

# SPIRIT OF KANSAS

## A Journal of Home and Household.

VOL. XV.

TOPEKA, FEBRUARY 20, 1886.

NO. 46

### SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

G. F. KIMBALL, Editor.

Seventy-Five Cents a Year in Advance.  
Or Two Copies \$1.00.

### THE HOUSEHOLD.

To brighten and clean old alpacas wash in coffee.

The value of soap as food cannot be overestimated.

For nose-bleed, get plenty of powdered alum up into the nostrils.

If nutmegs are good when picked with a pin, oil will instantly ooze out.

To prevent mustard plasters from blistering, mix with the white of an egg.

A good way to clean an iron sink is rub well with a cloth wet in kerosene oil.

When there is a crack in a stove it can be mended by mixing ashes and salt with water.

Night sweats may sometime be arrested by sponging the body nightly in salt water.

Average eggs weigh eight to the pound. Thus a dozen eggs weigh one-and-a-half pounds.

To prevent the juice of pies soaking into the under crust, beat the white of an egg and brush the crust with it.

The old time theory that flowers in the window breed malaria has exploded. Our lady readers need have no fear that their flowers will breed disease.

One of the best skirt supporters for ladies who do not desire extreme fullness at the back is the hair cloth petticoat. It is light, durable and agreeable to wear, really giving more comfort than any other garment of the sort.

Ears can be cured quickly by an injection of warm water in the sufferer's ear. Or, a little pepper placed inside a piece of cotton and saturated with laudanum, often gives relief. Physicians advise the first mentioned.

Umbrella steels when past repairs make useful mattress needles. The fine hole at one end answers for the eye of the needle, a little filing will make the needle the desired length, and sharpen the point the desired sharpness. This bears inspection and a trial.

An experienced seamstress says if you would only thread your needle from the end opposite the end broken off from the spool, you would never be troubled with the cotton knotting.

Black coffee is an excellent stomachic. Physicians are fast settling into the belief that it is the most wholesome preparation of coffee. Many can drink it clear, without cream or sugar who dare not use it with these modifications.

A firm at Georgetown, Del., has a contract to furnish 5,000,000 wooden pie plates with crimped edges, exactly like the tin plates. The advantage claimed for the wooden article is that they will not allow the pie to burn, nor the lower crust to become soggy.

Keep a pin-cushion in the kitchen. If none is at hand a pin picked up is laid on the window-sill, or stuck in the dress, to fall, perhaps, into the next batch of bread kneaded. Each child should be taught to pick up every pin it sees and put it in its proper place.

Cream too cold in winter and too hot in summer is the chief reason why butter does not come. Next season in winter: cream too old. Freezing and thawing are bad conditions. Cream kept at an even temperature,

never old, and churned at a steady motion at about 60°, or less, if very cold, is the proper way to succeed, and to have good butter.

Knitted shirts out worn by the little ones, can be utilized by cutting off the sleeves, sewing up the arm holes and front openings. Open across entire top, from shoulder to shoulder. Sew on a washstand, and crochet or knit worsted lace for bottom. Skirts thus made are warmer than flannels and are very pretty.

Linings for dress waists should be cut crosswise, instead of the old way lengthwise. It prevents the dress from stretching out of shape. Besides this, the width of the drilling is just the length needed for lining. The selvaage saves making a hem or facing when a polonaise is lined with crosswise lining.

Dysentery quickly yields its hold on adult or child, if one immediately takes a large dose of castor oil. After which allow the stomach complete rest. Using beef tea, or Seilig's extract of beef, and small doses of iron to strengthen the system. As the patient improves, give mild toast, corn starch, or arrow root preparations. Discard all medicines, except iron, for the nonce.

Do you ever wash lace in this way? Make a lather of good white soap. Ivory soap is nice, have it just luke warm, lay the lace in over night. In the morning squeeze out, and put in fresh water, a little soapy. Rinse, and blue slightly, pin on a cloth and hang out. When dry dip it in sweet milk, squeeze out and lay it on the cloth, pick out and pull in shape, lay cloth and all between the leaves of a large book like a geography and put a weight on it until dry.

Take the best end of a neck of veal, with a sharp knife remove the meat in one piece from the bones. Lay the meat flat on a board, and sprinkle thickly over the side from which the bones were taken, minced parsley, sweet herbs, pepper and salt. Lay over this very thin slices of bacon, and then roll up the meat tightly, tying it into shape with broad tape. Rub over the outside of the meat with bacon fat or lard, sprinkle a little pepper and salt and flour, and roast quickly for about an hour and a half, basting it frequently. It must be nicely brown on all sides. Serve it with a rich brown gravy, and garnish with spinach.

Ingrain and three-ply carpets should be taken up every year, unless the rooms have been little used. Brussels should be taken up every two years, and Wiltons and Axminsters every three years. These latter carpets are so heavy that the dust cannot sift through them readily, and good sweeping is all they need for preservation. After the carpets have been shaken and laid they should be cleaned. Put three tablespoons of ox-gall in a pail of cold water and stir it well. Household ammonia is used in the same way. Wring out cloths in the water, either with the gall or hartshorn in it, and rub the carpet well with the grain or length of the breadth; dry as you go with clean cloths. The water must be changed two or three times to a carpet.

