

THE KANSAS FARMER

ESTABLISHED, 1863.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, AUGUST 13, 1879.

VOL. XVII. NO. 33.

THE KANSAS FARMER.

HUDSON & EWING, Editors and Proprietors
Topeka, Kansas.

Literary Items.—No. 21.

VOX POPULI, VOX DEI.

That is to say, "The voice of the people is the voice of God." It is an expression often used in a democratic form of government, but seldom in a hereditary monarchy. Statesmen and even divines sometimes used this Latin expression, but it is usually found in the mouths of demagogues when they are flattering the people. "The people pleasers are not always the friends of the people," as the late Judge Breckenridge, of Pennsylvania, justly remarked.

Old father Noah, when he entered the ark, was most certainly in a small minority. The people were left to perish; the cry of "Vox Populi, Vox Dei" could not save them. At the time of the French Revolution of 1789, "When France got drunk on blood to vomit crime," the ensignia was inscribed on their banner, "Vox Populi, Vox Dei." Even in our boasted land of freedom and toleration, no man, however exalted he might have been, who had the boldness and humanity to proclaim publicly that American slavery was a sin and a crime, and ought to be abolished, was safe in person or property in the majority of the states of this Union. Four years of dreadful, cruel war, has enlightened the public mind; now the cry is that slavery is the most baneful curse that ever afflicted any country.

Can we consistently explain in the pulpit, in our colleges, or on the stump, "Vox Populi, Vox Dei?" For one I say, let this atheistical sentiment be burned with the barbarism of American slavery.

ST. VITUS DANCE.

The name of St. Vitus dance, is said to have arisen from the custom formerly prevalent, for those afflicted with the disease, to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Vitus, whom the French call St. Guy, near Ulm, in Suabia, where they were miraculously healed. This dance is characterized by an involuntary contraction of the muscles, without a complete loss of the power of the will.

Wonderful stories have been recorded of the exercises performed on the devotees of St. Vitus, and as their intellects were frequently disordered, it was believed that the only cure which could be brought about was by dancing again at the anniversary of St. Vitus. Those afflicted with this singular malady, no longer seek the shrine of St. Vitus, but the insane asylum, where they are treated by the skill of the physician without the aid of miracles.

STRANGE OMISSIONS.

Salmon P. Chase, ex-governor of Ohio, and late secretary of the United States treasury, when he was practicing law in the city of Cincinnati, prior to the late war, was selected to deliver an address on the anniversary of the West India emancipation. A curious circumstance connected with the delivery of the address, was the omission of the name of the venerable Thomas Clarkson, who was only second in his labors in the cause of West India emancipation to that of William Wilberforce. This evidently proves that Salmon P. Chase was no common lawyer who could play Hamlet when Hamlet was left out.

But we have another recent illustration of a strange omission. To render the case intelligible to the reader, we will state that a new observatory for scientific purposes has recently been established on the mountain peak known as Puy-de-Dome, in the south of France. Its elevation is 4,688 feet above the sea level.

Puy-de-Dome is famous as the scene of the experiment which resulted in the demonstration of the theory of the

BAROMETER.

Torricelli, (the pupil of Galileo) long before had said that the weight of the air is sufficient to keep a column of mercury at a height of thirty inches in vacuum, but his assertion was ridiculed. The celebrated French writer, Pascal, suggested testing the question by transporting the mercury to the peak of Puy-de-Dome. One Perrier acted on the hint, and he saw the mercury fall nearly three inches at the summit of the mountain, to rise again to its former level as he descended into the valley. The French give all the credit of the proof to Pascal and the speeches of the members of the French association for the advancement of science on the occasion of the inauguration of the new observatory, contain no mention of Perrier.

JAS. HANWAY.

Lane, Kansas.

Notes For the Season.

BY PROF. E. GALE.

CURRENT CUTTINGS

Can now be made. As the new growth has matured and the leaves fallen, the sooner this is done the better. Many in our climate fall with current cuttings because they overlook the fact that its wood matures early, and makes an early spring growth. These cuttings should be made eight or ten inches long, and set immediately in a bed deeply and thoroughly pulverized. The soil should be firmly pressed about the lower ends of the cuttings. The bed should then be partially shaded with brush or lath; or, if convenient, the bed may be made on the north side of a board fence or stone wall. The protection of a fence or wall is better than the shade of trees, since the latter withdraws the moisture from the soil. After the cuttings are rooted, however, they will frequently do quite well under the shade of trees, if carefully cultivated. Cuttings prepared at this season and properly protected will be nicely rooted before winter sets in, and will make good, healthy plants for next spring. The conditions of success with the currant in our climate are: a thoroughly enriched soil, careful cultivation, and most important of all, partial or entire protection from the afternoon sun.

THE SEED OF THE LINC, OR BOWWOOD, should now be gathered by those wishing to raise seedlings next year. The seed can be most conveniently pulled from the tree, and in this way a large quantity can be gathered in a short time. The seed should take on a yellowish shade, indicating its maturity before gathering. It should be immediately mixed with moist sand and the whole buried in earth, where the mice will not be likely to find it, until very early spring, when it should be sowed in the seed-bed. As the seed starts very early in the spring, some protection will frequently be needed against frosts.

SHADE TREES CAN BE TRANSPLANTED now. Such species as mature their wood early are to be selected. The leaves of course are to be stripped from the trees before or as soon as they are dug, and should be out of the ground as little time as possible. It is safe in such cases to leave the entire top on for the present and prune what may be necessary next spring. Trees cannot be transported far at this season, but every farmer should have his own little home nursery, then he can, at any time after the first of August, fill up gaps in last spring's planting. I have just examined some elm trees transplanted August 5th, 1875, and am well satisfied with the growth made in four years.

This examination leads me to call attention to a convenient and

PERMANENT TREE LABEL.

It consists simply of a narrow strip of sheet zinc, with the name, date, and other matters to be noted, written upon the zinc with a common lead pencil. The writing will show quite dimly at first, but year by year grows more legible. I have such labels that have been exposed to the weather for four years. The record made upon them is perfect, and promises to last as long as the zinc plates, which will certainly be many years. Away with all patent pencils and corrosive compositions. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Homestead Ornamentation.

A few suggestions in regard to the location of buildings and the planting and laying off of grounds may not be out of place. For your house, choose high, rolling ground. Let your house stand from six to twelve rods back from the road. Never, upon any account, let your barn or farm buildings, cattle-yards or pens, coal-yards or anything unsightly, come between your house and the road, or prominently in view.

Plant your trees in groups, imitating nature. Don't fall into the error of planting everything in stiff rows. Nothing so much shows the lack of good taste. Give curves and rounded corners when possible.

The approach to the house should come from a side direction, and wind toward the house with a natural curve. Not that it should be made crooked and tortuous, but the trees should be so arranged, in clumps, as to make it seem the most natural and easy way of approach. There is another thing you should never neglect. Turn out all hands for, say some half day, or more if necessary. Don't wait until you have nothing to do, but make a general clearing up of the yard and premises. Gather the old reapers, mowers, hayrakes and racks, and

other odds and ends of broken and dilapidated machinery, and consign them to the woodpile and old iron heaps. Such tools as are really valuable, put away safely; and you will be astonished at the great improvements a few hours time has made in the neatness and tidy look of your premises.

In fitting up a place, difficulties are often experienced. We want a grassy lawn, and we want trees, but trees will not grow well in grass. It is best, therefore, to plant the trees first, and cultivate the ground in broad crops for several years, until the tree gets a good start before seeding down. Small fenced-in yards should be avoided—they give your place a contracted, pinched-up look. Fences should not be used more than is absolutely necessary. The garden ground, however, may be included with the house and lawn, but the fence, in this case, should be made of some light kind that will obstruct the view of the grounds as little as possible.—Western Rural.

Servants.

A lady correspondent in the New England Farmer, takes the following view of the servant question:

"The question is often asked than satisfactorily answered, why so few American girls are willing to go out doing housework. For work which is, in itself, healthful and invigorating, and which will, in all probability, be the avocation of most of them through life, they seem to have a decided aversion, at least as far as working for wages is concerned. Among a variety of reasons for this dislike, perhaps none is more important than the inferior social position which 'servants' must occupy. We are referred to the good old times when help was plenty, and it was considered no disgrace for girls belonging to excellent and well-to-do families to go out in service. But times have changed, and in nothing more than in drawing more closely the lines of social distinction. In those days, the 'help,' at least in ordinary country homes, was treated as one of the family; mistress and maid 'did up the work' together, and then sat down to their sewing or knitting, both of them better for the rest which the change of labor brought. It was not unusual for young ladies to teach school in summer and go out to work at other seasons of the year, without their efficiency in either department of labor being impaired or questioned. I doubt if the work of the average servant was as hard then as it is now, although there was spinning, weaving, etc., to be done. The importation of a multitude of forms and ceremonies from foreign countries, where there is a swarm of servants to be kept out of idleness, has had the effect of rendering housework a much more formidable affair than it used to be. These may be all very well, but where they are required, there should be help enough so that one pair of hands need not be obliged to do the work of six. Employers, many of them, at least, seem to think they are cheated unless a girl is on her feet all day long. One of the chief requisites of a servant is, that she shall 'never get tired.' Another is that she shall 'know her place.' She may be a person of as much intelligence and refinement as her mistress, but she must not eat at the same table nor associate with her daughters. In short, she is treated as if she belonged to another and an inferior race, simply because she works for wages. This is the case in many places; there are honorable exceptions, and, in such places, I think there is seldom any trouble with servants. The wise housekeeper is she who treats her servants as she would wish her own daughters to be treated in a similar position; who recognizes the fact that a girl may get tired, even though she receives pay for her work; who does not find fault indiscriminately, for the mere love of doing so; who follows so far as possible the golden rule. Such a person will assuredly receive more and better work from her servants than one who takes the opposite course."

French Soap Making Processes.

The superior quality characterizing the finer grades of French soap now in the market is said to be due to the following processes which have recently been introduced into the manufacture of the toilet sorts. The blocks of rough soap to be made into this description of products, are first cut into thin shavings in a planing machine, and these shavings are then ground with coloring matter, essential oils, and scents, until they form a homogeneous paste. The machine for grinding contains granite cylinders, which pass the paste automatically between them, and finally into the

upper portion of the hopper. After the paste has been ground it passes to a machine called the pelotense, or mixing mill, which stretches and draws it out, and prepares it for being moulded and stamped. The pelotense does instantly what at one time required several weeks of scraping, washing and drying. It is a mortar, in which the soap paste is packed until it is freed of air, and from which it is then forced by increased pressure, passing through draw plates of any required cross section. A self-acting cutter divides the stream of soap into blocks of any desired size or weight, just as cutters on brick machines divide the continuous streams of clay into bricks. The blocks of soap are then taken to a press, which shapes or moulds them, and impresses on them the name of the moulder, etc.

Early Feeding.

Raise winter rye for feeding in May before your cattle get a good bite in the pasture. This would enable you to keep your cattle out of the pasture until June, then in May or June put in corn in rows to feed in August and September. This would also save your pasture and improve it. If your cattle were allowed to run in the pasture while feeding the corn they would enrich it with their droppings, and if the demand for your butter and cheese would warrant it, you might keep more stock than your pastures could carry, taking good care to spread the droppings. You would find your pastures improving, and if while feeding your rye and corn you kept your cows stabled half or a quarter of a day, besides at night-time, you would have every fall a large amount of manure with which to top-dress your meadows, provided always that you have a barn-cellar, which should be a necessary appendage under every barn.—E.

We do not approve of the advice to have a manure cellar under a barn. A worse arrangement for the health of stock could not be devised. Keep the stables scrupulously clean and pile the manure in a flat heap on the outside. Keep it wet and it will rot finely.

Let Him See!

Why is it necessary to blind the horse? The theory that a horse is less apt to be frightened when shut from everything behind him, we suspect to be a fallacy, else saddle-horses and war-horses would be duly blinded. Every horse is as familiar with his own carriage as with his own tail, and as far as his personal fortitude is concerned, is no more disturbed at being pursued by one than another. As for scarecrows that come behind, they are mostly familiar to the animal, and the more fully the horse can perceive them the more quietly does he submit to their approach. Then it is such a pity to cover up one of the most brilliant features of this most brilliant creature. Give the horse his due, and remove the blinders.

Why the Millers Object.

It is well known that some of the millers object to the Fultz wheat. Some of them will not buy it. Mat. Follett, superintendent of Thompson's mills, Edinburg, has explained to one of our correspondents the reason for this objection. He says: "The percentage of gluten is too small and the starchy matter is too great to make the best grades of flour. Gluten tends to strengthen the flour and make it absorb water and hold it in the gases of the yeast when making bread."

—Indiana Farmer.

A Financial Convenience.

We do not propose to enter the list of those whose business it is to "tinker the currency," but there is a want that is felt by business men every day, that the proper authorities should supply as soon as possible. When it is necessary to send small sums of money by mail, we have no means of making the fraction of a dollar. Postage stamps are generally substituted for this purpose. This is not only diverting them from their legitimate use, but in warm damp weather they stick together, and to everything they come in contact with, and when they are received it is difficult to convert them into money.

What we want is a postal dime, on fine light paper, to be sold at postoffices and redeemable in silver coin. He who will supply this want will be a public benefactor.—Ind. Farmer.

Toads.

French industry and sagacity take the lead

of the world in little things, if nothing more. Toad culture is a regular business with the economic people, and the demand for toads is great and increasing. The useful little animals are employed as insect destroyers, and not only in the gardens of the country, but thousands of them, packed down in baskets of damp moss, are sent to other countries and sold to the gardeners. The more observing horticulturists and floriculturists have long been aware of their value as insect destroyers, and utilized them to a greater or less extent. And it is not much to the credit of American gardeners and farmers that they have never recognized the services of this helpful and innocent little reptile. Nature conducts her operations by reciprocal means, and if she gives us the hurtful insects to eat up our crops, she also gives us the birds, toads, etc., to eat up the insects. The farmer should keep a close eye on nature, and seek to make her manifold operations helpful, instead of casting hindrances in the way by destroying her agents. The successful farmer has great need to be a good economic naturalist. Many things as loathsome looking as the toad, are the farmer's friend.—Rural Messenger.

