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## The Kansas Farmer.

J. K. HUDSON, Editor & Proprietor, Topeka, Kan.

### Crop Reports.

ERIE, Kan., May 3.—It is estimated that more than two-thirds the wheat in Neosho county is already destroyed by grasshoppers, and if they continue their destruction two weeks longer but very little will be harvested. All early gardens are destroyed. Oats, corn, potatoes and grass are greatly injured. Owing to recent rains, we have favorable prospects for abundant crops, were it not for the grasshoppers. Corn planting is deferred until we see what damage they are going to do.

LEVI A. DOANE.

ELLINWOOD, Barton Co., Kan., May 3.—Most of the early sown fall wheat looks well in this county, although some pieces have been winter killed, owing to the dry loose soil. Wheat sown later, and just up as the cold weather set in, was badly injured; while that sown still later, and lay in the ground all winter without germinating, came up this spring, and, in many cases, will make a fair crop. We have had rather a backward spring. More rain through April than common, but cold with frequent frosts. Grass affords sufficient feed for cattle, and most of them look well. Horses are generally poor owing to scarcity of grain.

M. W. HALSEY.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, Wyandotte Co., Kan.—Fall wheat on about half the farms looks very bad, and some are plowing it up, and again, on others, it looks well. I think I would be safe in saying that not more than one-third of the crop will make a good yield. No spring wheat sown. There is a large acreage of oats sown, and looks well. Barley, very little sown, but promises fair. Most of the people are done planting corn. Weather very cold; the first night of April, ice froze three-quarters of an inch thick, and it is generally supposed that peaches, pears and cherries are killed. About one-fourth of the grasshoppers eggs have hatched out, but are doing but little harm. Some people are complaining of their eating onions, but from my observations the hoppers are only working on the wild vegetables. This township is a fair sample of Wyandotte county. Yours truly,

J. C. STRATTON.

ATCHISON, Kan., May 3.—The wheat in this region promises a good harvest. The cold moist weather of the past three weeks has had an excellent effect in repairing the damage done during the winter. The frost of Saturday night did no harm; spring work is well advanced. The acreage sown in all kinds of grain will be fully up to the average, if not larger. The majority of our farmers anticipate a favorable season for crops. It is not believed that the grasshoppers hatching out will do much damage. They are not near so numerous as in 1867, and then they did very little damage.

LAWRENCE, Kan., May 3.—The frost of Saturday night was severe, and did some damage to early garden vegetables, but none to wheat and oats. Fruit was but coming into bloom, and was not sufficiently forward to be seriously injured. Crops of all kinds in this locality are looking well. The late cool, damp weather has been very favorable for fall wheat, which is looking finely. Farmers are well up with their work, and a greater breadth than usual is under the plow.

FORT SCOTT, Kan., May 3.—There is every indication of good crops and the fruit is not injured. The frost last Saturday night did no material damage to fruit or crops. But a small breadth of wheat was sown in this county last fall, but what was sown is looking very well. A large breadth of corn is already planted.

DETROIT, Mich., May 3.—Careful inquiry throughout the State, regarding Saturday night's frost on wheat, gives the general opinion that it suffered no injury, having been fully protected by several inches of snow, which fell during Saturday. With few exceptions, our reports indicate the prospects of a much better crop of wheat than has generally been expected.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 3.—The late frosts have not damaged the wheat here. The rains have greatly improved the prospects for fair crops in some localities.

ST. PAUL, May 3.—The weather for the last ten days, although cold and disagreeable, for the season, has been dry and favorable to the farmers, who have accomplished an immense amount of work in seeding lands. The fears of grasshopper devastations in the future is nearly vanished.

GREAT BEND, May 5.—Crops of all kinds in our county looking well. All kinds of winter wheat good. Spring wheat barley, etc., promising. No insects yet made their appearance. Plenty of Rain. I think there were over 3000 acres of small grain sown in Barton County this Spring. Emigration is beginning to come in. All our prospects are very encouraging.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I have but recently emigrated to Kansas, and was at loss to know how to get along without an agricultural paper. I have now before the third paper of the FARMER, since I became a subscriber, and will say, as far as my judgment serves me, it will compare favorably with many of the Eastern agricultural journals, and I can not see why every farmer of the State should not patronize it. A farmer is certainly blind to his own interest, who does not take at least one paper devoted to his calling.

Fall wheat very much injured, some being plowed under and the ground planted to other crops; spring wheat not much sown, looks fine; oats and barley coming up fine and promising; some flax sown, also coming up well. Fruit buds generally killed as admitted by fruit growers. Teams in poor condition to stand the required exertion of putting in crops. Prairie Springs, Brown County, May 1st.

As our farmers have sown a good deal of flax and planted considerable ground in castor beans, it would be to some man or company's interest to put up an oil mill in our city. Read an article in this issue on flax culture.—*Columbus Courier*.

The fall wheat has improved tremendously in the last two weeks, and most of it is looking remarkably well. The late rains and cool weather have kept back the chinch bugs and grasshoppers, and given the grain a big start, until now it looks too large to be seriously injured by these pests. A few thin pieces were eaten up by the "hoppers," but we have not heard of any fields of really good wheat that have been materially injured by them, as yet. In the cases where pieces have been destroyed, the damage was done so early in the season that they were generally reploughed, and planted in corn and other crops, likely to prove as valuable as the wheat would have been.—*Neodesha Press*.

The Rice Co. Herald says the wheat crop now looks better than he has ever seen it so early in the season.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FARM ITEMS.—Oats and barley are very promising. Under the influence of the late rains, spring wheat and alfalfa are starting rapidly.

Additions to the college stock, in the natural way, are constantly in. Berkehires and Devons are the latest arrivals. The very dry weather of the past year, followed by the late severe winter, has seriously injured our hedges. Stone walls are not necessarily four years in growing; they do not winter or summer kill; they require no trimming; taking all in all, they are the cheapest fence, and "thieves do not break through and steal."—*Industrialist*.

A great many gentlemen were interviewed upon the subject of grasshoppers, the evidence tending to show that in some localities the grasshoppers are doing considerable damage, and in others none. It also shows that some people are easily scared and others are not; that some people entertain one opinion and some another on the same subject.—*Commonwealth*.

A large number of farmers in this vicinity are withholding their seed corn and flax until there is some evidence of the departure of the grasshoppers, in which they are more fortunate than many others, who have planted and lost their seed.—*Chanute Times*.

Winter wheat and rye looks well all over the county, and are making rapid progress, along the valleys and creeks, the growth is about two weeks ahead of the upland prairies, garden vegetables are also growing finely. The prospect thus far was never better. A few young "hoppers" have made their appearance along Sharps Creek.—*McPherson Independent*.

A heavy frost last Saturday night. The ground in excellent plowing order. Stock water rather scarce for the season. A large acreage of oats sown and looking well. Very little flax sown with us. Corn plenty and for

sale in this vicinity at 75 cts. per bushel. Corn about all planted and doing well. Our farmers are driving ahead with a vim. Young hoppers out in force and appear very hungry.—*Spring Hill Progress*.

Grasshoppers in Wilson county. They appear in great numbers on one farm and perhaps on an adjoining farm there is not one to be seen. They do not seem to be anything like generally dispersed over the country, but a very small portion of it is infested by the insect. The damage they have done or may do cannot prove of material injury to the crop interests of the county.—*Wilson County Citizen*.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 4, 1875.

To the Editor of the Kansas City Times:

Feeling it to be the duty of every good citizen to offer to the public any suggestion that may tend to relieve us from the devastation of the grasshopper, I will give my experience in rolling with a view to destroying them, which has proved measurably satisfactory. I found on yesterday that the grasshoppers had attacked my timothy meadow in greater numbers than I had seen before, having left other points and congregated in great numbers. The ground being wet and cold, I put the roller to work, rolling in circles of 20 to 30 yards diameter, driving the grasshoppers to the center, and by repeating the operation I left the ground almost black with the fallen foe. To-day I am pursuing them still, but as the ground dries my roller is less effective. I am satisfied, however, if farmers will roll immediately after a rain where the insects have congregated, we can destroy to such an extent as to relieve us from any farther apprehension of the destruction of the corn crop, and that any other may be saved by attention and without any great cost.

JOHN B. WORNALL.

Father Shoemakers, of Osage Mission, who has been in Kansas 28 years, says he never saw any grasshoppers until 1867, and that the Indians had no traditions of any previous visitation.—*Humboldt Union*.

Embley says that the wheat, on the road from Wabunsee to Manhattan, is looking finely. On the Kaw bottom, between here and Wabunsee, it is very poor.—*Wamego Blade*.

If misery loved company, there might be satisfaction in knowing that large portions of several other States are quite as bad off as Kansas. Especially in the interior of Kentucky, the drought and chinch bugs last year destroyed the crop, and this spring the frost has killed about all the fruit and seriously damaged the growing wheat.—*Atchison Champion*.

The farmers who are attending court from all parts of the county, are all jubilant over the brilliant crop prospect.—*Howard County Ledger*.

GRASSHOPPERS.—It is useless to deny the fact that the country is alive with young grasshoppers. We have for sometime been hearing reports coming in from every quarter in regard to the countless millions of them, but have said nothing on the subject, hoping that the reports were exaggerated or imaginary, and that time would change the aspect of affairs and quiet the fears so freely expressed. But, no contradictory report coming in, we concluded to satisfy our curiosity by a personal investigation, and to that end we devoted the greater portion of one day during the early part of the week, and went among the farms and prairies, to see and be satisfied. Our observations may be summed up as follows:

On the prairies we found them in patches, generally on a spot of bare ground, or where the grass was very thin. On such places we suppose their hatching grounds—there were myriads of them. But where the grass was thick and a good sod formed very few could be found.—*St. Marys Times*.

It is all nonsense about grasshoppers freezing to death. Last Sunday morning a citizen of this place found three of them frozen fast in a pile of water and took them to the fire to warm to see what would be the effect, and in a short time they were able to hop away. Papers that are reporting them as hatching out in the day time and freezing at night are not posted. They may leave soon—we hope they will—but they don't freeze to death.—*Tola Register*.

Irving Gazette says: Those people who have lived in Kansas ten years will remember three occasions like the present. They never do any damage that amounts to much in the spring.