### POULTRY YARD.

Sick fowls will usually get well when their food is changed. Mix in a little linseed meal and pepper.

It has again and again been demonstrated that wheat is best of all of the cereals for the production of eggs.

If an egg did not contain all the elements of food we could never succeed in hatching a chicken from it, as feathers, bones, blood, and flesh are all formed during the growth of the chick.

A neighbor whose hens keep laying on when eggs were—says a Texas journal—forty-five cents per dozen, while ours persistently laid off during the same season, on being questioned, revealed the fact that his hens had a painful of skimmed, perhaps

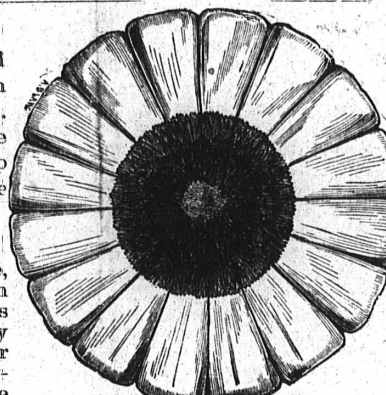
### CHANGE YOUR SEED. BROTHER FARMERS BUY SOME OF

My Superior Pedigree Field SEEDS, the choicest new and standard varieties at lowest living prices. Such as the Celebrated Champion White Pearl Corn, (of which I am the originator,) at \$2.00 per bushel. Genuine J. S. Leaning Corn \$1.50. Pride of the North \$1.00. French Imperial Spring Wheat \$1.50. Welcome Oats \$1.25. Mansury Barley \$1.75. Dark Red Potatoes \$1.50. Also Broom Corn, Sugar Cane, Buckwheat, Melon, Pumpkin, Squash, etc., etc., in large variety. Seeds warranted. Stock pure. Write for what you want, and I will quote you low prices. Address, J. C. Saffern, Seed Grower, Trenton, Ill.

#### The Champion White Pearl Corn.

We present herewith a sectional view of an average ear of Champion White Pearl corn, originated by Mr. J. C. Saffern, of Bement Ills. He has been thirteen years breeding up this corn and now challenges any one to show its equal.

Of this corn Mr. Saffern says: The grain is now pure and white, all other colors of grain having been strictly rejected for several years past. I also have selected the very whitest grains for seed. As near snow white as possible. I invite anyone to show a whiter corn than the Champion White Pearl. The grain is extra long. Two grains will more than s, an their cob. It is but very little pointed at the tip end. Is uniform in size and shape. And the rows of grain set very close together on the cob. And are straight upon the cob, and fill out well at ends of cob. It contains a large proportion of flour and starch. And makes a No. 1 corn meal. Its beautiful white color challenges the admiration of all who see it. I warrant it to grade No. 1 white in any market, if sound and well cleaned.



clabored milk, each day and no other drink.

A New Jersey poultry breeder, after trying the value of skimmed milk as a food for laying hens and hogs, came to the conclusion to dispense with the hogs and feed the milk to the fowls, as it keeps them in good laying condition in winter, and is as cheap as anything else that can be given them. He thinks poultry can be kept with great profit on dairy farms.

Hang up a cabbage head, salt-fish piece of fresh meat or fish, or any desirable delicacy they may crave, where the fowls must reach or jump a few inches, for each dainty bit they can swallow. See that they have not been able to get the grain too easily through the day, and just before they go to roost at night, let them eat all the whole corn they please, to keep up their heat for the long night.

Supply the natural cravings of your flocks. Cultivated and abnormal tastes may be corrected or diverted, but the natural want must be supplied. Study to know what these are, for nature cannot be disregarded without disaster in some form to some degree. Provide water, gravel, shells, or calcareous matter in some form, flesh, green vegetable matter, salt, etc., and the result cannot fail to be gratifying. Only healthy vigorous hens can lay, and one not in condition to develop eggs, is extremely susceptible to almost any disease to which any domestic fowls are liable. Under this head are sunlight and fresh air both of which are essential to good health.

Buckwheat and rye will do very well as complements to other grains but when fed alone they are unsafe; the former because it is too stimulating, and the latter because it is too fattening and difficult of digestion. Meat, offal and scraps, broken victuals, vegetables and the like, are valuable additions to the rations, but they are unsafe if fed in large quantities, for they not only injure the health of the fowls, but impair the quality and flavor of the eggs. One essential point which must not be forgotten in the make up of the daily rations—in case they are not principally wheat and sour milk—the constituent elements of bones and egg shells must be furnished in the shape of burned bones broken small, or ground oyster shells.

There is money in the poultry business and big money, too, if one is inclined to like the business and will study it and carry it on with judgment, industry and a determination to succeed. Some few years ago a

few predicted that the poultry business would soon be overdone, but the demand has kept pace with the production and the United States statistics show that our annual poultry products amount to the enormous sum of \$560,000,000, or more than the product of wheat, cotton or hay, and still the supply is not equal to the demand, for we export many millions of dollars' worth of eggs annually from Canada, France, Germany, China and other far off countries.