Butter Making.

"If I have made a discovery, or if everybody knew it before me, I will tell it just the same. As soon as the cream shows signs of 'coming,' pour into the churn two or three quarts of water—as near ice-cold as it is possible to get—and the butter will gather a great deal quicker and come hard and firm. I tried the cold water (ice water) on the start, and found it made the cream too cold and kept the butter from coming; but put in at the last end it is a capital idea, and will save hours of churning in the course of the season. Butter will come in fifteen or twenty minutes, as a rule, if the cream is in the right condition and temperature. A cool cellar is cool enough to start the churning, and as near right as most farmers can get it without thermometers and ice, and cold well-water will lower the temperature for gathering. The temperature of our cellar is 64°, and the butter invariably comes quick, with the help of cold water, which is probably two degrees colder. When the cream stands too long on the milk before skimming the butter will not come so quickly, and it is always poorer, and such butter will not keep well. This is one reason, and the main one, why there is so much rancid butter. Better churn oftener and have good, sweet butter, and skim oftener also.—Cor. of Rural New Yorker.

Choosing a Physician.

"To choose a physician," as Lady Mountcashel has well remarked, "one should be half a physician one's self; but as this is not the case with many, the best plan which a mother of a family can adopt is to select a man whose education has been suitable to his profession, whose habits of life are such as prove that he continues to acquire both practical and theoretical knowledge; who is neither a bigot in old opinions nor an enthusiast in new; and, for many reasons, not the fashionable doctor of the day. A little attention in making the necessary inquiries will suffice to ascertain the requisites here specified; to which should be added what are usually found in medical men of real worth—those qualities which may serve to render him an agreeable companion; for the family physician should always be the family friend."

EDITORS FARMER: As it is the intention of some people in this part of the country to come to Kansas either this fall or next spring, I wish some of your many correspondents would be kind enough to tell me whether southeastern Kansas is troubled with fever and ague, and if so, what part and to what extent it is—a question often raised here, and I would like to have it answered.

I have seen in the FARMER something about sub-earth ventilation. I should like to know more about it. Will you please, through the FARMER, tell me how I can get it? also, if it is the principle or the machinery that is patented? By complying, you will much oblige—

L. THORNTON.

Fall River, Mass.

Write to Prof. J. Wilkinson, Harvard, McHenry county, Illinois, the inventor and patentee of S. E. V., and he will give you all the information desired.—[Eds.]

A tame owl used in former times to be as common in English barns as a cat in a house. He was kept for the mice which depredated on the grains.

Count Clark

Farm Stock.

The Habits of the Pig.

A perusal of some recent local reports, in which that despised animal, the pig, has infinite abuse and contempt heaped upon him, as a quadruped of the most vicious and degraded propensities, induces us to say a word or two in favor of the much-maligned porker, and to ask that he, as well as animals of better repute, may have fair play. The fact is the pig has a bad name as an unclean animal, whose habits are essentially and naturally filthy, and who will feed on disgusting food from which other animals will turn away. He is thus left to revel in the refuse that he is supposed to prefer, and for the most part no pains are taken to teach him better. A little knowledge of his instincts will, however, show that, so far from the pig being naturally an unclean animal, he is naturally the reverse; and this view is strongly borne out by Dr. Ballard, in a report which he some time ago presented to the local government board on the "Etiology of Nuisances Arising in Connection with the Keeping of Animals." "When the pig wallows in mire," says Dr. Ballard, "he merely follows an instinct implanted in him, in common with some other pachydermatous creatures, the object of which is cutaneous cleansing. The mud stands to him in the relation of soap to a human being, but instead of washing it off with water, he allows it to cake and dry upon the skin, and then rubs it all off, mud and cutaneous debris together, upon some sufficiently rough surface. Loose hair and cutaneous scurf irritate him, and he takes his own way of cleansing his skin from them. Cleanse his skin for him, and he will rest in contentment, without offending the eyes of his supercilious betters, often less scrupulous in this matter than he is, by his wallowings, scratchings and scrubbings. It has long been known that a pig thus cleansed, with soap and water, not only becomes less objectionable, but grows fat more speedily than if left to cleanse himself in his own way. Similarly as respects his food. Garbage is not the food that the pig selects by preference. In fact, a pig which has been fed for any time upon sweet food will turn away from sour and disgusting food. If left to pick up his living where he can find it, he will eat anything he can find that is eatable, but even then will eat acorns, fallen fruit, or roots in preference to garbage, and human beings in similar straits will act precisely in the same way." It may be economical, and perhaps even desirable, to convert into pork matters which can in no other way, or in no way more convenient, be made subservient to the subsistence of mankind, and the pig is possibly properly utilized in this manner. Our only desire is to vindicate his character as a cleanly feeder, if only he has the chance of cleanly feeding vouchsafed him.—*English Sanitary Record.*

How to Make Cows Give Milk.

A writer in the *Southern Farmer* says his cow gives all the milk that is wanted in a family of eight, and that from it, after taking all that is required for other purposes, 280 pounds of butter were made this year. This is in part his treatment of the cow:—"If you desire to get a large yield of rich milk give your cows every day water slightly warm and slightly salted, in which bran has been stirred at the rate of one quart to two gallons of water. You will find, if you have not tried this daily practice, that your cow will give twenty-five per cent. more milk immediately under the effects of it, and she will become so attached to the diet as to refuse to drink clear water unless very thirsty. But this mess she will drink almost any time, and ask for more. The amount of this drink necessary is an ordinary water pail full at a time, morning, noon, and night."

Apiary.

Apiary Work for August.

If possible, we want our honey room in the warmest part of the building occupied, so as to evaporate the honey that is in the few unsealed cells around the edges of the boxes next to the wood, so that when we come to glass it or get it ready for market the honey will not run out and soil the combs or boxes. To this end we painted our shop a dark color, and located our honey room in the southwest corner, so that the rays of the afternoon sun would make it very warm. When we get a ton or so of honey in it, the temperature stands at 90 degrees day and night, as the honey holds the heat generated during the day through the night. By leaving it thus for a month we have our honey so we can tip it over just as we wish without leakage, and if after it gets to market it is stood in a damp cool room, it will be some time before it will take on moisture enough to affect the looks of the comb to any extent.

We are often asked by correspondents what is the cause of their honey being transparent and oozing out of the cells. The cause is dampness. While in New York City in 1877, I saw honey that had been kept in a damp, underground room so long that the sealing of the cells was burst and the honey had soured so it smelled very badly and was leaking fearfully. While speaking to the parties about it, they said they believed a cellar the best place to keep honey, but it needed little argument to convince them that they were wrong. Of course this high temperature will cause the moths to hatch soon, but I told you last month how to head them off.

In this locality the crop of white honey will

all be off by the middle of this month, and then we are ready to go to glassing and sealing the first off. Have your crate by your side and your glass near you. First get the propolis out of the corners of the box, if there is anywhere the glass is to come; then bend up the little tin put in to hold the glass, drop in your glass, and bend down the tin. Now you can scratch off the propolis on the edges of the box without getting it on the honey. Scrape off clean so the box will look nice and tidy, and set in the crate. In crating honey it is always proper to put the best side of the honey out, the same as wool is done up. We once knew a man to do up his wool with the dark or outside ends out, and he could hardly sell it at any price. Why? Not because the wool was not just as good, but because it did not look so well. Just so with a crate of honey. Market men want the best side out, but don't mistake and fill up the center of the crate with dark honey. Grade your honey as given last month, and then put the best side of each lot out, but let your white honey be all No. 1 white.

When the crates are full put on the cover with bright, round-headed screws. This gives the crate a nice appearance, does not tend to break the honey by driving nails, and the cost is but a trifle. When crated, sandpaper off the sharp corners and top of the crate, and pack nicely away until ready to ship for market.

We have had much trouble in getting glass cut accurate enough to suit me, as they do not expect to cut very close at the factories, and if a glass is a little large it springs the box from the honey and sets it to leaking. For the past few years we have bought our glass cut 6x30 in. and recut it the 5-inch way ourselves. We cut the same as in a miter box; that is, have a box fixed with regulating screws, so that you can cut the glass just exactly 5 in. every time. Have your cutting stick fastened to the box so the glass will go under it, shove up the screws and cut; leave a drop of 2 in. under, and touch down; shove up and cut again, breaking off as before. Thus you can cut very fast and secure every glass is right.

Sell your honey, if possible, rather than ship on commission, for the returns rendered by the commission men are not always satisfactory. Always ship your honey in warm weather (the first half of September), if possible, as it will go much more safely than in cold weather. If you can sell your honey at home do so, but the most of us cannot so dispose of a large quantity. If we prefer to have our buckwheat and fall honey stored in boxes, we leave them on the hive, otherwise it is best to take them off, for the bees dig them with propolis badly at this season of the year. A good way is to take off the boxes and put in frames in place of the side boxes, having them filled to store away for feeding purposes, or get your starters for the bees for next season built now. Bees will build comb very fast in the body of the hive during a good buckwheat yield.

Look after your colonies and see that none are queenless, and if there is with your much unite them so as to make good colonies. We never could have much success rearing queens and introducing after the yield of buckwheat honey was over, although it is advised by some of our best apiarists. We would rather raise and introduce five queens during July than one in September. Keep things looking tidy and nice about your shop and bee yard, and be ready next month to fix your bees for winter.—*G. M. Doolittle in American Bee Journal.*

Poultry.

Those Black Plymouth Rocks.

Some two months since I saw a piece in your paper which attracted my attention at once, and I intended to write immediately to you on the subject, but kept postponing it until the present time. I think (am not sure as I have mislaid the paper the piece was in, and have to depend altogether upon memory,) the writer was A. G. Chase, of Millwood, Kansas, and he complained of sending to some "fancier" for some Plymouth Rock eggs, and when they were hatched there was some of them "all black." Now I suppose the writer of that piece thought that he was the victim of a fraud, but I think if he had bred Plymouth Rocks for three or four years, he would not have thought so. At least had he followed his own natural policy in mating his fowls, for a person not knowing the results, would say, in mating Plymouth Rocks: "Now this dark colored cockerel is the prettiest one in the flock, so are these dark colored pullets, and I will mate them together and obtain some fine specimens of the breed." How will it "pan out" in the fall? I will guarantee that every one making such a yard for himself will be dissatisfied, when the chickens come, with the result, and will (if birds are so mated) get some black chickens.

The Plymouth Rock breed of fowls have not been bred as a distinct breed of fowls long enough yet, but what (if you give them a chance) they will breed back to their origin, one of which was the Black Java.

I think the best way to mate Plymouth Rocks, is to put a light colored cock with dark colored hens. To be sure this is not the way I would mate them to show, but to get the best results in their produce. A trio of mine mated that way, from which we have hatched about fifty chickens, gave me the best results, as I have not had a black one in the lot.

I have not the least doubt but what the eggs shipped our friend, from which he hatched the black chickens, were pure Plymouth Rock eggs as the ones that hatched out speckled chicks. The trouble was in the mating of the parent birds. The Plymouth Rocks have not

been bred as long as the Dominiques, and if less is bred as they want to themselves, will soon breed wrong again. I do not know of whom our friend obtained his eggs, but I will dare say he was as innocent of doing wrong, and would have felt as badly had he done wrong as would our friend himself.

PLYMOUTH ROCK.

French Poultry Women.

In France the women are, in majority, the city shop-tenders, the hotel and boarding-house keepers, the managers of *maisons meubles*, or furnished lodgings, and, pre-eminently, they take the lead in the country districts as cultivators of poultry for the markets or for table consumption.

There are few or no poultry "fanciers" there, as we have this class in the United States, or as they prevail in England. A great many thousand scores of *poules capons*, ducks, geese and pigeons are raised around Paris annually, for sale in the markets of the metropolis. But almost the entire stock of poultry hatched and reared in France is grown for this purpose alone.

The women are experts at this work, however, and throughout the country villages contiguous to Paris, Lyons, Havre, Marseilles, and other large cities, great quantities of chickens are kept, tended, fattened, dressed, and carried to the town markets by them twice or thrice a week, where they are always sold by auction, upon the ringing of a bell announcing this legal mode of disposing of the stock.

The chickens are thus quickly disposed of, for cash and usually at a given hour prescribed by the authorities; and the poultry women then resort to the nearest *bouillon*, or soup-house, where they breakfast upon a big loaf of nice French bread, which they cut up into a large bowl of chocolate or coffee—at a cost of three or four *sous*—and when devoured they trudge home, contented and happy, upon a full stomach.

There is no heartier, healthier or happier class of people in the world than these French poultry women. They understand their business, too, being taught to care for the fowl stock from an early age. They raise good chickens also. But almost all these are sold, when they are young for "broilers."

Few turkeys or geese are raised there, in comparison with the quantities of chickens and pigeons produced. These women—next to the Chinese—are the best makers and growers of capons known. The incubator is in use in the more extensive poultry yards, but, as a rule, these places are small, and hens are used for hatching the eggs.—*Poultry World.*

Whole Wheat for Fowls.

There is more solid nutriment in whole wheat, as a feed for poultry, than in any of the cereals, weight for weight. It is an excellent kind of grain for this use, though somewhat more expensive than other sorts; but too much of this hearty feed is detrimental, particularly when carelessly fed to Cochins, Brahmas, etc.

Fowls are very partial to wheat. It helps the laying capacity of hens, but it should not be used except with discretion as to the quantity allowed them daily. An excess of this grain will induce a looseness in the bowels very frequently. It is easy of digestion, and should be furnished in moderation, as a useful and most desirable variety, in conjunction with other dry grains, such as cracked corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, etc.

If not more than one-third or one-fourth of wheat is allowed with the other cereals mentioned, for ordinary purposes in the laying season, hens will do quite as well, and they can thus be kept in better average condition than by a greater allowance. We have proved this by frequent practical experiments in feeding.—*Poultry World.*

Horticulture.

