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## The Kansas Farmer.

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### NOTES FROM THE ARKANSAS VALLEY.

As your correspondent, Mr. Cone, came and went without saying anything about our part of the country, I suppose we will have to report for ourselves. At the time of his visit we were in the midst of a long, severe, wet spell; our low grounds were flooded; wheat was but partly cut, and much of the ground was so soft that reapers could not get into the fields to cut the grain; wheat was beginning to shatter out by the wind, and taking it altogether it was a very blue time for our people. No wonder Mr. Cone did not feel like writing up the county at that time. It was not a very cheerful theme. But a few days of dry weather produced a complete change in the aspect of this county. Wheat was generally saved in good condition, being damaged very little, notwithstanding the fears of the people.

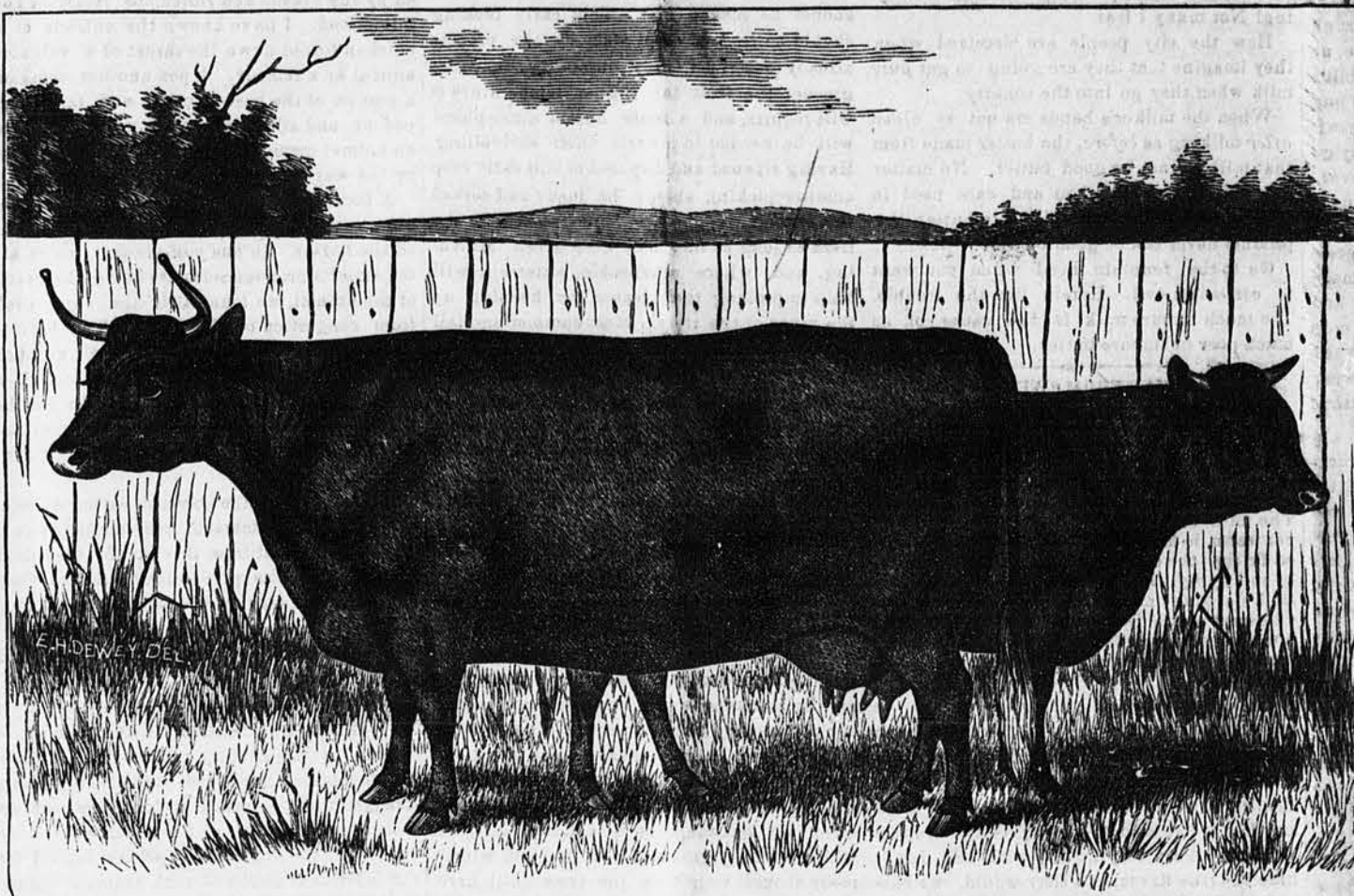
Winter wheat was good, but spring wheat is a comparative failure. There is not likely to be much profit in this crop in this region of country. People are now threshing their wheat, which is yielding from twelve to thirty or more bushels per acre. A large amount is being marketed at this place, a whole trainload being shipped from here each day.

Corn, though generally not very well tended, is doing well. The frequent showers and hot weather have been conducive to a large, vigorous growth of this cereal, and there will doubtless be an abundant yield of this crop in the Arkansas valley.

Oats are a very fair crop. This crop succeeds well in this valley, and though the price is generally quite low, yet on account of the large yield—often running from fifty to seventy-five bushels per acre—it is a fairly profitable crop.

I see the Russian apple question is attracting considerable attention and causing a large amount of discussion. Having handled a great many of these trees, I feel like giving my opinion, too. The term "Russian apple" is exceedingly vague, as we have quite different kinds of apples from that country. There is a class of apples belonging to the division of ordinary orchard fruits. The Red Astrachan, Tetsfeki and Dutchess of Oldenburg may be taken as illustrations of this class. Then there is the "Siberian crab," red and yellow. These have small fruit, but little larger than a cherry. Next, there is a class said to be an improvement on the above named, or, as some say, hybrids, between them and the common orchard fruit. These are in size something like the Grindstone, or Gilpin. There is no question about their hardness, nor is there of the Dutchess or the Astrachan; and these last are really desirable apples; but there is no reason why these fruits should bring such prices as agents are charging for them. After they are once started they can be propagated as easily and cheaply as the Maiden's Blush, or Rambo.

When agents come around selling these trees at seventy-five cents or one dollar each, they are simply practicing fraud, and every reader of the FARMER ought to know it. I confess I have no great amount of sympathy for those who ignore the existence of home nurseries, and then bite at the first bait held out by a wily tree agent. There is scarcely a



North Devon Cow, MAGGIE MORRIS, No. 1884, and her calf TAURUS, The Property of L. F. Ross, Avon, Ill.

nurseryman but has arrangements to furnish such things, even if he does not grow them.

L. J. TEMPLIN.

### RUSSIAN APPLES

EDITORS FARMER: I see my communication in the FARMER of July 31st, where I gave my experience in relation to the hybrid or Russian apple fraud, has worked A. H. G. up to such a pitch that it is evident to me that another such frantic effort on his part to annihilate me or those who relate their experience on this subject, would render it necessary to have him placed in a "straight-jacket" until his overheated brain had time to cool, else he might do himself or others injury.

Yes, Mr. Editor, I do not think any person living, having his right mind, would dare to state, positively, (with the evidence before him) that D. R. Pillsbury and G. W. K. were one and the same person, and that he would not believe G. W. K. was a resident of Solomon City, unless attested by a recorder or notary public.

If A. H. G. wishes to satisfy himself as to my identity, I shall be most happy to receive a visit from him, when I will show him that I devote my whole time to agriculture, and am not in the least interested in any firm or nursery handling or owning nursery stock, but am doing my utmost to get an orchard of such kinds and quantities as will be most apt to live and make a good growth, bear early and abundantly; a kind of fruit that will command a ready sale and good price.

It seems that A. H. G. is of that school that believes that what father and grandfather knew cannot be improved upon. My opinion is that nearly everything we grow, or use, can be improved, and why not be benefited by the experience of those who have planted large orchards and experimented with kinds new to us, and have been found worthy of recommendation?

As I said in my last letter, in Canada, in some parts, the old established kinds that once did well, will not now withstand the cold winters and hot, dry summers, but the much-abused Hybrid, or Russian, or Ironclad kinds do exceedingly well, growing fast and bearing quite young. This I again state to be a fact, A. H. G.'s opinion to the contrary, notwithstanding. I would not advise farmers to plant many of them at first, but try a few, and my word for it, they will plant more. I would also say, beware of agents, and do not deal with them unless you are satisfied they represent a responsible nursery. My plan is to deal directly with the nurseryman himself, and then satisfaction is guaranteed.

G. W. K.

### SHEEP IN THE ARKANSAS VALLEY.

Mr. John McMillan, now a resident of Pratt county, Kansas, came to this county from western New York, March 15th, 1878, and

took a homestead and timber-claim on Rattlesnake creek, about thirty miles south from Larned. He brought with him a flock of American Merino sheep, which he sheared the first of May. The average weight of the fleeces was 14 pounds per head. He had one two-year-old ewe that sheared 20½ pounds. He will make a specialty of breeding this class of sheep.

Mr. McMillan's life has been spent more or less in sheep-raising. His father, P. H. McMillan, one of the most successful sheep-breeders in western New York, has gained great renown through the western states, (especially Texas) sending the most of his rams to that state, at most wonderful prices, ranging from \$100 to \$500 each. Mr. P. H. McMillan sold from his flock of about 150 sheep, in the year 1877, about \$3,000 worth. He hardly ever keeps a flock of over \$150 sheep.

Mr. McMillan thinks southern and western Kansas peculiarly adapted to sheep-raising, for the following reasons: 1st, There are no low, wet, springy places where sheep would be liable to get sore-footed, which would terminate in foot-rot, if not closely watched; 2d, water is very easily obtained at the depth of eight to twenty-five feet, by driving tubewells or digging. (Mr. McMillan has a driven well on his place which cost him \$13.50, affording an abundance of pure, cold water). 3d, there is a great variety of food which is very palatable to sheep, such as wild peas, (several different kinds) buffalo grass, (which makes a very good winter food) and a great variety of weeds that sheep are fond of; 4th, there are the sand-hills, affording an unlimited range for years, probably, it not being at all likely that they will soon be taken for farming purposes. It is true we have a hot sun and no shade trees, but it is no great disadvantage, as there is almost always a good, lively breeze, and sheep do not suffer from heat. 5th, there is plenty of hay to be had at the cost only of harvesting.

There are some flocks that are troubled with scab. To me this seems an unnecessary plague, as I think it is caused, by neglect, no shelter, and being exposed to hard storms.

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### SADDLEBAG NOTES.

NO. XXXVII

Cowley county is well watered, has plenty of stone and more wood than some of the western counties. It has a population of 15,390. The area sown to wheat last fall exceeded that sown the previous year by over 11,000 acres. The yield last year was about twelve bushels per acre, while this year it will average eighteen bushels. There was 48,824 acres of land planted to corn this year in Cowley county.

The western part of the county is generally level back from the streams, while the eastern part is quite rolling. The Arkansas river leaves the state at the southern line of this

county. This river will soon be the "great gateway" to the ocean for the enormous amount of grain grown in this locality. A successful experiment was made during the past summer to test this river as a channel for steamboats. The arrival of a steamer at Arkansas City, in this county, from Little Rock, Arkansas, created a great excitement among the people, for they then saw a way to get their grain to the seaboard without giving two bushels to get the third one there.

Wheat is now (August 5th) selling in Winfield for 45 cents per bushel. This town has increased in population over 30 per cent. in the last two years. I am inclined to think that with the exception of Beloit, Mitchell county, Winfield is the prettiest town in the state. The population is 1,500.

Chautauqua county joins Cowley on the east. This county is the stockman's paradise. It is very rocky, very hilly, extremely well watered, the bottoms very rich, and the uplands so stony and poor that it will be ages before they will be cultivated, and it will thus be left to stockmen for grazing purposes.

Besides all the other advantages, there is more timber here than the people know what to do with. Good, solid oak wood is now selling in Sedan, the county seat, for \$150 per cord.

There are many good breeders in this county, although very few that are breeding full bloods of any kind. I am confident that a man who is contemplating raising improved breeds of pedigreed stock, sheep, oxen, cattle, or horses, could not select a better location for his business than Chautauqua county. This is an anti-herd-law county.

While in Sedan my attention was called to a fine looking calf owned by Hon. M. B. Light. It was very dark red in color, well built, and in excellent growing condition, but not fat. He was sired by a full-blooded Durham; dam, a full-blooded Devon. His weight, at different periods, was as follows, viz: at four months old, 410 pounds; at five months, 520 pounds; at six months, 665 pounds, and at seven months he weighed 775 pounds. He is now, at the time of writing, seven months and seventeen days old, and he weighs 845 pounds. He measures 5 feet 5 inches around just behind the shoulders. His length, from root of ears to tail, 6 feet 3 inches; height, 3 feet 11 inches. He has all the milk and bran that he can eat, and is stable but not blanketed. He is strongly marked around the head, neck and body like the Devon. His legs, however, show the true Durham marks.

Near Cedar Vale is the stock-farm of Hon. Ed. Hewins. This gentleman is a member of the firm of Hewins & Titus, breeders and shippers of stock. They are the largest shippers of domestic stock in the county. Last month they shipped 1,000 head of cattle to Chicago. They were shipped over the L. L. & G. railroad, from Chetopa. The drive was thirty miles further than if they had shipped over the M. K. & T. railroad, at Independence, but the freight was \$20 less per car. The L. L. & G. railroad ought to extend their line westward.

Domestic cattle are selling at \$3.30 per hundred, and Texas at \$3.30. There are over 17,000 head of cattle in the county.

W. W. CONE

Sedan, Chautauqua Co., Kansas.

