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PLANTING EVERGREENS AND LARCH FOR TIMBER ON THE PRAIRIES.

There appears to be a belief that evergreens cannot be successfully grown on our prairies, and if people should base their want of faith on the many losses and failures in trying to grow them, there would seem to be a good reason for such conclusions. But evergreens do grow quite vigorously here and there over the prairies. So it would probably be better to learn the way the few have succeeded, than to become discouraged and give up because so many have failed.

The greatest trouble seems to be in getting evergreens started to growing after transplanting, and when they are once well established there is little danger of their going back unless the varieties are not hardy in the locality where planted.

In moving and transplanting trees of the pine family, much care must be taken not to expose them to the sun and wind, and especially not to expose the roots, because the sap being resinous, soon becomes thick and gummy, and the cellular action necessary to plant life ceases and cannot be revived, and the tree dies.

The best time to move or transplant evergreens, is when the trees are not putting forth new foliage, and the worst time is after the new growth of wood has commenced in the spring and early summer, and before it is well ripened. I have moved and transplanted large and small trees at various times from late summer until early the following spring, and they have almost invariably made a good growth and done well, while those planted during the season of new growth, nearly always did poorly, and many of them died.

The best kind of trees to get, are those that have been root-pruned or transplanted several times. Trees that have grown to much size without transplanting, are not very apt to grow when moved. They are not very easily grown from seeds in our hot, dry summers, and at best make a slow growth the first few years, and as seedlings can be bought very cheap, the best way is to get plants from six to twelve inches high, where enough are wanted to pay for the trouble of taking care of them. These may be planted close together in beds or closely protected.

The best time to get small trees is in the month of October or as early as September, and by planting close together, say in rows one foot apart and three or four inches in the row, a large number can be planted in a small space. One bed of ten thousand was planted as late as December, last. There were planks or timbers set up edgewise along the sides of the beds, and old fencing across the top. The fencing was used because it was on hand. Any covering that will break off the sun and wind and let in plenty of light and air, will answer. The bed of evergreens looks very well so far, but the winter has been a very mild one so far, and favorable to the aforementioned trees. A portion of one end of the bed was left uncovered and the plants in this part look quite bad. The varieties are white pine, yellow pine, white spruce, arbor vitae and balsam fir.

The following descriptions are drawn from observations made among evergreens: Austrian pine, *Pinus Austriaca*.—One of the most vigorous and rapid growing of the pines. Its handsome, dark-green foliage in

winter and summer is easily distinguished from all other trees. It stands our hot, dry summers as well as any evergreen, and on this account is valuable.

Scotch pine, *Pinus Sylvestris*.—Has proved pretty good; grows quite rapidly, and has peculiar bluish shaded foliage.

Both of the above have been imported from Europe, as their names indicate.

White pine, *Pinus Strobus*.—This is the great timber pine of the northern states, and the most valuable of all the pines for building purposes. The trees grow to great size, and are easily distinguished by their fine, soft foliage and swarthy, green branches. They do well on the prairies of northern Kansas, and will probably be more extensively planted as the knowledge of evergreen-growing becomes more familiar.

Norway spruce, *Abies Excelsa*.—Handsome trees while young, but the climate, or something else, does not seem to agree with them very well. Imported from Europe.

Balsam Fir, *Abies Balsamia*.—A pretty evergreen while young, but not suitable for hot or dry climates.

American Arbor Vitae, White Cedar, *Thuja Occidentalis*.—A beautiful tree, but more valuable for ornament than timber. West of the Missouri river, the soft, flat foliage is apt to become injured by our dry winters and hot summers. (I don't mean the present dry winter.)

Red Cedar, *Juniperus Virginiana*.—Grows wild along some of the streams of the Blue River country, and is the only evergreen tree, to my knowledge, indigenous to northern Kansas. When planted in good soil, grows quite rapidly and will endure the heat of our hottest summers and the cold of our coldest dry winters without injury. About the only evergreen easily raised on the prairies from seeds. The timber is valuable and durable.