Garnett Journal: The grasshopper question is becoming serious. On the upland farms they have done but little damage yet. Along the streams, in the timber, and along the bottoms they are in countless myriads, devastating, young as they are, every green thing that comes in their way.

Humboldt Union: They have been coming to the surface for the last two weeks, and on the river and creek bottoms they are skimming around after forage. They are doing some damage to wheat, oats, etc.

Chanute Times: They have already occasioned much damage to vegetation in this vicinity. Their depredations commenced to be serious about Sunday last, and they have greatly injured the wheat and oats, besides destroying garden vegetables. They seem to be most numerous along the river.

Corn planting is progressing finely. Many farmers have completed the job, and others expect to within the next week or two. The click of the corn planter is the music of the farmer just at this time. The small grain crop never looked more promising. Clay county, no preventing providence, will rank with the first counties in the State this year. We are open for a bet, that Clay Center ships more grain this fall from her depot, than any town in the State.—*Clay County Journal*.

Col. Case, of Kansas City, Mo., in a letter to the *Journal of Commerce*, gives the following extracts of his diary:

May 8, 1867. Saw several swarms of young grasshoppers. Said to be very numerous in vicinity.

May 20. Saw many hundreds of minute grasshoppers. Have done no harm as yet.

May 26. Grasshoppers growing a little and eating the weeds.

June 1. Grasshoppers thick.

June 2. Numerous. Just beginning to reach the garden. Done no harm yet. Captured 350 on one small weed.

June 3. Grasshoppers innumerable. No harm done yet.

June 5. Innumerable grasshoppers in garden. Eating cabbage, lettuce, parsley, etc.

June 6. Eating beans, cabbage, grapes, potatoes, etc.

June 7. Grasshoppers have taken about half the garden.

June 8. Have eaten 250 cabbages, and all the radishes and lettuce on the place. Also most of the beets and onions. Have not touched peas, tomatoes, or corn.

June 9. Eating strawberries a little.

June 11. Grasshoppers worse than ever.

June 12. Have eaten all the beets and carrots in the field.

June 13. Onions in the garden all gone, corn and peas going fast.

June 14. Grasshoppers finished field onions.

June 15. Grasshoppers less numerous today.

June 18. Grasshoppers scarcer, but still abundant.

June 23. Thick again. Eating fruit trees and evergreens.

June 25. Grasshoppers beginning to fly away—very high in the air.

June 28. Leaving rapidly.

June 30. Grasshoppers eating corn, cutting down stalks 11-12 inches in diameter. Also finishing up the pumpkin vines.

July 1. Have eaten replanted beans before they were out of the ground, flying over in vast numbers, becoming much scarcer here.

July 8. Have eaten leaves off most of the pear trees—also cutting the cherry trees, but not so badly.

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values in like manner, we have a grand aggregate, the corn crop of the country, and the sum which it is worth at home. This value divided by the quantity gives the price per bushel. Of course we must be on the lookout for obvious errors, and must estimate for small unreported areas in each state, to get the whole production of the state.

Is the result correct? Yes, consistent in all its parts, affording internal evidences of accuracy. The prices are just what we should expect them to be. In 1873, when the breadth of corn had outstripped the wants of immigration in Nebraska, the price was 28 cents, the lowest in any state, and Kansas and Iowa averaged were each 31 cents. Thus the farther from the market the lower the price. In 1874 there was a grasshopper and chinch bug famine, and prices were 98 cents in Nebraska and 78 cents in Kansas: in Iowa the average was the lowest in any state, being the most distant state, having a surplus—48 cents, though in the Mississippi river counties, about 50 cents, and in the interior and northwestern, 35 to 45 cents: the lowest prices being found in Pecos, Montez, Crawford, Delaware, Buena Vista, Guthrie, Monona and Mitchell.

The lowest average price for the whole country in these seven years, was 39 cents in 1872, after a production in the two years preceding of 2,053,000 bushels; the next lowest was 54 cents in 1870, when values generally were higher, and after a production in two years of 1,993,000,000. In 1871 and 1873, the average was 48 cents, the crop being a little below medium in both years, 991,000,000 in the former, 993,000,000 in the latter, with a surplus coming over from the previous year in both cases. Had there been no decline in general values, the price would have been a few cents higher in 1873, the supply being somewhat less. Next in order is the price in 1869, when the crop was 908,000,000, the value 63 cents. The smallest crops were 374,000,000 in 1868; 854,000,000 in 1874, and the prices were the highest, 75 cents in 1869, and 55 cents in 1874, the difference being mainly due to the general decline in value during six years, as the previous crop in the latter case was only 28,000,000 greater than that preceding the former, making the degree of scarcity in the two periods very nearly equal.

Thus the price of corn depends mainly on the quantity grown, though it is slightly modified by the abundance or scarcity of other feeding material and in a scarcely perceptible degree by the fluctuation in small foreign demand. This is not the case with wheat, a medium crop, even a large crop, bringing a higher price than a small crop, if there is a heavy foreign demand in the former case and a light one in the latter. The corn crop is therefore a safer one than wheat, as to price, as it is in several other respects.

J. R. DODGE.

—Prairie Farmer.

PRESERVING BUTTER with SALT

In answer to an inquiry made by O. C. Blodgett Secretary of the Chataqua Dairyman's Association, Prof. L. B. Arnold has prepared an extended review of the chemical use of salt in keeping butter, from which we condense the following extracts:

In answering the question, "How does salt preserve butter, meat and other perishable substances?" I might as well assume the Yankee prerogative and answer it by asking another, to wit, Does salt preserve butter?

This question needs to be answered first, and I would like to see the evidence by which an affirmative reply can be demonstrated.

Modern investigation has shown that the changes which occur in fermentation and putrefaction are caused by the growth and multiplication of organic germs, either vegetable or animal, or both, the germs, to support their own growth, using a part of the substance affected, and this proposition is now so well established that I may assume its truth. The changes in fermentation and putrefaction closely resemble each other. Plants as well as animals, require nitrogen. When germs feed upon carbohydrates and find their necessary nitrogen in something else, as upon carbohydrates combined with a small amount of nitrogen, carbonic acid gas is evolved by the changes which take place in the carbohydrates as when sugar is turned into lactic acid, or that acid into alcohol, or the alcohol into vinegar, etc. When germs feed upon meat or other albuminoids, nitrogen in some form is also given off, giving rise to strong and offensive odors. The former is characterized as fermentation, the latter putrefaction. Salt preserves by counteracting in both cases, the incipient development of the germs which occasion the changes. It does not do this by reason of any chemical change produced by the salt in the substance to which it is applied but simply and solely its presence is so adverse to the incipient development of the germs which would otherwise develop, multiply and destroy. The whole power of salt as an antiseptic lies in this fact. But its action is not always the same in cases of fermentation and putrefaction. In fermentation it seldom entirely checks incipient germ growth; it usually only retards, and often actually stimulates such development, while it is very constant in checking incipient putrefaction. I have said that the presence of salt was adverse to incipient development of germs. I wish the expression kept distinctly in mind, for it is only in the incipient stage that it has power to preserve. If by any means the germs,

### Agriculture.

#### THE VALUE OF THE CORN CROP

In response to your request for an answer to the inquiry of your correspondent, William Duncan, of Cass county, Iowa, relative to the data from which the average price of the corn of the United States is fixed, I have the pleasure of explaining. The prices of the past seven harvests, to which he refers, are as follows:

In 1869, 906,000,000 bushels, valued at 62 cents per bushel.

In 1869, 974,000,000 bushels, valued 75 cents per bushel.

In 1870, 1,094,000,000 bushels, valued at 54 cents per bushel.

In 1871, 991,000,000 bushels, valued at 48 cents per bushel.

In 1872, 1,092,000,000 bushels, valued at 39 cents per bushel.

In 1873, 992,000,000 bushels, valued at 48 cents per bushel.

In 1874, 854,000,000 bushels valued at 65 cents per bushel.

Your correspondent, doubtless, realizes the extent of the corn area of this country, understands the fact that one bushel in Rhode Island is worth three in Pocahontas county, Iowa, and possibly may think that the fixing of an average price for the whole product is nothing more than indiscriminate guessing. Let me tell him how it is done. He meets several of the best farmers of Cass, on the first of December, when corn is higher than in the flush of harvest, and lower than it may be when winter is over; in fact, as near as possible to an average price for the whole season. He confers with them, and finds the prices offered for medium corn, in the different selling and shipping points, in the county, vary only by a few cents per bushel, and that it is an easy matter to get an exceedingly close approximation to the actual value of the crop in their home markets. Does he doubt the ability of these men to report the prices and fix an average for the county? If all the dealers are offering 40 cents for good corn, is there any doubt about 40 cents being the selling value of your corn? Well, that is what we do for each county, or for so very large a proportion of the counties that the missing ones can hardly affect the result. Taking into account the amount produced, and local value in each county, we find the whole amount produced and total value in the state; and dividing value by numbers of bushels, we have the price per bushel, adding together the respective quantities produced in each state, and the



in either case, get a little start, salt is power less to check them. If a piece of rancid butter, ever so small, is placed in contact with a pack age of sound butter, it will soon spoil the sound butter, no matter how well salted.

If a barrel of meat is packed in a brine as strong as it can be made and in every way put up so as to keep safely through a three year's voyage, it will spoil in a little while if a piece of rancid meat is put into it no larger than a thimble. When germ develop ment once gets a start it is so modified by conditions that it can go on in spite of the presence of salt. This is well known, and it is also well known that in a good many cases, of fermenta tion it stimulates germ growth instead of re tarding it. The use of salt in preparing certain varieties of bread yeast is a familiar example.

Salt is not so powerful an antiseptic as we would be apt to infer from the extensive use made of it. There are others much more ef fective. The putrefaction which salt cannot hinder may be stopped at once with a little carbolic acid or creosote. The fermentation which salt allows to flourish, may be stopped at once with the sulphides of lime and soda.

When salt is applied to butter it acts like a mordant upon the coloring matter of the but ter, giving it a deeper hue; otherwise it ap pears to remain only mechanically mixed with the butter, for by washing in hot water the salt may be separated from the butter with out any appreciable loss, and so also if the fat ty parts are taken up with ether, the salt will be found in the residue.