### WHEAT SOWING.

The time of the year for sowing winter wheat is at hand, and every one who contemplates raising this crop is interested in the subject. Success in this business is of too much importance to allow of the neglect of a single point that has a bearing on the result. At the prices that have ruled during two or three years past, there is at best but little profit in wheat-raising in this state, and if the crop is a light one, it will most likely be produced at a positive loss. It may not therefore be without interest or profit to briefly notice some of the conditions essential to success in this business. Probably the most important of these over which man has any control is the preparation of the soil. There is probably none of our cultivated crops that are more influenced by this matter than winter wheat. As a preliminary step it is well to have the wheat crop preceded by some crop that leaves the ground in a clean, friable condition. A clover sod is well known to be one of the best preparations possible for a wheat crop. Next to this, if not equal to it, is a crop of flax, then a well cultivated crop of beans or potatoes; buckwheat also leaves the ground in good plight for wheat. In central and western Kansas, wheat is sown on the same ground for a succession of years with present good results. What the effect will be on the future productiveness of the soil remains to be seen.

There are probably few persons who are aware to what a depth the roots of winter wheat will penetrate in search of food when favored by a loose soil. These roots generally run to the depth of three or four feet, and in one instance the roots of young wheat were found to have penetrated through a light soil to the depth of seven feet, forty-seven days after it

was sown. This shows the importance of a deeply prepared soil for this crop. But not only is this depth of soil important for the admission of the roots for the purpose of obtaining nutriment, but what is of equal, and in some cases of even greater importance, is to obtain moisture. In case of severe drought with out this depth of soil the growing crop must necessarily suffer greatly. For if the soil is stirred but a few inches deep and underlain with a bed of hard, unstirred subsoil, the roots will necessarily be confined to the few inches of mellow soil on the surface, and in case of a dry time they will become so dried out as to greatly stunt the growth and so diminish the yield of the crop. Fineness of soil is of almost equal importance with its depth. The fine feeding roots are not able to penetrate hard clods and compact lumps of soil, so that the soil that is embraced in these is of no more avail to the growing plants than would be the same space if occupied by stones. A finely pulverized soil will afford a far greater surface for the action of the feeding, to the same depth, than old full of lumps and clods. If one-half the soil to the depth of one foot could be made as fine as flour and the remainder the size of grains of wheat and corn it would furnish a seed bed to which the farmer might commit his seed-grain with a great deal of confidence in a successful result. And though this excellent preparation may not be attainable by many, it is yet certain that no reasonable effort or expense in that direction is likely to go unrewarded. Even though so great a breadth may not be sown with this careful preparation, yet it is probable that the extra crop resulting from this careful and thorough preparation of the soil will more than make up the deficiency in the extent of the crop. Indeed I am inclined to think that much of our farming would be improved by diminishing the breadth of it and increasing its depth. Our farming wants to be more intensive and less extensive.

L. J. TEMPLIN.

Hutchinson, Kan.

An influx of Mennonites is anticipated between this and 1880, in which year their exemption from military service will end in Russia, where they number 200,000.

AMERICAN MACHINES AGAIN VICTORIOUS.—A cable dispatch of the 1st inst., says that at a three days' trial of harvesters and binders, just closed at Middleburgh, Holland, the first prize was awarded to Walter A. Wood, and the second to Cyrus H. McCormick, both Americans.

The intensity of the late drought in Australia may be judged by the simple calculation made by the inspector of stock, that in New South Wales alone 4,000,000 sheep were lost last year from the effects of the dry weather. At least another million must be added to account for the losses of this year, and for the loss suffered by small holders and others who were, for various reasons, omitted from the returns. Thus, we have 5,000,000 sheep, valued at \$12,500,000, at least, destroyed, directly.

It has been discovered by Minnesota farmers that two acres of sunflowers will supply a family with fuel through a long winter. The wood of the stalks and the oil of the seed make roaring and cheerful fires.



## SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS

**Strawberries.**—The best varieties, with proper care and good cultivation, set in moist, rich soil, will yield a rich return, and we wonder why everybody who has a foot of ground, does not raise them. Now is the time to plant a good patch, and a crop of berries may be obtained next season, at least with some varieties.

Prepare the soil thoroughly. Set the plants in rows three feet apart and keep out the weeds with the plow; keep the runners pinched off, and at the approach of cold weather put on a good mulch of clean straw.—*Western Agriculturist*

**Moving the Crops.**—The indications are that wheat will be pressed forward to market as early as possible. This will be a wise conclusion, if it is to be sold this fall. The three men who have gobbled the eastern trunk lines from Chicago and St. Louis will put the screws to freight tariffs as soon as navigation closes. As it is, having crippled the lake marine, the upward tendency of freights has already commenced. With Messrs. Vanderbilt and Scott controlling the principal trunk lines east, if they should conclude to agree, no mercy need be expected. Mr. Vanderbilt's profits from watered stock enable him to buy up one or two western railways each year. Unless prevented by legislation, this may go on indefinitely. This legislation, however, will never be accomplished until the farmers unite as one man to control the vote of the country so that men may be sent to congress who will not be bought by such railway magnates as control the New York Central and the Pennsylvania company. Upon a full crop and low prices, they may combine to eat the entire profit out of the wheat crop of the west, so far as the farmers are concerned.—*Prairie Farmer*.

H. B. Travaux writes to the *Fruit Recorder*: My former opinion has been much strengthened by this trial, as last fall my wheat was the very first sown in this vicinity, and was alive with insects last fall. I hoed it last fall and again this spring, and it had a healthy growth no damage was done by the insects. What else could have saved it but the cultivation and thrifty growth? The wheat shows for itself, and all this community know when it was sown and its exposure to the insects. Many examined it last fall and recently.

Many farmers use too narrow space drill for convenience in cultivation when wheat grows as rank as it did this year. The most of my wheat was put in with an 18-inch space drill, and it grew so rank that the spaces could not be seen to hoe it; I consider 12-inch space about right for all seasons.

**The Use of Fairs.**—The particular agent of modern times for breaking down local barriers and enlarging neighborhood sympathies is the fair. It has been adopted by the different nations of the world, and France at this very moment is engaged in putting its powerful influence to the test. The United States had its well-known Centennial Exhibition only two years ago. One after another the different nations are inviting the rest of the world to make friendly comparison of the fruits of the skill and industry of all. Italy's turn is coming next. Within our own country we have nowhere but in New England an exhibition of industry made by any number of states in common. Single state fairs are almost universal, but in no other instance than in New-England is there a union of effort for the proper exhibition of a year's progress such as has been made for fifteen consecutive years by the New England Agricultural Society.—*Massachusetts Plowman*.

**Seed Wheat.**—Great care should be observed in the selection and preparation of seed. Many hold to selection by "casting," i. e., throwing the grain to some distance on the floor, and using only such as reaches the furthest, thereby separating the plump and heavy grain from the lighter seed of chaff or other weed. Others, and the larger class, compass the same end by running the seed through a sieve, riddle or fanning-mill several times, and then placing it in a tub of brine, when the few foreign seeds which have escaped will float on top and can readily be removed.

Many agriculturists advise, and most farmers practice, washing seed in strong brine previous to sowing when it has not already been through the floating process. Mr. Allen the well-known authority on this subject advises, in addition to washing in brine, when grain inclines to smut, intimately mixing it with one-twelfth its bulk of fresh pulverized quick-lime, which he contends not only kills the smut, but insures early and rapid growth.—*N. Y. World*.

**Blood Will Tell.**—A farmer in this county who is supposed to own as good common sheep as anybody in this locality, sheared his flock, and after weighing the fleeces, found that each sheep averaged two and a half pounds. Take the whole number of sheep in this state and they will not probably average more than the above. Say that wool is worth twenty cents per pound, the profit from each sheep will be fifty cents. Take, now, an estimate of fleeces of the thoroughbred Merino and Cotswold, which will not average less than eight pounds per head—the net profits on each sheep, \$1.60 or \$1.10 in favor of the thoroughbred will command a higher marketable value.—*Farm and Fireside*.

THE KANSAS FARMER AND AMERICAN FOUNG FOLKS Sent postage paid one year for \$3.00

## Dairy.

## CONE, OR DIRTY BUTTER.

Good butter cannot be made from impure cream. Impure milk never produces pure cream. Pure milk is made impure by the slovenly manner of milking, as practiced by Kansas farmers generally.

The milkers set the pail where it receives the dirt, hair, &c., from the cow's udder. After these impurities reach the milk, the strainer never can perfectly separate one from the other. These impurities will be found in the milk pitcher, the cream cup, the milk pan, and can always be perceived in the butter. Oh, the butter, the dirty, filthy, unclean butter, made from such milk.

I am inclined to think that ninety-nine farmers out of every one hundred in the state can find these impurities in the bottom of their milk pails and around the strainer after milking. How many farmers are there in Kansas who properly wash the cow's udder, and as carefully wipe it dry before each milking? Not many I fear.

How the city people are deceived when they imagine that they are going to get pure milk when they go into the country.

When the milkers' hands are not so clean after milking as before, the butter made from that milk cannot be good butter. No matter how much pains are taken and care used in the manufacture of such milk into butter, the product never can be good butter.

Go to the fountain head when you want to correct an evil. Herein lies the trouble. Too much impure milk is the cause of so much poor or impure butter. W. W. C.

## A DAIRY HINT FROM SWITZERLAND.

The following paragraph is on the American travels:

A plan for improving the aroma of butter, in use in many parts of Switzerland noted for good milk and fine butter, is as follows: The milk, as soon as it is drawn and while yet warm, is filtered through a sprig of washed fir tips, the stem of which is inserted loosely and upright in the hole of the funnel. The milk deposits hairs, skins, clots of gelatinous substances on the leaves. It has imparted to it a most agreeable odor, and does not readily turn sour. A fresh sprig should be used each time.

That the presence of branches of the fir tree in the tube of a tunnel through which milk passes will impart something of its aroma to the milk there is no question, but in this country butter is accounted never so good as when it has its own proper taste. Butter-fanciers season very lightly with salt, lest it hide the true flavor, and they would, we suspect, make serious objection to such use of the balsam of fir. The idea of cleansing the milk to the fullest extent possible is a good one, and any means which will not injure the resulting butter should be gladly availed of. That the roughness in the leaves of the fir would catch some of the impurities which would slip through the smooth fibres of a cotton strainer is no doubt true, and if the filth could be separated in no other way, the sprigs of fir might be excusable even though they impart a little foreign flavor. But there is a much better way. The toughness on the fibres of wool is very much more efficient than the fir leaves. A double strainer of thick woolen cloth will catch a hundred per cent more than the sprigs of fir, and impart no flavor to the milk or butter. Woolen is not only better than branches of evergreens for a strainer, but it is better than cotton, and is the only means for holding back the bits of solid curd and "slime" which occur in the milk in the fall and winter, when cows are drying off.

## Horticulture.

## MARKETING PEARS.

HOW TO PROLONG THE SEASON—PICKING AND PACKING.

In an essay read before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, J. W. Pierce of West Millburg, Mass., said: A good pear may be ripened so as to be solid, juicy and sweet, with a good rich color to its skin, or it may be made corky, insipid and rotten at the core; or again, it may be shrivelled, sour and unattractive, and these different conditions may all be obtained the same season, and from fruit grown on the same tree. While different varieties may require slightly different treatment, owing to their individual characteristics and the season, yet the same general rules will apply to all. I believe that nearly all pear-growers agree that all kinds of pears should be picked while green and ripened in the house, but just what time they should be picked and just how they should be handled to ripen them are subjects on which there is much diversity of opinion.

Summer and early fall pears should be picked just before they begin to turn and when they are nearly grown; should be handled with great care to avoid bruising and should be placed in barrels or boxes in a room or cellar, where the temperature may be kept at about 70 degrees and a moderate degree of moisture maintained. After being kept in such a place a few days they will begin to turn, and some of them will mellow, then they should be sold or used before they soften. The boxes, barrels or whatever they may be placed in, should be covered with paper to exclude the light and prevent the escape of the aroma. Care should be taken to avoid placing them so deep in barrels or heaps as to allow of the generation of much internal heat, which might carry fermentation too high and destroy the

fruit. When one has the facilities for doing so he may improve the color and possibly the flavor by spreading them on shelves between newspapers. This ripening between newspapers on shelves in a room where an even temperature and the right degree of moisture can be maintained seems to give the most satisfactory results of any method with which I am acquainted. The manner in which early pears thus treated will color is truly wonderful. It is often desirable to lengthen the season of ripening of some of our early pears; especially in this the case where the Bartlett—which seems to be the standard summer pear for marketing purposes—is the main crop. This may be readily done by making two or more pickings from each tree, with several weeks between the first and the last picking. The largest and ripest should be picked first—as soon as the windfalls will ripen and be good—and the smaller and greener ones should be left to receive the additional sap which the earlier ones would have appropriated. Sometimes one side of a tree will be much earlier than the other, in which case the earlier side should be picked first. This early picking should be ripened off at once by the process already described, only observing that the greener the fruit the higher temperature it will require, and a more humid atmosphere will be needed to prevent their shrivelling.

Having ripened and disposed of this early crop another picking should be made and served in a similar way, leaving the greenest on the trees as long as they will keep green. Mulching, and, where practicable, watering, will help to prolong their season by keeping up the vigor of the trees. Most summer and fall pears may be kept best by leaving them on the trees as long as they will hang and keep green. By making early and late pickings as described, we may obtain a larger crop from each tree and sell it at better prices, because we can put part of them into market early, before the bulk of the crop is received, and we can keep a part of the crop until quite late and sell when the rush is over, thereby obtaining better prices. Splendid specimens for exhibition purposes may be obtained by leaving a few of the largest and fairest specimens on the tree and picking all others early; then, when fully grown, pick and ripen between papers or blankets, as the weather and degree of ripeness they may have attained on the tree may require. A great many people pick their pears too green. Such pears are small, and they will shrivel unless ripened with great care, they lack the body and flavor of those which are fully grown. Late fall and winter pears should be left on the trees until hard frosts and winter weather cause them to fall; then they should be carefully picked, sorted and packed in clean barrels and stored where the temperature can be kept as near 40 degrees as possible until the season of ripening has arrived, when they should be placed between woolen blankets in a room where an even temperature of as near 70 degrees as possible can be maintained, and they will soon ripen like our summer pears.