Some one about the house should be especially charged with the care of the poultry, and whoever that may be should be interested in the revenue and share the profits. There is a pride in discharging one's own duty and in seeing ones own department do well and bring in the dollars, but especially is this the case, if when sales are made they ensure to the benefits of the person in charge. Mang a little boy or girl of ten years of age could be made a man or woman of by being charged with such a responsible duty, and earn his first money in that way. It would give them something tangible to think about and to plan and work for, and the satisfaction of having money if saved up and increasing would add a stimulus to industry, and a zest to enterprise, calculated to lay the foundation to a thrifty life.

Use as much common sense with your flocks as you would with yourself and family. Let their feed in the morning—if you want to do about the best possible thing for them—consist of a warm mash made by scalding coarse meal or shorts; and if some kind of cooked vegetable food is mixed with it, so much the better. This, fed warm, will put them into a comfortable frame of mind and body, so to speak, and being cooked, it will digest and pass of very rapidly. With the reduction of the supply in their crops will come a rise in their ambition to eat some more, and this is your opportunity. In the lightest, and cleanest part of their apartments, have fine straw or chaff over the floor or ground to the depth of from six to twelve inches, according to circumstances, and sprinkle into this enough wheat, good screenings or small grain of some kind, to keep them very busy scratching it out. This is a wonderfully useful employment, as observation and experience will abundantly prove.

—Horace Greeley never learned, with all his acquisitions and vast stock of miscellaneous information, to pronounce the name of the newspaper he had founded, and felt so proud of. He invariably called it to his dying day the Tribune.

### A HOME OF YOUR OWN.

I will sell five or ten-acre lots at

### KINGSVILLE STATION

On the Union Pacific Railway, thirteen miles west of Topeka, two miles west of Silver Lake, and two miles east of Rossville, on

Five Years Time at 7 per Cent Interest

Or longer if desired. This is first-class land, well watered, under good cultivation, beautifully located, well adapted for small fruit farms, and will make a profitable home of your own. Call on or correspond with

C. DUNN 249 Kansas Avenue, TOPEKA, KANSAS.

### Kaufman & Thompson,

DEALERS IN

### STAPLE & FANCY GROCERIES,

128 Kansas Ave

Just received a new lot of California Fruit.

Country Produce bought and sold.

### BUSINESS CARDS.

Ed. Buechner, City Meat Market. Dealer in choicest fresh meats, poultry, game, fish, etc. North Topeka.  
J. D. Pattison, Dealer in hardware, tinware, stoves, ranges, edge tools, etc. North Topeka.  
W. H. Moody, Barber. Shaving, Shampooing and hair-cutting in first class style. North Topeka.  
GEO. DOWNING, Photographer. Gold, Revealed Edge Cabinet Photographs for \$2.50 per doz. until further notice. The German Language spoken. 107 Kansas Avenue, Over Barnums. South Topeka.  
D. C. Hewitt, BLACKSMITH. When you have any blacksmithing or wagon work you want done I will pay you to go to my shop where you will get the best of work at the lowest possible price.

### SEDGWICK STEEL WIRE FENCE



Is the best general purpose wire fence in use. It is a strong net-work without barbs. Don't injure stock. It will turn dogs, pigs, sheep and poultry, as well as horses and cattle. The best fence for Farms, Gardens, Stock Ranges and Railroads. Very neat, pretty styles for Lawns, Parks, Schools and Cemeteries. Covered with rust-proof paint or made of galvanized wire, as preferred. It will last a life-time. It is better than boards or barbed wire in every respect. Give it a fair trial; it will wear itself into favor. The Sedgwick Fence made of wrought iron pipe and steel wire, defy all competition in lightness, neatness, strength and durability. We make the best, cheapest and easiest working all-iron automatic or self-opening gate, and the nearest cheap iron fence now made. The best Wire Stretcher, Cutting Holes and Post Angers. For prices and particulars ask Hardware Dealers, or address, mentioning paper.

SEDGWICK BROS., Richmond, Ind.

1886  
GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE  
1886  
FARM AND SQUARE DEALING.  
Believing that if a man has dealt squarely with his fellow men his patrons are his best advertisers, I invite all to make inquiry of the character of my seed among over a million of farmers, gardeners and planters who have used them during the past thirty years. Raising a large portion of the seed sold, (few seedmen raise the seed they sell) I was the first seedman in the United States to warrant (as per catalogue) their purity and freshness. I sell \$4.25 (50¢ off) all year for it. Among an immense variety, my friends will find it (and in none other) a new drabhead cabbage, a cabbage exactly like Henderson's, but nearly twice as large! James J. Gregory, Manchester, Mass.

BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL FOR 1886  
Will be sent FREE to all who write for it. It is a handsome book of 128 pages, with hundreds of illustrations, two colored plates, and tells all about the best gardens, farms and flower gardens. It also contains a list of the names of the best seeds, plants and flowers, and a list of the names of the best seeds, plants and flowers, and a list of the names of the best seeds, plants and flowers. W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

TOWER'S FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER  
THE BEST WATERPROOF RIDING COAT.  
Covers the entire saddle, and will keep you dry in any weather. Sold every where. Illustrated catalogue free. A. J. Tower, Boston.