Upon the preservation of butter salt exerts but very little influence. The keeping quality of that luxury depends much more upon other conditions than upon the action of any fancied variety of salt. Butter is subject to change chiefly by the action of germs which lodge upon its surface from the air, which develop and multiply, and, filling the mass with their presence, works its ruin. Exclusion from the air therefore proves a more perfect preservative than salt.

The principal use of salt in butter is for sea soning, and for this purpose it is only neces sary that it should be chemically pure. It is pure, one salt is as good as another, but its purity is a matter of the first importance. If we cannot expect much from salt by way of preservation, we ought to be sure that it con tains nothing positively injurious.

There is no salt that I know of which is ab solutely pure. All the varieties in use contain more or less foreign matter from which it is very difficult indeed to free them. The most objectionable of these foreign matters is chlo ride of calcium. This acts directly on butter greatly to its injury, both in regard to flavor and keeping. It is to be most cautiously guarded against. But any compound contain ing lime which is liable to dissolve in water is al so objectionable.

#### VALUE OF THE GRASSES TO THE FARMER.

It may seem a little out of order to place first in importance under this head of grasses a production that is not grass. The distance between the clover family and the grass fam ily is very broad. They differ in structure of stems, leaves, flowers, fiber, manner of growth, etc. Botanically the clovers are arranged in the order, *Leguminosae*, under the same head with the locust, pea, bean, vetches, etc.; all of which are characterized as possessing rapid growth, an unusual amount of bone and muscle material, and the ability to feed upon the air. The following table will exhibit the percentage of bone and muscle material in some members of this order as compared with wheat, corn and oats.

In 100 parts bone and muscle:  
Red clover hay 13.4. White clover hay 14.9.  
Alfalfa clover hay 15.3. Bean straw 10.3.  
Pea straw 6.5. Lucern (Alfalfa) 19.7. Vetches (suds) 27.5. Beans 25.4. Peas 23.4. Wheat 18.0. Corn 10.0. Oats 12.0.

Red clover (*Trifolium Pratense*) has long, thick, and strong tap roots from a single seed, has numerous and strong stems branching upwards and sideways, and broad succulent leaves. It is very hardy, of vigorous growth, displaces weeds, is an excellent hand to plun der its living from the air, and cultivates the ground better than a subsoil plow. An acre of good land well seeded to red clover, will produce in a season from two to three tons of hay—very rich land will reach the latter fig ure. Two tons of clover hay is more valu able for stock than 60 bushels of corn. The cost of labor to produce corn is not less than fifteen cents per bushel. The average cost is more than that. The labor to produce clover hay is from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents per ton. Allowing the outside figure for clover and the inside for corn; two tons of clover hay would cost one-third as much as 60 bushels of corn; but this estimate is unfair for the clover, for the cost of produc tion would generally be less for the clover and more for the corn, and land that would produce 60 bushels of corn per acre would pro duce three tons of clover hay, so that it is a safe estimate to say that clover is four times as valuable as corn, as compared with the cost of production. There are other considera tions beside the question of present economy in feed. A thrifty crop of clover retains the moisture in the soil, and moisture dissolves and retains that great fertilizer, ammonia. The wonderful capacity of clover leaves to draw richness from the atmosphere gives to the crop an advantage scarcely appreciated.

Every wind that blows across our fertile prairies gathers a load of highly concentrated fertilizer, volatile manures, and as it passes over the clover field every stem and leaf reaches up to feed upon that richness. Is this not equally true of the grasses? It is not. Red clover contains twenty-six times as much phos phoric acid as the grasses.

When the corn crop or wheat crop is re moved it leaves the soil poorer than when planted, and continuous cropping is but a process of impoverishing; not so with clover—two or three crops of clover may be taken from a field, and the land be richer than at the commencement, for beside the absorption of food from the air there is left in the soil a large amount of excellent manure in the form of roots. When the clover dies there is left in the soil 56 pounds of roots for every 100 pounds of clover hay produced during the two preceding years. Supposing the two crops aggregate four tons of hay; there would be left in the soil about 23½ tons of roots, which, by their deep penetration have loosen ed the soil, rendered it better able to retain moisture and light, and carried down below the ordinary cultivation a larger amount of rich vegetable matter. It is not only a cheap and strong manure, but a very healthy one. Wheat grown after a clover crop is less lia ble to disease than when it follows other crops. Allen, in his "New American Farm Book," says: "The introduction of clover and lime in connection, have carried up the price of extensive tracts of land from \$25 to \$100

per acre, and has enabled the occupant to raise large crops of wheat when he could get only small crops of rye; and it has frequently increased his crop of wheat threefold. Clover is a sure crop. It is not liable to disease nor is it subject to the ravages of any enemy, and is a most healthy and valuable food for horses, cows, sheep and hogs.—S. A. Knapp, in Iowa Live Stock Gazette.

#### HOW TO SAVE THE CROPS FROM GRASSHOPPERS.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I have just finished "cleaning out" Mr. Grasshopper from my farm, and knowing how anxious many of your readers are upon the subject, I give you my plans. Yesterday morning I took some calico and fastened sticks to the strips like the wings of a quail net. I then went where the hoppers were thick, and getting the main body of them between me and the wind, I dug a hole 18 inches square and 18 inches deep. I then set one end of a wing at each corner of the hole, next to the grasshoppers, extending them to the right and left like the wings of a quail net. I next proceeded in front of the wings, and commenced walking back and forth, slowly swinging my coat near the ground and soon had the satisfaction of seeing them pour into the hole like a swarm of bees; and when I had them all driven in that I had surrounded, I threw dirt on them, and by tramping it down, I put them out of sight forever. As soon as I had one hole filled, I had another dug, and at once set up my wings and made another drive, and another funeral; and when night came, I had the sat isfaction of knowing that my farm was saved from the grasshoppers, unless they should come in on me from the premises of my neigh bors, and in that case, I will proceed to con sign them "to an untimely grave." This morning I learned that the young hoppers were very thick on the grounds of Mr. Oliver Shrader, near Oskaloosa, and desiring to make a further trial of driving them, I got a few persons to go and help make the drive. We used pine boards 16 feet long and one foot wide for wings, driving stakes on each side to keep them on their edges. We set a half bushel measure in the first hole we dug, and in four drives we had our half bushel full and running over. After this we drove them in holes, and buried about a barrel; and in three hours' time we had the grounds almost entire ly cleared. I placed a glass over the half bushel, and set it in the Postoffice to cheer the despondent, and confirm the doubting. The only requisites necessary to destroy these pests, are boards or cloth for wings, a foot or more in width and 10 to 30 feet long, then with holes dug 1½ to 2 feet across, and as many in depth, select a dry day and drive with the wind. If old hay or straw can be had, they can be driven into it and then burned.

Now, Major, I am confident that if this plan can be laid before the public, and the people everywhere take hold of it, you will be com pelled to record the destruction of very few crops by the hoppers. But on the other hand, if no effort is made to destroy the pests, they will no doubt destroy nearly everything in the State. Please give this plan a trial of one hour, either in your own grounds or those of your neighbors, and you will thus be able to give your readers more information than I can possibly condense in a communication of this kind. Hoping that you will sound a warning in the ears of the people of the state, and that they may be induced to close their places of business, and quit their common avocations, and devote at least one or two days in each week to the exclusive work of destroying grasshoppers, and hoping that we may thus have secured to us a bountiful harvest, and a year of prosperity, I still remain as ever your friend,

J. N. INSLLEY.  
Oskaloosa, Jefferson county, Kan., May 8, 1875.

#### BUTTER FACTORY AVERAGES.

At the Berry Butter Factory, Mahone, N. Y. the average quantity of milk for 1 lb. of but ter during 1874 was 25 1-10 lbs. The aver age price received for butter was 30 21-100c., and the whole number of pounds made was 37,331. The net to patrons per 100 lbs. of milk was \$1.28.

The M. A. Fassett Butter Factory, in Rod man, Jefferson County, N. Y., did a little bet ter than the Berry. The average was 23 68-100 lbs. of milk for a pound of butter, and al though the butter brought only 35 43-100c. per lb., the net receipts to patrons on 100 lbs of milk were \$1.45½. The whole number of pounds of butter made was 20,148. Best aver age money per cow in a single dairy of 35 cows was \$56.61.

Joining swarms.—Should you wish to join two swarms, lay down two short sticks nine inches apart; take one of the hives and knock it on the ground two or three times until the bees are all shaken out of the hive; then sprinkle them quickly with thin syrup, place the hive with the other swarms on the stick over those shaken on the ground for the night, and they will be found peacefully united with one dead queen in the morning.

Bees' Enemies.—Never put a new swarm of bees in an old hive, as there will almost cer tain be the eggs of the honey moth deposited in the crevices of the hive, which will hatch out and probably destroy the swarm. When the moth once gains an entrance to the hive, the bees appear powerless to expel them. When the maggot begin to eat their way into the combs, the sooner the bees are fumigated the better. Do not have a large round en trance to the hive, convenient to mice, slugs and other enemies; have an entrance of only a quarter of an inch in height, and from an inch in winter to four in length in summer. Should wasps or other bees attack a hive, the only plan is to narrow the entrance so that only one or two bees can pass at a time. To destroy wasps, saturate a piece of woolen rag with spirits of turpentine, put it into the en trance to the nests, and leave it there one night. The next morning every wasp will be dead.

#### Farm Stock.

##### IMPROVEMENT OF SHEEP.

The improvement of a flock by means of breeding, requires very considerable and long continued care.

The quality of both parents must be con sidered, both with a view of correcting as well as perpetuating good qualities. It must be acknowledged however, that in the major ity of cases, the influence of the male prepon derates over the female, and the characteris tics of the former are more likely to be im pressed upon the offspring than those of the latter. This is shown in most animals. The male partakes much more of the nature and size of its sire, the ass, than of its dam, the mare. A large Cotswold ram put to a South down ewe, produces an offspring much more resembling the former than the latter; and a pony mare put to a full sized horse, will pro duce an offspring half as large again as the dam. Though, this, however, appears to be nature's rule, it is not one without exception, for occasionally we see the very opposite re sults.