## Poultry.

## NESTING BOXES.

The practice of putting up permanent nesting boxes we must condemn totally, for it is opposed to the best interests of fanciers and breeders, though they do not seem to realize it. It is just as easy to make movable nesting boxes as permanent ones, and they possess the advantages of being readily removed when you wish to cleanse the house thoroughly, which gives you a better opportunity to do so, while the lice cannot so safely securely breed in or around boxes which are removed and cleaned repeatedly. It is amongst the fine material and rubbish which gradually accumulates at the bottom of the nests and boxes where the lice find a secure retreat and breed unobserved and in countless numbers. If the boxes are permanently fixed to the inside of the house, they cannot be thoroughly cleaned out, or seldom are, but, where they can readily be removed, they can be carried out, emptied on a small bonfire and thus destroy the lice which may have found lodgment in the nests, which they very soon do during hot weather.

In making the nesting boxes, they should be made of a regular size, to secure uniformity, while they can readily be secured with hooks and staples to prevent the possibility of their falling. This is far better than having them on shelving, which are considerably in the way and much more expensive.—*Poultry Bulletin*.

## TABLE MERITS.

There is far more difference in the merits and qualities of the different breeds of fowls, at different ages, than one would suppose. While farmers who raise chicks for market care little about this point, as long as they have a chick now and then, yet buyers are apt to think differently. There are many city purchasers who are adepts at picking out good, sweet and juicy birds, while others not being judges, generally have the opposite kind as their share.

The larger breeds of fowls, such as the Brahmas and Cochins, make very fine eating when nearly full grown, and then are hard to beat, if they have been fed properly. If half grown, immature birds are desired for the table, then those breeds above-named will not furnish them nearly as well as will such breeds as the Leghorns, Games, and others of a like ilk. The reason for this is obvious.

The Brahmas are much longer in maturing, while the Games and all the small or medium sized breeds are sooner developed. They feather up quickly and acquire the much desired roundness and plumpness sooner and easier than do any of the larger breeds. This is especially so with the pullets, though the same rule applies to cockerels, which latter we all know require maturity (not necessarily age) to make them really fine eating.—*Poultry World*.

## Farm Stock.

## BOTS IN HORSES.

On this subject W. N. Berkley writes to the *Southern Live-Stock Journal* of Mississippi.

I have had many horses and mules opened after death, most of whom were treated for bots, and have yet to see the first case where they had done injury. A majority of the cases died from inflammation of the bowels, caused by the drastic and ridiculous remedies administered. I have known the entrails of a chicken forced down the throat of a valuable animal as a remedy. Upon another occasion a portion of the horse's mane and tail chopped up, and administered in urine. This to an animal owned by a professor of chemistry, by the way.

A horse has colic, which is at once pronounced a case of bots, and the remedies used killed the horse. In one post-mortem, which all the experts pronounced bots before the death of the animal, we found that the horse died from congestion of the lungs. The bots is incapable of penetrating the stomach, as much so as a fishing worm is of going through a granite wall. But granting that he has the faculty of so doing, the stomach being punctured, the case would be hopeless in nine cases in ten.

If the bots had the power of eating a hole in the horse's stomach, the animal would have disappeared from this part of the world long ago. But as prevention is better than cure, any one may avoid the bots by passing a greased rag over the eggs of the bot fly, which she attaches to the hair of the legs and other parts of the body.

## SHORT-HORNS AND HEREFORDS.

Both in this country and across the Atlantic, the opinion has of late years been gaining strength that too much weight has been attached by breeders of Short-horns to fancy strains, to the neglect of a proper regard for the individual merits of each animal. Hence the enormous price that has often been given for some animal of a particular family, whose conformation was inferior to that of a much cheaper Short-horn, belonging to a family less highly esteemed. So far has this craze been carried, that many excellent judges of stock maintain that within the last few years the race of Short-horns has actually deteriorated instead of improving.

In England special attention has recently been drawn to this subject by the triumph of two Herefords over all other breeds, at the Bath and West of England Cattle Show, held at Oxford. Of Herefords there were only three at the fair, while of the Short-horns there were thirteen of the bull class alone; yet the Hereford bull, Grateful, was awarded the prize over the Short-horn, Sir Arthur Ingram, an animal famous at other shows, and here selected by the Short-horn judges as the best of his race. In the same manner the conclave of judges awarded to the Hereford heifer, Leonora, the championship over the Short-horn Diana, confessedly the best of the Short-horns at the fair. It would seem that while the admirers of the Short-horns have lately been content to dwell on what their favorites have been, the breeders of Herefords have been diligently selecting and mating the best individual animals so as to advance the standard of the breed.—*Rural New-Yorker*.

## THE SHEEP FEVER.

This disease is very prevalent in Nebraska at this time, and it, like the Dutchman's wife, "gets no better very fast." Strange to say it is confined, not to sheep, but to farmers—they burn with a desire to be possessed of more Merinos, Southdowns, and Cotswolds. There is no grooming necessary as with horses; no "eloping" as with cows. All that the patient animal asks is good warm shelter and plenty of hay, with an occasional mouthful of grain during the winter months. When a horse dies he is a total loss: when a cow dies you may get a dollar back for the hide, which just about pays expense of taking off, but when a sheep dies you lose nothing, as his pelt is of sufficient value to replace him in the flock. An old proverb very truthfully says that "A sheep never dies in debt to its owner." An old Spanish proverb, which fits Nebraska like a shoe, says "The foot of the sheep turns the land to gold." We note from our western contemporaries that large herds are being accumulated upon the prairies west of Kearney. The soil in many western counties of this state is thin; well adapted to sheep-grazing, but totally unfit for tillage. Here is the natural home of the sheep; the country is high and consequently dry; cattle need water, and need it often; sheep can subsist for a long time without drink and without apparent injury. Probably no crop causes a farmer so little concern as his crop of wool; the returns from the sale of his clip reach him just in time to pay the usual harvest expenses, and no amount of grasshopper invasions, or plagues of any kind, can destroy it; it is a sure thing and a staple article.

As browsers sheep excel all other animals; turned into a field of brambles, burrs, or noxious weeds, they soon trim its cumbersome burden to the ground. As fertilizers they go ahead of anything ever tried; their droppings are distributed over the surface of the field even more than by any other stock; when they do lie down for rest, instead of seeking some low spot in the field where the soil is richest, they always seek the highest points where land is thinnest, and where their manure—like Oakes Ames cash—will do the most good. We gladly note the number of sheep herds that come into Nebraska each day.—*Nebraska Farmer*.

If in the above you read Kansas in place of Nebraska, it fills the bill equally well.—[Eds. FARMER.]

## SALT FOR FARM-STOCK.

The *Live-Stock Journal*, on this subject, says: "Salt is required in the formation of the blood and the various animal juices. It increases the appetite, and promotes the power of digestion. Sheep-feeders believe that it often prevents rot, scab, intestinal worms, braxy, and other diseases. Some French feeders believed that salt had an actual nutrient or fattening quality; but Boussingault experimented to determine this, and did not confirm it. He came to the conclusion that salt added to food might produce a more rapid increase in the weight of fattening animals by giving them a greater relish for food, and thus inducing them to consume a larger quantity."

"There can be no doubt that in sections of this country situated at a long distance from the sea, all animals are benefited by the use of salt. Cattle partake of it with a most decided relish in small quantities, and often, daily, and it is no doubt best that they should have free access to it, when they will take it by little and often, and simply satisfy their own appetite. Salt is found to have a beneficial effect upon crops on many soils, thus indirectly proving the deficiency of salt in the forage crops."

## CHEAP PORK.

A correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker* writes as follows:

"Raising pork at a low cost means much more than mere economy in feed. It means a healthy, thrifty growth from birth, cooling food at all times except in dead of winter, and consequently no loss from disease. The natural food of swine is mast and roots, and they contain no heating element. If we imitate nature in their food we cannot go wrong, even while we improve upon its nourishing properties as well as the marketable qualities of the carcasses."

Hogs, from weaning to fattening time, should be fed upon roots, and then a gradual, though not total change, to corn. But all yellow corn is conducive to undue heat, fever, and a general derangement of the system. Sugar corn is totally free from these objections, is far more fattening, produces the finest pork in the world and in less time than any other grain. For young stock I sow early sweet corn broadcast, and cut it fresh daily, but for fattening in the fall Stowell's evergreen is the best, and will yield as heavy as common yellow. Roots can be grown cheaper than grain, and if by the old mode only one hog is brought to market out of three, that hog costs three times as much money as it will bring. Even if sweet corn should cost more to raise than the yellow, the amount of pork going to market will more than offset the usual loss by cholera, etc. I have not had a sick hog in nine years."

## From Johnson County.

August 1st.—The farmers of Johnson county are making a success of it, this year. Crops of all kinds are fairly good. The winter wheat is turning out from ten to twenty-five bushels per acre; the berry being of the best, and is selling for 65 cts. per bushel. Flax seed is yielding from 10 to 16 bushels per acre, and selling from 90 to 95 cts. per bushel. Our farmers are growing flax pretty extensively, although it is thought to be very impoverishing on land. Some of our best flax-raisers claim that they can maintain the fertility of their land by growing wheat after flax, corn after wheat, then back to flax again, rotating in that way, thus only growing flax every third year. They believe this has a tendency to maintain the land's equilibrium, and perhaps keep it clear of the many insect pests that prey upon the different crops when land is run right along, year after year, to the same crop. Our fruit crop is good all around, except apples. The trees bloomed full but blasted from some cause, supposed to be the rapid growth of the wood, as the trees badly used up by borers are heavily loaded with apples, while healthy, thrifty trees have scarcely any. Stock of all kinds are doing fine rate, there being no disease among them. An abundance of rain has kept up a plentiful supply of grass wild and tame.

Suffice it to say, the farmers of Johnson county would be prosperous were it not for indebtedness. Some years ago they committed the unpardonable sin, borrowed money at ruinous rates of interest, turned speculators, flattered themselves with the idea that by so doing, they could soon become well fixed, prosperous and happy. But, alas, many of them are helplessly involved. Unless our Greenbackers can inaugurate a system of money making that may render things possible that seem impossible at present.

O. C. GORDON.

P. S. I like the FARMER and tell my neighbors it is the last paper I could think of giving up.



## Topics for Discussion.

## SEYMOUR ON FINANCE.

Ex-Governor Seymour in an interview with a New York Herald reporter has given his views on the leading political questions which are at present agitating the public mind. We extract that part of the interview as published in the Herald in which he refers to the west. Although Mr. Seymour's political creed may not be subscribed to by a majority of our readers, his great ability will be conceded. And as a student of political history his views will not fail to interest all parties. It is always profitable to study the views of advanced thinkers on both sides of every important question.

## THE GREENBACK QUESTION.

"What you think of the greenback question Will not the west demand an inflation of the currency?"

"I think not in the end, although inflation is popular with many at this time. There is a prejudice in the minds of the people of the west growing out of the division of our country into debtor and creditor states. This is increased by the stupid and selfish way in which the privilege of issuing national bank notes was divided. Most of it was given to one corner of our country where currency was less needed than elsewhere. I protested against this at the time, and refused to sign the bill which authorized the banks of this state to come under the law of Congress. The excuse for this partiality was that all states were offered an equal chance, but the west was not in a condition to take its share. But if the rule had been made that no state should receive more than its share of the national bank currency. Eastern capitalists would have established banks at the west, for at that time the privilege was one of great value. Now it is not much cared for, so that most of the national bank capital is held in Pennsylvania, New York and New England. It is so local that the rest of the country have become indifferent or hostile to the system. But I do not think the west can afford to have an inflation of our currency. It would be more harmed by this than any other portion of our Union. Appeals are now made with some effect to their prejudices against what are called bloated capitalists or bondholders—a class of men who do not exist in this country. We have some rich men, but they are rich in lands, in railroads, factories or kinds of property other than money. The government bonds owned in this country are held by savings banks or insurance companies as trustees mainly for laboring men or persons of small fortunes. The whole amount of banking capital is a small item compared with other forms of property.

## WALL STREET A CHARNEL HOUSE.

"There cannot be a more ghastly satire upon Wall street to speak of its bloated capitalists when it is a charnel house full of the skeletons of dead corporations, while those that are left are shrunk to skin and bones. A list of its bankruptcies will show that there is not a spot on earth where the financial epidemic has slain such multitudes of bankers, brokers and speculators. The feeling at the west against creditors at the east will die out, as every day shows more clearly that these suffer most of all from the financial crash of 1873. When debtors fail, creditors must go down with them. The east suffered most, for the heaviest losses were in railroads. In the main it held the bonds and the stock which were lost, and the west has the roads or other improvements, which are in profitable use by it. The west will recover from the financial shock much sooner than the east. Population is pouring into its states, giving value to its lands and a great increase to its productions. The wealth and the power of the country have moved westward. It sells more than it buys, it deals with the markets of the world and it wants the standard of value used by the commercial world. Inflation cursed the West, for it made the cost of its routes for trade threefold what they should have been. The charges for carrying their products kept them out of the markets in Europe.