Larch, *Larix* (not evergreen).—The larch does not seem to thrive west of the Missouri river; at any rate not on the prairies, although great efforts have been made by interested parties to induce people to plant largely; but if there has been any advantage therefrom, it has not been to the ones who bought and planted the trees.

Some years ago I asked a celebrated grower of European larch why he recommended the larch so highly for the western prairies, and especially for Kansas and Nebraska? He told me the European larch would grow wherever corn would grow. I knew we had raised plenty of good corn without difficulty, but every attempt to grow the larch had been a failure so far as I knew. I was anxious to learn how to grow the larch wherever corn would grow, and expected information that would make plain some successful method of growing the larch on our prairies. Well, it was explained clear enough for almost any one to understand, and the following is the substance of how I was told the larch would do well wherever corn would grow: "I grow millions of them and sell them all over the country." To my suggestion that the great lakes had an influence on the growth, I was quickly informed the atmosphere was as dry and hot there as in Kansas.

LUKE MOORE.

BENEFITS OF TIMBER-RAISING.

The desirableness of having timber at command is admitted by all, but the actual benefits that will follow the general planting of timber on the treeless plains of the west, seem to be but comparatively little understood. This I infer from the lack of interest shown in this enterprise by so many hundreds of persons who have come here to make it their permanent home.

The first and most obvious need of timber is to supply wood for fuel and the various mechanical arts. One of the greatest drawbacks to the development of these plains, is the great difficulty and cost of fuel and building material. Even the procurement of food is often a much less difficult matter to the poor man who has come west to make a start, than building material and fuel; hence we find many families living on the frontier, who live in sod-houses or "dug-outs," and burn corn-stalks, who still have an abundance of good, wholesome food to eat. If every one would interest themselves in the work of tree-planting to the extent it deserves, in from three to five years from the time of beginning, every family might have a supply of fuel, at least for cooking purposes, and in eight or ten years all the fuel needed might be obtained in this manner. For the purposes of art it will, of

course, take a much longer time to have paying returns, but that it will be a matter of absolute necessity to procure supplies from such sources in the near future, does not admit of a doubt.

All the great sources of lumber supply are being rapidly exhausted. There can be no question but that the great forests that now furnish the principal part of our lumber supply will be exhausted within twenty-five years, without any increase in the present rate of consumption. The constantly increasing cost of lumber is an evidence of the growing scarcity of the timber supply. And what is true of the pine timber of the country, is also true of the hard woods of the country. The growing demand for these woods is rapidly diminishing the available supply, till in some cases the supply of special kinds has become so exhausted as to require a change to some other species, in special cases. And the worst feature of the case is that there is no other large source of supply to fall back on to meet the growing demand in the future.

Already the pine forests of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota are driven by the woodman's ax far backward to the extremities of those states. The hard-wood timbers of the middle and central states have largely disappeared, and even the mountainous regions of New York and Pennsylvania, are now being largely drawn on for a supply. The demand has also extended to the south, and the forests of that region that escaped the devastation of the war, are now melting rapidly away. The above sources of supply, when completely exhausted, leave only the forests of Oregon and the mountainous regions of the west, which, besides being inaccessible to most of the country, would soon be exhausted under the demand likely to soon be made upon them. It is evident that the supply of timber to meet the future demand in this country must principally be raised by art, and every dictate of prudence and wise management demands that active steps be taken at once to meet this approaching demand. L. J. TEMPLE.

SADDLEBAG NOTES.

NO. XVII.

The Enterprise Woolen Company, of Enterprise, Dickinson County, was organized in 1874. The mill is what is termed a "one set mill." It works up 100 lbs of wool into 125 yards of cloth in 10 hours. The building is 40 by 80 feet and four stories high. The machinery cost \$8000, and the company employ 16 persons. They will be ready to receive the new crop of wool about the 1st of May.

Near Junction City, Davis County, is the nursery and stock-farm of Hon. John Davis. Here were the prettiest lot of Berkshires I had seen for sometime. Although they were not pedigreed animals, yet they show the fine marks of the full bloods to a very high degree. A very convenient pen, difficult to describe but of handy construction, is used during the breeding season.