In breeding animals of a pure kind, the principal rule to be observed is to breed from the very best of both sexes, to cull the faulty ones every year, saving only the female lambs for the future flock that are as free from defect as possible. Of course the flock must be kept up to its proper size, but year by year the finest animals should be selected, until in the course of time the flock will entirely consist of them. Until this is accomplished, it will not be prudent for a farmer to employ his tups only for the purpose, as he will probably be able to hire or buy superior rams from others, and it will not do to spare some expense in thus raising the character of his sheep.

There are various points that are sought after by breeders, not because of the particular value of those points, but because they are evi dences of other valuable qualities, such as ap titude to fatten, and early maturity. Thus in the Southdown breed, small heads and legs, and small bones are esteemed, as they are qualities which are found connected with fat ness. Black muzzles and legs are also valued, probably because they denote the good constitution and hardihood of the animal. We must, however, take care, lest in carrying these points to an extreme, we ne glect other valuable qualities. Straightness of the back, breadth of loins, rotundity of frame, are points which cannot be disputed, and are not merely signs of good qualities, but are good qualities themselves. The straightness of the back, so perfect in the Leicester, is by no means natural to the Southdown in an un improved state, but rather the contrary. In the improved breeds however, it is present, and is justly regarded as an excellent point, giving a better surface for the laying on of flesh, and affording larger scope for the abdominal organs. Its converse, too, a round or convex back, is produced by or increased, by the effects of poverty and cold, and is almost sure to follow if the breed is neglected and ex posed.

The development of bone, of course requires nutriment, as well as any other part, though perhaps not in the same degree. Large bone, therefore, abstracts nutriment which would otherwise be more profitably employed, and thus is anything but a desirable point in sheep. Horns, for the same reason, are much better dispensed with. One point in sheep which is justly regarded as extremely favor able, is a soft mellow feeling of the skin and rather asipose membranes, which in fat sheep are full of fat, and in lean sheep, when pos sessed this mellow feeling, denote the plentiful existence of these membranous cells ready for the reception of fat, which is deposited in them almost in the form of oil.

Breadth of loins and rotundity of frame are qualities that require no observation, having been above alluded to. The former denotes the presence of a large quantity of flesh in the spot where it is most valuable, and it also speaks a large and roomy abdomen. A round frame is also the sure attendant of a large ab domen, and an extended surface for the mus cles of the back and loins. A general square ness of frame bespeaks large muscles partic ularly of the quarters.

What, indeed is wanted in a good-formed animal, is as much flesh and as little bone and gristle as possible, and this flesh is re quired where it is most valuable; for instance, it is much more valuable on the loins and quarters than about the head and upper or scrag end of the neck. A large development of flesh is pretty sure to be accompanied by a disposition to fatten; but for profitable feed ing it is essential that these qualities should be developed early—constituting early matu rity.—*Prairie Farmer.*

##### NEW YORK STATE SHEEP FAIR.

All our readers interested are reminded that the next annual fair of the N. Y. Sheep Breed ers' and Wool Growers' Association is to be held at Rochester, May 5th and 6th. The fol lowing relative to Classification, Prizes, etc., we copy from the official circular of the Asso ciation:

CLASSIFICATION.—Prizes are offered on seven classes of sheep, as follows: First Class—American Merinos. Second Class—Fine Merinos, yielding a wool adapted to the manufacture of fine broadcloths and other fab rics requiring a staple of equal quality. Third Class—Delaine Merinos, yielding a wool adapted to the manufacture of delaines and similar fabrics, length of staple being a leading consideration, but in which neither extreme fineness of fiber, as required in the second class, nor great weight of fleece, as re quired in the first, are to be regarded as abso lute essentials. Fourth Class—Cotswolds. Fifth Class—Lincolns. Sixth Class—Leices ters. Seventh Class—Downs, or Middle-wool ed.

PRIZES.—Prizes are offered in each of the above classes, as follows:—For the best Ram three years old, and over, Diploma; second best, \$10; third best, \$5. For the best Ram, two years old and under three, Diploma; second best, \$10; third best, \$5. For the best Ram one year old, Diploma; second best, \$10; third best, \$5. For the best Pen of three Ewes, three years old and over, Diploma; second best, \$10; third best, \$5. For the best Pen of Ewes, two years old and under three, Diploma; second best, \$10; third best, \$5. For the best Pen of three Ewes, one year old, Diploma; second best, \$10; third best, \$5.

SWEEPSTAKES.—The following Sweepstakes Premium is offered in each of the seven classes: For the best Ram, of any age, Diploma. For the best flock of not less than 15, includ ing at least one Ram, owned by exhibitor sixty days next preceding the Fair, Diploma. For the best stock Ram, and ten of his progeny, Diploma. For the best Pen of three Ewes, of any age, Diploma. Entrance fee for Sweepstakes Premiums, \$2, in addition to

membership. No sheep competing for the above Prizes are required to be shorn.

SHEARING AND SCOURING TEST.—For the best Ram's fleece, \$5; for the best Ewe's fleece, \$5. For the best Ram's fleece, scoured, \$5; for the best Ewe's fleece, scoured, \$5. For the best fleece of scoured wool, in proportion to weight of carcass, \$5. Sheep competing for the above Prizes must be shorn on the grounds and weighed before and after being shorn. Age of fleece to be given in each case. The Committee, in making their awards, shall make weight and quality combined the lead ing consideration, and shall withhold the award entirely where there is not sufficient merit. Entrance fee, \$1 in addition to mem bership, for each "Sheep." Exhibitors to furnish their own shears. Prizes of \$5, \$3 and \$2 will be awarded to the 1st, 2d and 3d best shearers. The New York Central and New York and Erie Railroads will transport sheep to the Fair, charging full rates, and return them free if the ownership is not changed.

##### THE BOSTON SOCIETY FOR THE PREVEN TION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Secretary's Annual Report.  
We are only enabled to give space for ex tracts showing the direction in which this so ciety is prosecuting its good work.

Our work is one of education as well as prosecution; and it any one judges of the amount of work done by the number of pro secutions, he will be led into error. "Prevention first" is our motto; and if prevention can be gained only by the law, then we resort to that. Our experience teaches us that much of the cruelty to animals comes from ignorance of the rights of animals and ignorance of the best interests of the owner. Unfortunately, most cruelty is found among those of least general knowledge and least ability to pay a fine, and yet most dependent upon the best services of the animal they abuse.

But we must not confine our educational ef forts to adults. We endeavor to reach the young to cultivate gentleness and kindness in children, so that the next generation will ex hibit less need of societies like ours.

"Overloading" is an abuse that is difficult to prevent, because more difficult to prove. What is an overload for one horse is a light load for another, and much depends upon the health, weight, strength and condition of the animal at the particular time, as well as the condi tion of the streets, so that we have less success in this than in other directions.

"Overdriving" is greatly checked, and liv erly stable keepers hold it up to their customers as a constant warning.

"Underfeeding" is difficult to establish, as we must prove a negative. It is almost im possible to find witnesses who are so constantly with the animals as to testify positively that they are not fed, and our agents have no right to enter a locked stable without a search-warrant, which is not easily obtained. But warn ings usually accomplish the desired object in this matter. And we ought to say that we find less of this in the city than in the country and there our agents are not always as prompt to act.

"Driving galled animals" is lessened very much, but needs constant watchfulness, and "tying calves legs" is nearly abandoned, and racks are substituted.

"Crud railroad transportation" has not ceased, we regret to say, and this is one of the greatest evils we have to contend with. But we know that we have lessened the evil. First, we obtained a law in our own State, and help ed to secure such in other States. We then secured the introduction into Congress of a bill, prepared by Chief Justice Biglow, to cover this ground. Our secretary appeared before the congressional committee, and, after distribut ing documents to all the members of Con gress, and corresponding with many of them for two years, the law was secured. This limits the number of hours which cattle may be confined without food or water. We then employed an active agent to travel on stock trains between Boston and Chicago for several months, warning the various parties interest ed and pointing out opportunities for prevent ing delays. We also have our agents fre quently at receiving stations here, to discover existing evils. Among them is the mixing of small and large stock in the same car; for instance, cattle, calves and sheep, by which the latter are tramped to death. By interviews and correspondence with railroad authorities, we have secured the issuing of orders from headquarters forbidding this practice, and we hope it will cease. Another method of less ening this evil is the use of compartment cars, in which the animal can have food, water and rest. We encourage the introduction of these, but the corporations do not find encourage ment from the drovers, and of course will be glad to avoid the expenditure. Refrigerator cars are also being introduced, and they will contribute to the same result.

Dog-fights must be effectually checked. We have driven Harry Jennings and Tom Thornton, two noted dog fighters, out of the State; the first to avoid a warrant which we hold over him, and the latter on bail after con viction. He has just been delivered up by his bail, and will soon be sentenced.

"Vivisection," without anesthetics, we fear, we have not checked, and we have work to do in this direction.

We are constantly advocating "better roads and pavements," as relieving animals, and are constantly appealing to our superintendents of streets to repair defective places, and to groove smooth crossings on which horses have no foot-hold.

To secure "better methods of slaughtering," and the more humane killing of all animals, we invited Dr. Slade to prepare an essay on this subject, which we have published and dis tributed among the butchers of the State, and to thousands of other persons.

To secure the "speedy killing of disabled horses" in our streets, we have placed in every police station a hammer and hood, with in structions where to strike. One blow prop erly struck will kill an animal, when six or seven are often struck when improperly done. Our agents are constantly called upon to kill pet animals with chloroform, where the owners are unwilling to have them suffer from the ordinary methods of killing.

To secure "better methods of horseshoeing," we have sent a valuable essay by the best veter inary in England, to all the blacksmiths in the State. This is in the interests of human ity, for hundreds of horses suffer exceedingly, and are often ruined by the ignorance of far riers.

Through the efforts of this society nearly all the drinking fountains of Boston have been introduced, and to further extend this bless ing we procured the passage of a law author izing towns to maintain drinking-troughs on their highways, and by the efforts of our agents many have been introduced. This has induced many individuals to locate them on their own land for public convenience, and

this again has reminded them and others to provide better conveniences for their own stock on their own premises.

We have made appeals to clergymen not only by distributing documents to them, but Mr. Angell has sought opportunities to make ad dresses in churches in different parts of the State, and at various conventions of clergymen and denominational conferences. And by these many clergymen have been induced to preach on the subject. We have waited, per haps not patiently, for this, for we like to consider the pulpit as leading public senti ment instead of following in its wake.