The Blackberry and Its Culture.

The wholesomeness of berries as a summer diet is well known. Particularly is this the case with the blackberry, which may be eaten at any time, and to a full extent, without harm. It is deficient somewhat in its nutritive properties, but none the worse for that in a sanitary point. Dr. Wood and other high authorities recommend its use in dyspepsia. I have always found the best effects from a free use of this, to me, the most delicious berry when large, plump and perfectly ripe. In such a condition it will not bear much transportation, and hence it should be cultivated in every locality. Every farmer should have it, and every village and city its market gardeners to furnish it. Yet we see it less in market than other berries, and mainly for two reasons: One is the lack of hardiness, and the other is the want of a good sort. Both objections can, to a large extent, if not entirely, be remedied with the sorts we now have.

The common management of this berry has not been good. The point is to plant on rather poor soil—a sandy loam—is best—and push the plants the first half (or a little more) of the season, and give a chance for the growth to mature by winter, and thus secure greater hardiness so as to withstand the cold. The early pushing also favors the fruit both in size and flavor, if sufficient moisture is supplied; and here is a danger that must be guarded against. The sandy character of the soil requires heavy mulching in a drough, and if the drough is severe, watering is needed, retaining at the same time the mulch, which prevents crusting of the surface and holds the water the longer, else the berries will be reduced in size and that juiciness which is a prime necessity.

The soil being comparatively poor, dependence is to be placed upon manure in the necessary quantity—neither too much nor too little—a good plan applied to crops in general. It is a lesson we yet have to learn, how to adjust manure to the different crops, keeping in view the quality of the land. The blackberry requires a loose soil for the extension of its roots, and this extension downward where there is greater moisture. It is wonderful to what extent the roots will penetrate. The manure is to be applied early in the spring—a quantity sufficient for the necessary early growth, and subsequent maturity, and no more. Experience alone can determine. Rich ground or large manuring pushes the growth on to winter, which of course cuts it. In a wild state this forcing is avoided, but the same effect may be produced by manuring as with our cultivated roots. It is so with all the fruits, yet little attention is given this point, considering its importance. The effects of undue forcing are seen in many of our orchards, and particularly young trees, which exhibit dead points in the spring. The grape-vine shows it to a large extent. The various berries also are cut sometimes well down, and the cold occasionally takes the whole cane. There was a lack of maturity, the greatest at the tip, which goes first. Our object must be to get sufficient growth early enough in the season, so as to give a chance for enough hardening to withstand the frost. This, as a general thing, will succeed. The exceptions are where the latter part of the season favors growth. When the weather is warm and showery, and there is no early killing frost, the harm extends also more or less to other vegetation. With increased hardiness, which here also means greater healthiness, a better berry is obtained, and it only needs thorough maturity to make it the delicious, wholesome fruit that we sometimes find it—so excellent it seems impossible to improve it. In its best state, is it not all that is desired? Then why not avail ourselves of the improved culture?

Another thing—we are in the habit of cutting our canes to get them more stocky. This is well; but a better way is to pinch off the tip of the cane when it has reached the proper height—about three feet—and serve the side shoots in the same way when they have reached the proper length—from fifteen to eighteen inches. Plant five or six feet by three, and keep the ground well stirred and clean. Mulch when the plant sets its fruit, and see that there is no lack of water. Stirring the soil well is particularly good for berries of all kinds, promoting health and soundness. There is much in a good start and keeping up the condition. A hurt plant is like a hurt animal—the worse for the harm. Keep watch, therefore, and do not let the growth get the start—the blackberry is a rank grower—but strip each shoot, side and main, when it requires it. This is better than letting them grow and then clipping, as it prevents the loss of the clippings, and avoids the shock to the cane. Treated in this way, there will be no long canes or side shoots, but a trim, stocky plant, well hardened by winter, and capable of resisting the cold. It needs no protection (at least the more hardy sorts, like the Kittatinny), unless put in an exposed place, where the danger is from the drying effect of the dry cold winds rather than the frost. In such case, and some others, the wild berry is found with dead points, and sometimes the entire plant killed. The protection here is not to be the laying down of the canes or covering them, which always hurts them more or less by straining, but the erection of a screen to be prepared beforehand. A wood, a hill, buildings, all are good. Evergreens in a close row are nice, and will form the necessary protection. But there may be too much of this, as in a warm, sheltered place, open to the south, and in the face of the sun, which, in some years at least, seems to have an unfavorable effect. In such cases covering the canes might be an advantage.

In applying manure, the aim should be to have the effect last until about the beginning of September, which, in this latitude, is the end of the fruiting season, as maturing the seeds of a large yield is a heavy draught upon the plant. Unless it has this aid, in common with the strawberry and raspberry, the fruit will lack in size and quality, and at the close of its period be small and insipid. After that only the necessary hardening of the cane is required. All this may seem some trouble, yet it pays, as it gives us this fruit in perfection, and plenty of it.—*Cor. Country Gentleman.*

Fruit and Vegetable Gardening.

In the *Gardener's Monthly* we find some valuable instructions for the care of the vegetable garden, fruit trees and vines:

Most kinds of fruit promise well for full crops. It is here that trouble often begins, for trees cannot bear forever on nothing, and many forget to give them food. The wise orchardist has thinned his fruit at an early stage of growth, and will now be looking round for material to fertilize them with. It is not too late to do it yet to advantage. We should surface dress with manure, compost, or rich materials, any time between now and frost; but the earlier the better. There is not much use in putting it on after the soil is frozen. Rains wash its best portions away. As to kind of manure, it makes little difference. If the surface is not disturbed much, the richer the surface soil the better. We have noticed but little difference between animal manure and mineral. Some of the best and healthiest trees we know, stand near the manure heaps in farm yards.

A little trimming is useful to most trees at this season. The blackberry and raspberry may have their tops shortened so as to leave the canes about four feet. Some do this earlier in

the season; but the best is to leave them if don't soon. In like manner, pear and apple trees that grow well, but produce no fruit are benefited by having any half of the young stock cut back. The buds then left are very likely to form flower buds, in place of growth buds for next season. Many take out the old shoots of raspberry and blackberry after they have done bearing, and we have in times past recommended it ourselves; but no further observation, we see very little good, if not positive injury. The partial shade the old stems make, seem rather beneficial than otherwise under our hot suns.

Strawberry planting often commences in August, providing the weather offers a chance. Get the soil in readiness for this chance. Heavy manuring is not good for the strawberry except in very poor soil. Wet soils are not good. But the soil cannot well be too deep. In the field subsoil, in the garden dig at least twelve to eighteen inches. Strawberries do better moderately close than too wide, some kinds do very well in beds.

After a piece of ground is dug at this season for strawberries, roll it well with the garden roller. When ready to plant, make holes with a dibble, fill the holes with water, and when it soaks away, put in your plant which has been kept in water to prevent wilting. But in putting in the plant, do not plant too deep. "Too deep" kills ninety-nine hundredths of all the strawberries that die in the year from transplanting. "Too deep" is when anything but the small fibres are buried under the surface.

Almost all trees, and in particular the grape vine, at this season will require attention to see that the leaves are all retained healthy till thoroughly ripened. It is not a sign of healthiness for a vine to grow late; on the contrary such late growth generally gets killed in the winter, but the leaves should all stay on to insure the greatest health of the vine until the frost comes, when they should all be so mature as to fall together. Frequent heavy syringings are amongst the best ways to keep off insects from outdoor grapes, and so protect the foliage from their ravages.

Towards the end of the month a sowing of spinach may be made in rich soil, which will come in use before winter. That desired for winter and early spring use is usually sown in September in this region. A few turnips may be also sown for an early crop, but will be hot and stringy unless the soil is very rich.

Celery will require earthing up as it grows, to get it to blanch well. It is not well, however, to commence too early, as earthing up tends in a slight degree to weaken the growth of the plants. Take care also, not to let the soil get into the heart in earthing, or the crown is apt to rot.

At this season of the year, more than perhaps at any other, it is important to hoe and rake between the rows of growing crops. A loose surface soil not only admits the various gases that the roots luxuriate in, but it also prevents evaporation and checks a too great absorption of heat, and then, besides all this, the weeds are kept down, and neatness and order reigns. After every heavy shower, if the time can at all be spared, the hoe and the rake should be freely employed.

Miscellaneous.

A Simple Cure for Wakefulness.

Thousands of people suffer from wakefulness who in other respects enjoy good health. Dr. Cooke lays down the theory that in numerous cases of sleeplessness it is only necessary to breathe very slowly and quietly for a few minutes to secure refreshing sleep. Taking note of Dr. Cooke's idea, the *Medical Examiner* remarks: "Certainly, when the mind is uncontrollably active, and so preventing sleep, we have ascertained from patients whose observation was worth trusting that the breathing was quick and short, and they have found that they became more disposed to sleep by breathing slowly. This supports Dr. Cooke's practice, but at other times his plan quite failed. It is certainly worth any one's while who is occasionally sleepless to give it a trial. In doing so they should breathe very quietly, but not long enough to cause the least feeling of uneasiness."

Work without Thought.

A man who hires Chinese laborers in California, says he only pays one-half what he would pay an American. He says they are good at imitation, but do not think, or reason, so that when any care or responsibility is indicated they are wanting. For instance, he told one of them to chain the wheel in going down hill, and when the wagon stopped, to unchain the wheel. In going down a steep hill, for some reason, the driver stopped half way down Johnny sprang to the wheel, unchained it, and thereby came very near causing a shipwreck of everything. He didn't think.

Boys as Bridesmaids.

Fashion in France now prescribes two tiny pages instead of bridesmaids at the wedding ceremony. These are chosen from the prettiest of the boy relatives of the bride or bridegroom. They are dressed in velvet of the bride's favorite color. At a recent wedding the tiny court dress worn was of sapphire velvet with white silk stockings, and velvet shoes with diamond buckles. A bouquet, composed of a rosebud, an orange blossom, and a branch of myrtle, was attached to the left side. These pages perform the usual role of the bridesmaids, carry the bride's bouquet and gloves, and also meet her and assist her from and to the carriage step.

THE KANSAS FARMER.

HUBSON & EWING, Editors & Proprietors.
Topeka, Kansas.

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No Postoffice.

O. Ewing, of Howard county, Kas., sends subscription for the FARMER, but does not give his postoffice. We of course cannot send the paper. We mention this as a case of carelessness—which very often occurs among persons who write to newspapers. Always write the name of your postoffice, county and state at the commencement of every letter, till the habit of that form of letter is acquired and no such mistakes as the one referred to will ever happen.

Save the Manure for the Wheat.

Farmers who come to the frontier from the old settled parts of the country, have too often the happy faculty of leaving behind them many important practices which might be observed in their new homes with profit. One of these neglected is a waste of manure. All wheat planted on upland, is the better for a dressing of stable manure, and the manure accumulated about the cattle yards should be carefully hooped through the winter and in the spring, in order that it may be reduced to a fine condition by fall. After the wheat is sown, or if time will permit, before the ground is put in order by the harrow, for drilling, this fine manure should be spread on the highest parts of the field. Many additional bushels might thus be added to the crop and the land improved for any subsequent crops that it might be planted to, and the unsightly manure piles be removed from about farm buildings and yards with profit.

A Project for the Improvement of Horses.

A project is under consideration by several prominent stock men of Shawnee county, for the improvement of the horse stock of this part of the state. The plan suggested is that several farmers and other stock men who do not desire permanent ownership in such stock, shall contribute to the purchasing fund a small amount to be determined upon by the company, which subscription and payment shall be reimbursed by the owners of the stock in colts. The animals it is proposed to purchase are an imported large draft stallion, either of the Percheron, Clydesdale, or English draft horse and a trotting stallion. This in a measure is a co-operative plan, in order to raise the large amount of money necessary to effect the purchase. The risk run by farmers and others who will be asked to contribute to the fund in advance, would be the hazards of accident and death incident to all animals. In which case they would lose the money advanced, but on the other hand in case of success they would be favored by a "shaded" insurance for colts until they had received the amount of their advances in colts.

The Note Swindle.

There has been recently a good deal in the agricultural papers about certain swindling parties, going through the country among farmers, and getting their notes on false pretenses, and there seems to have been not a little of this rascality practised in Kansas. Speaking on this subject the *Western Rural* advises the farmers to fight, and we heartily second the advice of the *Rural*, which says:

It is high time that farmers had begun to show fight in such matters. Most of the notes given are without consideration or are forgeries. When without consideration, the law holds that a note becomes valid when in the hands of an innocent third party—that is in the hands of one who has bought the note in good faith, supposing that it was given for a valuable consideration. But how many of such notes are held by such parties—parties entirely ignorant of their character? They are usually sold to a local banker. They must be sold to some one that is acquainted with the alleged maker, for no one else would buy them. Now this local banker knows how such notes are secured in the majority of cases. He knows that they are frauds, still he buys them. Not one in a hundred could be collected at law.

It may do well to repeat here, the advice often given to the farmer: Never sign your name to any paper presented by a stranger. Don't sign! Don't sign! Follow that advice and it will save you lots of trouble. But if you have already signed, then fight the thing, if it is not all right.

Spring Wheat.

Spring wheat has been abandoned in all the older states in the latitude of Kansas, where it has been tried, on account of its utter failure to produce remunerative crops, and its history of dismal failure in this state should be convincing

testimony enough to prevent our farmers from wasting more time and money on it. On the northern border of the state its culture is attended with moderate success, but as a crop it is unprofitable. Spring wheat is the best breeding bed known for chintz bugs, and these pests destroy corn after the wheat ripens, often times of more value than all the wheat raised. We advise farmers to abandon spring wheat in this latitude, and confine their efforts to fall wheat, sown in this month or as early in September as possible. Prepare the ground fine and smooth as it can be made, and if rain does not come, drill in the dust, and firm the ground with a heavy roller after drilling, if dry, and the chances for a good crop of wheat next year are a hundred per cent. better than the hazardous practice of trusting to spring wheat.