HALF A MILLION GARDENS  
SEEDS Peter Henderson's PLANTS  
Our Seed Warehouse, the largest in New York, are filled up with every article in demand for the prompt and careful filling of orders.  
Our Green-house Establishment at Jersey City is the most extensive in America. Annual sales, \$1/2 Million.  
Our Catalogue for 1886, of 140 pages, containing colored plates, descriptions and illustrations of the NEWEST, BEST and RAREST SEEDS and PLANTS, will be mailed on receipt of 6 cts. (in stamps) to cover postage.  
PETER HENDERSON & CO. 35 & 37 Cortlandt St., NEW YORK.



## THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

For the week ending Feb. 20, 1886.

It has just been shown in the courts of New York that a million dollars "boodle" was recently distributed among eight aldermen in that city, in consideration of their votes for a street railway franchise.

Gleanings in Bee Culture is the title of a neat and intelligently conducted monthly journal on bee culture, published by A. I. Root, Medina, Ohio.

The Bristol Sisters, of Topeka, will give a chrysanthemum and floral exhibition, under the auspices of the Topeka Library Association at Library Hall, Topeka, sometime next fall. All lovers of floriculture should try and be present at this exhibition.

### Reason for Hard Times.

Among the numerous other reasons for hard times, poverty and destitution, the following figures taken from an exchange take a prominent position and loom up with startling effect: Our annual expense for intoxicating liquor is \$900,000,000 annually. The excessive taxation which they cause is \$500,000,000. Three-fourths of all the crimes and three-fourths of all the misery and poverty in the country must be charged to alcohol. Its victims annually thrown into drunkards' graves number one hundred thousand. Every year it drives out into the streets over three million little children, hungry and in rags. In short, it leaves one-third of the people so badly impoverished that they are not able to buy a actual necessities of life. There is certainly an over production of beer and whisky and too small a consumption of bread and meat, to say nothing of the scant supply regulated by the small demand for dry goods and clothing. Bread costs \$500,000,000; meat \$308,000,000; cotton and woolen goods \$452,000,000. Total \$1,260,000,000. Now take this total from the \$1,400,000,000, which is the total of the expenses for whisky and beer, including the taxes and it will be found that just \$140,000,000 is the amount annually paid for strong drink over the above cost for bread, meat, and clothing. Is it any wonder that we have hard times, and that the liquor traffic is almost alone unparalyzed.

### Have a Home.

Have a home somewhere. Buy a tract of land and own it. Buy with a full determination of keeping it and surrounding yourself with those beauties found only upon the farm. To be the owner of a nice little home, poor though it may be, is one of the greatest earthly blessings man can enjoy. He gathers about this little spot his cows, horses, pigs and chickens, and by honest labor and toil, what was once a wild tract of land has now become a lovely spot where men are wont to go, after you have spent your life on this little farm, and your spirit is called to its eternal home, you have left the widow a little place on earth called home. Gentle reader, "there is no place like home," and you should think of this and neglect the matter no longer.

### St. Louis Shearing Festival.

A national sheep shearing occurs at St. Louis on the 7th and 8th of April. It is under the auspices of Missouri Wool Growers, the annual meeting of whom will be held at the same dates, and it is hoped the National Organization will again hold their convention at the same time and place.

The shearing embraces a premium list of \$1,000, divided in three classes, fine middle and long wools, the premiums ranging from \$20 to \$100 each in the several classes.

In relation to reduction on railroad rates, and reduced railroad accommodations, Mr. C. W. Simmons, Secretary Cotton Exchange, St. Louis, may be addressed. In regard to entries to the shearing, address Mr. A. J. Child, Corresponding Secretary, 209 Market street, St. Louis, Mo.

This association is intended to embrace the sheep of the whole country, and in the competition, quality, fiber and weight of fleece will be taken into consideration and is usual in local and state competitive shearings, and it is hoped by the association that a full showing of sheep will be presented. Information is given thus early that those proposing to compete may prepare in season.

The mammoth cheese lately made at East Aurora, N. Y., for a Buffalo firm, weighs 3,900 pounds and is said to be the largest on record. The milk used was the product of 5,600 cows, and in quantity was 32,000 pounds, equivalent to 4,000 gallons. The cheese contains several \$20 gold pieces, distributed through the mass, as prizes to buyers. Several smaller but mammoth cheeses were also made for export.

### Tenant-Farming in America.

The following statement of the condition of American farmers, from the Washington, D. C., Sunday Gazette, is clothed in language none too strong, and should be read by every farmer in America:

Less than thirty years ago one of the most popular songs in the country was the one whose refrain was "Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a farm." Except in unusual cases an American farmer who did not own his farm was a rarity. It was held out every where that if a man did not possess money enough to buy one he could practically get it from the government for nothing, and when a few years later the homestead bill was passed it seemed as if every American could now own land for the taking. One of the strongest grounds of opposition to the aristocracy of the South was their possession of large landed estates, which was declared by Northern writers and speakers to be antagonistic to the genius of democracy, inasmuch as it kept poor men from owning land in that section, and hence if they were farmers held them in land assalage to the wealthy proprietor.