The nursery is located upon high and dry land, which insures to the trees a hardy growth.

In this nursery I noticed a bundle of peach brush closely packed and tied with wire, and upon inquiring of Mr. Davis its use, I learned the following facts: That bundle was bound and pressed in that style by a machine called the "Farmers' Fuel press." The bundle was about a foot long and six inches in diameter. It was pressed by being fed through concave faced rollers which force it through a nozzle. The bands are placed around while it is passing out. The bundle is evenly and quickly cut by a lever knife into any length required.

It is claimed that two men can put up a day's fuel for an ordinary family in ten minutes. The machine is made of iron and costs \$25.

Here now is something of value. The practicability of using up brush, corn-stalks and slough grass in an economical manner for fuel, is clearly demonstrated through this machine.

The nursery of Wm. Cutter, Esq., is located about a mile and a half from the above place upon little lower ground. Here I found the proprietor hard at work filling orders for spring delivery. Mr. Cutter is a practical nurseryman, a careful and experienced fruit-grower, and a reliable man.

Among his improvements is an orchard of Amosden's Early June peach trees of about 3 acres. It is situated on the north slope a high bluff. The situation is favorable for fruit.

Davis county is well watered and well situated for stock-raising, the cattle, however, are not in very good condition, owing, probably, to the effects of the wet winter, and the small amount of corn fed to them.

Winter wheat is looking extremely well in this county, and if the blight, or chinch bug, or rust does not interfere, the crop will be twice as large as the crop of 1877.

I noticed a fine orchard of apple trees, three miles southwest of Junction City, on the farm of Theo. Jones, Esq. The orchard consisted of 200 bearing trees in good condition, showing that good care and attention had been given them.

Ten miles east of the city is the stock farm of Mr. John Wallace. I found here a fine herd of full-blooded Short-Horns; there is 100 head of cattle on this farm, many of them high class grades; I noticed this stock at the Davis county fair in 1876.

Five miles south of Manhattan is a beautiful apple orchard of bearing trees, that produced last year, 150 bushels of fruit. It is owned by Hon. E. L. Foster.

A few weeks ago, the FARMER contained a partial list of pedigrees of Short-Horns in the herd of L. A. Knapp, Esq., of Dover, Shawnee county. On my way home I visited this fine herd; they are getting pretty well over the effects of the hard usage in the shipment here and they are a superior lot of cattle, and will certainly be of great use in improving the stock in that neighborhood. Mr. Knapp is a careful breeder and a conscientious man. W. W. CONE.

Dover, Shawnee Co., Kas.

PRUNING APPLE TREES.

I will give you my mode of pruning apple trees, as I promised in my article written in December. When my trees were set, I left the lowest limbs about three feet from the ground. I cut out all limbs not needed to give the proper shape; then cut off about one-third of the length of the side branches and left the main center branch full length. I left the limbs low until the trees had three years' growth. By that time the roots had taken hold in the ground, so that the wind would not blow them about and make them lean. Then I pruned them up to from four to five feet high. This gave them a large body and a large amount of top, which caused a thrifty growth and quick healing of the wounds made in pruning.

I prune so as to have the top balance over the base of the tree as near as possible. If a tree leans a little, I have the top heaviest on the side from which it leans. I try to have the center grow up with limbs branching out all around and up so as to keep from having forked trees—but some of the varieties will grow forked in spite of me. The Willow Twig is the worst to fork of any variety I have. I keep the top thinned out so as to let the sun shine all through the trees as much as possible. Where apples grow in the shade and do not get the sun's rays on them enough, they are small, green, black-spotted and bitter—not fit for a hog to eat.

I aim to keep my trees pruned in proper shape as they grow, so as not to have to cut off limbs more than an inch through, as the larger the wounds the more apt they are to commence decaying. When it is necessary to cut off limbs that will not heal in two years, I paint the wounds with something to keep them from cracking and letting in water.