Early fall sowing has proved almost universally successful if the ground is put in the best order and the grain drilled in. Much seed is wasted by drilling too thick. One bushel to the acre is believed by many to be abundant, while others advocate three pecks as sufficient, even producing a healthier stand than a bushel.

Weaning Lambs.

The time for weaning lambs has now arrived. Separate them from the ewes and place them in a pasture by themselves, or with two or three old ewes along for company and to teach the young things how to eat grain. An old pasture is best for the lambs, from which stock has been kept for a week or more, and if a shower has fallen since the stock has been removed, all the better. Place a feeding trough in the lot into which the lambs have been turned, feed them a small quantity of oats daily, a table spoonful to each lamb will be enough at first, which should be increased gradually as the lambs increase in age and the pasture weakens in the fall. A careful watch should be kept upon them, and they should be housed on the approach of cold rains and when the nights become frosty as fall advances. There is nothing like keeping young stock in good heart and growing. Oats is much better for young, growing animals than corn, the former containing more flesh and bone forming material and less fatty matter than Indian corn. The principal profit on stock is made by keeping the young animals in the best condition and not allowing them to fall back an hour. Don't feed them fatness, but keep them always in good flesh and growing.

The Old and the New.

Necessity and economy, in many parts of the prairie country, where timber is wanting and fence material is expensive, compel settlers to dispense with fences almost entirely, and depend upon herding their stock. When the country becomes thickly settled herding will require to be supplemented by small enclosures, where stock can be fed and restrained from roaming while the crops are growing. Had it not been for the immense quantities of timber which covered the old states when first settled, and made fencing comparatively easy, thus originating and maintaining the practice, it is probable that the expensive fence system of this country would never have obtained, though the custom prevailed in the British Isles, whence came the first settlers of the United States, and who brought with them the practice of enclosing every field or lot with a strong, stationary fence, of "zig-zag" rail as well as stone. The fences of the old states have cost more than all the houses and barns to build and keep together, and being most substantial structures they generally stood in the same place for many years together, often from one generation to another. These fence corners and fence rows were great breeding places for weeds and receptacles for various kinds of trash. Bushes and briars often took possession of the fence row where undisturbed they flourished and spread, encroaching on the bordering tillable land, until they often occupied a full rod in width, extending across the entire farm. Cutting the bushes from these fence rows to keep the bramble in partial check, and repairing fences, was a great tax, and is at the present time, on those old farms. But there is a new system gradually taking place, which dispenses with almost all but the outside fence, and employs moveable fences for confining stock to pasture fields, while the rest of the farm remains free from cross-fences and accessible in all parts to the plow. An opportunity is thus afforded to destroy the trash which formerly found its breeding place in these undisturbed old fence rows.

The more progressive farmers are still advancing a step beyond even this innovation on the old custom, and confining their stock to still more limited quarters—lots, sheds and the barn—where they are fed by carting the green food to them. By this system a vast economy is effected. Stock running in the pasture trample and soil much larger quantities than they consume as food, and during a drouth of a few weeks, the pastures become so injured as to afford but poor feed, and the animals fall away in consequence. The amount of forage that a lot or field will supply, if cut and fed to stock, will be double or three times as much as when the animals are allowed to trample over it and feed at will. Pulling the roots of grass by cattle is a great injury to the succeeding growth, and trampling the ground by heavy hoofs serves to pack and harden it to a degree that is very injurious to the growth of plant life. There are also many coarse forage crops that yield abundantly, which make excellent soiling food, but are of little value if stock is turned on. In fact, none other than the finer grasses can be used as pasture for stock.

The great economy of food, the protection to the soil, and dispensing with the building and repairing of fences, are advantages in favor of the new and more sensible system apparent to all. To this may be added the French system of ensilage, or preserving green food for winter use, is being tried by some of the more advanced farmers in the older states, who report very favorably of their success in this new plan. Thus we see that newer and more enlightened methods are encroaching upon the old, long established systems of agriculture, and though slowly and painfully, are gaining a foothold, and are destined through the aid of a better education for the rising generation of farmers, and the efforts of the agricultural press, to work a complete revolution in farming.

Contagious Diseases Among Cattle and Swine.

We republish in this issue of the FARMER, a strong article from the *National Live-Stock Journal*, on the "Duty of the Government with Reference to Contagious Diseases of Domestic Animals," a subject which appeals to the whole country, and especially the west, for immediate steps on the part of the general government to arrest. Any other interest except a branch of agriculture, even approaching the importance which this does, would consume the deliberations of congress for weeks in devising a remedy; but the mockery which agriculture meets with in the bureau devoted to the greatest interest of the nation, is a reproach to the whole farming class. The contagious diseases which prevail among cattle and swine, bid fair to entail untold millions in loss to the farming classes, and through them on the entire business of the country, both in its domestic and foreign trade, and there has been no movement yet made by our government worthy of the name, looking toward a remedy. Our commissioner of agriculture is in blissful ignorance of all information adequate to advising the proper departments of the government how to proceed, or even suggest a remedy. Our congress are equally ignorant, and the president and his cabinet partake of the same innocent unconsciousness.

The people of the west should compel their representatives and senators while among them, to learn something about this alarming evil, and devote some time of the next session of congress to providing means for stamping out the pleuro-pneumonia in the eastern states and hog cholera in the west.

There is no other reason that agriculture is not represented by a distinct branch of the government under a cabinet officer, except the culpable apathy of our farming classes. It is their right to be heard in the government by reports from a secretary and a special mention in the annual messages of the president. Agriculture is bound to reach such a standing before the country, ere it receives that respect and attention to which its paramount importance entitles it.

But these stock diseases which threaten to overwhelm the western states with untold loss, need immediate attention, and they should be among the first objects that congress is called upon by western members to consider and make provision for the suppression of. Members of congress must be taught, if they do not know already, that this is of more importance than wrangling and party tactics to gain office and produce political effect.

Destroy the Weeds.

An old injunction but a matter of so much importance and neglect that it should be kept constantly impressed on the mind of the farmer. All weeds should have been pulled up or cut down while in the flower, which make their appearance about the yard, garden, fence corners, and out-of-the-way places, but it is not too late, yet, if they are cut, pulled, placed in piles and burned as soon as dry. This practice will save much trouble and labor in future, by effectually destroying seed enough to pollute acres of land if allowed to ripen and remain on their stalks until scattered by wind, birds and stock far and wide.

Weeds on a farm are unsightly, unwholesome, and destructive of valuable crops. They rob the more delicate grain and grass of the substance which should go to the latter's increase, and thereby impoverish the owner of the crops while they serve to exhaust the soil as much as the most luxuriant crops. Weeds are generally voracious feeders. Wage an exterminating war on them, near the buildings especially, as there seems to be their favorite locality, from whence they scatter and spread over the whole place.

It is a bad practice to throw weeds over the fence into the highway. After being pulled or cut down, many of them ripen seed sufficiently to grow, which are scattered abroad to propagate their kind an hundred fold. Burning is the only sure way to get rid of weeds.

Competition.

Competition is said to be the life of trade. Probably this accounts in a great measure for the rapid advance of many kinds of industries in this country, especially those kinds which are located in cities and towns. In all branches of manufacturing and in mercantile pursuits competition has been very sharp since the days of steam and electricity have been harnessed to the car of progress by man. And probably the entire lack of competition among farmers will in a measure account for the staid and steady methods of agriculture, which prides itself on its conservatism, and respect for old time practices and methods. There is no jealousy among farmers as to each other's crops affecting the market for farm produce, or of farmer Jones

making grain cheaper than farmer Johnson, and thereby monopolizing the market by being able to sell his produce lower and attract customers from farmer Jones. The whole American nation seems just now to be afflicted the farmers of Europe somewhat in this manner, but natural obstacles to the production of good crops in the way of adverse seasons in Europe have had a good deal to do in the matter, and whatever of competition has been established between the farmers of this country and Europe, it belongs to them collectively and is unlike competition in other pursuits, which is most perceptible in local and neighborhood transactions which seems to stimulate renewed effort. There is no jealousy on the score of successful and abundant crops, ever exists between farmers, which, if such a state of affairs could take place, would be of vast benefit to them as a stimulus to greater efforts to excel.

Farming in every proper sense is a broad-gauge business, and its present misfortune lies in the fact that the majority of those who follow that pursuit do not comprehend its greatness and vast possibilities. Its votaries are too individual in their views and practices. They fail to comprehend the business as a whole, and confine themselves to one little spot of earth where they seem to vegetate as their native plants, more than expand as intelligent beings. While there has been organization in other pursuits which produced marvelous results, there has been scarcely any in that of farming. A few individuals have attempted to manage large tracts of land as they would an extensive manufacturing establishment, but in every instance not attended with absolute failure, the partial success attained, proved to be no advantage over the small farm method. The latter is undoubtedly the true method, but there is great possibility of improvement on the system in vogue.

There is no business so secure, and surrounded with less uncertainty, less danger of great disaster and overwhelming loss, as farming. This fact every successful and leading man in the more uncertain and precarious businesses of life, testifies to without hesitation, and numbers of them abandon the professions and other pursuits after having achieved success in them, and retire to the farm. There the convulsions of trade and the frowns of fickle fortune do not reach with sufficient power to endanger the possessor of the soil. There is a security and freedom possible in farm life that is unknown to any other business, where the anxiety and excitement depending upon the turn of fortune's wheel do not reach.

Many of the most successful and advanced farmers are men who have been trained to habits of thought and the exercise of judgment in the active school of trade and commerce, where they have come in contact with the sharp edge of the world. And this kind of training is what all farmers need, and which they can only receive by association and discussion. Their business has lain under the ban of common labor because it has been mainly conducted by muscle with an undue proportion of brain. There is at present a greater and more methodical effort being made by active spirits among the agricultural class to remedy this evil than at any other period in modern history at least, and with gratifying success.

Competition not being possible to stimulate and advance agriculture as it has most other industries, it must be lifted up, pushed to the front in the onward march of the world's business by other means, and those other means are more association and co-operation. Its wasted forces and undeveloped brain-power must be utilized by combination and co-operation by methods peculiar to the people and business, which methods will necessarily differ very materially from those in use by other pursuits and industries.

We have received a communication from Jas. F. Farris, in which he makes grave charges against some of the ex-officers of the Shawnee Co. Agricultural Society, in their award for the heaviest hog exhibited last fall. The charges brought by Mr. Farris are very direct, and if his version of the affair is correct, he has sufficient cause for complaint, but the society since the occurrence has changed its officers, and we believe that all exhibitors will be dealt with at the next fair in strict accordance with justice, and awards be made and paid on merit. The publication of Mr. Farris' article at this late day would do no particular good, inasmuch as the officers have been changed. Were the officers in power against whom the complaint is made we would certainly publish Mr. Farris' letter.

The *American Stockman*, published in Chicago, says: "It would be well for our readers to note the fact that good marketable horses are scarce in the city, and that they have commanded a better price for the past few days than for several months. One of our leading horsemen, J. S. Cooper, in conversation recently, said that the supply was not nearly up to the demand, and that if the hot weather continues the price of horse-flesh would necessarily advance to a higher figure than has been known for some time."

The annual crop of tobacco of the United States is about 420,000,000 pounds, two-thirds of which is exported.

The Flora of the State of Texas.

[Translated for the Gardener's Monthly from the "Anzeiger Des Westens."]

As the state of Texas is divided from north to south into three well defined zones—prairie, hill and mountains—so she is divided from east to west into three distinctly defined zones of vegetation. The east is as much unlike the west as you may say Maine is to South Carolina, and no wonder, since there is a distance of

about eight hundred miles from the eastern to the western line of the state.

Texas may be said to consist, first of the region of evergreen trees, stretching from the Red and the Sabine rivers to the Trinity and beyond, west of the region of oak and mesquite trees from the Trinity to the Medina, and lastly of the region of chaparrals from the Medina to the Rio Grande.

The most part of eastern Texas is covered with evergreen trees. The woods are so immense that you may travel in them for hundreds of miles and not find an open space. The more southerly you go the denser are the woods, and the more do they tend in a westerly direction. A narrow tongue of them goes even down as far as thirty miles below Austin, on the Colorado, and beyond that river. Here the town of Bastrop was founded, and for awhile that little place supplied all the timber for the west of it until the woods gave out. In the north, the pine woods terminate abruptly when they reach the Trinity river, and once across its wooded valley and before you is the open prairie, rolling in every direction for miles and miles, alternating with deciduous woods.

The pine, covering nearly the whole of the eastern section of the state, is *Pinus tæda*, and another kind, the name of which I do not know, though it grows southeast between the Neches and the Sabine. The same pine is found in Louisiana between Niblett's Bluff on the Sabine, and St. Charles Lake on the Calcasieu, forming splendid woods, trees often two hundred feet high. This pine is peculiar, growing straight up without a branch for fifty feet, then sending in every direction strong but naked branches, which again send forth side shoots, and it is from the tip ends of these only that the heavy bundles of needles hang down perpendicularly. These needles are soft and plant, and at least a foot and a half long. A young pine of this kind will shoot up eight or ten feet without branching. Throwing from its top a big bundle of needles all round it looks exactly like a young palm from a distance. The timber of these two pines is cut on innumerable sawmills. Some railroads have been built solely to carry the lumber to market. Nor will it be so very long before the woods will be exhausted.

While in the southeast of the state the pines are seldom interrupted by other woods, you meet in the northeast all at once with fine woods of oak and elm, mixed with other kinds, such as ash, gum, etc.

Before proceeding, I would here point out a mistake very often met with, particularly in Europe, and spread over in text books, viz: the assertion that the Texas flora consists partly of Mexican and partly of North American plants. Now whilst individuals of either are found largely in Texas, it still is a fact that the greater number of Texas plants are peculiar to that state, forming a group whose members are not found elsewhere in the world. The striking character of the Texas flora is variety of kinds, multiplicity and beauty of form and exuberance of growth. Texas has enriched already with many plants our civilized countries, for instance with *phlox drummondii*, which just now covers hill and prairie with blood-red, pink and white flowers; with *cercis reniformis*, *unguicula heterophylla*, the red and yellow *leucanthes*, *abutilon*, *asclepias*, *verbena*, *eupatorium*, *gallardia*, *euphorbia bicolor*, *ixia celestina*, the *Yucca palm* and an infinite number of cacti and opuntia.