The change to-day from thirty years ago is a revolution so radical that one must study the cold figures to realize it. In the United States, with three millions of square miles, much more than two millions of which are cultivatable land of the best quality, occupied in 1880 by only fifty millions of people, of whom more than twelve millions lived in towns and cities, there were 1,024,921 tenant farmers. The significance of these figures can only be fully realized by remembering that England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, the Isle of Man, Wight and the Channel Islands with one hundred and twenty-one square miles, half the size of Texas, contained only 1,069,127 tenant farmers. And the tenant system is not most prevalent in the south, as might be supposed, but in the north. Texas, a state which is largely in excess of other southern states in tenant farmers, both proportionately and absolutely has 65,465 tenant farmers, while Illinois has less than one-fifth the size of Texas, has 80,244 tenant farmers. New York has 39,872 tenant holdings; Pennsylvania, 45,322; Ohio, 48,573; Indiana, 56,950, and home-loving Iowa and Kansas, 44,174 and 22,651 tenant holdings respectively. And all this astounding revolution has been affected silently and noiselessly since 1860—in twenty-five years.

The lesson to be drawn from this state of affairs, is first, that the American people are the blindest, most foolish people on the face of the earth. Not content with inviting the world to come in and take possession of its heritage, it has shut its eyes and permitted its own land-sharks of the Old World to upset its traditional customs and convert the American into the greatest, most abject tenant farming class in the world. Within this century Russia and Germany have abolished serfdom, the former trying its best to make its serfs individual land-owners. France, with only one hundred and twenty millions of acres, has since 1800, by the operation of the code of Napoleon, extended the tendency to the peasantry proprietorship that land had prevailed for four hundred years, till to-day there are over five-millions of Frenchmen in a total population of thirty-six millions who are land-owners. England has enfranchised her farm laborers, Irish and Scotch as well as English, and is gravely debating the proposition to buy up the large estates and give them to the landless. But we of the United States with a population always enfranchised, educated, intelligent and independent above all others on the globe, with nineteen hundred and twenty millions of acres, exclusive of Alaska, have in the last twenty-five years been reducing our people to the condition of land serfs, and to-day have a larger number of tenant farmers than any other country in the world! Instead of profiting by the experience of the older nations, which have suffered untold evils from landlordism, America has blindly disregarded the lessons of the past and built up the same land monopoly class which has cursed and is still injuring other nations. The future must show whether a remedy can yet be applied or whether this country is destined to endure the same misery which a vicious land system brought to the ancient Republics. In all probability the fate that always overtakes the prodigal, the extravagant and foolish, will be foisted upon us until we learn sense by centuries of blood, sufferings and struggles against despotism.

### Carp Culture.

The following concerning the raising of German carp is taken from the bulletin of the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries. These bulletins upon the culture of fish can be procured by any one interested by addressing Hon. Spencer F. Baird, United States Fish Commissioner, Washington:

There are two varieties of carp, the scale carp, which is covered with scales, and the leather carp, which has but few scales. The former variety is much more prolific of the two, but the leather carp grows the most rapidly. This variety of fish is well known and highly valued among fish dealers of Europe, but has been introduced into the United States so recently that it is not very generally known in our markets. As a food fish it is pronounced quite equal to catfish, perch, or any of our native varieties. The young carp should not be caught for table use until they weigh four pounds or more, as when smaller the bones are troublesome. The best season of the year to use them for the table is from October to May, as they spawn in the spring and early summer. And no fish is in good condition to eat for some time after it has spawned. In making ponds for carp, as large a body of water as possible should be used, although a small one of a few yards square will serve to raise a few fish.

The ponds should be located in loamy or muddy soil, in which the fish can roe about for grubs, worms, etc. The pond need not be deep, but the water should not be cold, as these fish grow very slowly in cold water. The higher the temperature the better they thrive, and its shallow water is usually warmer than deep it is generally better for them. Being sluggish fish they do not care for running water, and they delight in muddy streams, in which they can usually obtain more food than from clear water. Carp need good feeding; water plants, such as cresses, Indian rice, water mace, and water lilies, should be planted and not too thickly, in their ponds, and they should be fed frequently with cooked cereals and vegetables; boiled rice and corn bread excellent for them, indeed all kitchen scraps can be utilized, in this way as well as in a poultry yard, if all salted and spiced substances are excluded. Pepper and other condiments are also injurious to them. They can be accustomed to a regular time of feeding, once or twice a day, and will thrive the better for it. In a warm climate and with good feeding carp will grow rapidly, and have been known to reach a weight when fully grown of fifty pounds. In Pennsylvania a three-year-old carp usually weighs four or five pounds; in Georgia one of the same age usually weighs six to eight pounds. But they can be forced to much greater weights by feeding.

Ponds of carp should be kept free from all enemies to the fish. This variety does not injure other kinds, but is greatly harmed by many, such as trout, suckers, catfish and others. In fact there is no variety of fish that will not eat up eggs and young carp if they have the chance, so that carp should be kept altogether by themselves. Still worse enemies to be feared are all amphibious animals, frogs, mud-turtles, minks, water rats, and water snakes. These animals must all be killed off relentlessly if they appear in the regions of the pond and all other varieties of fish from the carp must be removed by draining.

As a rule carp will not destroy their young unless they are driven to it for want of food. Still, it is best to remove eggs from the pond for hatching. Carp are very prolific if well fed and cared for, and a pair of carp will annually produce 50,000 eggs. At spawning time which usually occurs in May in the southern states and in June in the north, hemlock boughs should be put into the pond to receive the eggs. These can be taken out covered with the eggs, and put into a small pond to hatch.