I think the best time to prune is in the open weather in February and the first of March. The tree is then more free of sap, and the wood is more solid than as any other time of the year, which leaves the wounds solid and less liable to rot than when the sap is in circulation. Care should be taken in cutting off a limb not to cut too close or too far from the tree; for, in cutting too close, it makes a larger scar than is necessary, and in cutting too far, it leaves a stub that dies and does not heal over for a long time. The proper place is where the limb commences to swell, forming a knob next to the tree.

The best tools to prune with that I ever tried, are a good pruning-knife for small limbs and a fine, sharp saw for large ones. I have tried pruning shears, but have never had any but that cut too far away from the tree, leaving a stub. Will not some of your many readers, who have had experience in thinning apples where they have set too full give us their mode of thinning?—Thos. B. Stone, in Rural World.

HOW TO BUY A TOOL.

First. Know what kind of work you want to accomplish. If a plow, do you want a lap furrow or a flat furrow turned. If a harrow, do you want a scarifier, or a pulverizer or a smoothing implement, do you want light draft or heavier draft, and so with other tools.

Second. Decide on the most efficient implement to accomplish your purpose. If a corn-sheller, do not consult a false economy by getting one a little smaller than you can most profitably use. If a cultivator, get one that is strong enough to wear. If a pulley, one that is stronger than any possible strain to which you can apply it.

Third. Always get the best and most thoroughly built instrument in the market, and be willing to pay for the workmanship. A cheap tool is never satisfactory in the end. Buy at as low a price as you can, but don't get a cheap tool!

Fourth. Before buying see if you really need it. Calculate the gain which will come from its use, and the saving which may reasonably be expected from its ownership.

Fifth. Remember that too many implements, and too expensive implements, are a ruinous draught on the farm profits. Balance this thought, however, with the opposite reflection: there can be no greater waste of resources than going without a tool that is really needed.

Now farmers buy too many tools, but many farmers buy unintelligently and wastefully. The best tool is always more profitable to buy than an inferior one, and yet no matter how good the implement, it is unsatisfactory unless you find for it advantageous use. The saving from machinery comes from use, not from storage.—Scientific Farmer.

IMPORTANT FACTS FOR THOSE WHO BURN KEROSENE

Kerosene oil is one of the products derived from refining crude petroleum as it comes from the well.

The oil is always more or less dangerous, according to the amount of volatile gases left in it.

Every lamp filled with the fluid is liable to explode after burning several hours.

But no explosion will ever happen with the lamp full.

The danger comes from a constant generation of an invisible vapor in the confined space above the oil. This vapor which is inflammable, is caused by the heat of the burner communicated to the oil; but it will not burn unless exposed to flame. The metal attachments on lamps often become 40° warmer than the oil, which is itself sometimes as high as 200°. Hence, kerosene, to be entirely safe, should be near 150° proof.

But very little of the oil used is as good as this. Of sixty-three samples recently tested, only eight were found to be entirely safe. This will account for the terrible loss of life from the almost universal use of kerosene oil. In the United States alone, last year over, 100 deaths per week were reported from accidents by kerosene.

A simple test is to place a tablespoonful of the oil in a saucer and apply a lighted match; if the oil ignites, it is unsafe, never use it. If it does not take fire it is not necessarily safe; because the temperature of the oil in the open air is not so great as when in a burning lamp.

The only reliable test is one made by slowly heating some oil in which a thermometer is placed, constantly noting the number of degrees and applying a lighted match, not to the oil, but to the vapor, if any, just above the surface. If the oil flashes below 120°, reject it. This flashing point is the temperature at which the oil emits an inflammable vapor, and depends upon the naphtha or gasoline in the oil. This point should always be higher than the temperature that the oil ever reaches in a lamp, which is often 100°.

Caution 1. Keep the metallic parts of lamps clean, and the air passages open.

2. After a lamp has been burning three or more hours at a time, never re-light again till filled.

From Greenwood County.

Weather clear and dry. Farmers busy planting. Stock looks well, but lower in price than last year. A large amount of stock-hogs on hand. Winter wheat is looking very fine. Laborers plenty. Many new settlers coming in. J. B. MC.

CONTAGION AND INFECTION.

NO. II.