"Since the contraction of our currency so that it has raised to the value of coin the west has grown rich faster than it ever did before and more rapidly than any other part of our Union. The vast exports of our country for the past few years have been drawn from western fields, and although they have loaded down every channel of commerce, its grain and provisions have been taken to the seaboard at less than one-third of the cost which was taxed upon it when our currency was inflated. It has not only gained by cheap transportation, but it has sold vast amounts which could not have gone to Europe or the east under former charges. The west has never before sold so much nor paid prices so low for all that it has bought. Grain has been carried from Chicago to New York at seven cents a bushel, and other things at the same rate. Formerly they paid nearly four times as much. Inflation now would ruin the west. The war in Europe is ended. It must compete with the grain of the Black Sea and with the fields of Europe for the markets of Great Britain. It can do this if it holds to a sound currency, and it will soon control the wealth of the country as it does its political power. I am satisfied, after looking over the fields of politics, that what at first sight seems to threaten confusion and disorder, in the end will give us more sound views about labor, government and finances."

## MR. SINNETT'S PLAN.

Eda. FARMER: In your criticism on my last article you state: "The man who is in debt had better not borrow any more even without interest but fight it out on the line of economy." Now will you please answer me how the man with a mortgage on his farm, with interest that is eating like a cancer not only into his profits but consuming the principle itself, (or farm as the case may be) how, is he to get relief under present circumstances? Surely you don't argue that the national banker is better entitled to the national money based on combined national wealth which he receives as a gratuity, than the farmer who is developing the state and adding daily to its wealth, whilst on the other hand the banker is a parasite, preying on the industrial classes and contributing nothing to the national wealth. If the farmer who is in debt and paying 10 per cent. interest, or the farmer who wants to stock his farm with fine cattle or build a house, barn, etc., or the mechanic or working man who wants to secure a little home surely it is more in harmony with the true principle of Republican government to advance the interests of the masses than to build up a monopoly of wealth. Cheap money, low interest and free trade is what the western farmer wants to develop the country and build up the grandest republic on earth.

S. SINNETT.

Muscatine, Iowa.

We can understand very readily the distressing situation which Mr. Sinnett refers to, and it is wide spread among the farmers of both the western and eastern states. In many instances it would doubtless be better to let the farm go with the mortgage, and endeavor to make a new start than to keep up the unequal struggle against the overwhelming odds of both principal and interest; but while a ray of hope lasts this is more than most men are capable of doing. The important difference between the man who establishes a National bank and the farmer with a mortgage on his place, is that the former has 50 or 100 thousand dollars, more or less, in U. S. Bonds, which he places in the custody of the Treasurer of the United States as security for the payment of currency, which the government issues to him in the name of his bank. The farmer with the mortgage hasn't the bonds or he might lift the mortgage or turn banker if he so elected. Just here is where the pinch is, and we don't see that the plan proposed by Mr. Sinnett would extricate him if it were possible to adopt it, which it is not. If we understand the plan which Mr. Sinnett has in view, it consists in the government establishing loan agencies throughout the country to accommodate the people with loans of money at a low interest—two per cent for instance. Or in other words that the government should become a banker. This involves a change of the constitution, which is one very serious obstacle in the way. But if this constitutional barrier could be removed, and the government undertook the task of supplying every farmer or other person with money to stock his farm, build barns or houses or make other improvements which he persuaded himself he needed when would this thing end? When would the millions on millions of borrowed money, either principal or interest be paid? They never could be. Universal bankruptcy and repudiation would be inevitable. But the scheme in Utopian. It could not possibly be inaugurated, much less carried out.

It is not the province of government to legislate for fifty million individuals, but to enact general laws under which all may find protection for life and property. These laws are often very defective, for the ingenuity of man is past circumventing wholly; but the best that government can do is to insure every one freedom of individual action, the opportunity to carve out his fortune to the best of his ability. This is about the extent that it is safe for a Republican government to attempt. Government should provide wholesome laws, avoiding favoritism to any class of its citizens, but it cannot act the role of nurse to individuals.

## "LET THE POOR FARMER ALONE."

EDITORS FARMER: Again I come to the front with a letter for publication, and hope W. W. C. will read and ponder. I wanted information some time since regarding "the best time of the year to strike Kansas," and somehow or other W. W. C. got tangled up in trying to answer me.

In No. 28 of the FARMER I made a remark, under the head of "That Random Shot," that, "as a general thing W. W. C. will write up a rich man's farm, but he will never mention the way a poor farmer gets along." He answered it in a very appropriate manner in No. 29, and I'll guarantee that many a farmer read it with interest. But alas! when No. 30 appeared I discovered that he went back on his poor friends again. He said, "To tell the truth, I'm a little bit ashamed of my article in last week's FARMER, in this particular. However I hope that the readers will see the point and not insist on my publishing poor men's affairs, for they (the poor men) really wish to be let alone." I'm sorry I caused him to feel ashamed of himself.

We don't get tired of reading about riches, fine farms, etc., but we would, occasionally, like to see an article regarding the way the poor man's farm is prospering, and how he (the poor man) gets along in the world, step by step. It is not necessary to pry too closely into the poor man's business, or anybody else's, as far as that is concerned, but they will willingly give an item of information any time they are called upon.

I don't want to get into a newspaper controversy with W. W. C., but if he has any information in response to the letter I wrote, in FARMER, of May 23d, please let him give it, but I would prefer less sarcasm, as it makes it "more blinding." And for a pattern, I would refer him to a gentleman living in Pratt county, by the name of S. W. Macomb. The excellent letter he wrote appeared in No. 25. He don't invite parties to go to Kansas in a "grasshopper year," but says "the sooner we get there the better," which showed plainly that he could appreciate the circumstance.

Very respectfully, J. M.

Peoria, Illinois.

## BROOM-CORN.

Broom-corn is selling to-day, in this market, from \$90 to \$150 per ton for fair brush up to the choicest grades of hurl. Inferior and damaged at \$70 to \$80 Chicago is the market of the world for broom-corn. The manufacturers come here from all parts of the country on account of the large stock to select from. But to the question, why the great difference in values of the different grades of broom-corn? Is the production of the best grades all a matter of chance, or is it not rather governed by certain known and well-defined causes? Experience teaches that choice broom corn can as well be made as a nice carriage, or a fine piece of furniture, the conditions complied with, the results must follow.

"We have before said that a rich soil has need to send forth a free, flourishing growth, that the plowing should be deep, that the ground should be well harrowed, and if the soil is clayey, abounding with clods, these clods must be crushed with a roller; that the thorough and perfect pulverizing of the soil is a matter of no small consideration in fitting the land for the crop; that the greater difficulty in growing broom-corn successfully in the western country is that lands are too plenty and cheap, capital to carry it on too limited and laborers too few; that the seed should all have abundant vitality and be selected from the finest growth of the best varieties of broom corn; that in planting the seed should be distributed with regularity, and the number of seeds planted to the foot depend on the strength of the land, as too coarse or too small brush is not desirable; that the seed should be planted in the finely pulverized soil all at an equal depth, that it may sprout and all grow up together, so that they shall brush out at one and the same time; planting seed part of it poor and part good at unequal depths, and covering with clods causes unequal growths, and obliges the grower to cut over the field twice or leave the first that matures to rot before the balance brushes out; the growing crop should be thoroughly cultivated, for it is found, by long experience, that a good crop of grass, weeds, and cannot be grown at one and the same time on the same land, that hoeing will pay well, if the help can be obtained at any reasonable price, that the finest growths of Illinois and other states are made by growers who hoe their broom-corn. New lands free of weeds do not need it as much. The foregoing conditions complied with, and favored by warm growing weather, we must have a fine handsome growth of broom-corn that will command the highest prices, if properly harvested and cured, and right here is where the difficulty comes in. It is no great feat to grow the crop successfully, but plenty of shed room, men, money, and suitable machinery, with a live man that understands the business, is now needed to run our fast express and make the connection, for the brush must be cut precisely when ready: for if delayed two or three days or a week, it is red or yellow, or black tipped, and as prices varied last season 100 per cent. of the value gone. Therefore, fully this depreciation of good growths left to stand too long last season. No man without the requisite facilities, no man without experience, no slipshod, free and easy, hunting and fishing man should ever attempt to grow a large crop of broom-corn."—National Board of Trade, Chicago.

## Patrons of Husbandry.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master, Samuel E. Adams, of Minnesota; Secretary, O. H. Kelley, Louisville, Kentucky; Treasurer, F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.

KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master: Wm. Sims, Topeka, Secretary: P. B. Maxon, Emporia.

COLORADO STATE GRANGE.—Master: Levi Booth, Denver. Lecturer: J. W. Hammett, Plattville.

MISSOURI STATE GRANGE.—Master: H. Eschbaugh, Hanover, Jefferson county. Secretary: A. M. Coddes, Knob Noster.

TO OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES For the use of Subordinate Granges we have a set of receipt and order books which will prevent accounts getting mixed up or confused. They are: 1st Receipts for Dues, 2nd Secretary's Receipts, and 3rd Orders on Treasurers. The set will be sent to any address, postage paid for \$1.00.

We solicit from Patrons, communications regarding the Order. Notices of New Elections, Feasts, Installations and a description of all subjects of general or special interest to Patrons.

## PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

EDITORS FARMER: The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by the Multiflora Grange No. 333, for publication in the KANSAS FARMER, and Spirit of Kansas.

WHEREAS, The present high railroad tariff and unjust discrimination are injurious to the best interests of the country; and

WHEREAS, The railroad tariff is more oppressive upon the farmers as a class, they being both producers and consumers, therefore,

Resolved: That we most respectfully recommend to all interested in the reduction of the present tariff, especially the farmers, not to vote for candidates for legislators without they first pledge themselves to assist in bringing in and supporting a bill to reduce the present tariff to a fair and equitable rate and against all unjust discrimination.

JAMES ANDREWS.

Huron, Kan.

## GO TO LEARN.

Attend the fairs, make a business of it, critically and closely examine everything there having any connection with your own business before allowing yourself to be led astray after the thousand-and-one foolish, stupid and utterly useless things found at such places. Get all the facts you can and carry them away, so as with the picture of the animals seen they may all be recalled at pleasure.

A rich man can do pretty much as he pleases with his means and not perhaps feel the loss, but no poor man can afford nowadays to breed scrub cattle. This, therefore, is to urge all who can to attend the fairs this summer, and make it both his and her special duty to examine carefully every head of Short-horn cattle on exhibition. Look at them all over, see them before and behind, at top and bottom, and with all their beauty of form and docility of temper. Then gather from the men and boys in charge of them all the information possible, such as their age, weight, milking quality, and the butter value of the milk; compare these whilst yet at the stall with the animals you have at home, and do vice versa when you get home, and with the aid of the information thus gathered say whether it would not pay better to raise a dozen or so good steers every year than to sow a hundred acres of wheat or corn.

What has been said of the Short-horn is measurably true of the Herefords. They are large, beefy animals, capital feeders, putting on flesh rapidly and, 'tis said by some, on coarser food than the Short-horn: are regular breeders, good mothers and very fair milkers. With these facts in view any farmer can determine that a Hereford bull would not be a bad thing on the farm to cross on his native cows; nor would he be very much disappointed if he expected his two-year-old steers to weigh 1,500 lbs. and to readily sell them from \$60 to \$75 per head for beef.

The Jersey cattle, are, it is very well known to our readers, admirably adapted to the production of a fine quality of butter: of milk they give but a limited supply, but more butter and better can be made from it than from any other breed of cattle known in the West. They are small and very docile, adapted to the uses of private families where a pet would be made at home and cream, rather than milk, and butter when the desiderata.

Journal of Agriculture and Farm.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## Sheep.

Two or three hundred choice young Sheep for sale by H. A. STILES, Pavilion, Kansas.

## Great Public Sale.

50 Head of HIGHBRED TROTTER STOCK including Stallions, Brood Mares, Colts and Fillies of the most fashionable strains of blood in America. Representatives of the five leading families now on the turf, viz: Hambletonians, Abdallahs, Clays, Mambrino Chicks and Alexander's Normans. Also,

20 Head of Thoroughbred JERSEY COWS, CALVES & BULLS, The Property of E. A. SMITH.

NORWOOD STOCK FARM LAWRENCE, KANSAS.

Sale to take place at the Kaw Valley Fair Grounds, THURSDAY, Sept. 5th, 1878.

Capt. P. C. KIDD, Auctioneer. All the stock will be on exhibition during the Fair held Sept. 2nd, to 7th, 1878. Note: Parties wishing to attend the sale, can avail themselves of the ONE CENT MILE excursion rates on all Railroads to and from the Temperance Camp meeting, held Aug. 30th to Sept. 10th. For pedigrees and description, send for catalogue.

## Walnut Grove Herd,



S. E. WARD, Proprietor.

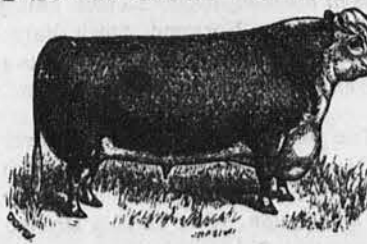
Breeder of Pure bred Short Horns. 1st Duke of Walnut Grove, 3518 S. H. Record. A. H. Book \$36.42 and Maxrka Lead and 5 1/2 S. H. Record at head of Herd. Young Bulls and Heifers. The get of the above sires for sale cheap. Inspection of my herd and correspondence solicited. Six miles south of Kansas City. Address: S. E. WARD, Proprietor, Westport, Jackson Co., Mo.

## SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

ALBERT CRANE, Durham Park, Marion County, Kan., breeder of pure Short-horns of fashionable blood. Stock for sale low. Also, best Berkshire pigs in Kansas. Catalogues Free.

"HIGHLAND STOCK FARM," Salina, Kansas.

THO'S. H. CAVANAUGH,



BREEDER OF

HEREFORD CATTLE. COTSWOLD SHEEP. BERKSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE PIGS.