In this small pond the young fish can be kept with profit until they weigh about a pound each, then they are quite able to defend themselves, and may be put back into the pond again. The freezing of ponds and streams in northern latitudes does not destroy carp, as the fish buries itself in the mud through the winter time. As soon as the water grows temperate in the spring they make their appearance again. In localities where the water is always cold, or where the winter is usually long and severe, carp will not live, and it is of no use to try to cultivate them there.

Nearly all the insects which injure the farmer and fruit grower have their parasites, which would keep the insect in check if properly encouraged. We need to study entomology more. Winter months will give time for study and observation on this subject.

Wool.—The wool market is generally quoted as quiet but firm. There is no great activity among dealers or manufacturers, but there is no disposition to reduce prices, and an advance in the price of manufactured products is expected.

An experiment was lately made at the Michigan Agricultural College Farm to see how much hay equal loads of Merino and Southdown sheep would eat up clean. The result showed about an equal consumption, although the Southdowns averaged nearly fifty pounds heavier than the other sheep.

### PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

—Mark Twain intends visiting England for the purpose of giving readings.

—George Bancroft, the historian, says that George Washington was the wisest man that ever lived.

—The men and women who are born to write can not be kept from writing. The things they have to say compel utterance.—*Boston Herald.*

—W. D. Howells says that all the female characters in his stories are taken from one model, his wife, whom he photographs from different angles.

—M. Dallen who was given \$25,000 and two years' time to model the design for the Paul Revere statue for the city of Boston, did the work in three weeks.—*Boston Journal.*

—Irving's Washington receipts for one week were \$14,850. Washington Irving's receipts for one week were different. However, Irving isn't Irving.—*Merchant Traveler.*

—United States Senator Dawes, of Massachusetts, and Senator W. M. Everts, of New York, are cousins, both being grandsons of Roger Sherman, who died a Senator in 1795.—*Troy Times.*

—Osman Digna's original name was Alphonse Vmet, he being a full-blooded Frenchman. He was at one time sold as a slave to Mohammed Ahmed el Mehdi, but quickly rose in that prophetic favor and became his son-in-law. He is now about fifty-three years old.

—The report that Jefferson Bill, of Lyne, had been seriously injured at New Orleans was incorrect. His full name is Jefferson Davis Bill. The names of two of his brothers are Leconte and Constitution Bill and Kansas Nebraska Bill. All are sons of Hon. James A. Bill, of Lyne.—*Hartford (Conn.) Courant.*

—The Princess Colonna's (Miss Eva Mackey) wedding outfit, all the forty-three traveling, town, concert, matinee and dinner dresses, came from the skillful hands of an obscure but artistic tailor. On this Mrs. Mackey is said to have wittily remarked: "I like to employ a dressmaker for what she's worth, and not because she is 'worth'."

—A Georgia paper relates of William Jones, of Hall County, who is nine years and two months of age, that his hair has been perfectly white, but seven or eight years ago it began to change, and now is perfectly black and luxuriant, while his beard is still white. Mr. Jones was in the war of 1812, and served four years in the late unpleasantness.

### HUMOROUS.

—Girls who wish to have small, prettier shaped buttocks should repeat at frequent intervals during the day, "Fanny Finch fried five floundering fish of Francis Fowler's father."

—Edith: "They sat in the gloaming" means that they occupied one chair. A gloaming may be obtained at any fashionable furniture store. No parlor is complete without it.—*N. Y. Mail.*

—"I say, Jim did your sister know you at the masked ball last night?" "Well, I think she must have done so, for when I patted her on the shoulder she turned round and said 'You donkey!'"—*Chicago Journal.*

—When Mrs. Olo-o, the boarding-house mistress, was told that the inspector of provisions had seized 468 pounds of real, 92 pounds of poultry, 52 pounds of bear meat, 37 lambs, six barrels of peas and 200 boxes of herring, she remarked: "Pretty good appetite; but nothing to some of my boarders. You'd ought to see them when they are good and hungry."—*N. Y. Independent.*

—Heroic Remedy: "I suppose I shall be an old maid all my life," sighed a young woman of twenty-five. "That's a grievous complaint," responded an old bachelor. "Very," again sighed the maiden. "Do you want to cure it?" "Of course I do." "Take me for a husband." "Do you mean it?" "Certainly." "Well, desperate diseases require desperate remedies, and I guess I'll try you." They fell upon each others neck.—*Merchant Traveler.*

—There are some people who talk without thinking. Mrs. Beasley is that sort of a woman. Her husband one night recently dropped a quarter. "I find that piece of money I've lost," he said, groping around on the hall floor, when Mrs. Beasley opened the door. "Of course you can't, if you look for it out there in the dark. Why don't you hunt for it here in the light where you can see. Nobody can find anything out there in the dark."—*Exchange.*

—One of the crack military companies of Houston was out one day last week practicing target-shooting. One of the members was told to shoot at the door of a deserted barn. He did so, but missed the entire barn. The Captain was very angry and told the young man how bad it would be, in case the enemy were shooting from behind the door, that none of them would be hit. "Yes, but wouldn't the hostile enemies that were coming around the corner of the barn catch fits?" replied this Texas Bogardus.—*Texas Siftings.*

—An old stockman gives, as his opinion, that cattle never become fat enough on grass to injure their breeding qualities.