Again there are found in Texas plants which are also found in Mexico, in the United States, in Europe, and even in Africa, and these plants were found before any people settled there. Of such are the Mexican *troloxim*, of Cape plants the *sistrinchium bermudianum*, and *amaranthus græcians*; of European ones *oxalis corniculata*, *chenopodium hybridum* and *album*.

As Mexico has been called the land of cacti, Brazil that of melastomaceæ, the United States of quercus and caryas, so Texas may be called the land of onagraceæ, as relatively speaking their representation is the strongest here. As native plants of Texas, among others may be named *hypericæ*, *vaccinæ*, *lentibulariæ*, *primulacæ*, *plantaginæ*, *orchidacæ*, *opuntia*, *mammillaria*, *echinocacti*, *cerei*, *lechynocysti*, *sophora*, *solani*, *convolvulacæ*, *phlox*, *oenotheræ*, *salvia*, *verbe*, *euphorbia*, *helianthus*, *mimosa*, etc. These plants are scattered over the whole state, some all over, east and west, on mountain and on prairie, others are restricted to particular sections. Of the latter are notably the trees, which give their character to the landscape.

Wherever deciduous woods appear amongst the pine regions of the east, there they are generally of but one kind of tree. But in the wooded valleys the greatest variety prevails. There strikes us first the splendid *magnolia* with its snow-white flowers as large as a plate, and its rich, dark-green leaves. The *magnolia* generally grows in clumps, intermingled with pines, in damp places, often forming woods by itself, and is found all over between the Neches and Buffalo bayou, but only in the southeast section of the state. It disappears completely about a hundred miles from the coast. Another *magnolia*, large smooth leaves and smaller pinkish flowers, grows in the valleys of the extreme east. There we also find the catalpa and a tall, dark juniper.

Other trees of these valleys are elms, *ulmus*, *americana*, and *fulva*, *platanus occidentalis*, *quercus*, *cinerea* and *alba*, black walnut, a popular, *populus angulata*, and what the natives call "gumtree." Innumerable creepers and climbers, some with stems as thick as an arm, are to be mentioned, such as *clematis*, *rhux toxicodendron*, *cucurbita systia*, which cover whole clumps of trees. Of grapes we see *vitis cordifolia*, and also the blue passion flower, *passiflora texensis*.

AUGUST 13 1879.

Sulphur Springs, Cloud County.

Aug. 4.—The weather has been very fine since the heavy rains the last of May and June. Just enough rain during July to ensure the growth of corn.

Winter wheat is a very good crop here; mostly in the stack. What has been threshed yields from 10 to 20 bushels to the acre. Spring wheat not so good; injured by the chintz bugs to a great extent. Several fields in this neighborhood not cut at all.

Oats, quite good crop, though some pieces very short.

Early potatoes ripe enough to dig; quite large, though few in the hill.

Late potatoes, injured some by the "potato bugs," not looking very well.

Farmers generally hopeful, though owing to the low price of wheat and pork those who have debts to pay feel a little "blue."

Corn is the crop here. It looks exceedingly well; good stand and large ears. Now fit to roast and feed, and if the hoppers conclude to not call this year there will be an abundant crop.

Wheat is selling for 65 c; pork \$2.25 per head; old corn selling for 25 c. Some are losing their hogs, but do not think it is the cholera.

Mrs. J.

Millwood, Leavenworth County.

August 7th.—The showers of yesterday and today have revived the late corn and almost insured the filling of the ears. The early corn is made and the yield will be large. Two hundred and thirty-eight acres of wheat that have been thrashed in my neighborhood, belonging to different parties, and a portion of which was badly damaged by the late freeze this spring, have made a general average of eighteen and two-fifths bushels per acre. A portion of two of these crops made fully thirty bushels per acre, and that reminds me to say that the best wheat of this section is that sown from the 25th of September to the 5th of October, upon land plowed in July or early in August. In fact early breaking and late sowing is the keynote of all of our best wheat-raising. One additional fact: Most of our good farmers cultivate the surface of the ground just before sowing with the two-horse cultivators. It amounts to a summer fallow.

I am raising a crop of the Amber sugar cane this year, and while I know nothing of its value from personal experience, its earliness is a strong point in its favor. My cane will be ready to work by the 20th of this month. It is said to make an excellent quality of molasses and to make sugar upon the same terms and under the same conditions as the southern cane.

Some one asked how to apply the solution of bluestone (sulph. cup.) to seed wheat to prevent smut. Put ten bushels of wheat upon a smooth, tight floor in a conical heap. Take two pounds of bluestone, dissolve in five gallons of water, and with a broom sprinkle the wheat; turn and sprinkle again, and continue until every portion of the wheat is brought in contact with the solution, then spread and dry. This should be used just before sowing. It has long been claimed to be a perfect cure for the smut fungi, and I have never seen it disputed, but cannot speak from personal experience.

It would be interesting if those who have received the Fultz, Clawson, or Silver Hull(?) wheat, if they would give, through the FARMER, the number of acres and bushels raised, quality of berry, etc. The Fultz has not made an extraordinary record in this neighborhood, but will have a further trial.

Wheat is selling at 80¢@83¢ for No. 4 to No. 2. The most of that thrashed from the shock grades No. 4, an argument in favor of stacking.

Yours, A. G. CHASE.

A PRETTY ORNAMENT.—A pretty ornament for the sitting-room may be formed by taking large pine burs and sprinkling grass seed of any kind in them, and then placing them in a pot of water. When the bur has soaked a few days it will close up to the form of solid cones. Soon after, the little spears of grass will begin to emerge from among the laminae, forming a beautiful hanging ornament.

Not Deserving of Pity.

Beggared spendthrifts, to whom money has no exchange value but pleasure.

Persons who persist in dying by inches with dyspepsia and liver diseases, when Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets are unfailing remedies for these maladies.

People who spare the rod and ruin the child. Fast young men and women are generally spoiled children to begin with.

People who suffer from catarrh, when Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy is a safe, reliable, and well tested remedy for this loathsome disease.

People who marry for money, and find too late that the golden glitter is all moonshine.

Women who suffer death every day of their lives, when Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will effectually remove those painful weaknesses and impart a healthful tone and strength to the whole system.

People who live beyond their means, and find that style and pride, like everything else in this world, unless placed upon a secure foundation, are subject to the law of gravitation.

Invalids who do more toward fostering disease by living and sleeping in the low, unventilated rooms of the ordinary house, than the best medicines can accomplish toward recovery, when at a moderate expense they can secure all the hygienic and sanitary advantages of the Invalid's Hotel at Buffalo, N. Y. Every physician knows how much recovery depends upon good nursing and the hygienic conditions of the sick room. Chronic diseases are especially subject to these conditions.

What a Clergyman Says.

Rev. L. Pierce, of Sparta, Ga., father of Bishop Pierce, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, says: "I do most honestly and earnestly recommend this 'Oxygen Treatment' to all persons laboring under any suffering from cold, cough, etc., and for all signs or symptoms causing fear of consumption." Send for our treatise on "Compound Oxygen." It will be mailed free. Address Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1112 Girard street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Fees of Doctors.

The fee of doctors is an item that very many persons are interested in just at present. We believe the schedule for visits is \$3, which would tax a man confined to his bed for a year, and in need of a daily visit, over \$1,000 a year for medical attendance alone! And one single bottle of Hop Bitters taken in time would save the \$1,000 and all the year's sickness.—Ed.

A Cross Baby.

Nothing is so conducive to a man's remaining a bachelor as stopping for one night at the house of a married friend and being kept awake

for five or six hours by the crying of a cross baby. All crows and crying babies need only Hop Bitters to make them well and smiling. Young man, remember this.—Ed.

Shawnee County Fair

We desire to call the attention of our citizens to the fact that membership coupon tickets, entitling the purchaser, his lady, and all members of his family under fifteen years of age to admission to the grounds during the fair of the Shawnee County Agricultural Society to be held September 30, October 1, 2, and 3, and to compete for premiums, are on sale at one dollar each. Such tickets can be purchased of:

T. L. Stringham, Secretary, Topeka, and of H. H. Stanton, Director, First Ward, Topeka;

J. A. Polley, Director, Second Ward, Topeka;

C. P. Bolmar, Director, Third Ward, Topeka;

A. C. Sherman, Vice-President, Rossville; W. S. Curry, Treasurer, Topeka Township;

W. D. Alexander, Director at large, Topeka Township;

George Ludington, Director, Topeka Township;

B. F. VanHorn, Director, Silver Lake Township;

S. J. Oliver, Director, Rossville Township;

Golden Silvers, Director, Soldier Township;

J. B. Miller, Director, Tecumseh Township;

J. S. Jordan, Director, Williamsport Township;

S. J. Yager, Director, Auburn Township;

L. J. Yount, Director, Dover Township;

Thomas White, Director, Mission Township;

W. P. Popenoe, Director, Monmouth Township;

By direction of the Board no coupon tickets will be sold after August 15. The Directors have sought to so arrange the price of admission as to meet the demand of the public, and we trust our citizens generally will avail themselves of the opportunity offered and procure a family ticket, on or before August 15, and thereby secure not only cheap admission, but assure the success of our fair. Our premium list is now out, and can be had of any of the above named officers.

T. L. STRINGHAM, Sec'y.

TOPEKA, KAN., July 24, 1879.

A Word to Doubters.

There is a good old English maxim that teaches us to "believe every man honest until we know him to be a villain." American custom seems to have reversed this law, and appears to make every man a villain until he has proved himself an honest man. As with people, so with things. Every article placed upon our markets may lay claim to popular favor upon its intrinsic merit and value alone. Continued popularity, therefore, is proof positive of intrinsic excellence. Dr. Pierce's Family Remedy is far more popular to-day than ever before. The people have tested them and know them to be genuine remedies for the diseases they are recommended to cure. The Golden Medical Discovery and Purgative Pellets are the best alternative, tonic and cathartic remedies that can be used in chronic diseases of the stomach and liver. The world-wide popularity of the Favorite Prescription, as a never-failing remedy for Female Diseases, would have alone secured to its discoverer the fame he has so richly won. Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy, of which Dr. Pierce is also proprietor, is recommended by those who have tested its virtues as a safe and reliable remedy for catarrh in its worst forms.

The Only Way.

The only way to cure catarrh is by the use of a cleansing and healing lotion, applied to the inflamed and diseased membrane. Sauffs and fumigations, while affording temporary relief, irritate the affected parts and excite a more extended inflammation. Besides, no outward application alone can cure catarrh. The disease originates in a vitiated state of the blood, and a thorough alternative course of treatment is necessary to remove it from the system. Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy has long been known as an efficient standard remedy for this disease, but, to insure a radical and permanent cure, it should be used in conjunction with Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, the best vegetable alternative yet discovered. The Discovery cleanses the vitiated blood, while the Catarrh Remedy allays the inflammation and heals the diseased tissues.

Eight and nine per cent. interest on farm loans in Shawnee county.

Ten per cent. on city property.

All good bonds bought at sight.

For ready money and low interest, call on

A. PRESCOTT & CO.

Chew Jackson's best Sweet Navy tobacco.

PRESCRIPTION FREE

For the speedy cure of Seminal Weakness, Loss of Manhood, and all disorders brought on by indiscretion or excess. Any Druggist has the ingredients. Address DAVIDSON & CO., 78 Nassau St., N. Y.

Markets.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, August 11, 1879.

GOVERNMENTS—Dull and weak.

RAILROAD SECURITIES—Strong.

STATE BONDS—Inactive.

STOCKS—The market was strong and buoyant almost the entire day; granger shares shared largely in the improvement, on reports of increased earnings. In final dealings a strong tone prevailed the advance for the day ranging from 1/4¢ to 1/2¢ per cent.

MONEY—Active; 3/27 per cent.; closing at 6 per cent.

DISCOUNTS—prime mercantile paper, 3/24 per cent.

STERLING—For sixty days, \$4 82; sight, \$4 83 1/2.

SUBSIDIARY SILVER COIN—1/2 per cent. discount.

BARSILVER—Here 11 1/2%.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Coupons of 1881.....104 1/2

New 5's.....104 1/2

New 4 1/2's (registered).....105 1/2

Coupons.....105 1/2

New 4's (registered).....101 1/2

Coupons, sales.....101 1/2

Currency 6's.....121

Liverpool Market.

LIVERPOOL, August 11, 1879.

Lallington and Debitford cattle and sheep markets reported the same to-day, but generally the feeling is a shade better.

New York Live-Stock Market.

NEW YORK, August 11, 1879.

BEEVES—Receipts, 4,600; market active and firm, with a further advance of the per pound on all grades except extra shipping steers, for which the demand was light; extreme ranges for natives, \$8 10 to \$10; thorough Texans, \$7 50 to \$7 75; general sales of medium to good butchering steers, \$8 75 to \$9 50; exporters used, 800.

SHEEP—Receipts, 4,700; market steady at \$3 75 to \$5 50 per hundred pounds for sheep, and \$3 00 for lambs.

HOGS—Receipts, 8,100; market fair for live hogs at \$3 50 to \$4 10.

Kansas City Produce Market.

KANSAS CITY, August 11, 1879.

The Indicator reports:

WHEAT—Receipts, 30,240 bushels; shipments, 38,458 bushels; in store, 139,493 bushels; market active and steady; No. 2, 84 1/2¢; No. 3, 81 1/2¢; No. 4, 79 1/2¢.

CORN—Receipts, 3,674 bushels; shipments, 12,140 bushels; in store, 80,393 bushels; market active and steady; No. 2, 27 1/2¢; No. 3 white, 22 1/2¢; bid; rejected, 25 1/2¢ bid.

OATS—No. 2, 30¢ bid; 21¢ asked.

RYE—Nominal.

BARLEY—Nominal.

EGGS—Steady at 19¢@21¢ per dozen.

BUTTER—Choice Kansas weaker at 15¢; other grades unchanged.