Premium Cattle, sheep and Pigs for sale. Correspondence solicited.

## Breeders' Directory.

EMERY & SAYRE, Osceola, Clark Co., Iowa, breed Recorded Berkshires & Poland Chinas for sale "Beauties Sure." Pairs not akin. Circulars free.

D. W. IRWIN, Osceola, Iowa, Breeder of pure, D. M. Magie, & W. W. Elsworth strains of Poland China hogs; write for circular.

O. BADDERS, Leavenworth, Kan. Breeds Black Cochins & Brown Leghorns. Stock not surpassed in America. Send for descriptive circular and price list.

D. R. W. H. H. GUNDIFF, Pleasant Hill, Cass Co., Mo. breeder of thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle of fashionable strains. The bull at head of herd weighs 3000 pounds. Choice bulls and heifers for sale. Correspondence solicited.

J. R. DUNLAP & CO., IOLA, KAN., Breeder of pure Poland-China Hogs and P. Cochins, Light and Dark Brahmas, and B. B. H. Game, Bantam Fowls, Stock first-class. Write for prices.

J. BELL & SON, Brighton, Macoupin County, Ill. Inlets, Breeders and Dealers in Spanish Merino Sheep. Thirty-five miles from St. Louis on the Alton and St. Louis Railroad. Stock reliable; prices reasonable. Reference furnished.

ALBERT CRANE, Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas, Breeder of Pure Short-Horn Cattle of fashionable families. Young stock for sale cheap. Send for catalogue. Herd of 300 head. Also Berkshires.

R. COOK, Iola, Allen Co., Kansas, Breeder of pure Poland-China Hogs, Short-Horn Cattle and Light Brahma Chickens. All stock warranted first-class and Shipped C. O. D.

W. H. COCHRANE, Emporia, Kan., Breeder of Short-Horn Cattle. Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited. Planet, 17948 at head of herd.

JOHN W. CAREY, Canton, Ill., breeders and shippers of pure bred Poland-China hogs. This stock took the \$1,000 premium at Canton, in 1871 over 36 competitors.

H. M. & W. P. SISSON, Galeburg, Ill. Breeders of pure Poland-China Hogs, Short-Horn Cattle and Young Stock for sale.

FOR Choice Merino Rams and Ewes. Also Imported Canada Cotswolds at Moderate Prices. Address, A. B. MATTHEWS, Kansas City, Mo.

M. ANDERSON, Salina, Kansas, Pekin Ducks, Partridge, Cochins fowls, and White Guinea. Write to me.

LEVI DUMBAULD, Hartford, Lyon County, Kansas, Breeder of Thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle and Berkshire Pigs. Young Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited.

HALL BROS., Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-China, Suffolk, Essex and Berkshire pigs. Present prices less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jills and boars now ready.

H. GRIMSHAW, Paola, Kansas, Breeder of Essex Berkshires and Poland China hogs. Stock for sale.

## Nurserymen's Directory.

WATSON & DOBBIN, Wholesale and Retail, 100, 000 2 yr. old apple trees for fall, also 100,000 1 yr. old, all of the best growth and varieties, all fenced in Rabbit tight; also 50 acres of Hedge Plants in season, prices low to Nurserymen and Dealers. Address, ROBT. WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

50,000 Apple Stocks, 1,000,000 Orange Plants, 50,000 Fruit Trees, 25,000 Small Fruit Plants, &c. Apple Root Grafts put up to order by experienced hands. Send for Price Lists. E. F. OADWALLADER, Miami County Nursery, Louisburg, Kansas.

A. WHITCOMB, Lawrence, Kansas, Florist Catalogue of Greenhouse and Bedding plants, free.

## Dentists.

A. H. THOMPSON, D. D. S., Operative and Surgeon Dentist, No. 189 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

## JAMES G. YOUNG, Attorney-at-Law.

Rooms 10 and 12, Hart's Office Building, West Fourth Street, between Main and Delaware, Kansas City, Mo. Practices in Missouri, Kansas and U. S. Courts. Real Estate & Corporation Law a specialty.

## HENTIC &amp; SPERRY, Attorneys at Law,

TOPEKA, KANSAS. Practice in Federal & State Courts

## Berkshire Pigs at Auction Prices.

Single Pig \$15. \$25 per pair, \$35 per trio. These pigs are sired by the Imported Prize-Winning Boar, Wade Hampton, and out of sows picked from the best herds in U. S. and warranted to be as good as the best. No trouble to answer correspondence. Address, F. B. HARNESSE, New Palestine, Mo.

## Shannon Hill Stock Farm

ATCHISON, KANSAS, Thoroughbred Short-Horn Durham Cattle, of Straight Hard Book Pedigree, bred and for sale. Also Berkshire pigs bred from imported and premium stock, for sale singly, or in pairs not akin. Persons desiring to visit this farm, by calling on Mr. G. W. Glick, in the city of Atchison, will be conveyed to and from the farm free of charge. Address, GLICK & CARMICHAEL.

## Park Nursery

LAWRENCE, KANSAS.

2nd year in the State. Very large and complete stock of ornamental trees, grape vines, &c., &c. Wholesale prices very low, and terms reasonable. Address P. F. PHILLIPS, Lawrence, Kansas.

## GEO. M. CHASE, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, BREEDER OF

Thoroughbred English BERKSHIRE PIGS.

Dark Brahma and White Leghorn Chickens.

None but first-class stock shipped.

## 600 SHEEP!

Owing to the shortage of Range, and increase of flocks, we offer for sale, delivered Sept. 15th, 600 head of Sheep, most ewes, graded Merinos; age from one to five years old. Our flocks have been in this section of the country five years. For further particulars, enquire of J. M. BRINING, Great Bend Kansas.

## SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

L. A. KNAPP, Dover, Shawnee Co., Kansas, breeder of Pure Short-Horn Cattle. Farm 18 miles south-west of Topeka, and 18 miles south of Roseville.





## The Kansas Farmer.

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

## KANSAS A STATE OF HOMES.

Kansas is eminently the state in which to found homes. It has every element for this purpose that could be desired. The healthful climate, the fertile soil and geographical location of the state establish it as one of the finest agricultural states in the union. The grain and stock of Kansas in a few years will lead every other state both in quantity and quality. The capacity for maturing small grain under most adverse meteorological conditions was put to the severest test the present season. The intense heat accompanied with almost daily rains, when wheat was at its most critical period, would have ruined the crop in almost any other climate than that of Kansas. But in spite of these adverse conditions, the grain reached perfection, resisting the combined influence of heat and wet both before and after it was cut, so as to surprise every practical wheat grower who knows how fatal such weather is at the season just preceding harvest, to the maturing grain. Our advisers represent the crop as turning out in nearly every part of the state perfect grain and a large yield.

We need only to incidentally refer to the stock producing elements of the state, that branch of business having been expatiated on by every newspaper correspondent who has taken Kansas for a theme.

Fruit and vegetables of the temperate zone grow to great perfection and abundantly in all sections of the state where they have been tried, and the population which is coming in and filling up the country, laying out the rolling prairies into farms and establishing houses, are composed in a larger percentage, of the best people of the country. Where nature has provided so many advantages for rural homes, there should be no mistakes made by those who come in to possess the land.

Beautiful, attractive and comfortable homes should be built, not temporary stopping places with a view of going further in a short time. Kansas is certainly the *Ultima Thule*, of the farmer. After the settlement of Kansas, there will be no new west to emigrate to possessing superior attractions for the farmer. The arid plains which skirt the Rocky Mountains rise on the west, and the mountains with their rich ores, but there is no place in all that region for other than a sparse population. The western limit of a dense agricultural population of the United States will be Kansas. And those who are establishing homes in the state should build to stay. The home should be made a place of comfort. Groves and orchards should be planted about the dwelling with a view to ornament as well as comfort and utility.

The subject of home buildings is one of the most important questions to be considered by the farmers in their meetings, agricultural associations and granges, and plans for laying out grounds into fields, lawns, orchards, groves and yards should be discussed by speakers and essayists who have made the subject of landscape gardening and branches connected with it a study.

An ornamented and comfortable home has many strong ties of interest for the family, while the uncouth, unsightly habitation is repulsive, offending the finer tastes, and failing in one of the chief elements of home which is to create a love for the spot where the family is growing up to man and womanhood.

A home on a farm is a great educator. It cultivates the finer sentiments, the morals and intellect of the inhabitants of that home while those who dwell in unsightly uncomfortable hovels will ever remain an uncouth, rough, ignorant class. Farmers of advanced education who burn to elevate and ennoble their class, and give it a preponderating influence in the councils of the nation, must lay the foundation of the noble work by teaching their less favored neighbors the art of making homes. No more important subject could be discussed at farmers' meetings than that of beautifying homes, and the moral and intellectual advantages to the family, the neighborhood and the state which radiate from the attractive country home.

## BARGE TOWS.

Several barge tows of grain have been taken from Kansas City this season, to St. Louis with most gratifying results, and the prospect is that a permanent line or lines of barges will be established between Kansas City and St. Louis, and we trust that ere long the business will be extended, and lines will be started between Kansas City and New Orleans.

We have seen a statement published recently in the Philadelphia Press that Mr. Charles P. Chouteau of St. Louis had been maturing a plan of placing lines of iron barges on the Mississippi, constructed especially for the navigation of that river, between St. Louis and New Orleans, and

that he had sailed for Europe where he hoped to interest foreign capitalists in his plans for a new system of boats on the Mississippi River. The statement of the Press goes on to say:

"Mr. Chouteau, who represents one of the largest corporations in the West, will meet on the other side of the ocean, Mr. George H. Rea, President of the Mississippi Valley Transportation Company; and as these gentlemen will work together in making the necessary negotiations, they will, in all probability, be successful. Mr. Chouteau claims that the greatest obstacles thus far met with in utilizing the Mississippi, have been due more to the defective construction of the vessels than the natural peculiarities of the stream itself. Ill-made wooden hulls, poor engines and unsuitable machinery now so greatly increase the cost of transportation that no marked progress can be made, and Mr. Chouteau believes that it is more from these causes than the dangers of the river that the average life of a vessel is only seven years, and the entire amount of money invested must be renewed every six years."

Mr. Chouteau's plan is to introduce an entirely new type of iron steam boats and barges, proof against the dangers which have beset the wooden shells which have been used for steam boats on the western rivers. By this improvement safety and durability to the boats will be obtained and lower freights. It is estimated that the new boats will be able to carry grain from St. Louis to New Orleans at 4 cents a bushel and make a handsome profit to their owners. We trust that this estimate may prove reliable and that Mr. Chouteau will succeed in establishing his lines of iron boats on the Mississippi.

## SHAWNEE AS A WHEAT COUNTY.

Shawnee county has been considered by many as a part of Kansas unfavorable to wheat-growing, but the result of this season's harvest would seem to wholly disprove this theory. Judge McFarland and T. L. Ross, both residents of Topeka have just threshed out their crop of wheat grown on an upland farm, five miles southwest of Topeka in Shawnee county. The wheat is of the May and Fultz varieties, 60 acres were in Fultz wheat which produced 40 bushels to the acre. The balance of the tract was seeded with May wheat, which yielded 20 and 22 bushels per acre. The land was all about the same condition and quality, and the result shows a large grain in favor of the Fultz variety. This tract contains 160 acres and has been sold by Ross & McClintock real estate agents, for \$1800.

Judge McFarland raised 112 acres of wheat on another farm of 193 acres located 12 miles north of Topeka in Shawnee county, which is averaging about the same per acre. The crop is now being threshed. This farm was sold last week by the same agents for \$2000. These farms are both without buildings, but fenced.

We are sometimes requested to return manuscript which we do not use. Unless stamps are sent to pay return postage we can't afford to do it. It is better, if writers wish to save manuscript, to retain a copy. But if publishers do not use an article it is seldom worth preserving. Better burn it, and try again. Immature effusions have no value.

The Norton county *Advance* says: We have heard from only two of our farmers, as to the yield of wheat; they are as follows: Andy Knapp living on the "Dog" near Neighborville, raised an average of 36½, and Squire Brainard of Sappa Creek, an average of 39½ bushels, per acre.

Possibly the 10 and 12 bushel farmers do not report. Look them up brother Pettigrew, and let us know how the proportions stand.—EDS.

The millet crop of Norton county will average 3 tons per acre.

Messrs. J. T. Wilcox & Co., of Chicago, have an advertisement in this issue of our paper in which they claim great advantages for their Harrow. It is not unreasonable to say that their claims seem well founded. We advise our readers before purchasing to investigate the advantages claimed for the Wilcox Harrow.

Thursday, September 5th, Lawrence, Kansas, is the day the great Public Sale of blooded stock, Horses and Jersey cattle of the Norwood Stock Farm, will take place on the Kaw Valley fair grounds. See advertisement in another column.

The greatest agricultural Fair ever held at Topeka, will open September 10th and continue to the 14th, at the Fair ground of the association. The Topeka Driving Park Association will exhibit at the same time, and the collection of trotting and running horses will be finest ever seen in Kansas. The two associations offer \$7000 in premiums and every arrangement has been made to insure a great success. The railroads will issue round-trip tickets at reduced rates.

## "AN UNLOVING AND UNLOVED WIFE."

We trust there are but few of such cases as yours in Kansas, or anywhere in our wide country. By your own acknowledgment you seem to be in possession of every element of happiness that any reasonable woman could ask. You have a kind, intelligent husband, a beautiful and comfortable home. You are the architect of your own happiness or misery. If you get rid of that sentimental folly of imagining that your husband doesn't love you, and that you don't love him, and all from no explainable cause, you will have taken the first step in the road to happiness. Employ the time you appropriate to brooding over your imaginary unhappy lot of being unloving and unloved, in devising ways to make home pleasant and attractive to your husband on his return. Meet him with a cheerful smile, in place of a weary, melancholy air. Put your imaginary cares behind you, and try by every means and device to attract and please your husband, with one-half the assiduity you did before you were married, and you will not fail. Make home the brightest place on earth, and your husband will not be slow in appreciating it.