—One who retains the "sweet tooth" of his childhood will find this to his liking: Make a banana pie with a lower crust only; bake the crust first, then fill it with sliced bananas and powdered sugar; the fruit will soften sufficiently in a few moments. Cover the top with whipped cream and eat at once.—*De troit Post.*

—Chrysanthemums are to the fall garden what hyacinths and tulips are to the spring garden—respectively the last and earliest of the season. Chrysanthemums are better known as artemesias. The kind of later introduction, from Japan and China and seedlings of them, are extremely showy and beautiful.—*Exchange.*

—A tree overloaded with fruit, Mr. Barry says, can neither perfect the fruit nor ripen its wood properly, and in a severe climate is quite likely to succumb to a degree of cold which, under proper treatment, it could have resisted. The grape is very sensitive in this respect. It is safe to say that millions of trees are annually ruined in this country by over crops.—*Cincinnati Times.*

### RUSSIAN PRISONS.

The Horrors of the Fate Reserved to Political Prisoners.

When an accused nihilist is sentenced to Siberia, his friends "congratulate" each other and say that their beloved prisoner was born under a lucky star.

And well they may, hard as is the fate of exiles to "the land of cold and misery, of brutal task-masters, and cruel punishments," when they think of the Central Prison—where in 1878 the political prisoners enforced a demand to be treated as well as murderers by refusing to eat anything whatever until their claim was given attention, a resolution they maintained for eight days and nights—or, worse still, of the famous fortress of Peter and Paul. From "Peter and Paul" three letters written in the prisoners' blood have reached the outside world, and Stepiak has held them in his hand. After reading, one does not wonder that exile and death are eagerly sought in preference to this imprisonment. The extracts we make tell but little of the story. There are details of outrage, and of enforced life in cells reeking with corruption, almost too horrible to repeat. Here is a picture of the condemned cells, "real underground vaults, dark at noonday, and infested with loathsome vermin."

"The small windows are on a level with the river, which overflows them when the Neva rises. The thick iron bars of the grating, covered with dirt, shut out most of the little light that else might filter through these holes. If the rays of the sun never enter the cells of the upper floor, it may easily be imagined what darkness reigns below. The walls are moldering, and dirty water continually drops from them. But most terrible are the rats. In the brick floors large holes have been left open for the rats to pass through. I express myself thus intentionally. Nothing would be easier than to block up these holes, and yet the reiterated demands of the prisoners have always been passed by unnoticed, so that the rats enter by scores, try to climb upon the beds and to bite the prisoners. It is in these hideous dungeons that the condemned to death spend their last hours. Kyatkovsky, Pre-niakoff and Soukoudoff passed their last night here. At the present moment, among others, there is a woman with a little child at her breast. This is Jakimova. Night and day she watches over her babe lest he should be devoured by the rats."

And here, finally, is a glimpse of the treatment of the sick, among whom "are horrors that defy description, that only the pen of a Dante could adequately portray. 'Oh, if you could see our sick!' exclaims the writer of the blood-written letter. 'A year ago they were young, healthy and robust. Now they are bowed and decrepit old men, hardly able to walk. Several of them can not rise from their beds. Covered with vermin and eaten up with scurvy, they emit an odor like that of a corpse.' But is there no doctor?" It may be asked, and "What is he doing all this time?" Yes, there is a doctor; there are even two doctors. One, however, is past four-score, and past work. He comes to the fortress only occasionally. The other is young, and probably kind enough in intention, but not very resolute in character, and standing in great awe of the officers of the jail. When he visits his patients he is invariably accompanied by a brace of gendarmes, lest he should surreptitiously convey letters to prisoners. He enters a cell with a troubled countenance, as if he were afraid of something; never goes further than the threshold, much less approaches the sick man's bed, or makes any examination of him, feels his pulse, or looks at his tongue. After asking a few questions he delivers his verdict, which is almost always couched in the same words: "For your illness there is no cure." "No mercy is shown even to the mad," says another of the letters, and you may imagine how many such there are in our Golgotha. They are not sent to any asylum, but shut up in their cells and kept in order with whip and scourge. Often you hear down below you or at some little distance the sound of heaving and jerking, cries and groans. It is some wretched lunatic who is being flogged into obedience."—*Stepiak.*

### "Embossed Leather."

Hundreds of men, women, and even boys, in New York are engaged in the "business" of collecting old boots and shoes, which they take to the wall-paper factories, where they receive from five to fifteen cents per pair. Calf-skin boots bring the best price, while cowhide ones are not taken at any price. These boots and shoes are first soaked in several waters to get the dirt off, and then the nails and threads are removed and the leather is ground up into a fine pulp. Then it is pressed upon a ground of heavy paper, which is to be used in the manufacture of "embossed leather." Fashionable people think they are going away back to medieval times when they have the wall of their libraries and dining-rooms covered with this, and remain in blissful ignorance that the shoes and boots which their neighbors threw in the ash-barrel a month before now adorn their walls and hang on the screens which protect their eyes from the fire. Carriage-top makers and book-binders also buy old boots and shoes, the former to make leather tops for carriages, and the latter leather bindings for the cheaper grade of books. The new styles of leather frames with leather mats in them are entirely made of the cast-off covering of our feet.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—Give to the cows none but the best and purest food. With no other stock is this so essential, for the reason that it has been fully demonstrated by competent authorities that the milk is a very prolific source of transmitting disease germs from impure food, and especially from impure water.—*N. E. Farmer.*

—For a lemon rice pudding, take two-thirds of a cup of rice, boiled and cooled, add the well-beaten yolks of three eggs, salt, a teaspoonful of butter, three tablespoonfuls of sugar and the grated rind of two lemons, with milk enough to make very moist. Bake forty-five minutes. Use whites of eggs and juice of lemons for frosting, and brown.—*Exchange.*

### A QUEER OPERATION.

How a New York Man Managed a Jack-screw in His Mouth.