To protect birds, the farmer's friends, we offered a prize for the best essay on insect eating birds, and have published and circu lated thousands of copies, and have secured its republication in several papers in other States, by inserting the cuts without charge.

This has helped to change public sentiment in the country, so that this class of birds are comparatively un molested.

But we must not attempt to enumerate all the work we do, or the evils we attempt to less en. But we may name, without describing other subjects which occupy our time, for in stance, pigeon shoots; transportation of poultry; visits to cattle and horse markets and auctions; translations from French and German documents, containing reports of kindred societies, etc.; conferences with inventors, and examination of cattle cars, of wood pavements, and of improvements in horse cars, harness and shoes; interviews with drovers; with members of legislative, to secure amendments to laws; with the local and state police; with superin tendents of steam and horse railroads; with town authorities in regard to character of our local agents; with agents in regard to general and special work, with water board in regard to location of fountains; with inventors of improved fountains, and donors who propose to erect them; with defendants and their counsel; etc., etc.

It is enough to say, in conclusion, that it would require a much larger force than we now have to fully occupy the field. But we are thankful that we have received so much encouragement from the people, and trust our fidelity in the future will show our appella tion of it.

##### A GRATUITOUS INSULT TO THE AGRICUL TURAL PRESS.

The *Industrial Age* makes the following statement, not in the heat of controversy but without even a plausible pretext.

"The *Age* can scarcely point to an agricul tural paper that is not opposed to the *Industrial* movement. They want the farmers to pay high freight and passenger fares to the rail roads and pay from ten to fifteen per cent. in terest on any money they may wish to loan."

The man who writes such a statement either knows very little or states that which he knows is not true. The editor of the *Age* can not plead ignorance of the facts, and, to state it mildly, has deliberately violated the ninth commandment. The *Age* has more than once shown its contempt for papers which aim to discuss questions connected with practical agri culture, and now adds this gratuitous insult addressed to the entire class.

That paper seeks the support of the farmers add professes a deep interest for their pros perity. In some respects it has a peculiar fit ness as advocate for the farmers. Its editor having spent most of his life in business and political schemes having only a very remote connection with agriculture, has had opportu nities to learn how unprincipled men, can de fraud farmers or otherwise injure them. Having given employment during many years to attorneys in conducting his interminable law-suits, he is well prepared to denounce them as a class, and to advocate the principle of avoiding all litigations. Following the paragraph quoted above with a warm eulogy of the United States Senator who not only took "back pay," but openly advocated and defended the increase, and of a member of the lower House who took and kept the back pay, he is well fitted to advocate the cause of the people who emphatically denounce this action. With no pretense of any knowledge about agriculture, and trying to cast ridicule on the discussion of practical farm matters by references to "teaching how to cure a lamb's stomach," etc., the editor of the *Age* seeks to secure the favor of farmers by denouncing the whole body of agricultural papers.

There are men, who, judging others by themselves, have no confidence in any expres sion of principles, nor in any one's sincerity of purpose. We make no attempt to convince the editor of the *Age* that the conductors of our agricultural papers have any honest inter est in the welfare of farmers, or that their ex pression of such interest is anything else than an attempt to deceive.

But the editor of the *Age* can appreciate an argument based on self interest. He knows, and knew when he wrote the sentence quoted, that perhaps no class of men have more direct, pecuniary, interest in the prosperity of farmers than the conductors of agricultural papers, and that they have very little to gain from the railroads or from advocating high rates of interest. They are not fools, as they would be if they counted a "pass" as worth more than the best interests of the class which furnish nine tenths of their subscribers. He knows that there has been a temptation for the editors of agricultural papers to attempt to curry favor with farmers by reckless and in discriminate abuse of railroads and money lenders. He pays a very poor compliment to the intelligence of his farmer readers by ask ing them to believe that all these men, many of whom have given the best years of their life as a work in which their only hope for permanent success was in the prosperity of the farmers, are, without any motive, anxious that they should be imposed on, while he—who only becomes a public champion of the farmers when the "Industrial Movement" gave prom ise to many unprincipled men that they could make money by advancing it—is the farmers' special friend and safe counselor.—*Western Rural.*

GARDENER, Johnson Co., Kan., May 2.—

Wheat considerably injured by the late frosts, there will be about one-fourth of a crop. Rye looks well, but not much sown. Oats looking fine, large acreage sown. Flax looks well as far as I can ascertain, and from estimates made, there are over three thousand acres sown in Johnson county. Corn is mostly planted, and an increase in acreage in this part of the county. Timothy meadows look fine. Clover considerably injured. Of apples there will be a light crop. Peaches in this locality have the appearance of a one-half crop, near that. Cherries are all right yet, with the exception of the Richmond, it is mostly killed. Pears, plums and crab-apples are not hurt. Markets: Corn, 90c.; oats, 65c.; Butter, 25c.; eggs, 12½c.; hay, \$6.00 per ton; potatoes, \$1 to 1.50 per bushel. Considerable many cattle have died in the last two weeks. Plow Boy.



## Patrons of Husbandry.

**OFFICERS KANSAS STATE GRANGE.**  
The following is the list of officers of the Kansas State Grange, elected at the annual meeting held at Topeka commencing February 16th, last.

**MASTER**—M E HUDSON, Mapleton, Bourbon county.  
**OVERSEER**—WM. SIMS, Topeka, Shawnee county.  
**LECTURER**—W S HANNA, Ottawa, Franklin county.  
**STEWARDS**—C S WYETH, Minneapolis, Ottawa county.  
**ASSISTANT STEWARD**—JAMES COFFIN, Hill Spring, Morris county.  
**CHAPLAIN**—E J NASON, Washington, Washington county.  
**TREASURER**—JOHN BOYD, Independence, Montgomery county.  
**SECRETARY**—P B MAXON, Emporia, Lyon county.  
**GATE KEEPER**—W P PATTEN, Cottonwood Falls, Chase county.  
**CERES**—MRS BINA A OTIS, Shawnee county.  
**POMONA**—MRS P BATES, Marion county.  
**FLORA**—MRS A C PATTEN, Cottonwood Falls, Chase county.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**  
1st DIST.—W P POPENOR, Topeka, Shawnee county.  
2d DIST.—F H DUMBAULD, Chairman, Jacksonville, Neosho county.  
3d DIST.—A T STEWART, Winfield, Cowley county.  
4TH DIST.—A P COLLINS, Solomon City, Saline county.  
5TH DIST.—W H FLETCHER, Republican City, Chase County.  
S H DOWNS, Secretary Patrons Fire Insurance Association, Topeka.  
Geo. Y. Johnson, Secretary and Treasurer Patrons Life Insurance Association, Lawrence.  
John G. Otis, State Agent, Topeka, Kansas.

## THE KANSAS FARMER GRANGE PLATFORM.

- I. The abolition of all degrees beyond the Fourth.
  - II. The making of all Fourth degree members eligible to any position in the Grange, from Gate-keeper to Master of the National Grange.
  - III. The removal of the National Grange Headquarters to St. Louis.
  - IV. The abolition of fifth degree Granges and substituting therefor the Business Council.
  - V. The reduction of the dispensation fee to one dollar, and reduction of dues to the simple cost of salaries and office expenses for National and State Grange Headquarters.
  - VI. The return of all accumulated funds in National Grange Treasury to subordinate Granges.
  - VII. The thorough organization of the business features of the Grange, by States and counties, as an absolute necessity for the perpetuity of the Order.
  - VIII. The County Council to constitute the business unit and the concentration of all surplus funds in the hands of the Council, where under the immediate supervision of those who contribute it, it may be applied to practical business enterprises.
- The above is the Grange platform of the KANSAS FARMER. Upon the important question involved, we invite free and independent discussion. We distinctly require of correspondents, that they treat, in their communications, with courtesy and consideration, those from whom they may differ in opinion.—EDITOR FARMER.

## LIST OF DONATIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS.

Commencing May 3d and ending May 8th, 1875, from the Relief Department of Patrons of Husbandry of Kansas.

CASH ON HAND	\$ 372.57
RECEIPTS:	
May 3—Of S H Ellis, of Ohio State Grange,	98.00
May 4—Of A F Wade, charges on bill, mde.	3.05
May 5—Of Michigan State Grange,	58.85
May 7—Of W G Wyman, N. Y. State Grange,	123.00
" Of S G Cox, Wisconsin,	30.00
" Of W H Baxter, California,	34.00
" Mission Library Union, California,	56.02
" Of Kansas State Agency for Potatoes,	95.00
May 8th—Of the State of Kansas on freight,	688.40
Total,	\$1,558.98
DISBURSEMENTS,	
May 3—Paid balance on potatoes bought at Des Moines,	327.81
" Paid for sack to ship potatoes,	20.00
" Paid for postage,	3.00
" Paid freight on potatoes,	31.25
May 4—Paid freight on car corn and car potatoes,	157.45
" Paid for telegraphing,	.50
" Paid freight on car corn and potatoes,	18.00
May 6—Paid for twine,	.20
" Paid J K Hudson for papers for two reasons; 1st, in order to bring the 5th degree within reach of all who are entitled to receive it without having to go to the State Grange to receive it; and 2nd, in response to a general demand for an intermediate Grange between the Subordinate and State Grange. As an evidence of this want, the Granges in almost, if not all the states, where Granges exist, have by voluntary action, and without authority, organized what are known as County Councils, and the only difference between these Councils and Pomona Granges is, the latter is made a legal Grange, and can confer the 5th degree, in all other respects their duties are the same.	5.00
May 7—Paid exchange on money,	128.45
" Paid freight on seed to John Schoonover,	.70
May 8—Paid freight on seed sent D D Marquis, of Olathe,	1.60
" Paid freight on potatoes to Fletcher's District in lots 10 sacks each,	51.20
" Paid for clerk hire,	10.00
" Paid for telegraphing,	.50
Total,	\$767.51
Balance on hand,	791.47

JNO. G. OTIS,  
Kansas State Agent, P. of H.

## OBITUARY.

Sister Catharine Cramer, died May 2nd, of Pneumonia. Her remains were conveyed to their last resting place by a large concourse of the members of the Order. She was held in high esteem by all acquaintances and friends. Appropriate resolutions of respect were passed by Ozark Grange, of which she was a member.