To win her lover nothing else appeals so strongly to the highest ambition of a girl. A wife has ten times more at stake and she should make use of her powers to accomplish a far more important result.

It would seem to reasonable beings that "An unloving and unloved wife," has in her own hands her election of happiness or misery. Let her try?

## THE BITE OF DOGS.

(1) The following cure for hydrophobia is a recipe of M. Cassar's, a French physician: "Take two tablespoonfuls of fresh chloride of lime, mix it with one-half pint of water, and with this wash, keep the wound constantly bathed and frequently renewed. The chloride gas possesses the power of decomposing the tremendous poison, and renders mild and harmless the venom against whose resistless attack the artillery of medical science has been so long directed in vain. Apply as soon as possible after the infliction of the bite."

(2) Dr. Offenburg, of Munster, claims to have cured a case of hydrophobia by hypodermic injections of curare seven times in four hours, to the amount of three grains. Symptoms of paralysis ensued, free from convulsions. The recovery was slow. (3) Pulverized charcoal mixed with lard is said to be an infallible remedy for the bite of a dog. It must be immediately applied to the injured spot and kept there until the poison has been completely drawn out.

## REDUCTION OF FREIGHT RATES.

A piece of good news to the farmers, and others, who send freight by rail along the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, R. R., was announced by the general manager of the corporation. Mr. W. B. Strong, on Monday morning last, which was that a reduction of freight rates was to take effect from that date.

At a time when the rise in freights has become as sure a thing on almost all railroads, as the return of the seasons, when the crops are to be moved to market, the A. T. & S. F., company have shown the wisdom of its management by adopting what is the most reasonable and business-like policy for all roads, lowered the rates for carrying freight when there is the most freight to carry. By this stroke of wisdom the corporation identifies the interest of their road with the interest of the people of the state, and makes friends where other roads by extortion creates enemies. If this policy were pursued by all railroad companies, the bitter strife between them and the people would cease; and if this just, as well as wise policy of the Santa Fe Company is not adopted by other roads, they will eventually be forced down and placed in subjection by the public whom they goad to madness by the unjust charges.

## CULTIVATE THE FACULTIES.

One faculty of the human mind, which all instructors should aim to develop in the pupils under their care, is the faculty of observation.

There are very many excellent methods by which this work may be accomplished and we will speak of a few of them.

Commence with the little ones as soon as they enter school. Instruct them to notice carefully everything they see on their way to or from school and then let one or more relate to you, in hearing of the other pupils the result of his observation. Try at the same time to teach them to distinguish the good from the bad. If this last were done when this generation comes into active life you would find a great reduction in the number of fault-finders.

When the pupil is old enough to write, give him a picture to look at. After he has studied it for a time require him to reproduce it in words.

By so doing you not only cultivate the faculties of observation and memory but

you also teach penmanship and language.

We often think teachers have been educated without the bringing out of this one important power, especially when we find one in the school-room attired in a dirty dress which is minus various needed buttons and ornamented with various rips in the seams.

Surely, no teacher if conscious of the fact, would enter the school in such a plight.

While we do not think a neat, clean and tasty attire makes the man or woman, we do think it adds very much to the appearance of an individual.—*Dirigo Rural*.

## RAISING POULTRY FOR THE MARKET.

As a general rule we do not think farmers pay sufficient attention to the production of poultry for sale. Carefully kept accounts will demonstrate that one pound of poultry can be produced for about half the cost of the same weight of beef or pork, and always meet with a ready market. Another advantage is that it can be attended to quite as well, if not better, by women and children, than by men; thus economizing the labor of the whole family, and directing it into the production of profit for the general purse.

Try the experiment of allowing the children, if large enough, to take care of the poultry for a share of the products, either in eggs or in dressed poultry. Charge them with all the food consumed and credit it them with all the eggs or flesh consumed by the family, and note your percentage in the speculation, and the benefit it has been to them. The Maryland Farmer puts it in this way: "If farmers who think poultry does not pay, would give their feathered stock to their sons or daughters, with permission to enjoy and own any profit that might accrue from them, they would soon be convinced that there is something in it." There certainly is no more health-promoting exercise than that afforded by caring for, or having the management of a flock of poultry, and if the flock is one of any of the pure breeds—there is in addition to the exhilarating influence, an enthusiasm that causes what might otherwise be considered a task to become a pleasure—and therefore profit and pleasure are combined. A young lady in Bethel, Pa., during the year of 1874, kept a strict account of all expenditures for food, etc., for her yard of fowls, and at regular market prices for eggs and chickens and she cleared above all expenses \$300, besides having more stock on hand than she started with. Is not this an incentive sufficient to awaken an interest among the numerous fair readers of the farmers in favor of gallinaceous stock? It is certainly worthy of emulation."—*Philadelphia Times*.

## TO SCHOOL BOARDS.

Wanted: A school to teach in country by a young man of experience. Will give best of references. State wages and full particulars, &c., &c. Address Teacher, KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

## FAIR COMPLIMENTARIES.

Complimentary tickets have been received for the following:

Kansas City Industrial Exposition and Agricultural Fair Association, to be held September 10th to 21st. The managers have contracted with John Splane to trot his celebrated horse *Rarus* on the 19th.

Lyon County Agricultural Society. Fair held at Emporia, Kansas, October 1st to 4th.

Riley County Agricultural Society, Fair held at Manhattan, Kansas, September 3d to 6th.

Kansas Valley Fair, Lawrence, Kansas, September 2d to 7th.

Valley Falls Kansas District Fair Association, September 3d to 6th.

Crawford County Agricultural Society, held at Girard, Kansas, September 10th to 13th.

Burlingame Union Agricultural Society. Burlingame, Kansas, September 25th to 27th.

Cass County Agricultural Society, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, September 17th to 20th.

Shawnee County Agricultural Society and Topeka Driving Park Association. Fair held at Topeka, Kansas, September 10th to 14th.

The Pennsylvania State Board of Agriculture will meet at Titusville, in that state, September 10th. The programme of exercises will be highly interesting and instructive, comprising nearly the whole range of subjects relating to agriculture and horticulture. A number of the most learned and eminent men of the state will furnish essays and participate in the discussions of the board.

American wheat has won a medal at the Paris Exposition over that of England, France, Russia, and the rest. This is no small honor in the midst of so great competition.

Mr. W. D. Gossett exhibited some fine peaches of the old *Mixon* cling variety at the Farmers' office last week. The largest measured 101-2 inches in circumference and weighed 10 ounces. They were the finest looking peaches we have seen this season.

The Wichita Fair has been postponed from Tuesday, September 10th till Tuesday September 24th.

## ACCLIMATION OF SHEEP.

Not more of sheep than of other stock, perhaps, but the continual bugbear of acclimation comes from the west and south. It is often said lambs the first year are a failure on this account. A wide out-look at this complaint has most thoroughly confirmed us in the opinion that the whole thing is a humbug. If the ill said to be caused by the change of climate were true, we might endorse the theories advanced, but it is common for the same dissatisfaction to occur where sheep are changed to a neighboring farm. Pigs that are highly bred and cattle from best kept herds, often run down and do badly just as do those transplanted greater distances, and placed upon open ranges, as are the stock of Texas or Kansas. This theory is used by a set of traders, who would, by taking advantage of the circumstances that often cause stock imported from the north to do badly, to work off their surplus. They know it is without foundation, but they can use it and they do so for their own benefit. As a breeder of sheep I have noted these facts for years, and talked with gentlemen from Colorado, Kansas and Texas, who have been familiar with the experience of flock-masters as well as their own. We used to keep our sheep in moderate condition, so as to meet circumstances of change as we then thought more successfully. We thought by selling to men who gave fair keeping to their stock, that they would keep up on it better than sheep kept in high condition. In this we were mistaken we now think.

The process of acclimation means nothing more than change of keeping. Why should an animal, bred on a farm where kindly care and liberal feeding are practiced, thrive and do well when turned out upon a prairie to travel with a flock, gathering their food during the day and doing service at the same time. Often their attention is taken up the whole day with other affairs and feeding is neglected entirely. Not only is food but water, though before them, neglected; especially is this the case in large flocks whose rival rams dispute the rights and privileges of each other. Soon by lack of feed and water, and over-use a ram will be reduced in condition and give no attention to feed or the flock. And he is said to be used up in acclimating, and that sheep from a distance are of no use for a year after being imported. This same effect is seen in the north where an animal has to learn to live in the same manner. It is a sample of the "root hog or die," and if his time is taken up in traveling all day with the flock and no time to eat, he soon dies. Sheep raised on a farm are unused to traveling. The sheep of the pastoral regions are used to walking from four to six miles a day. A ram in working season will travel twice as far as the ewes in the same flock will during a day, which proves quite an extra tax upon their vitality. I met a more than ordinarily intelligent gentleman from Ft. Concho, Texas, who said, in speaking of this same subject, that the same care and attention that makes a sheep do well in the north, will make it do well in Texas, and that this same care must be given. He instanced his own experience with a lot of Vermont rams he used a year ago on his own ranch with most satisfactory results. They had just been imported and were in fine fix. He hauled them in his wagon two hundred and fifty miles, feeding and watering them regularly. He herded them by themselves on capital range where abundance of Mesquite beans were ready to their will. They seemed for a few days to be doing splendidly. But a change came over them and the quick eye saw plainly they were not going to keep up on their feed. A thousand pounds of barley were bought at once and they were fed liberally. He says acclimation means learning to starve.

Imported Canada sheep that are bred from animals accustomed to tender care, and fully fed on grains, oil cake and turnips, when brought here, and put upon grass alone always are failures. If the same food that made them what they are was fed, they would continue to be the beauties they were when imported. This fact is known to many, and no complaints from them are heard. In selling stock to parties of whom I have the least suspicion of ignorance, the inquiry is—put as delicately as possible—how they intend to treat these animals when they get home and put them to use. It is a tender point to raise as it is not very complimentary. We feel though better to offend a little than have the disappointment to explain afterwards. Often voluntarily we explain to a customer our mode of handling sheep; thereby telling indirectly, that the same treatment will only insure and maintain like results. Breeders have no fear of putting stock into new hands where proper care and intelligent feeding are practiced, whether it be at home or in Texas. There are diseases peculiar to climate, but general health and vigor can be successfully secured by watchfulness.

R. M. BELL.

## POISONED BY PEACH KERNELS.

A child recently died in Paris from eating a few peach kernels, which contained a percentage of prussic or hydrocyanic acid. Writers on toxicology state that an ounce of the kernels contains about one grain of pure hydrocyanic acid, and it is known that one grain of the poison will almost to a certainty kill any adult person. Two-thirds of a grain has very often been fatal, and indeed may be regarded as a fatal dose for a child. Parents should be careful to warn their children against eating peach kernels.



## THE CROPS, ETC.

Early in the spring certain newspapers heralded with loud-mouthed trumpets that the wheat crop in 1878 was going to exceed any thing ever known in this country. They kept whooping this in the ears of the people until after harvest, and it became certainly known that the crop would pan out less than last year, and of poorer quality. This cry of great crops is annual, and apparently without any reference to the stock on hand or the probabilities of the future. What is the object of such a continued outcry, when everybody knows that the appearance of any crop in the spring is no guide to what it will show in the half bushel in the fall? It is for a purpose, and that purpose is the robbery of the farmer to enrich the speculator; I can conceive of no other object. Supply and demand have nothing whatever to do with it, for in practice it is entirely ignored. The boards of trade, doubtless, combine to fix the prices, for where combination is possible, competition is pushed to one side. This is the reason of the persistent lying from March till August. This is what has forced down and kept down the prices of farm products. All our crops are annually hoisted into notice as being in excess of any crop for years.

The rye crop is probably not over seventy per cent. of what was grown last year. The oat crop is very much short of last year in weight to the bushel, and yet the prices do not advance as the boasted law of supply and demand requires. When the most of the crops are in the hands of the speculators, we may look for an appreciation in prices.

Because it is supposed that there is corn enough on hand to supply the natural demand they have kept corn below the cost of production, just to show us farmers that they are masters, and it shows one other thing, that we are consummate asses. R. K. SLOSSON. Verona, Ills.

A correspondent from Newton, Harvey Co., sends us an article on hog-cholera, and refers to a simple remedy. If he will send the prescription we will publish it as part of the article, which would save him the trouble of answering letters of inquiry which he seems to apprehend.

Our friends will have to pardon our seeming neglect to publish all of their political and monetary communications. We occasionally publish a short one which contains a new idea or an old one well put. The FARMER is distinctively an agricultural paper, never partisan, and only political so far as discussing questions of government on their merits, and the bearing they have on the agricultural interests of the west.

Finance is having a great run just now on the public stage, and it is not at all strange that the amateurs are numerous who believe what they don't know about the tangled question isn't worth knowing. If we published all of the articles offered on the subject, there would be no room for anything else in the FARMER. Be patient, friends, time, the great evener, will spoil a great many theories which to-day seem faultless to their disciples. The country is nothing like as near destruction as politicians predict.

## OUR AGENT'S TRACKS.

Mr. W. W. Cone, the gentlemanly traveling agent of the Kansas FARMER, called Thursday. Mr. Cone represents the agricultural paper of the west.—*Kingman Mercury*.

W. W. Cone, traveling agent of the Kansas FARMER, called to see us Thursday. He is traversing the country on horseback, writing up crops, giving brief sketches, taking subscriptions, etc.—*Inland Tribune*.