A slender man of quiet and respectable appearance, sitting in a Sixth avenue elevated train, last evening, drew from his inner coat pocket a narrow steel rod about six inches in length. The rod was flat and the width of an ordinary lead-pencil. At one end there was a small slot in it. So curious an implement and the preoccupied manner of the man attracted the attention of the other passengers in the car. A lady opposite, accompanied by a little boy, glanced with a frown toward the conductor, who was intently watching the man, as the latter put the slot-end of the steel rod in his mouth. The man shut his teeth together and his face underwent a series of contortions as he worked his hand with a motion as if he were tightening up a loose nut on a bolt. The lady became so agitated that she left her seat and took one nearer the door.

"You needn't be frightened, marm," said the conductor, "I guess that's only the circus man with the iron jaw."

"What in the world's the matter with him?" asked the lady.

"I guess he is only tightening up his jaw, marm," replied the conductor, consolingly.

The man had now finished the operation, and he restored the steel rod to his pocket. Then he took out a memorandum-book and made some entries in it carefully, and, having finished these entries, he remarked to his neighbor in the adjoining seat, as he closed the book:

"Science does remarkable things in these days." The neighbor nodded.

"Now, I don't suppose you would have the least idea that I had a jack-screw between two of my teeth?"

"A jack-screw?" inquired his neighbor.

"Yes," returned the man, smiling. "I'm undergoing a dental operation. One of my teeth had been extracted, and one of those adjoining it began to grow over in the vacant space. It was a good tooth, and I didn't want it pulled, but the dentist couldn't get it back to its place, until one day an idea struck him and he said he'd put a jack-screw in there. So he made one. It is less than a quarter of an inch long, but it is on the same principle as the other jack-screws—just like those used in lifting up Cooper Institute, only on a small scale, you see."

"Is there no danger of its slipping out?"

"Oh, not at all, my dear sir. It is a very ingenious little contrivance. The whole thing is made of gold and the nut by which it is turned is next to the face; you saw me turn it just now? Well, I turn it once around every twenty-four hours, and that turn is equal to about a two hundred and fiftieth part of an inch. Then, you see, I make a memorandum of each turn. Generally I turn it twice a day, but only half-way round each time. I expect that it will take two or three weeks to straighten the tooth."

"Is it uncomfortable? No, not especially. A little unpleasant when I am turning it. Makes me grit my teeth some, but I soon get used to having it there. The only objection is that gold is a little too soft a metal where there is so much pressure brought to bear. You see, the screw is a very slender wire and the thread on it is very delicate, though it feels as though the whole thing was a foot long and as big as those used under a building. A day or two after I began to use it the thread snapped under the strain. Then I thought there was a dynamite cartridge in my mouth and the whole top of my head was coming off. But it did not hurt me. The dentist is going to make one of platinum in case this should give out. That is a harder metal. This is my station. Good night," and the man with the jack-screw between his teeth left the train.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

### A Wonderful Fish.

A correspondent of the San Francisco Examiner writes from Lake View, Ore.: "A wonderful fish is becoming numerous in Goose Lake. It has the power to fill itself with air until it becomes very much like a round ball. Of evenings about sundown they may be seen playing on the surface of the water. They will swell up by taking in the air, and the wind will blow them over the lake. They reflect all the colors of the rainbow, and when sporting over the lake are a grand sight. A hunter several weeks ago saw a crane swallow one of these fish when in its normal condition, but before the crane had got more than fifty feet up above the lake the fish had taken in enough air to explode the crane, which, at the sound of a report like that of a gun, flew all to atoms, and the fish came lightly down on the water, no worse off for the short ride in the air. The fish is a great curiosity, never having been found, I believe, in other waters." The last statement is authentic.

### A GOOD GIRL.

She Obeyed Her Mother, But Got In Her Work All the Same.

"Now, Minnie," said a mother to her four-year-old daughter, "I want you to play with your little brother while I am down town."

"An' what will you bring me?"

"Never mind. I will bring you something, and now, mind you, if he wants to play with your toys, you mustn't cry."

"None."

"When the lady returned, the little girl ran to her, and said:

"I played with my little brother. Now what did you bring me?"

"Mamma brought you an orange. Where's little brother?"

"He's asleep. Gimme the orange."

"She took the orange and said: 'When he grabbed my dishes I didn't cry.'"

"You didn't? Why, you are a good little girl."

"Yessum, an' when he grabbed my doll, I didn't cry either."

"You didn't?"

"None."

"What did you say?"

"Nuffin, but I knocked him down wit' the little chair."—*Arkansas Traveler.*