## A WORD OF CAUTION.

MASTER'S OFFICE, K. S. G.  
April 29, 1875.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS—I have observed for sometime past a disposition on the part of some of our good Patrons and Grangers, to criticize severely and find fault with certain forms and principles of our organization. However honest and sincere they may be in their views—yet the manner of their attacks upon the very foundation principles of our Order—must, if persisted in, very seriously affect the unity and fraternity of our membership, the one thing above all others every good patron should most sacredly guard, for without harmony and confidence, our success would be at least doubtful.

You will permit me in the outset to assure you that the suggestions I may now offer are given with the most kindly feelings towards all who may differ from me, desiring no controversy with any. My only object is to convey the best interests of our Order, and in the most friendly manner caution its members against inflicting a wound it may take years to heal, and which might result in more injury to our Order than the combined attacks of all out side opposition.

Our Constitution provides a way by which its provisions may be changed or amended, and each year the individual members of our Granges have an opportunity of being heard in any changes that may be desired by them; but it is idle to suppose that the peculiar wishes of every Subordinate, County, or even State Grange, can be realized at once. We must take into consideration the extent and magnitude of our organization, extending, as it does from the Atlantic to the Pacific; from the Canaries to the Gulf; in every county, township and school district almost, in our land, are Granges to be found.

Under the present constitution of the National Grange, and amendments recently adopted, the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry has grown and prospered as no other similar order ever did. We have all come into the Order with a full knowledge of its constitution and principles, and have each promised allegiance thereto. But now after years of labor and trial, enlisting, organizing and drilling this vast army, arming and equipping it ready for duty, we suddenly discover serious defects in its organic law. That it is anti-Republican, and in order to make it purely Democratic, the 5th, 6th and 7th degrees must be abolished; 4th degree members must be made eligible to any office in the Order, and the Councils at present organized, must continue in the place of the 5th degree, or District Grange.

Now, brethren, let us candidly reason upon these propositions for a moment. First, it is a well known fact, that all business, or nearly so, in State and National Granges, is done in the 4th degree; and our State Constitution expressly provides that the business in the County Grange shall all be done in the 4th degree, except conferring the 5th degree; hence, the Granges are all open to the 4th degree members. But the objection is: only a certain class can be chosen delegates to State Granges.

Now, my brethren, while this is true, is it not a fact that the system of electing officers in our order combines the most thorough culling process known to any other society? First, in selecting the Masters of our Subordinate Granges. Second, in selecting from them delegates to the State Grange. Third, from these delegates, officers of the State Grange are elected. The Master becoming a member of the National Grange for two years, and then again, the same process is gone over. Out of a membership of 40,000, less than 1,400 are selected Masters of our Subordinate Granges; and from these Masters, about 75 are chosen each year to go up, and from the State Grange, they elect one of their number to preside over their body, and represent the State Grange in the National Grange. Now it seems to me a more thorough and satisfactory system could not have been adopted for the election of our officers.

It is probably true that some may never be elected to office under this present system, who are competent and worthy to fill any position in the Order. But so it would be were all eligible to an election, and I apprehend there would be but little difference in the result, were our system changed.

The County or District Grange in the 5th degree was incorporated into our Grange system for two reasons; 1st, in order to bring the 5th degree within reach of all who are entitled to receive it without having to go to the State Grange to receive it; and 2nd, in response to a general demand for an intermediate Grange between the Subordinate and State Grange. As an evidence of this want, the Granges in almost, if not all the states, where Granges exist, have by voluntary action, and without authority, organized what are known as County Councils, and the only difference between these Councils and Pomona Granges is, the latter is made a legal Grange, and can confer the 5th degree, in all other respects their duties are the same.

The amendment to the National Constitution, providing for District Granges, after having been thoroughly discussed in the National Grange, was submitted to the several State Granges for their approval; and after being again considered by them, it was ratified by almost every State Grange, including our own. With this endorsement so recent, it is unwise to further agitate the question at present, or oppose, by resolution, or otherwise, in a public way, the organization of these

Granges. Such agitation, as is now going on, will most surely tend to division and discord, and can, in no event, result in any good. I earnestly appeal to you worthy Patrons, to well consider the effect of your action before you take a stand against the laws and usages of our Order. If you don't find everything just as you would wish it, remember we all accepted it just as it is, and have the power to change in a constitutional way, and at a proper time. You are not compelled to become members of a District Grange, nor to be represented therein, unless you choose; but to oppose their organization, or through your opposition to bring them into disrepute, is as much a violation of your duty as patrons, as it would be to oppose the organization of Subordinate Granges, or even State Granges, for they now all stand on the same authority.

Who among you would pull down your house, and destroy its very foundation, because a faulty shingle was discovered in the roof, or would the Christian destroy the church because all its members could not become preachers, priests, or bishops; or, certain doctrines were inculcated, that they, as individuals, could not subscribe to. With as much propriety may they do these, as for us to council division and rebellion among our members, because there are some things in the higher degrees we do not endorse.

The last session of our State Grange passed resolutions, requesting the National Grange to amend its Constitution, so as to make 4th degree members eligible to any office in the Order, and instructed their delegate to that body, to work to secure this change; and should I have the honor to occupy a seat in that body, I will, in good faith, carry out these instructions. While this action shows most clearly the sentiment of the Patrons of our State on this question; yet they did at the same time as heartily endorse the Pomona, or District Grange, and provided in our amended constitution for this organization in our jurisdiction.

The State Grange has done its duty, and all that can be done at present; let us now patiently wait the meeting of the National Grange, and then in a legal and constitutional way, press our claims for all desired changes in the organic law, and should we fail as we may, and probably will, let us as good Patrons, cheerfully and silently submit to the will of the majority.

We concede to every citizen without our gates, the right to publicly criticize if they choose our constitution, principles and actions at an Order; but for us who have voluntarily endorsed this constitution, and espoused the principles upon which it was founded, to join in with our opposers, and assist them in doing what they never could have done themselves, viz: Work division and discord in our ranks, would be suicidal in us, and will bring down upon us the just censure of all true Patrons.

We have in our organization a constitutional medium, well known to all Patrons, through which we can silently and effectually work for all desired changes and reforms in our Order, without resorting to the public press of the country.

The experience of ages in other secret Orders has demonstrated the wisdom of the practice indicated. Will we profit by their experience, and thus avoid the dangers which lie in the opposite course.

As you are well aware, it is no easy task to procure a change, (no matter how small,) in the Constitution of the National Grange. Any amendment proposed must first be considered in that body, and if favorably received there, it then must be submitted to the several State Granges for their approval, and then receive the endorsement of at least three fourths of said State Granges. Hence it seems to me unwise in us to urge with such impatience and persistence, the changes proposed by some; and again, the Patrons of the Order should be the last to complain, either of the Order in general, or of the National Grange. We have had abundant reason to be thankful that we were patrons, and members of that great brotherhood, who have responded so generously to our cries for assistance in time of our greatest need; we having received within the last six months, direct through the Order, more than double what we have ever paid into the treasury of the Grange.

It behoves every Patron among us who loves our Order, and would see it occupy a firm and enduring basis, to rally to its standard, lay aside all jealousies and fault-finding, and determine to make it the great bulwark of liberty to the laboring classes of America.

M. E. HUDSON.  
Master K. S. G.

## For the KANSAS FARMER FARMERS PAPERS.

I have just received a copy of the KANSAS FARMER, and if the copy I have just received is a sample copy of the paper, the farmers of Kansas may well feel proud of such an organ. It is so different from the usual class of farmer's papers and the class of articles usually selected to fill up the columns of an agricultural paper, that I was highly pleased and can not help writing to say so. It has the ring of the true metal and does not hesitate to sound the alarm when needed. So many of our agricultural papers are run by politicians who are afraid to touch an article that would reflect on "their party," or hurt the feelings of some of their professional friends, they fill their paper with articles of common place interest and administer their advice on advancing the interests of the farmers as a class, in homeopathic doses. What is the use of making an outcry

of the farmer's pigs being in the cornfield when his house is on fire, and all he is worth at stake. The farmers as a class are fast sinking into a state of serfdom and vassalage, burthen after burthen has been placed upon their shoulders, till the overlaiden back has sunk beneath the oppression, but the most galling feature of the whole, is, that they themselves are the parties to blame; holding the power in their own hands they have quietly surrendered their rights, till, from being masters of the situation, they are nothing but hewers of wood and drawers of water for the sharpers and swindlers of society. Compare the situation of the land owners of England and America. The landed interests in England are the great ruling power of the land, the House of Commons is a representation of the landed proprietors of England and Ireland, until recently no member could sit there that did not represent land. How is it with us? Occasionally some straggling farmer gets into the Legislature, to be a laughing stock for the smart young lawyers who the farmers and mechanics send to represent them, (Heaven bless the mark) and pass laws to regulate and govern the State whose best interests are identified with the farmers and mechanics, who of course are incapable of knowing or understanding their wants.

The order of the Patrons of Husbandry is doing a good work in educating the Farmers, and getting them to discuss and enlighten themselves on the great questions of the day. Now, I don't wish it to be understood that I am in favor of discussing partisan politics in the Grange room; but I do think it is incumbent on every brother to understand the great questions of the day, and fit himself to vote intelligently for the best interests of the class he represents. The party hacks have used the farmers and working classes too long to carry out their sinister and corrupt schemes. To be sure they prepare their platform, so as to meet the wishes and desires of all, and until after election everything is lovely; but once in power, how soon those fine promises are forgotten. Why can't the farmers unite, as a class, and hold the balance of power? they can control both parties, and make them subservient to their wishes; but, instead, they accept the situation, and run on in the same old rut. The best means we have taken in this county to get the farmers to discuss those points and at the same time the most instructive and entertaining, is to hold farmer's institutes, running three or four days at the county town, at which all the great leading questions of the day are brought forward and discussed; as those questions are handled with calmness and without any of the rancor of party feeling that usually accompanies the agitation of such questions, during election times, the natural consequence is, that most of the farmers are satisfied to find how near they are in sentiment on most of the questions, that separate them as partisans. I will here give a few questions, that we [discussed, and you can see from the "tenor how instructive those institutes" may be made, viz: "Benefits of co-operation," "Plain and stringent laws," "Practical education for farmer's sons and daughters," "Home manufactures," "Orchards and small fruits," "State and county fairs," "Relation of politics to labor," "Legitimate taxation," "Farmer's and mechanic's saving banks," "The currency, or the influence of the present financial policy on agriculture," "Dairy products and stock raising," "Woman's true position in society, and her influence in the Grange room," "Are tariff laws injurious to agricultural interests," "Fire side literature and the purity of the press." The questions were opened by a short address by a person selected for the purpose, and then openly discussed by all who wished to participate. I shall send you one of our programmes. I have a few left, and any parties wishing to have one for the purpose of holding an institute can have one by writing to me.