Kansas City Live-Stock Market.

KANSAS CITY, August 11, 1879.

The Indicator reports:

CATTLE—Receipts for the last 48 hours, 1,733; shipments, 1,094; market active and firm; native shipping steers \$4 40 to \$5 00; stockers and feeders \$2 50 to \$3 40; cows, good, \$2 50 to \$2 75; poor, \$2 00 to \$2 40; steers, \$2 40 to \$3 45; heavy, \$3 50 to \$4 40; medium and heavy, \$2 25 to \$2 50.

HOGS—Receipts for the last 48 hours, 90; shipments, blank; market quiet from a lack of supply; light, \$3 40 to \$3 45; heavy, \$3 50 to \$3 55; medium and heavy, \$2 25 to \$2 50.

SHEEP—Receipts, 623; shipments, 48; market quiet, with no sales.

Chicago Live-Stock Market.

CHICAGO, August 11, 1879.

The Drovers' Journal this afternoon reports as follows:

HOGS—Receipts, 6,500; shipments, 5,500; receipts for the week, 59,000; market a shade firmer; mixed packing, \$3 75 to \$3 85; choice heavy, \$3 90 to \$4 00; light, \$3 60 to \$3 75.

CATTLE—Receipts, 3,500; shipments, 6,500; receipts for the past week, 21,000; market a shade stronger all round; good, \$4 10 to \$4 25; fair, \$3 75 to \$3 90; poor, \$3 50 to \$3 65; shipping, active and firmer, \$4 40 to \$4 50; grassers, \$3 50 to \$4 00; butchers' steady, \$2 50 to \$2 60; western cattle higher, Colorado and Texas \$2 50 to \$2 75; steers, \$2 85 to \$3 15.

SHEEP—Quiet and weak.

St. Louis Wool Market.

In receipt of considerable, but amount consigned to first hands light. Market inactive and weak, but unchanged yet desirable offerings found buyers without difficulty. We now quote: 20's to 24's, 20¢; 24's to 26's, 21¢; 26's to 28's, 22¢; 28's to 30's, 23¢; 30's to 32's, 24¢; 32's to 34's, 25¢; 34's to 36's, 26¢; 36's to 38's, 27¢; 38's to 40's, 28¢; 40's to 42's, 29¢; 42's to 44's, 30¢; 44's to 46's, 31¢; 46's to 48's, 32¢; 48's to 50's, 33¢; 50's to 52's, 34¢; 52's to 54's, 35¢; 54's to 56's, 36¢; 56's to 58's, 37¢; 58's to 60's, 38¢; 60's to 62's, 39¢; 62's to 64's, 40¢; 64's to 66's, 41¢; 66's to 68's, 42¢; 68's to 70's, 43¢; 70's to 72's, 44¢; 72's to 74's, 45¢; 74's to 76's, 46¢; 76's to 78's, 47¢; 78's to 80's, 48¢; 80's to 82's, 49¢; 82's to 84's, 50¢; 84's to 86's, 51¢; 86's to 88's, 52¢; 88's to 90's, 53¢; 90's to 92's, 54¢; 92's to 94's, 55¢; 94's to 96's, 56¢; 96's to 98's, 57¢; 98's to 100's, 58¢.

Chicago Wool Market.

Tub-washed, coarse, 20's to 22's, 20¢; tub-washed, medium, 22's to 24's, 21¢; tub-washed, fine, 24's to 26's, 22¢; tub-washed, superfine, 26's to 28's, 23¢; tub-washed, extra fine, 28's to 30's, 24¢; tub-washed, extra superfine, 30's to 32's, 25¢; tub-washed, extra extra fine, 32's to 34's, 26¢; tub-washed, extra extra superfine, 34's to 36's, 27¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra fine, 36's to 38's, 28¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra superfine, 38's to 40's, 29¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra fine, 40's to 42's, 30¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra superfine, 42's to 44's, 31¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra fine, 44's to 46's, 32¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 46's to 48's, 33¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 48's to 50's, 34¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 50's to 52's, 35¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 52's to 54's, 36¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 54's to 56's, 37¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 56's to 58's, 38¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 58's to 60's, 39¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 60's to 62's, 40¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 62's to 64's, 41¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 64's to 66's, 42¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 66's to 68's, 43¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 68's to 70's, 44¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 70's to 72's, 45¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 72's to 74's, 46¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 74's to 76's, 47¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 76's to 78's, 48¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 78's to 80's, 49¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 80's to 82's, 50¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 82's to 84's, 51¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 84's to 86's, 52¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 86's to 88's, 53¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 88's to 90's, 54¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 90's to 92's, 55¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 92's to 94's, 56¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 94's to 96's, 57¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra fine, 96's to 98's, 58¢; tub-washed, extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra extra superfine, 98's to 100's, 59¢.

Topeka Retail Grain Market.

Wholesale cash prices by dealers, corrected weekly by T. A. Beck & Bro.

WHEAT—Per bu. spring......55

" Fall No. 2......55

" Fall No. 3......55

" Fall No. 4......55

CORN—Per bu......25

" White Old......25

" Yellow......25

OATS—Per bu......20

" No. 1......20

" No. 2......20

BARLEY—Per bu......30

FLOUR—Per 100 lbs......2.75

" No. 1......2.75

" No. 2......2.75

" Rye......2.75

CORN MEAL......70

CORN CHOP......80

CORN CRACK......80

CORN & OATS......50

BRAN......50

SHORT......50

Topeka Leather Market.

Corrected weekly by H. D. Clark, Dealer in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.

HIDES—Green......06

Green, damaged......06

Green, kip and calf......06

Bull and stag......10

Dry flint prime......08

Dry flint, second......08

Dry flint, third......08

Dry flint, fourth......08

Dry flint, fifth......08

Dry flint, sixth......08

Dry flint, seventh......08

Dry flint, eighth......08

Dry flint, ninth......08

Dry flint, tenth......08

Dry flint, eleventh......08

Dry flint, twelfth......08

Dry flint, thirteenth......08

Dry flint, fourteenth......08

Dry flint, fifteenth......08

Dry flint, sixteenth......08

Dry flint, seventeenth......08

Dry flint, eighteenth......08

Dry flint, nineteenth......08

Dry flint, twentieth......08

Topeka Butchers' Retail Market.

BEEF—Sirloin Steak per lb......12 1/2

" Round......10

" Ribs......10

" Fore Quarter Dressed, per lb......7 1/2

" Hind......7 1/2

" By the carcass......7 1/2

MUTTON—Chops per lb......12

" Roast......8@10

PORK......10@12

Topeka Produce Market.

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

APPLES—Per bbl—Choice......1.50@2.00

APPLES—Per bushel......2.00

BEANS—Per bu—White Navy......1.75

" Medium......1.50

" Common......1.25

" Castor......1.15

BUTTER—Per lb—Choice......15

" Medium......10

CHEESE—Per lb......10

EGGS—Per doz—Fresh......5.25@5.50

" Doz—Old......2.00@2.25

VINEGAR—Per gal......40@50

E. R. POTATOES—Per bu......50

F. R. POTATOES—Per bu......1.75@2.00

POULTRY—Chickens, Live, per doz......2.00@2.25

" Chickens, Dressed, per lb......09

" Turkeys, " "......1.00

" Geese......1.00

ONIONS—Per bu......40@50

CABBAGE—Per dozen......1.50@2.00

CHICKENS—Spring......1.50@2.00

New 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 the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

25 CENTS

in postage stamps or currency enclosed in letter at our risk will pay for the WEEKLY CAPITAL for the balance of 1879. This offer which does not cover cost of white paper is made to introduce this paper into every home in Kansas. Send money or stamps and get the paper at once.

HUDSON & EWING,
Topeka, Kans.

RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS

Do not let your children grow up weak and puny. When Ridge's Food can be had at such a small cost WOOLRICH & CO., on every label.

TOSWINE BREEDERS

The Drouth has failed

The corn crop will be immense and good hogs will be scarce and high for some time to come. I believe that I have as large, as fine and as well bred

BERKSHIRES,

as can be found anywhere, and will sell pigs C. O. D. to reliable parties, as I am sure of giving satisfaction. Some young SHOW Sows, safe in pig for sale

A. W. ROLLINS,
Manhattan, Kansas.

IPAVA NURSERIES

We wish you to examine these prices on 5,000,000 Strong Plants.

Ornamental Seed and Champion Strawberry.....\$2.00

Star West and Col. Chasney.....2.50

Turner, Brandywine, Fultz, and Naomi Rasp.....4.00

Douglas, Man. Cluster and Benne Rasp.....1.00

Knott, Triumph and Brandywine Blackberry.....1.00

Knott and Lavton Blackberry.....1.00

Concord and Clinton Grapes.....1.00

Red Dutch Current and Houghton Currant.....1.00

Best 1st. At these prices no plants will be our before Sept. 1st. Where cash is sent with order no charge will be made for boxing. Price list free.

Address: IPAVA, ILL.

SALESMEN WANTED

FOR SALE

THE FINEST LOT OF NURSERY STOCK

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To introduce this splendid weekly paper to all the readers of the FARMER we offer to send it the

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If you have friends in the east to whom you want to send a live Kansas paper, this presents an opportunity. For instance: One dollar pays for five copies which will be sent, postage paid, to four different addresses in any part of the United States. This offer is made to introduce the paper.

The State news, the Crop letters, News from the cities of the state, Local news from the Capital, Fashion notes and Editorials all combine to make this the

Literary and Domestic.

Married.

Our beautiful Maggie was married to-day. Beautiful Maggie, with soft brown hair, Whose shadows fall o'er a face as fair As the snowy blooms of the early May. We have kissed her lips and sent her away. With many a blessing and many a prayer. The pet of our house who was married to-day.

The sunshine is gone from the old South room. Where she sat through the long bright summer hours; And the odor has gone from the window flowers, And a shadow creeps o'er the house with its gloom: A shadow that over our paradise lowers, For we see her no more in the old South room.

I thought that the song of the robin this eve, As he sang to his mate on the spycamore tree Had minors of sadness to temper his glee. As if for the loss of our darling did grieve. And asked, "where is Maggie?" and "why did she leave."

The maiden who crooned sweet duets to me? For she mocked not the song of the robin this eve.

The pictures seem dim where they hang on the wall, Though they cost but a trifle, they always looked fair. Whether lamplight or sunlight illumined them there— I think 'twas her presence that brightened them all. Since Maggie no longer can come to our call, With her eyes full of laughter, unshadowed by care.

The pictures seem dim where they hang on the wall. I lounge through the garden, I stand by the gate— She stood there to greet me last eve at this hour. Every eve through the summer, in sunshine and shower.

Just stood by the postern, my coming to wait. Dear Maggie, her heart with its welcome elate. To give me a smile, and a kiss, and a flower— Oh! when will she meet me again by the gate?

She loved us and left us—she loves, and is gone With the one she loves best, as his beautiful bride. How fondly he called her his joy and his pride, Our joy and our pride, whom she claims as his own! But can he, like us, prize the heart he has won? The heart that now trustfully throbs by his side? God knows! and we know that she loves and is gone.

Summer Life in Florida.

We find a letter of B. E. L., who occasionally writes for the FARMER, in his former home paper, the *Cecil Whip*, which is so minute in detail and description of everything as they appear to eyes not yet grown too familiar with that tropical land, that it cannot fail to prove an interesting rarity to our readers:

The thermometer at this, 10 a. m., July 4th, stands at 85 degrees with a lively breeze. There has been but little rain for the last seven or eight weeks, and the first four weeks of that time there was not a drop of rain and crops almost dried up entirely. Though my watermelons and sweet potatoes and cow peas did very well—snap beans, sweet corn, etc., did but little. I have tomato vines bearing high and ripe tomatoes, about a month after others here, who planted early. The black hammocks are best suited to vegetables in dry weather; they being damp, dry weather of course does not injuriously affect the growth of vegetables. We have had few showers in the last three or four weeks, and as I make it a point to plant for a succession of crops, things begin to look very promising again. I am informed it is now about time for the

RAINY SEASON TO COMMENCE, and then it sometimes showers every day. The rainy season is not continuously cloudy for days in succession, but a succession of showers (mostly in day time) with bright sunshine between. Our thunder showers so far, though the rainfall is copious, are not accompanied by high winds. Indeed, the seven months since our arrival here, have been noticeably free from high winds—seldom more than a light breeze for sailing. Hail storms are entirely unknown here.

But to my description of Spruce creek. It takes its name from the spruce pine, which is found on its banks on either side, and I have not seen any spruce pine except along this creek. Spruce creek empties its waters into the Halifax river, about two miles north of Halifax inlet. Its general course is from a little north of west to a little south of east. Its waters are fresh, except that the tide backs it up for some miles. At high tide the water is quite salt; at low tide the water is fresh. The creek winds through a marsh. The marsh, for a few miles from the mouth, would perhaps average from two hundred to three hundred yards in width, for a distance of five or six miles. The marsh has high banks on each side that I think would average twenty feet in perpendicular height. At the point where I have selected

MY HOMESTEAD the bank is about thirty feet in perpendicular, and is very steep. At low tide a boat drawing more than eighteen inches to two feet could not enter the creek, because of a bar at its mouth; but once fairly into the creek, a vessel drawing four feet could float easily, and in passing along its crooked course a passenger on the lookout would be able to see an alligator now and then. By-the-way, I do not think it would pay to try to raise ducks or geese along Spruce creek. Higher up the creek, at a point five or six miles from its mouth, the banks close in, and instead of marsh, low hammocks lay along its course, and cypress, palm, maple, etc., intermingle their branches, covered with festoons of moss, over the almost black, deep waters of the creek. The sight to my unaccustomed eyes seemed to me like a scene from "fairy land." Some of the glimpses from the bank at a turn of the stream looking up and down are beautiful. The growth on the high banks of the stream is varied in character, some points chiefly covered with the ordinary Florida pine; at other points the pine that gives the creek its name predominates; but for the most part, as far as my ex-

plorations extend, the soil (or sand) is what is termed here

HIGH LIGHT HAMMOCK, and is covered with oak, principally, with a fair sprinkling of hickory, spruce, pine, bay, magnolia, live oak, etc., with here and there the graceful palm. The creek is well stocked with bass, sheepshead, salt water mullets, etc., and crabs that for size would make an Elkton crabbing party open wide their eyes to catch, but as they are all turned loose and I have as yet no boat nor nets, I get no fish. I have no time for the slower process of capturing the finny tribe by rod and line, having been out but once, for a couple of hours, with a neighbor, and then, though he caught some fine bass and sheepshead (and divided his spoils, this generous soul, with me), I caught no fish, though the creek seemed to mysteriously disappear at every cast of my line. Well I could not get the "hang" of Florida fishing, but when I get more leisure I intend giving the matter further attention.