Mr. W. W. Cone, traveling agent and correspondent of the Kansas FARMER, is in Larned and made the Herald office a friendly call yesterday. He represents the best agricultural paper for the use of Kansas.—*Pawnee Herald*.

We have received a premium list of the Agricultural Association of Greenwood county, Kansas. The fair is to be held at Eureka, September 18th to 20th.

## From Phillips County.

August 16th.—There was harvested 7543 acres of winter wheat in this county, which will average 18 bushels per acre. Spring wheat 11,491 acres, average 14 bushels; rye 4,140 acres, average 30 bushels; oats 1,258 acres, average 40 bushels; barley 1,173½ acres, average 40 bushels; corn 10,267 acres, in fine condition and the yield will be very large; Irish potatoes, 461 acres, will yield very large, price very low. Wheat 40 cts.; rye 20 cts.; oats 15 to 20 cts.; corn 20 cts.; barley 50 cts.; potatoes, Irish, 15 cts.; butter 15 cts.; eggs 10 cts.; cheese 15 cts. The condition of cattle is good, there is 4,585 head, nearly double what there was last year, not much fruit raised in this county yet, but so far as it has been tried it is proving a success. Small fruit good; good government lands are mostly all taken up, good prairie lands are very cheap in the county, sold mostly by the claim of 166 acres. Can be bought for \$300.00 to \$600.00 per 100 acres. Good work horses are worth \$75. to \$100. per head, milch cows \$20. to \$30. per head, two-year-old steers \$15. to \$18. per head. Farm labor per month \$15. to \$18. Schools are good, some 60 in the county. The religious denominations are well represented here. Times are looking up, and emigration very large. Increase in population some 3000 in the last year. J. H. F.

## From Elk County.

August 10th.—Winter wheat fair crop, not extra—was not so much sown by one-fourth as last year. There is some old corn on hand at this writing, new corn getting hard and being fed to hogs by some; the yield 40 to 50 bushels. Oats averaged in 1877 35 bushels per acre, will reach 45 this year. Corn, 25c. Oats, 20c. Wheat 50c. Potatoes, 20c. Butter, 10c. Eggs, 5c. Cattle in good condition, with some increase in numbers. Peaches a good half crop. Gooseberries, strawberries, blackberries, a fair crop. Some apple trees just beginning to bear. Peaches a good crop, also all small fruit. No vacant Government land here. Improved land \$10 to \$14 per acre; wild land \$3 to \$5. Good work horses worth about \$80, milch cows \$12 to \$25 per head; two-year-old steers average about \$16 per head. Farm hands are getting from \$12 to \$15 per month. There is a good school house in nearly every district in the county. We have preaching two or three times a month at the Lima school house, also a good Sunday school every Lord's day. The county is being well improved in this vicinity, mostly by hedge fences, but considerable other kinds of fences.

P. MASON.

## From Coffey County.

August 17.—This county is buoyant with a fair prospect of an excellent corn crop, even the late corn will be very good if we have a few more rains; the corn crop of this county will be better this season than for the two last. Most of the wheat and oats are threshed; wheat averages 15 to 18 bushels per acre, worth 60 to 65c. Oats average about 40 bushels, worth 15 to 16c. Rye very good. No chinch bugs but plenty of mimic chinch bugs on the purple. Millet and Hungarian good. Apples are not quite as good as usual, in consequence of the late frost which killed a part of the fruit and injured the balance so that a large portion dropped, and that which remained on the trees is imperfect, especially the Winesap and the Missouri Pippin. The early peaches were injured by worms, and prematurely fell off; the late crop will be better. Cattle and horses are doing well on the prairie since the flies have subsided. Two-year-old steers are worth from \$22 to \$25; yearlings \$14 to \$17 per head. Fat hogs are worth and selling for \$3.50 per hundred. S. P. Pepper, on Big Creek, in this county, raised 42 bushels of the Fulton wheat per acre. Old corn is worth 18 to 22c per bushel. The Stockwell Free Methodists and the Greenbackers are organizing for a raid on this county. D. C. SPURGEON.

## Markets.

## (August 26, 1878.)

## New York Money Market.

GOLD—Sold all day at 109½.  
LOANS—Borrowing rates, flat at ½ per cent.  
GOVERNMENTS—Firm and higher.  
RAILROAD BONDS—Generally firm.  
STATE SECURITIES—Quiet and steady.  
STOCKS—The market in early dealings declined ¼ per cent., but in the afternoon the market was firm until near the close when there was a reaction of ¼ per cent. In the final sales there was a fractional recovery in some instances.

## New York Produce Market.

FLOUR—Fair demand; superfine western state, \$3.30 @ 4.00; common to good, \$4.05 @ 4.30; good to choice, \$4.35 @ 4.75; white wheat extra, \$5.00 @ 5.50; St. Louis, \$4.00 @ 4.20.  
WHEAT—Active but a shade lower; ungraded red winter, 91c @ 98c; No. 2, red winter, 91c @ 98c; No. 3, red winter, 89c @ 96c; No. 4, red winter, 87c @ 94c; No. 5, red winter, 85c @ 92c; No. 6, red winter, 83c @ 90c; No. 7, red winter, 81c @ 88c; No. 8, red winter, 79c @ 86c; No. 9, red winter, 77c @ 84c; No. 10, red winter, 75c @ 82c; No. 11, red winter, 73c @ 80c; No. 12, red winter, 71c @ 78c; No. 13, red winter, 69c @ 76c; No. 14, red winter, 67c @ 74c; No. 15, red winter, 65c @ 72c; No. 16, red winter, 63c @ 70c; No. 17, red winter, 61c @ 68c; No. 18, red winter, 59c @ 66c; No. 19, red winter, 57c @ 64c; No. 20, red winter, 55c @ 62c; No. 21, red winter, 53c @ 60c; No. 22, red winter, 51c @ 58c; No. 23, red winter, 49c @ 56c; No. 24, red winter, 47c @ 54c; No. 25, red winter, 45c @ 52c; No. 26, red winter, 43c @ 50c; No. 27, red winter, 41c @ 48c; No. 28, red winter, 39c @ 46c; No. 29, red winter, 37c @ 44c; No. 30, red winter, 35c @ 42c; No. 31, red winter, 33c @ 40c; No. 32, red winter, 31c @ 38c; No. 33, red winter, 29c @ 36c; No. 34, red winter, 27c @ 34c; No. 35, red winter, 25c @ 32c; No. 36, red winter, 23c @ 30c; No. 37, red winter, 21c @ 28c; No. 38, red winter, 19c @ 26c; No. 39, red winter, 17c @ 24c; No. 40, red winter, 15c @ 22c; No. 41, red winter, 13c @ 20c; No. 42, red winter, 11c @ 18c; No. 43, red winter, 9c @ 16c; No. 44, red winter, 7c @ 14c; No. 45, red winter, 5c @ 12c; No. 46, red winter, 3c @ 10c; No. 47, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 48, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 49, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 50, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 51, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 52, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 53, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 54, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 55, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 56, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 57, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 58, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 59, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 60, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 61, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 62, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 63, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 64, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 65, red winter, 1c @ 8c; No. 66, red winter, 1c @ 8c; 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EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

## HAYMAKING.

Across the sunny field she went,  
Who is our sovereign lady?  
She said, "Such days were never meant  
To waste in corners shady."  
She would not take a single nay,  
Excusing or denying,  
"Come out," she said, "and turn the hay,  
Because the sun is shining."

Some pleaded letters: "Why, you see,  
The mail-day for telegrams!"  
Another: "When I've read these three  
Last pages of 'Deronda'!"  
Two miscreants who had staidly fled  
(Straw hat and Dolly Varden)  
Were captured, lips and fingers red,  
Deep in the kitchen garden.

No pleading was the least excuse,  
She brooked no contradiction;  
"The heat you cannot make excuse,"  
"These letters are but fiction!"  
"You've played lawn tennis half the day,  
To think my work is cooler!"  
And so, at last, she got her way,  
Our most despotic ruler.

She sat on stations row by row,  
And marshaled us sedately;  
"See, now, this is the way to go,  
The swatches went turning straightly.  
Don't seize your rakes like whips and oars,  
Nor drag them limp and lazy."  
The haymakers who drank their "fours,"  
In shadow, thought us crazy.

But not five minutes' work was done,  
"Ere deflections tried her;  
Dick's line and Kate's merged into one,  
And Jack must taste the cider,  
While some would loiter, some would play,  
And some would rest already—  
"Alas!" she sighed, "for all I say,  
I cannot keep you steady."

Across the field there swept a tide  
Of voices, songs, and laughter;  
She raked her line with honest pride,  
I followed silent after.  
We left the others far behind,  
O'ermastered by the weather;  
And finished where the roses bind  
The further hedge together.

What made me bold? some words we spoke  
By chance; or silence sweeter;  
While all the summer sounds awoke,  
And sang in tender metre.  
I only know my fate assayed,  
I won her sweet, resigning;  
Nor did she blame me that I made  
Hay while the sun was shining.

## OVER THE PLAINS.

All that can be seen from a car window on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe R. R. has been told so often, and so well told, that it seems like folly and presumption on the part of any ordinary person to try to tell it again. And yet the impression each person receives when viewing the plains for the first time must differ somewhat from that made on every other one, and we all feel tempted to describe our own, which is perhaps pardonable since nobody has to listen to it who prefers not to.

In the first place then the plains did not seem so plain to us as we expected them to. They are traversed by old, long since abandoned river beds, seamed by "divides", marked into "windrows" by buffalo and cattle paths running always north and south except where they veer a little occasionally to go around a slough. Even the level ground itself presents a broken and rough appearance and nowhere a smooth surface like a grass-covered prairie. The buffalo grass and sage brush grow in clumps and failed to satisfy our eyes with the "vast, unbroken stretch of dull, whitish green," that we have heard so much about. And then the tongues of green from the banks of the Arkansas seemed to be reaching out in every direction as if in effort to reclaim the waste and prepare it for the march of civilization. No doubt there are many miles of Kansas and Colorado land that nearly enough resembles a desert to satisfy even one who started out in pursuit of a desert, but we took it rather as an obstruction that every now and then tall, bright green grass should wave before our eyes, and trees would start up before us, apparently as much at home as do the banks of the Kaw. It was only by deliberately closing our eyes and ears to the surroundings of a Pullman Palace car, and imagining that we were one of the occupants of the dusty, slow-going, canvas-covered wagons that tolled after us, that we could realize the immensity of space and the amount of work yet to be done between the Rocky mountains and the Mississippi river before they can be brought into harmonious and profitable communion. It is easy enough for the pleasure-seeker and the bonanza miner to step aboard the train and jump over the unabsorbed country, scarcely giving it a thought, but the real filling in of the country, the fuel, the motive power, yet comes overland, behind its own team, carrying its joint of stovepipe and its splint-bottomed chairs from Shenango county. The engineer, the conductor, the captain, the general, the statesman, the professor, the doctors of physics and laws and religion are here, but the tolling millions who need their services and fill their pockets have yet to come before Kansas is the great and stable commonwealth we all have faith in. But "they're coming father Abraham three hundred thousand strong," and more, their camp fires rise from every oasis between Pike's Peak and Topeka, their cattle range every mile of the great American desert, and their children—how can so many be fed with one spoon!

We saw two "roundups" on the way, one from which the herders were selecting the different brands, apparently at the risk of their lives, for they would dash among those long horns at the height of the pony's speed without any sign of an opening between them and the particular animal they had their eye on, but they nearly always got the one they went for, drove it off towards a smaller bunch at one side and started after another one. There must have been thirty or forty horsemen in sight and we can only say thousands and thousands of cattle. The other roundup was just being formed, drivers were bringing

in long lines of the wild-looking creatures from every direction while guards stood at regular intervals all around the main body to keep them in place. All western people know what a roundup is of course, but for the benefit of our eastern readers we must say that it is the way in which owners of Texas cattle select their individual possessions each year; all the cattle in a certain range, for a certain number of miles that is, are gathered together by herders, the different brands separated from each other, counted, started on the drive northward to market, the calves branded, etc. It was an interesting sight to all the passengers, and was made much more enjoyable by the presence of one or two old ranch-men who explained the different maneuvers. Even the Jewess who wore slippers and lace stockings and carried a handsome parasol covered with point lace as part of her travelling costume, condescended to look at the horrid beasts and to think it must be "exciting sport." The "sport" was lost to us before we left them; we stopped quite near to one of them on account of hot wheel boxes by seeing a half grown boy among the herders, who we imagined looked after the departing train as if he had a mother somewhere, "back in the states" perhaps, or in heaven maybe, but it was enough to make any mother's heart ache to see a boy there. One man said he thought if there was anything in communion with nature he would get it there. Indeed he would, nature in its rudest and basest state. Poor fellow, the remembrance of him will be inseparable from our first sight of a Texas cattle roundup.

At first sight of the mountains the big, blue-eyed, good-natured looking man who had spent most of the time looking into the face of his brunet wife, no doubt seeing, yet trying not to see that hourly her brown eyes seemed to grow larger and the hectic flame to grow brighter and mount higher, came into the car and announced in animated tones that that we could see the mountains plainly now, but the weary way in which she turned her head on her pillow and said she did not care to see, can only be imagined by those who have journeyed hither with loved ones in search of the blessing for which men will pay more than for anything else. A quiver of pain ran round the strong man's mouth; he took the pale hand and shut his eyes to the mountains. But the "old man's darling" who was returning from some Atlantic watering place to her major husband at some western post, went out on the platform and comforted all the other masculine travelers.

The next morning we opened our eyes to one of those blue and gold pictures of mountain scenery over which we have seen people shake their heads and say "how unnatural," but this one was made of real rocks and earth and mists and sunshine and must be true to nature, the pigments never fade, the charm never dims; we go now to feel them.