But the most potent influence the farmers can command is the press, by patronizing only such papers as are their decided and open friends, and refusing to support any papers that are antagonistic to their interests, and used to their detriment, and often spreading opinions and ideas that are corrupting and immoral in their tone, and tending to exert an evil influence in their families. The farmers can command the most powerful branch of the press in the nation, were they only united and firm in their action. Just take one of the large city weeklies, and see what an infamous mass of stuff is collected in its columns,—crime in all its phases, violence and bloodshed, intrigue and corruption, and the never failing Beecher-Tilton case,—that has done more to demoralize the community, than anything that has occurred during the present century; such newspapers are better adapted to saloons and brothels, than to be introduced into respectable homes, to corrupt the pure minds of children. The Illinois State Farmers Association fully realized the situation, and started the Industrial Age at Chicago with a view of making it the great farmer's organ of the West, and one of the largest and best papers published in Chicago; and it has well redeemed its promise; for it is the best and truest friend the farmer has in the West. The KANSAS FARMER is running in the same track, and all such papers should be supported in preference to all others by the farmers. No rings can purchase them; no capitalists control them; but as long as they prove themselves the true and unflinching friends of the farmer, they should be supported in preference to all others. I sat down to write a few lines and see what an article I have written; well, my only excuse is, I am

too much in earnest, and once started on a topic I cannot leave off. There are several points that I wished to advance that I can not in the present article; but if you think this worth a place in your columns, you may hear from me again; with best wishes for the success of the FARMER, and the interests it represents, I remain, Yours, Very Respectfully,  
SAMUEL SINNETT.  
Muscatine, Iowa.

## PUBLIC SALE OF THE EXCELSIOR HERD. 110 HEAD OF Short-Horn Cattle,

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Saturday, May 22d, 1875.

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Every animal in the herd is in the prime of life; in fruitful condition, and choice show animals. Considering the number and quality of the herd, we confidently believe that it is as attractive a lot as has ever offered at public sale to the breeders and all classes of buyers.

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## Market Review.

# NOTICE.

Hedge Place, 2 miles Southwest of Burlington, N. H. is for sale, by E. W. Curtis.



## Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

For the Kansas Farmer.

## "CATHY BEAN," THE PAUPER.

MRS. M. STRATTON BEERS.

"Cathy, oh! Cathy, here! I want you this blessed minute. It is almost ten o'clock and you must dry your hands and take your bonnet and the tin bucket and go down to the swale and gather some greens for dinner; some dandelions and dock you know, and be quick for it is as much as ever we will have time now to get them cooked before the men come in, run! and make your fingers fly lively once in your life."

Cathy was ready and started before Mrs. Hines had finished talking, and that inestimable lady was obliged to raise her voice even above the ordinary key to make Cathy fully understand the last sentence.

Cathy started to run but her limbs ached so badly she was forced to desist; the fact was she had been up since four o'clock and had stood most of the time since that early hour over the wash tub, rubbing, wringing and rinsing a washing, which, Mrs. Hines herself had said, was "big enough for a family of sixteen." But Cathy was left to do it all herself, drawing her cistern water with a rope and a two quart tin bucket, and her rinse water with a bucket and windlass at the well way down at the foot of the hill. To be sure the hired men had admired Cathy's ambition and called her "punky girl" as they saw her flying around at her washing, but they did not think to lighten the labor by carrying in an armful of wood or a bucket of water as they passed the well or wood pile on their way to the house.

Oh! no, Cathy Bean was only a pauper any way; she might be thankful enough to get any place at all, without having to remain in the poor house, that was where Mrs. Hines had found her three years before, since which time Cathy had been her maid of all work, cook and of late wash woman, nursery maid, dish washer, milk maid, in fact it would be hard to tell what she was not in the course of a day or week. She was always busy at something; indeed Mrs. Hines felt it to be a part of her christian duty to keep her busy; she couldn't afford to keep a pauper and let her live in idleness, not she. So when she would catch Cathy at leisure a moment she would forthwith find a new job to set her at, quoting as authority for doing so her favorite maxim for everybody about her, "Satin finds work for idle hands to do." So she does, may be, if the hands are not too tired already to do anything, and certain it is Cathy's hands were often so tired she could hardly make them do what she set them at, but a note of warning from Mrs. Hines' shrill voice, if they dallied, would keep them flying.

The great hot sun shot under a cloud as Cathy reached the swale, and on a little bank of green she found dandelions in rich profusion; so she sat down on the grass to pick the tender leaves around her, thinking how glad she was the sun did not shine out bright, and that she would hurry as fast as possible and get through before the cloud passed away.

She wished she could stay there all day in the cool green grass with nothing to do but pick dandelion and dock and think.

The last words of Mrs. Hines rang in her ears still: "make your fingers fly lively for once in your life." Did not her fingers and feet, and whole body for that matter, "fly lively" generally? Did she not work from daylight until nine at night, day after day just as fast as she could work, and had she not done this way for three years? She wished now, to day, kneeling here and there in her haste to get the bucket full before the sun shone out again, that she had always staid at the poor-house. "Really it wasn't half so hard as here. I had time to rest, and now I never get rested." Cathy had spoken her thoughts aloud without knowing it, her own voice startled her, it was so vehement, with a tincture of rebellion in it. She plucked at a new bunch of dandelions, and as she did so she caught the sound of a foot step, and the sting of a smart blow from somebody's hand.

"There! you ungrateful poor-house brat. I'll teach you to rest when I am in a hurry for greens for dinner. 'Never get rested, eh?' a young hearty thing, like you talk of being tired. You are a lazy good-for-nothing pauper and I am rightfully paid for all my trouble to try and make something of you by taking you into my own house like one of my own family; I might have known I would get nothing but ingratitude and sass."

Mrs. Hines stopped to get a breath from force of necessity, else, Cathy thought, she would "never have ceased scolding." "Do you know who you are Catherine Bean? Do you? Answer me, Miss, none of your impudence this day, you hussey, you!" She stopped to breathe again. Her temper was raging so fiercely that she found it necessary to breathe frequently, if not deeply.

Cathy, astonished, and thoroughly indignant, yet frightened to find her unfortunate remark had been over heard, was casting about in her unsettled mind to think, if possible, who she really was, so that she might tell Mrs. Hines and relieve her mind of that painful anxiety at least, when that worthy lady proceeded to answer her own question.

"I can tell you who you are, if you don't know. You are a Columbian County pauper! that's who you are; and you presume to complain because you are so lucky as to find some one willing to furnish you honest work to do to earn your bread, and you don't earn the half

you get. You can just travel back to the house where you came from as soon as ever you get that washing out over which you have been poking all day."

Catherine Bean stood up, turned round facing Mrs. Hines, looked her full in the eyes and said in a voice low and soft as the June breeze that cooled the flushed and heated face of the women:

"Mrs. Hines, I am going back now. There are greens enough, and as to the washing you can finish it yourself. If I don't earn the half I get at your house I will go where all I can do, will at least be all that is required of me."

She walked slowly down the swale which led out the public road, leaving Mrs. Hines astonished in her turn, for she had not expected even a word from the meek-eyed maiden. She called after her:

"I'd thank you not to wear off my sun bonnet; if you are going come and get your own, old dud."

Cathy caught the bonnet from her head and rolling it tight into a roll, she gave it a fling which sent it almost to the very feet of the woman, then she went on bare-headed, leaving her own "dud" where Mrs. Hines had thrown it.

"You'll be sorry for this Missy! You'll wish yourself back again 'fore you get to the county-house! I hope to the gracious they'll send you back without your dinner, and make you sue for my pardon on your knees, I'd forgive you with a vengeance."

But Cathy's ears had long passed beyond the sound of her words, and were still going, so that Mrs. Hines was forced to pick up her pail of dandelion and dock and go home to the getting of her own dinner, thinking as she went of how she would see Cathy coming back before the meal was half over, pleading to be taken back again into her favor, and how she would humble that pauper girl for once in her life, if she did take her back.

When dinner was all over, and Cathy still did not put in an appearance, Mrs. Hines began to get a very little anxious, and concluded to let the washing stand until she did come, just to prove to her that she knew she would come back.

But supper time came, and no Cathy; the men came in from the field surprised enough to hear that: "Cathy and I had a word battle, she got her dander up and lit out for the poor house, she'll be back again before to-morrow night, and mighty glad to come to my terms for the sake of being taken back, I know; ha! ha! ha!"

But some way her laugh had not the ring a laugh should have to be catching; it sounded hollow, and Mr. Hines, who lived in fear of his wife's temper, knew he dared not say one word in favor of, or against Cathy's going; either would have been out of place, so he went out to the barn, and once there, he chuckled to himself.

"So! the chit of a thing has a spirit of her own, after all; gone to the poor house! Gone bare-headed, and the sun was blistering hot to-day; she'll not be back again afore to-morrow night, nor the next night, nor the next! Betsy's bit off her own nose to spite her face this time, sure enough! Land! how it makes the old woman puff to get supper up alone; reckon she'd like to give Cathy her supper for the sake of having them supper dishes off her hands, and all that milk skimming. We'll see which way the wind blows to-morrow!"

He put his arms around old white Caesar's neck, and rubbed his face against the soft silky mane of the horse.

"The little gal is gone, old boy, gone to the poor house; and the old woman is ravin' mad this night."

The supper bell clanged with an unwonted vengeance, and Mr. Hines with a significant whew! went into the house.

And Cathy, where was she?