There are many fine sites for residences along these high banks, but as yet there are but few people that have settled on the banks of the creek. The lands on both sides, mostly homesteads, are almost all taken up, there being but two or three quarter sections yet available to settlers. Land in the neighborhood, however, can be purchased cheap, from \$2 to \$10 per acre. My neighbor, adjoining me on the west, has a quarter section ready to "prove up," and has it so arranged that he can have the title made out to any person who will buy him out, which would require perhaps from \$200 to \$500. He has, I think, something over

ONE HUNDRED ORANGE TREES growing, and has cleared up three or four acres. One or two other homesteads, which are unimproved, could be secured without contesting, by paying the holders their outlay for their papers and trouble, say \$15 or \$20, and making application anew. One of these homestead holders lives in Port Orange, where he merchandises a little, and he has really no title according to law; but there are "proved up" homesteads in this neighborhood, where hard swearing has been made to answer the requirements of the law, as to residence and improvements upon the land. My neighbor on the east is a colored man, with but one useful arm, the other having been broken and badly set in South Carolina, where he was "pressed" to work on a railroad during the late war, and afterward, with a number of other colored people, was taken to Florida to prevent their going over to the northern mud-sills. Here they were turned out like the darkey preacher said Adam was to work for "himself," and after the war was over, some of them took up homesteads. My neighbor's application is dated seven years ago. He began an orange grove by planting the seed, being too poor to buy young trees. He now has on his trees, seven years old from the seed, a

NICE CROP OF ORANGES. The trees bore last year a few, and the stocks are now from six to ten inches in diameter, say a foot from the ground and from twelve to fifteen feet in height. He has but twenty or twenty-five trees thus in bearing and perhaps a hundred all told, from three or four years old to seven years. He has done well with the help he has had, and in a year or two longer he will, with his moderate desires in life, be able to live at his ease. He says he has heard it said that it takes money to make an orange grove, "but hungry stomachs and hard work made mine." His trees are growing on the high bank of the creek, twenty or thirty feet above the water, and are the healthiest looking and as thrifty as any trees I have seen in Florida. From my observation thus far, I have come to the conclusion that the high land along Spruce creek is the best possible for orange trees; that trees planted here and properly cared for will thrive and produce fruit at an age when those on low ground, in spite of care, will be in the "sour and yellow leaf."

Your readers may, perhaps, remember my endeavor to describe the Halifax river with its low banks, etc., if so, they will appreciate the contrast with this description of Spruce creek. High water at least will not trouble us here. I am so constituted that I draw great comfort from the fact that in Florida, where any person would think of building a dwelling, no matter how long it may rain.

THERE IS NO MUD, and where I am situated, we could, with anything less than "forty days and forty nights" of rain, when it was fairly over, walk forth without splashing in water, or soiling the shoes in mud. At almost every turn here there are things that, if not strange, are very different from the same seen at the north; for instance, along our way to the post office from Spruce creek, my attention was attracted to a tree at least twelve inches in diameter above the ground, which was literally covered in all its eight or ten feet spread (16 or 20 feet across) of branches, with elderberry blossoms. It is now covered with ripe berries. How is that for an elderberry bush? At another place I inquired the name of a tree with quite showy foliage and flowers, the body of which was about six inches in diameter, and from twelve to fifteen feet in height, and when I was informed that it was a "caster bean," I began to wonder "what next?" The tree was three or four years old.

On my many walks to Port Orange for the last three months I have been interested in gathering flowers that were new to me, and each succeeding week I would find three or four new kinds to add to the bunch, always taken home to give cheerfulness indoors. On my last trip, I found a new corner, and from the profusion gathered the most beautiful clusters from the bushes. The bushes were from a foot

or two in height to as high as my head. The flowers were small, white, waxy-looking blossoms, growing in clusters of a dozen or more, there being often several such clusters near the end of the branches. The perfume was delicate and very pleasant. Well, when I arrived at home, a neighbor who happened in, told me that I had brought home a "Florida Fly-cup!" and sure enough, while we were examining them, a fly happened to alight on one of the petals and was as powerless to get away as though it had come in contact with a sheet of the best patent fly-paper. There, now, get out your flower pots and obtain a few of these plants, enough for dining-room, parlor and kitchen. It will be combining the useful with the beautiful. I do not know whether it is from the profusion of these flowers, but it is a noticeable circumstance that

"HOUSE FLIES" are not as numerous here as I have been accustomed to see them in Maryland. We have now been here seven months, and as yet, (except at nights), are not troubled with mosquitoes, and under bars can then sleep in peace, undisturbed by their songs or their efforts to make close acquaintance. In some localities, I am informed, that during the next three months mosquitoes and sand flies are so numerous as to render life almost intolerable, either day or night. I hope we will continue free from the pests during the day, and we will try to bid them defiance behind our fortifications at night. For the information of those who may be curious on the subject, I will say that sand flies seem to be somewhat of the character of what I have heard called "oats midges" in Maryland, only they are smaller and lighter colored. Where they are numerous, they are said to be worse than mosquitoes, though their bite does not seem poisonous. Housekeepers here, though comparatively free from the fly nuisance, have to battle constantly with those inquisitive and (like most inquisitive creatures) troublesome insects, called "roaches." Their numbers are legion and their size formidable. On the other hand those nocturnal disturbers of nature's "sweet restorer," vulgarly demonstrated bed-bugs, cause no trouble to the

HOUSEKEEPER IN FLORIDA. The climate does not seem to suit their constitution; perhaps they must have a winter's sleep in order to the requisite amount of energy to fulfill their mission. There is a provision of nature, found here, evidently intended to diminish the undue increase of insect life, viz: lizards. They are to be seen of various sizes and shades of color; in size, from three or four inches to a foot or more in length; in color, some with bright blue tails and underside of the body, the remainder, over the back, being a bright russet. A little fellow of a fawn color, with a white streak along his back, is catching flies on the floor at my feet, while I write; another, engaged in the same business, is on a chair three feet away, this is a brown one. These are house lizards and are no trouble, being harmless, and if not molested become very tame and keep the premises clear of ants and fleas. These are the smallest variety, and their bodies are about two inches long and their long slim tails twice that length. The larger ones are mostly found in among the bushes and in the woods, and green ones of various shades and sizes are plenty on trees and plants. There are no potato bugs of either the old or new styles in this country, and but few grasshoppers; but among those few there is one or two sorts that are of enormous dimensions. I first made his acquaintance three months ago, and thought him a young cricket. His body was then about a quarter of an inch long. To-day his body is two and a half inches long and about three times as deep and wide in proportion as his northern brother. If he keeps on growing for a few months longer he will be a pretty large mouthful for a turkey. I come down on (with my boot) all I see. Fortunately they are not very numerous and there is but one crop in a season.

Flowers. "Who loves a garden loves a greenhouse too, Unconscious of a less propitious clime: There blooms exotic beauty, warm and snug, While the winds whistle and the snows descend."—Conger's Task.

For beauty and variety, the Dianthus family cannot be surpassed. It includes among its members carnations, sweet-williams and pinks. For winter blooming I think the carnation is the most desirable. The seed should be sown early in spring, and as soon as the weather is warm enough, transplant them to the garden. Keep all the buds picked off until September. Remove them to the house in October. The carnation needs but very little water, but should have a shower bath at least once a week, as a preventive to the red spider. Of the pinks, the Dianthus Chinensis, or Double China Pink is a very beautiful biennial of dwarf habit. It blooms the first year, but the colors are much richer the second. The Double Dianthus Pink is also very beautiful, the colors being of all tints, from crimson purple to deep, black purple. Nearly every one is acquainted with the sweet-william. They are really very pretty with their soft, velvet-like petals. They are easily raised, and do not require much care. Seeds cost from ten to twenty-five and fifty cents a paper. Allow me to correct a mistake made in my article on tube roses. Instead of good wet dirt, it should have been, good rich dirt.

BRAMBLEBUSH. Increasing Love for Flowers.

Col. Forney's Progress says of flowers in Philadelphia:

"A love of flowers is spreading throughout

the whole community with surprising rapidity, and the evidences of this new fondness are seen on every hand. The corners of our thoroughfares are blooming like parterres, tiny bunches of blossoms are placed for sale on the sidewalks, while ladies and gentlemen seem equally ready to follow the pretty fashion of affixing the buttonhole bouquet to their dress. Perhaps one of the happiest results of this popular fancy is seen in the window gardens. Along the crowded and too restricted lines of our great shopping streets, where every inch of room is valued for its capacity of display, and where the many storied shops seem shutting out the sky, we now see exquisite groups of flowers and draperies of vines decorating the narrow spaces over the windows and awnings, and bringing delicious glimpses of the freshness of growing verdure into the regions of the dry goods merchant. The arid desert of the hotel front now, too, blooms into garden beauty, and portico and window are adorned with graceful plants. This fondness for flowers is partly due to a freak of fashion, but it may also be welcomed as a forerunner of individual enfranchisement in matters of taste. A heavy formality, rather dull than dignified, has too long governed the decorations of our houses, and an ever-increasing diffusion of artistic culture must necessarily spread among the nation as it becomes recognized that beauty of effect can be accepted instead of expensiveness of material, and that inventive talent and artistic taste find one of their worthiest fields of service in adding to the beauty and comforts of our homes."

Recipes.

[Prepared for the KANSAS FARMER.]

TO PICKLE PEPPERS.—Take green peppers; remove the seeds very carefully so as not to mangle the pods; soak them nine days in salt and water, changing it every day, and keep them in a warm place; stuff them with chopped cabbage, seasoned with cloves, cinnamon and mace, then put them in cold, spiced vinegar.

TO PICKLE CABBAGE.—Shred red and white cabbage; spread it in layers in a jar, with salt over each layer; put two spoonfuls of whole black pepper and the same quantity of allspice, cloves and cinnamon in a bag and scald them in two quarts of vinegar; then pour the vinegar over the cabbage and cover it tight. It will be ready for use in two days.

A GOOD PICKLE.—Take green tomatoes and slice them; put them in a basket to drain, in layers, with salt scattered over them, a teaspoonful to each gallon; next day slice one-quarter the quantity of onions and lay the onions and tomatoes in alternate layers in a jar with spices intervening; then fill the jar with cold vinegar.

Angel Cake.

In answer to an inquiry for a recipe for this cake in *Prarie Farmer*, Clara Francis gives the following:

Put a teaspoonful of cream tartar into a tumbler of flour and sift it six times. Beat the whites of eleven eggs to a stiff froth and sift in a tumbler and a half of granulated sugar; flavor to taste, then add the sifted flour and bake about an hour in a moderate oven. Use a pan with a tube in the center; do not butter it, but invert the pan on a sieve when the cake is done; it will come out in good order after standing a few minutes.

Apple Pie.

Rub a pie dish over with a bit of butter, line it with a short pie crust rolled thin, pare some rich tart apples, and cut them in small pieces; fill the pie dish an inch thick, lay them evenly over. If the apples are sour, use a teaspoon of sugar to a quart bowl of cut apples, strew it over them, then grate half a nutmeg over; strew a teaspoonful of salt evenly over, and half a teaspoonful of ground cinnamon, then cover with a paste or puff paste crust; trim off the edges with a sharp knife, cut a slit in the center, or make it before putting it over the pie; pass a glistening iron around the pie half an inch inside the edge, and bake for nearly an hour in a quick oven; if they are quite small half an hour will bake them. You may gild the tops by brushing them over with the yolk of an egg, beaten with a little milk, before putting them in the oven, or when half done.

APPLE PIE.—The favorite apple pie of New England is made by putting sliced apple upon a plate until it is well rounded. The best apples only will make good pie in this manner. cover the apples with good pie-paste, bake until the pastry is of a rich brown and the apples soft; then take it from the oven; while hot, part the edge of the pastry from the plate by passing a knife underneath it; then remove the crust, turning it the upper side down upon another plate; scrape the apple upon the crust, add to it about three tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar, a lump of butter half the size of an egg, and salt; then mingle the apple until it is fine, and spread it evenly over the pastry. Grate nutmeg over the whole, and eat it on the day on which it is baked.

SHIRT BOSOMS.—Get a "polishing iron" at the hardware store for seventy-five cents or a dollar; starch and iron the linen in the usual way. Then lay it over a smooth board covered with one thickness of muslin, pass a damp cloth over the linen and polish vigorously with the polishing iron. Try on an old wristband first, and you will soon see how it's done.

WALL PAPER.—In selecting paper for house use, avoid all greens as far as possible, for this color invariably contains more or less poisonous matter, and will inevitably poison to some extent all who use it. No matter what manufacturers tell you, avoid all green papers.

Advertisements.

In answering an advertisement found in these columns, our readers will confer on us a favor by stating that they saw the advertisement in the *Kansas Farmer*.

\$66 a week in your own town. Terms and \$6 out of \$77 a year and expenses guaranteed to Agent.

\$77 a year and expenses guaranteed to Agent. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

\$70 a week. \$12 a day at home easily made. \$12 weekly outfit free. TRICE & CO., Augusta, Me.

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at a cost of from 10 to 15 cts. per rod. The first and only patent of the kind. Also the Excelsior Portable fence. The most practical fence in existence for western farms. Agents wanted to sell the above fences. Enclose stamp for particulars.

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FEMALE SEMINARY.

Lexington, Missouri.