When we enter a graveyard and see a large number of tiny graves, and a town is mourning because the babies are all dying of bowel disease, it is pretty safe to conclude that the source of water or milk of that place is polluted with sewerage slops, or that cess-pools are emptying into the wells, and that in all probability the milkman not only waters his cows at a cess-pool, but that he waters his cans with ditch water.

But aside from these bowel diseases, there are some in which the contagion is unquestionably a species peculiar to the disease, and not always present in air and water.

Here belong a host of worms, whose depredations are confined to the stomach and bowels.

Aside from the injury these parasites do to the animal in a direct way, there is reason to believe they often cause the bacterial and mycetal forms to find lodgment, by keeping up an inflammatory local irritation, until at length the putrefactive process ends in gangrene, or perforative ulcers, both equally fatal.

Asiatic cholera, hog cholera, chicken cholera, and the rinderpest, are examples of infectious diseases, not only propagated by the alimentary canal, but which make it the principal seat of the disease.

But it is through this canal that the contagions which invade the blood, find their point of entrance into the circulation, and it is this class that causes the greatest number of "fever" diseases. It is most probable that in this way the intermittent, remittent (or bilious) congestive fevers, milk sickness, yellow fever, typhoid fever, typhus fever, relapsing fever, small pox, chicken pox, measles, scarlet fever, rheumatic fever, aphthous sore mouth (canker, thrush, etc.), quinsy, anthrax, aphthous fever, (foot and mouth diseases) pluro pneumonia, Texas fever, bloody murrain, tuberculosis and probably glanders and farcy. To this long list must be added the parasites, which hatch in the stomach and bowels, and from thence bore into other tissues, and such parasites as emit spores, which may be absorbed by the blood vessels, receiving the digested food. The staggers, cystic diseases, kidney worm, trichina and fluke disease are of this class.

This list of diseases is by no means complete and yet it presents a frightful record. When it is added that besides these there are a multitude of derivative diseases flowing from them, affecting the lungs, the brain, the kidneys, the bones and the heart, we shall be in a position to appreciate the importance of looking well to the food and drink we swallow or suffer to be swallowed by our domestic animals, whose health contributes so much to our own health as well as to our pecuniary prosperity.

We can begin to see the importance for ourselves and our animals, of a supply of water devoid of infection. We can begin to see the importance of pure air and clean food. We can begin to see the importance of the laborious, patient researches of men of science, who have worked out the nature of these diseases by microscopic examinations and by germ sowing and other experiments. We begin to see the importance of a science that can point with almost unerring finger to the means of preventing these diseases, and hopefully to systems of cure that shall become more and more unerring as the nature and course of these diseases is traced with increasing accuracy. We ought to begin to see the necessity of thorough, scientific education, not of a scattered few, but of the mass of the people.

Who would have dreamed that when, years ago, a few enthusiastic mycologists began the study of minute fungi (moulds, rusts, smuts, blights, etc.), that anything would come of it. An old man peers all day, through a microscope, for years, at some specks of horse dung! He announces some discoveries. To the most of men the matter is only a source of ridicule, but ridicule does not turn Luenhoeck from his lenses. As the instrument is improved, others take up the researches; other moulds are examined, other excrements are examined. Behold the result! A new science has dawned upon us, more affecting our weal and woe than the noble science of astronomy. It solved problems that have baffled the speculative philosophy of all the doctors from Galen to the present time.

But the reader is, perhaps, more interested in my resuming my subject and telling him something "practical;" for if the editor of the FARMER has not led me astray, farmers do not care to know the causes of things nor why things are done, but what is to be done and how to do it, and leave theories all one side. The way to know how a thing is to be done, is to learn by experience of your own, but never go back to the past experience of others for that is science.

To prevent skin diseases of self and animals keep the skin clean; protect the broken or punctured skin from contact with the germ-laden air; wash wounds with water that has been boiled and cooled under cover, with carbolic soap.

To cure skin diseases, wash with carbolic soap, and for the malignant sort, wash with carbolic acid lotion, or salicylic acid water, or weak sulphuric acid.

