle hand to raise for you, the eyelid, and bend the head forward. In keeping thus the eyelid elevated and the eye quiescent for a few moments, one feels a flow of tears starting from the organ which seldom fails to bring along with it the cause of the pain, or at least to carry it towards the corner of the eye next to the nose, from whence it can be removed by a fine handkerchief folded to a point. If this operation is not sufficient, then a finger ought to be passed frequently, but gently, over the eyelid, from the exterior corner of the eye toward the great canthus (or exterior corner), by which means the substance is made to descend towards the lachrymal glands, from whence it may be drawn by a fine hair pencil. If the irritating substance still remains, the upper eyelid must be taken as before and kept elevated as much as possible, and the eye being then turned toward the nose a very fine camel's hair pencil, dipped in cream, oil, or perfectly fresh butter (without an atom of salt in it, remember,) must be introduced between the eyelid and the body of the eye, beginning at the exterior corner and ending at the interior corner. If the very fine hair pencil is not successful you will be almost certain to succeed with one rather larger. Should all these efforts fail, which is extremely unlikely if they are properly performed, do not set to work rubbing or washing the eye, as you must obtain professional assistance. Be sure to bathe the eye frequently in cold water as soon as, and for some time after the irritating substance is extracted.

Asters will bloom much more freely if their roots are mulched with coarse litter or stable manure, and are also copiously watered with fertilizers. Thus treated, they will be perfectly covered with bloom; and for a brilliant autumnal shower, we know nothing in the whole range of flowers that can compare with them.

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THE FINE ART OF PIG FEEDING.

G. W. Fisk, of Branch county, Michigan, gives something of his experience in pig feeding in a late number of the N. Y. *Tribune*, which possesses interest to farmers generally, He says:

"I have had some fifteen years of careful experience in pig feeding, which has been attended with very gratifying results. There are at least four important conditions upon which success depends: First, a good breed; second, abundance of the right kind of feed; third, a good pen; fourth, a man who knows how to feed. I prefer a distinct breed or family to a cross, but would keep them as distinctly related as possible, as I think they will be more uniform in size, symmetry, and general feeding qualities. I am accustomed to feed somewhat on the high-pressure systemo believing that the more a pig can be made to eat and digest the better pay I shall get for his feed.

It is my practice to wean pigs at about six weeks old. I then give them all the sour milk they will eat, if I have it, with plenty of corn, and when they come to require more food add bran or middlings, apples, potatoes; in fact, anything they will eat; and thus feed until they will weigh perhaps 150 or 175 pounds, when I gradually change from bulky food to corn meal—either soured or scalded and then soured—till they get nothing but the latter, with perhaps milk. I also feed with their food a small allowance of salt, and keep charcoal or wood ashes within reach all the time. Somewhat in accordance with these suggestions I have fed several very fine lots. Two years ago I raised two litters of seventeen pigs, nine of which were sold on foot, averaging 260 pounds at seven months. The remainder, a litter of eight, were kept and slaughtered at eight months and ten days old, weighing in the aggregate 2,410 pounds. The most remarkable lot I ever handled were seventeen Poland-Chinas, which I have lately disposed of, dressed in three different lots, as follows:

	Number of Pigs.	Age in Days	Live Weight.	Dressed Weight.	Average Dressed.	Per cent of Shrinkage
First	6	190	1,626	1,409	233½	13.9
Second	5	199	1,409	1,180	236	15.5
Third	6	205	1,732	1,477	246½	14.7

Included in the above are two pigs thirteen days younger, which, if the data could be separated, would increase the figures somewhat. At 2½ months they had reached a daily average of one pound, when they gradually rose to 2½ pounds, and then fell to a trifle more than 2 pounds daily gain, which they kept until they were slaughtered. The heaviest pig at 205 days weighed alive 332, and dressed 283 pounds. As near as could be ascertained, they had cost, in mill feed at the price paid and in corn at 55 cents, a trifle more than 3½ cents per pound, dressed weight. I should perhaps add that my pen is a warm and well ventilated basement, with a yard adjoining also, that a variety of food given to the growing animal increases the value of the whole, and that corn fed the pig with coarser food, will be well digested without grinding, also giving him a disposition to take on fat as well as growth which is important when wanted to mature early."

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