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Cawker City, Mitchell County.

Aug. 7.—I have been taking the KANSAS FARMER for nearly a year and have gained a large amount of information from it. This season has been a tolerably productive one for the farmer. Wheat is not as good as last year, but will be a pretty fair crop for winter, and spring about half a crop. Corn is splendid and weather fine for filling out. Farmers are all busy plowing for fall wheat. There will be a large acreage put in if the weather keeps favorable. Stock of all kinds doing well and keeps healthy in these parts. Railroads have just been built here this summer; and land is cheap for those that wish to settle in the Solomon Valley, which is the best part of Kansas that I have seen, and I have traveled through Kansas, Southern Nebraska, and Southern Iowa, and I like the Solomon Valley better than any that I have seen, as the soil is all that could be asked for, and the subsoil is such that it is a natural drainage for the land, as there are no wet sloughs, nor ponds here, and the climate is very healthy.

E. C.

Chicago, Aug. 7, 1879.

Editors KANSAS FARMER,

Gentlemen:

It would be valuable information for many farmers in Edwards County, Kansas, if the farmers who have a choice Red May and Fultz seed wheat for sale, to advertise it in KANSAS FARMER.

Respectfully yours,

TWIN RANCH.

Half Way, Cloud County.

Aug. 7.—We are having very wet weather here now. Farmers are busy trying to thresh their grain, but do not make rapid progress, owing to the frequent showers.

Spring wheat in our neighborhood is almost a total failure. Some pieces of winter wheat will average twenty bushels per acre, which is called pretty good. Corn promises to be a splendid crop, and as there is fifty-four thousand acres in Cloud County, I think we need not fear a famine.

Potato bugs are doing considerable damage. We used paria green on our vines to such an extent that they are half killed.

I have just heard of the death of a lady in this county caused by inhaling the smoke from burning potato bugs. Every one should remember that it is a rank poison.

We are busy drying sweet corn. Have put some in brine, which I think much nicer than dried corn. Do any of the lady readers of the FARMER can corn? If so, won't they tell us how they do it? I make a failure, always, trying to can corn or peas.

Will give a recipe for green corn pudding, that I think is nice: 12 ears grated corn, 1 qt. sweet milk, 2 eggs, 2 tablespoonsful sugar, 2 of flour; beat all well together, and bake 1½ hours.

Will also tell you how to make fritters, which are nice for breakfast: Take two coffee-cupfuls of cooked corn, cut from the cob, add 3 well beaten eggs, 3 tablespoonsful of sweet cream, a little salt, and a small teaspoonful of flour. Fry in hot lard, or like griddle cakes.

We will soon have ripe peaches. By the way, we have a seedling peach tree, that bore fruit last year, and this season, that was ripe the 4th of July. Isn't it worth propagating as a distinct variety? The peach is a cling, dark red, large size and very smooth.

I hope Wm. Bishel will make a success of the Kansas current. Was glad to hear that there is a variety that do well here. Out of our variety plants set last spring we have about twenty-five growing now. But as I think we never appreciate anything we have unless it takes hard work to get it, we intend to keep on trying, until we grow currants in Kansas.

LOUISE.

We do not think corn and peas can be canned successfully by the housewife, her appliances not being sufficient for the difficult processing which they require.—[Ed.]

Treatment of Young Turkeys.

"Fanny Field" is furnishing a series of "Poultry Papers" to the *Prairie Farmer*, one of which is devoted to the care of young turkeys. "Fanny's" mode is as good as the best, but it will be seen that raising turkeys, like everything else worth doing, is attended with some trouble. Although too late to put it to practice this year, it is always in order to store up knowledge in advance, and have it to draw upon when the season comes round. Turkeys are a most profitable fowl crop.

"The cold rains during the month of May and fore part of June wrought sad havoc among the young turkeys. I know of several flocks of forty or more that have dwindled down to less than a dozen. I have been very fortunate with mine, and of course feel like crowing over my success. From seventy-two eggs set I had sixty-seven young turkeys; a thievish cat gobbled two of them, but I have lost none from exposure to cold and damp. One day I was caught napping and my turkeys were caught in the rain. I didn't wait for the rain to cease, but donned my water-proof and rubber boots, and assisted by the hired man drove the mother hens to the shelter of their respective coops. Part of the young turkeys were well feathered up and consequently were out of harm's way, so I did not trouble myself about them farther than to give them a good warm feed with a sprinkling of red pepper in it; but seventeen of the youngest were pretty thoroughly soaked. "Past all hope of resurrection," said the hired man as he carried the chilled turkeys into the kitchen, and life did seem to be most extinct in most of them; but I resolved to experiment on them. I put a piece of comfort on the bottom of the stove oven, laid my turkeys on it, covered them with a piece of an old wool blanket, partly closed the oven doors, stirred up the fire and waited. In a short time there was a commotion under the blanket, I lifted it and three little turkeys hopped out on the floor apparently as well as ever; the rest were kicking and gasping a little, so I gave them a little more air and covered them up again. In less than two hours the entire lot were as lively as crickets. I fed them and put them out with the mother hens with an injunction to keep in out of the wet in the future.

Now I want to tell you about my turkey shed; it is my own idea and I feel quite proud of it.

For three years past so many young turkeys died during spells of cold damp weather that as J. W. H., said, it really seemed as if the whole flock would go. Of course I kept them shut up in their coops, but the coops would get foul and damp, then the turkeys would begin to drop off by ones and by twos, by sixes and by eights, until pleasant weather came and we could move and clean the coops. My shed is twenty feet long, eight feet wide, seven feet high in front, four in the rear, rough boarded up and down with the cracks battened; shed roof shingled, for what else I may be deluded into having, I never will have anything for a roof that is not shingled with honest shingles that will keep water out for twenty years. There is a large window in each end of the shed, and a rolling door in front with another window in that; there is no board floor; the floor is made of nearly a foot of sand and gravel. Along the rear of this shed there is a row of six coops for confining the mother hens; these coops are of different shapes and sizes so that each hen knows her coop, and when let out in pleasant weather, always returns at night to her own domicile. For the first ten days or two weeks after hatching, I kept the hens confined all the time; at the end of that time the young turkeys were doing finely, the hens had become accustomed to their quarters, and after the day was off in the morning, the door was rolled back, a slat of the coops let down, and the young turkeys given free range until night. Previous to allowing the hens their liberty I had on pleasant days rolled back the door and allowed the turkeys to go out on the grass. On rainy days the door was kept closed, and inside it was perfectly dry. I have noticed that when a turkey-hen runs at large with her brood, she changes her roosting place every night, so I took the hint and every day the coops are moved, the droppings scraped off, a little fresh sand thrown on, and the coop put back in its place. This makes a little work of course, but it is cheaper than to hatch turkeys and have one-half of them die on your hands.

Under the window in one end of the shed is a box or bin, that will hold about three barrels; this is kept filled with sand for use about the coops. The team can be backed up to the window, the window opened (it slides back) and the sand shoveled in with very little trouble. Under the opposite window is a bin of similar size for holding the scrapings from under the coops; outside is a trap door for convenience in removing the contents of the bin.

Speaking of the care, or rather neglect, of farming tools, a farmer says: "It seems to me that there is nothing on the farm in which there is such a reckless expenditure of money as there is in farming tools, and I think the above text should be preached to the farmers of this country at least twice a month during the farming season, and that not only in one or two journals, but in all the journals that farmers are likely to take and read."

The price of bread is lower in London than it has been for forty years. The best of bread is sold for three cents per pound, the average for forty years past having been about four cents.

The *Baltimore Gazette*, in noticing the estimate of the cotton crop this year, as equal to 5,250,000 bales, says: "This is a decided increase over last year, and is 400,000 more bales than the crop produced before the war, when in the full enjoyment of the profitable slave labor, about which we have heard so much."

Imitation meerschaum pipes are now manufactured from potatoes in France. A peeled potato is placed in sulphuric acid and water, in the proportion of eight parts of the former to one hundred of the latter. It remains in this liquid thirty-six hours to blacken, is dried with blotting paper, and submitted to a certain pressure, when it becomes a material that can be readily carved. The counterfeit is said to be excellent. An imitation ivory sufficiently hard for billiard balls, can be made by still greater pressure. A resemblance of coral is obtained by treating carrots in the same manner.

The shipment of beef cattle from stations along the various lines of railroads in Mississippi, is growing to grand proportions. New Orleans and Mobile are the markets. Texas, Kentucky and Tennessee are being driven from the market. What we need are more Short-horn bulls, so as to grade up a better class of stock.

There is a good deal of labor about farming, but after all, it has its compensations. One feels a sense of security in seeing a well-filled barn and feeling that, no matter what the weather may be, there is hay enough for the stock. Plenty of hay means comfort not only for the stock but comfort in doors, for it brings great returns for the labor and worry men endure, not only in cash, but in the satisfaction of knowing there is enough and to spare. This is what makes many satisfied with farming. Ample crops of all kinds give a sense of security that one who depends on a salary or on days' labor knows nothing about. It is this which gives the poor man in the country an independence that to the city poor man would seem preposterous.—*Connecticut Farmer*.

Harvesting Buckwheat.

Buckwheat being easily grown, succeeding on poorly prepared soil, giving a quick return, and generally yielding a remunerative harvest, is a favorite crop with inexperienced farmers. Still it requires peculiar treatment in the harvesting, and those who are not acquainted with it are apt to make mistakes. It requires cutting before it is fully matured; and its habit of throwing out blossoms at the top until killed by frost is apt to mislead. When frost is expected, the crop should be cut, and many immature grains will become perfect in the few days during which it is drying in the field.

Whenever the lower branches are well loaded with ripe grains, it may be cut; this should be done with the cradle, and while the stalks are damp with dew or moist after a shower. The grains are loosely attached to their stalks, and are easily shaken off in the cutting or raking, unless these are carefully done.

After the swaths have lain for a few days for the grains to ripen, the buckwheat is raked up into bunches, and these are set up in gables or loose stacks, without being bound; the tops being gathered together as much as possible. In this condition the crop remains until it is thrashed. As it heats very rapidly it should never be put into a stack, nor mowed away in a barn, as has been sometimes done by inexperienced farmers. When the buckwheat is sufficiently cured and dry, and the unripe grains have matured, it may be thrashed by treading out with horses, with the flail, or the thrashing machine. It is frequently thrashed in the field, by making a bed of cleanly swept ground and beating the swept surface as hard as possible with a rammer made of plank. The gables are placed in a circle, upon the bed thus prepared, the heads towards the center, and to a depth of two feet. A pair of horses are ridden around over the bed until the straw is freed from the grain, when it is removed and a new bed is laid down. When the whole has been thus trampled out, the straw is raked off, the fanning-mill is brought out, and the grain cleaned up at once. When the grain has been cleaned, it cannot be safely put away until it has been well dried, or it will heat and spoil. It should be spread upon a dry floor in an airy shed or barn, and turned over repeatedly until it is dry, and then it may be stored in bins or in the granary. A dry, breezy day should be chosen for the thrashing. If the thrashing machine is used, the concave should be removed, and a piece of smooth plank put in its place, else much of the grain will be broken and lost. If the straw is at all damp, it should be fed into the machine slowly, otherwise it is apt to wind around the cylinder and give trouble. The grain should be cleaned from the chaff soon after thrashing, as there is much danger of heating and moulding, by which the quality and yield of the flour will be greatly lessened. The first buckwheat flour in the market brings the best price, and it is not unusual for the price to fall one-half in a few days, after the first demand for new flour has been met. It is a crop to dispose of as soon as possible, at least as regards that portion intended for sale. When taken to the mill for grinding, a dry, windy day should be chosen, as the best quality of flour can be made only in such weather; indeed, few millers will grind this grain, unless obliged to do so, in any other weather than that described.—*Am. Agriculturist*.

Experiences in Wheat Seeding.

A farmer who has been making some experiments in thick and thin sowing gives the result of repeated trials through the *Country Gentleman* in favor of thin seeding. It is worthy of note that these experiments were all made with the drill, which is a much more certain way of covering all of the seed sown and at a uniform depth, than by broadcast. We think it altogether probable that at least a third of the seed sown broadcast perishes, some by not being covered at all, that which is covered too deep, and where a number of grains are deposited in a bunch, so that three pecks of seed is nearly, perhaps fully, equal to five pecks broadcasted. Says the writer referred to:

"In the fall of 1876 my neighbor, by a mistake in setting the drill, sowed seven bushels of seed on eight acres. I was in the field when he was cutting it, and I think I never saw a heavier growth of straw, and the appearance was that if any fault could be found, it was too thick on the ground. Since that time neither my neighbor nor myself have sown over one bushel to the acre, and our wheat crops have been uniformly heavy.

In the fall of 1877 I sowed a two-acre patch of wheat, and on one acre used half a bushel and the other a bushel of seed. It showed a marked difference in the fall, but stood in the spring so as to cover the ground as completely on one part as the other. When we harvested it, neither the man who drove the reaper nor the binders could see any difference in the yield. I shocked it and found fifty-one shocks on one side and fifty-two on the other, and it threshed sixty-five bushels, or a bushel to nineteen sheaves. This year we have the same two-acre piece in wheat, and I ordered it sowed, the first acre one-half bushel, and the other three pecks. The drill was a new one, and after my man had sown about a fourth of an acre he found that he was getting on very little seed, and changed the drill to three pecks. When the wheat came up there were many places from two to four feet in the drill without a grain, and it made such a sorry show that the first of April I determined to plow it up, and drove on it with the team for that purpose, but finally changed my mind and left it. The result was a fair crop of wheat, certainly as much as twenty bushels to the acre, but not up to the average of the field. I cannot tell just how much seed was used on this plot, as the drill man did not tell me of the mistake, and I only found it out after the wheat came up, but I do not think it could have been more than at the rate of six quarts to the acre.

A friend of mine who was for many years a successful wheat grower in Warren County, Ohio, and who grew an average of thirty-seven bushels to the acre on his entire crop for one year, assures me that he has experimented till he is satisfied that three pecks of seed will grow a better crop of wheat than a larger amount.



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