## PIE AND PIE-CRUST.

I am aware that I am approaching dangerous ground and attacking a strong position in making the remarks I am about to make on the above-mentioned subject. I know that nine-tenths of our physicians think pie the root of nearly all our dyspeptic troubles, but notwithstanding that, the American people seem likely to continue eating it. So the only question that remains to be discussed, is how to make it the most healthful.

I think if the objections of solidness, insufficient cooking and unnecessary richness, were removed, there would remain no reason why a comparatively sound stomach could not digest a moderate quantity.

In putting pie on our tables, do we not often try to make it the "staff of life" or have it too often, accompanied by too many other dishes?

I know the ingenious arguments of physicians about the peculiar manner in which flour and water are mixed in pastry, but do not see why that should be any more unwholesome than similar mixtures of butter, flour, soda and eggs (for I believe in putting all these things into pie-crust if it cannot be made light without them) in other dishes. Here, I suppose, the doctors will hold up their hands in horror, but why is it any worse to eat a little soda than to take it from the hands of these same doctors, in preparations of potash, to carry off the effects of some improperly cooked diet. I have eaten pie-crust not richer than good apple-dumplings, (to which I think the doctors themselves would not object) that if not as luscious as the most fluffy French pastry, were certainly appetizing, and one has the satisfaction of knowing, while eating, that they will not suffer with indigestion for indulging in a dessert of pie.

Many kinds of fruit-pie are better if the fruit and crust are cooked separately, and put together when wanted for use, as this prevents the soaking of the under-crust. If any reader of this article should gather an idea therefrom that they think worthy of practicing upon, I hope they will not be discouraged if success is not obtained at first, as by our failures we learn.

RECIPE FOR PIE-CRUST.—To a quart of sifted flour add baking-powder enough to make it light; a small teaspoonful of salt and butter from the size of an egg to a cupful, (according to desired richness); put the first mentioned quantity of butter into milk enough to mix the flour to rather a soft dough; roll a little flour into the upper crust; roll out, fill with fruit and bake. If the last mentioned quantity of butter is used, cut or work it into the flour; mix soft and roll out and fold over two or three times, to prevent its being

greasy, or else take care to have the oven quite hot.

I can hear the readers of this article saying, "We are not going back to the pie-crusts of our grandmothers!" Well, have dyspepsia if you choose! but do not entirely forget the warning.

Topeka, Kansas.

## HERE AND THERE.

To-day I have been making blackberry vinegar. It is a refreshing drink in summer, and much more desirable than home-made beer on account of its non-stimulating as well as astringent qualities. The recipe is as follows: Cook the berries, (either blackberries or raspberries are good) strain the juice, and to 1 quart juice add 1 quart sugar and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint vinegar; boil together  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour and bottle for use. Take  $\frac{1}{4}$  tumbler of the syrup and fill the tumbler with water when it is wanted for beverage.

The Princess dress is the best for little girls in the country. Little gingham dresses, with a solid color to match, introduced as pipings, with sash of the solid color, makes a simple, inexpensive, as well as stylish dress. It is well for mothers in the country to buy, each spring and fall, a cut-paper pattern of some one of the pattern agencies, (Demorest is very satisfactory) to make children's dresses by, so they will feel dressed in the prevailing style, and be always ready for home or the city. Material is of less importance than color and style. The patterns can be sent by mail. It is well to send first for the catalogue and select the pattern—always the latest—as, if the garment lasts over a season, it is not so much out of date.

Is there any creature so tenacious of life as the cockroach. Having moved into a house infested with them, I have tried all methods to get rid of them. Some one says, "Try pulverized borax." They will wade through it, roll over in it, then go and invite all their friends to come and join in the sport. Pulverized alum is equally unavailing. One lady says, "I drive them away with kerosene." It will drive them from a spot for a day, but they will come the next day and make a nest in that very spot. Another says, "They will not remain where corrosive sublimate or carbolic acid has been smeared." Did I not work all one day, turning the kitchen inside out and smearing every crack and crevice with corrosive sublimate? When I found it of no use, I tried successively the carbolic acid, with like result. The cockroach poison obtained at the druggists, proved alike ineffectual. Paris green might do the work, but I fear its deadly effects when the kitchen is the infested spot. It is impossible to drown them, they are such good swimmers, though scalding will have some effect.

Mrs. Hudson's recipe for making peach butter would be seasonable just now. It is excellent, I know. M. A. H. Kansas City.

## SUBSTITUTES FOR HOPS.

I have often been interested in reading the different subjects presented in your department. This was particularly the case when reading the various articles on the manufacture and use of yeast.

I have wondered too, whether "Lonesome Ben" lived in a sod house or a dug-out. I have imagined sometimes that he might be living away out in one of the frontier counties in some lonesome canyon far from the habitation of man, or woman either, for that matter. As we have not heard from him for a long time, the yeast he so longed for, has most likely "raised" his spirits so that he is lonesome no more.

I started out however to enter my protest against the use of so vile a compound as that sold by druggists and grocers under the name of hops. It is a mixture so foul and impure that it is a surprise even to the well informed men who sell it that it should be in such general use among all classes.

Hops are largely raised for commercial purposes in New York, Wisconsin and in some other states. The hop has a great number of insect enemies to contend with. At picking time, the vine, the leaf, and the hop itself is completely covered with lice, bugs, worms, caterpillars and all manner of creeping and crawling insects in countless numbers.

Pickers are employed who with gloved hands appear to be utterly regardless of these worms, etc. In a long residence in these hop-producing localities, I have never known an instance where the picker was instructed to keep the worms, etc. separate from the hops. It has never been done to my knowledge. They are all put into the same box carried to the kiln and dried together within twelve hours after picking.

If you must use hops, either raise them yourself, or have some trusted friend in the hop region select, pick and dry them for you.

There are a number of good substitutes for hops that are used to a considerable extent in Kansas. Noticeable among these are the wild sage, and peach leaves. In many places in the western counties, have I eaten most excellent bread where one or the other of these ingredients have been used.

I do not know anything about the preparation these plants need, but perhaps some of the readers will be kind enough to give us more light on the subject and oblige many others besides.

C. W. W.

## CALLAS.

To get two flowers instead of one from every flowering sheath of the callas, as soon as the joint flower is cut or begins to wither, pull the stalk down through the open sheath

clear to the bottom. At the bottom will be found standing, close to the stalk, another bud, inclosed in a delicate covering. Cut the old stock as closely as possible without injuring the bud, and if it has not been kept back too long it will grow up very quickly. A florist who recommends this has never failed to get both buds to flower; she never ties up the leaves close, but leaves them free.

## ABOUT MANY THINGS.

DEAR FRIENDS:—I have been listening for some time and feel just well acquainted with some of you, and have often wished I could say something too; if you will let me do so, I will talk fast. When I was a girl going to school I wanted to be perfect in my lessons; when later I went into the millinery shop, I was not satisfied until I understood every branch, and had a store of my own.

Now I am keeping house and I desire very much to learn all I can about this very necessary branch of industry. I am as yet dissatisfied with the degree of success I have attained: there is so much to do, and time flies so fast, and somehow I can think of more than my feet and hands can do, still it seems as though it all ought to be done. I get a good deal of information from the FARMER, and would now like to ask for more. Can any one tell me how to keep ants from troubling our bees? I have heard that if catnip grew where the hives stood ants would not trouble them. Is this so? What cultivated flowers contains the most honey? We noticed some white flowers in our yard, the bees would not stop on.

If it is feared that carpets or garments have moths in them, will a good brushing and packing away, putting in pieces of camphor be sufficient? If not, will the moths go from that to other carpets, or garments packed with them, and can the moth eggs be seen on goods by the naked eye.

The soil near our house is sandy and we find it difficult to keep our floors painted. I often see oiling recommended. Have any of you tried it on soft pine. We fear it will catch the dust badly. Will a wash of copperas water help it? I have heard it said that it makes a floor look like oak.

That grass burner! how do they boil their clothes, fry their things as we liked fried; boil coffee, etc. there are so many things we do on the top of our stove, I do not see any place for, in the picture. When I get in a hurry I bake biscuit, cookies, etc. on my long griddle, and we think them nice. I can, with a handful of coals, bake enough for our dinner. It is quite handy since I have been keeping school; as it takes some time, and "lots" of fuel to heat my oven, yet I am a firm believer in light bread.

Will not some one on the part of our poor deluded stock, get all the barbs he can find, and build a fence so high around the inventor that he never can get out to make any more *in human* inventions? Who knows but he may invent a trap that it took no trespassing, down they go to be heard of no more, or guns that go off when looked at. That fence would be better if there was one board on top I hope I have not talked you all to sleep.

MATRON.

## CORN AND PICKLES.

Mrs. HUDSON:—In the recipe I sent for canning corn it should read a tea-spoonful instead of a table-spoonful of soda. I would like some of the readers of the FARMER to give a recipe for making loaf corn bread with yeast. I have tried several but they were not what I wanted. I will send a recipe for making Chili sauce.

Take three dozen ripe tomatoes, one dozen onions, eight green peppers, twelve tea-cupfuls of cider vinegar, six tea-spoonfuls of ground cloves, six tea-spoonfuls of cinnamon, six tea-spoonfuls of ginger, twelve table-spoonfuls of brown sugar, six table-spoonfuls of salt, chop fine and boil three hours. Would the recipe for sweet tomato pickle do for green tomatoes, if not will some one give one and oblige me. I have tasted some very nice pickles but do not remember how they are made.

Mrs. V. A. BATTEN.

Spearville, Kansas.

## MOUNTING CHROMOS.

I will give some directions which a friend gave me for mounting and stretching chromos: Make a frame the size of the picture of strips of wood, planing them in such a manner that the inner edge will be about one-fourth of an inch narrower than the outer. Get a piece of cheap muslin, cut some three or four inches larger than the frame, stretch it smoothly and tightly over the frame, placing numerous tacks in it to hold it firmly; tack from the under or outside edge; now thoroughly wet the back of the picture with clean water and let it lie some fifteen minutes then apply good floor paste, just as you would wall paper, and place the muslin on the picture—not the picture on the muslin—hold firmly and rub well with a cloth until it adheres to the chromo; then lift it carefully up and turning it over smooth the edges and your picture is mounted. Do not let it dry too quickly. I received these directions from an experienced hand, therefore you may rely upon them with safety. Will give a plan for a fancy table, which I saw in a fashion quarterly, and thought it rather pretty: Take two boards, same size—you can have them round or hexagon—fasten a strong pole or heavy piece of wood between them, or nail a board on each end of the stick, rather, which may be any length you desire; three feet would be

enough. Cover the top and make a full curtain to fall to the floor of lace over blue or pink paper muslin make a puffing of the same for the edge of both upper and lower boards, and tie a pretty cord around the center, giving it the form of an hour-glass.

LYNN LAKE.

## GOOD BEER.

Under the above caption, in your issue of the 19th inst., there are some excellent suggestions by the editor of the domestic department in relation to food and diet during harvest, to which, if farmers' wives would take heed, much uncomfortable feeling and some positive sickness would be saved.

I do not know when or where the custom of setting an extra good table during harvest originated, but I do know that much evil has resulted from it. It has made slaves of the women and dyspeptics of the men. It may not be possible for many farmers to have fresh meat at that season of the year, but they can have an abundance of vegetables, canned and dried fruit. With these the temptation to eat a large quantity of meat is removed, as the system does not crave much meat at this season of the year. But it is the dessert that does the most mischief. Puddings, pies and cake require a great deal of labor to prepare, and labor over a hot stove in hot weather is the most trying upon the good wife that she can perform. No physiologist will contend that these are good articles of diet at any time, but when the system is subjected to the hardest strain of the whole year, they are positively injurious, and cause a great deal of illness.

I have seen all three of them upon the dinner table every day during harvest, and why were they there? The men did not want them. The reason was, that Mrs. A was not willing that Mrs. B should set a better table than she did, and so she tolled day after day and gorged her men folk that she might keep up her reputation as a good housekeeper. Are not these things so? AN OLD FARMER.

Saline Co., Kansas.

Will "An Old Farmer" please accept Mrs. Hudson's apology for the non-appearance of this letter when it was just in time. It was written during harvest, but has only reached her hands the middle of August; however, it is sensible enough to be enjoyable at any time, and may work some good results by next harvest.

## RECIPES.

PEACH MARMALADE.—When peeling peaches for canning or preserving, discard all unround portions and save the balance of the peelings, also the pits. Crack a few of the peelings, cover all with cold water and boil for an hour or two, then strain through a colander, being careful not to press too closely. Boil the liquid thus obtained until the quantity in appropriate for the peaches that are to be made into marmalade. Use the broken bits and inferior portions; weigh them and allow three-quarters of a pound of sugar to each pound of fruit. Boil all together with the peach water, for an hour or two longer, and stir frequently to prevent burning. When cold it should be quite hard and will keep in bowls, or glasses, by covering with brandy papers and pasting the top with paper dipped in the white of an egg.

PEACH JAM.—It may be made in the same manner; boil it less, and put in air-tight cans.

SWEET PICKLED PEACHES.—Peel the peaches and allow three and a half pounds of sugar and a pint of vinegar for every seven pounds of fruit. Pack the peaches in a stone jar with a few blades of mace, sticks of cinnamon, half a dozen cloves and a portion of the sugar between each layer. Add the vinegar and set the jar closely covered, in a kettle of boiling water. Let it cook four hours, then set away and the following day drain off the juice, boil and skim it and pour hot over the peaches in the jar. Repeat this process the succeeding day, this time boiling down the juice until just sufficient to cover the fruit.

COLD SLAW.—For a quart of fine-cut cabbage take one cup of sweet cream, one-half cup of sugar; salt and pepper to taste; pound the cabbage well, before adding the cream and vinegar, with a potatoe-pounder.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

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