Seven miles from the Hines' school house on the State road, was a deep hollow through which ran a clear little stream, known to every one as Beech-nut run; now the stream was only a few feet in width, but in the spring when the big rains came, it overflowed its shallow banks, and spread out over the valley, a wild rushing angry river more than a half mile in width; consequently for a long distance each side, the road had been thrown up to an immense height, and a strong bridge had been well set, or rather hung across the tiny rivulet.

When bare-headed Cathy reached the commencement of this artificial road, she saw just crossing the bridge, a carriage, and instinctively, she stepped down into the hollow beside the road, instead of keeping on over the bridge, thinking to go only a little way, and then, waiting until the carriage passed by, to retrace her steps and go on in the road; but having chanced to take the shady side, she found it very inviting, and farther on where the road above grew higher, and the hollow where she walked broader and deeper, the sides were carpeted with soft cool grass, with here and there a blue forget-me-not peeping out.

Cathy was hungry, and so she stopped and gathered a handful of the green leaves of the beautiful poey, then attracted by the sound of water rippling over the stones beyond her, crept on underneath the shadow of the bridge so far above her, and there sat down to rest and eat her "dinner of herbs."

All around her and about her grew the sweet white clover; mingling its fragrant blossoms with those of the dandelion, forming a wonderful and intricate pattern set upon the ground-work of green; just at

Cathy's elbow was a dandelion blossom, and she looking at it in a dreamy tired way was most vividly reminded of the "greens" she gathered for dinner; very soon she leaned over, drew the blossom into her hand, and thus apostrophized it.

"Little yellow head, this is your home isn't it? you ought to be thankful you are not a pauper girl, then you would not have any home, and you would get tired to death every day; you would wish and wish you were dead, or had never been born; or that you could sleep once just as long as you wanted to, and that you did not know any body who could scold, and did not have to wash until the skin was off three of your fingers; and you would give all the world if you could remember what your name was; your own true name, and not 'Cathy Bean'."

She fixed her eyes steadily on the sleepers of the bridge, as if she hoped to find written out on them the lost name she could almost remember; but failing to do this quite, she dropped her head down on her arm with a deep drawn sigh and an "oh, dear!" and with eyes tightly closed, she commenced searching the hidden recesses of her memory in that manner until she forgot even her efforts to remember in a heavy sleep.

Slowly the sun sank lower and lower behind the beach trees until its red splendor twinkled and flashed between them; then sank quite out of sight, still Cathy slumbered on; dreaming sweet dreams of beautiful things, too beautiful to name, of sweet voices in gentle tones calling her, Winnie Weiss.

"Winnie! Winnie! Winnie Weiss!" she opened her eyes, and sprang to her feet, it was not all a dream then, some one really called her.

"Winnie, oh—h! Winnie! is that you?" came down to her ears from the embankment above, and then she saw the same carriage with its span of white horses, which she had tried not to meet, a couple of hours before, while leaning over the railing was a man calling her name, her own true name. Was it a memory from the real past, or only of her recent dream? there rushed over her soul a throng of confused memories which held her mute and wondering when through the thick falling shades of night, and mists of evening came once more that voice calling "Winnie! Winnie! come up here child!"

Then, clear as the water trickling at her feet, came the recollection of her own father as he used to call her to him for a kiss, and with a shout of joy she cried "Papa! is that you?"

Swift as a gazelle, she ran up the grassy slope, until she could climb to the dusty road, and then in a moment more she was clasped in the arms of a man whose heavy, silken beard was threaded thickly with grey.

"Winnie! My poor, lost baby!"

"Papa, where was you?" and the two clung together as if determined that the separation which had been for so many years, should never commence again.

Winnie Weiss it was, who rode with her own father to the poor-house, only two miles farther on, "Cathy Bean" was some one forgotten almost; one whom Winnie remembered somewhere, back in her journey of life to have seen washing at dirty clothes, and gathering dandelions and dock for greens.

Robert Weiss, her father, had been a follower of the sea, and upon one of his voyages, in a foreign port, he was left sick, almost unto death; for months he lingered, unconscious of his condition or whereabouts. Then, when able at last to set out for his home and family, he went on board a merchantman, which, half the distance home sprang a leak, and the whole crew, including the two or three passengers aboard of her were glad to take passage in an outward bound vessel, scarcely saving themselves in time to see their own vessel sink.

A severe storm disabled the stranger, which put into a port to repair, and thus months passed before Mr. Weiss again set sail on a successful voyage home; once arrived there, he found to his dismay that his wife had left the village with her child, and no trace could he find of either. He spent months in a fruitless search, and then returned to his old avocation, always on the alert for some tidings of his wife and child. One day he chanced to converse with a man who in the course of the conversation related to him what he called "one of the most affecting incidents of his life."

"A woman, with a child of three or four years, called at my house one evening asking to rest, and stating that her husband who had been a sailor, was drowned as she supposed, or had died in some foreign land, leaving her destitute, and that she had started on foot to find some relatives of her own living in Ohio, hoping to reach them before she died, and leave her child in their care; when she had told us so much of her story she was seized with coughing, during which she ruptured a blood vessel, and died in a few moments, without being able to speak another word."

The only clue we had to her own or husband's name, was a name stitched into her under clothing, which I shall always remember, it was "Cathy Bean."

"What, Sir? What? Cathy Bean was my wife's name before our marriage, and it must have been my poor wife and her baby Winnie."

"Yes, Winnie was the baby's name, but we called her always 'Cathy Bean' and my wife dying in a few months afterward, I was obliged to place the child in the county-house, where she still remained three years ago

when I was back there on a visit. A nice child, sir, and as the matron was much attached to her I do not doubt she still remains there."

Thus, after many years, Mr. Weiss was put on track of his child, and he lost no time in visiting the poor-house designated. Thence he was directed to Mr. Hines, and there found his child had that day "run away bareheaded to the poor-house."

There it was he remembered having seen down below the high road in Beech nut run hollow a bare-headed girl picking flowers; back he went, supposing of course she had continued her journey long ere he would reach the bridge, but looking down into the picturesque hollow, as he rode along, he caught sight of the sleeping girl, and it was the sound of his voice calling her, that turned the current of her dreams into the realms of the past.

So "Cathy Bean" did not go back to finish the washing which waited for her; but instead she went with her father away to the coast of New England, wondering in her loving little heart, if Winnie Weiss could be the same tired "Cathy Bean," who fell asleep in Beech nut hollow.

## KIND WORDS.

Bro. J. I. R., of Ottawa, Kansas, writes: "I am well pleased with the spirit and tone of the FARMER. I think with its present management and independent course, it will continue to exercise an increasing and controlling influence among farmers, as well as upon questions of public welfare."

Friend T. T. T., of Reno county, whose good opinion we prize, says: "I think you are improving the FARMER; it ought to be made a necessity to every Kansas farmer. Experience in Kansas farming is what is required. We have so many eastern people who have little conception of the demands of our soil and climate. Your suggestion about brief crop notes is good."

## A FEW WORDS TO HUSBANDS.

BY ONE OF THEM.

Why do we blame women for being 'frail and fickle, when the real fault lies with ourselves? We have always a plea for the absence from home—always an excuse for the late return, the neglected favor, the forgotten promise. Business, business is our watchword and constant cry—no time for wife, or home, or babies. What is divorce but the ghost of business? It crawls along the deserted halls of affection, lays its cold hand on the heart, fires its abstracted gaze far away from home—feels with its fingers for those tender heart strings—lays hold of them—breaks them. Man and wife are put asunder—business stands between and parts them. They grieve, they are divorced. Woman has faulted enough, Heaven knows! My grumbling self acknowledges it readily; still I would be their defender in some things. We can work to live, but it is not necessary that we should live to work. Moreover, many a pastime comes under that hydra-headed monster yeelp business, which has no right to be there. I have many married acquaintances. I often see them linger at the office long after business hours, chatting with some pleasant drop-per-in, or whiffing away at the silent cigar. The tea-table is perhaps waiting at home—the wife perhaps watching at the door. The tardy loiterer comes at last, declaring he was unavoidably detained by business. If the wife grows jealous of this bug-bear which keeps husband from her all day long, and sends him home at night so fatigued he cannot sit up to chat, what has he to say to her but a man with a family is forced to work; and he is lawyer, doctor, editor, preacher, scavenger or brick layer, the cry is forever the same. Some wives wear an apologetic look on their faces in the presence of their husbands, as though they would say: "I am sorry to be such a burden to you; sorry that you are so unfortunate as to have a wife and little ones. I hope you will excuse us we would not be here if we could help it." And no doubt the poor woman means it—she learns to look at her little children pittingly, and to whisper mournfully, as she bends over them in their cradle, "How little you dream, poor darlings, what a terrible sorrow life is."

The fashionable woman takes a different course. The world knows what that is; but in either case, man is as blameable as woman. The Bible tells us there is a time for all things—after marriage a man has no right to forget there is a time for rest, and to devote the whole of it to business. Let him count the number of times his heart beats in one day and make up his mind to set aside a certain measure of its pulsations for "home, sweet home."

Horticulture is no exception to the general rule, and "swinging around the circle," seems to be the common fate of many a noted plant. In some instances their coming and going, resembles the passing of our great comets; brilliantly illuminating the horticultural world for a time, then passing on leaving us enveloped in a long, broad, and transparent tail of consequences, which drags far behind. The pear mania, grape fevers and similar periodical excitements in regard to the culture of a certain kind or a classes of fruits, or ornamental plants, is merely chasing the rabbit around the circle by one generation, to be repeated by the next. It is true, that some new and improved breeds, or varieties, may come in occasionally, but the results are very similar in the end. But it is to be presumed that the pains and pleasures experienced by each and every generation is about the same, and the only thing to be regretted is that there is so little profiting by the mistakes of others. What are books, newspapers and history good for, if it is not to teach one generation to avoid the errors of those which have preceded it. The parent rabbits follow the beaten path, and go into the pot, and their offsprings tread in the same trail and meet a similar fate, but we pretend to judge of the future by the past. How many do it is a question still open for discussion. One can scarcely take up a newspaper without being reminded that this traveling in a circle is still going on. There are numerous revolving plants which come around at certain periods, usually they are started on the track by men who are either ignorant of horticultural history, or pretend it, for the sake of making a little money.—Rural New Yorker.

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