For summer complaint in infants, don't give a drop of cow's milk that has not been boiled, nor a drop of water that has not been boiled and kept under cover until cool enough to drink. Give no food, until the complaint abates, that cannot be assimilated without

much digestion, the best of which is bullock's blood, raw (small doses at a time). The next best will be boiled egg, digested in a bottle with pepsin. Feed the child on glycerine and wine, freely, administering small but purgative doses of alkaline hyposulphites, or the salicylate of magnesia, or even borax. If there is great emaciation and lack of color, give iron, the best form of which is the red globules of bullock's blood. For colic, give salicylate of magnesia, or bisulphite of soda, with pepsin and lupulin. If after free evacuation from the effect of purgative antiseptics the diarrhoea still continues, resort to astringent antiseptics and purgative antiseptics combined.

Let us next consider the adults, and the beasts of the field. If with the adult members of the family, without the eating of specially unwholesome and indigestible food, diarrhoea and dysentery are frequent, then there is something rotten around. The water and the milk should be the first to be suspected; thorough boiling will render them palatable, and if the water stands the proper tests, which I will hereafter give, you may suspect that your cows are drinking foul ditch water and returning it to you in the milk. Look to the cows, for the milk is not fit to drink, and the butter will hardly keep if kneaded full of putrefaction at the start.

On theoretical grounds, and from an abundance of culling from the experience of practical men's writings, I conclude that a farmer is hardly to be congratulated who has a brook of water running through his premises. It may be pure, and fit for his hogs, but the chances are so much against it that I think it will pay him to draw his water for his stock from a well, notwithstanding his running water. The well should be protected from sewerage water; this may generally be done by having the well away from the drainage of cess-pools, foul feed lots, stable manure, etc.

The well should be often cleaned out, not only from dead cats and defunct rodents, but from organic rubbish, such as will get into wells of the careful; leaves, bugs, grasshoppers, angle worms, slugs, etc.

In times when epidemics prevail, make assurance doubly sure by drawing a few barrels of water and either disinfecting by chemicals or by protracted boiling, and excluding the possible germs of infection from falling into it by a cover of cotton batting three inches thick, stretched between muslin and fastened to a hoop.

Cistern water is safer to drink in epidemic times than river, well or spring water, yet I would not risk it without disinfecting, until it is proven that cholera, small pox, typhoid fever etc., are never communicated by its use. But when filth has accumulated in a cistern until the water shows bubbles on the surface or has acquired a tainted smell, its use is very dangerous, and is nearly sure to be followed by rheumatic fever, dukes, colics, etc., if nothing worse. As a filter for the cleansing of cistern water is so easily made, there can be no excuse for the using of it in a putrid condition.

If a well is necessarily dug in a flat, poorly drained spot, for safety the earth should be cemented behind the wall, for a depth of ten feet, and a brick wall brought up above the level of the ground, which should be cemented, and the dirt heaped up about it so as to force drainage away from the well.

C. W. J.

Atchison, Kansas.

SORGHUM—VARIETIES, SOILS AND CULTIVATION.

BY I. A. HEDGES, OF ST. LOUIS.

CHAPTER II.

The Chinese variety was the first introduced into this country and most extensively grown for several years, but most of its faults were found in its tendency to fall before the winds and become troublesome to harvest, as well as to attain its full maturity. In the spring of 1857, Mr. Leonard Wray, of England, who had given great attention to the sugar cane culture, etc., in the Indies, being on a visit of research through the British possessions in southern Africa, found several varieties of cane being cultivated there by the natives, called by them, in general terms, "Imphee," having different names for the sixteen varieties. Mr. Wray collected of each of these and brought them to France, and reproduced the several varieties near Toulon, and made some fine specimens of sugar in the year 1856. From this crop he brought over some one thousand lbs. of seed, some samples of sugar, and also some brandy distilled from the fermented juice and skimmings of his boiling works. I met this gentleman on his arrival in New York, examined his samples, heard his lecture before the Farmers' Club, and obtained sufficient seed of the earlier varieties to plant ten acres; but the season was then far advanced, and, although planted in central Kentucky (on the farm of Hon. Brutus Clay), much of it failed to ripen sufficient for reproduction. Such as did ripen, I distributed upon the turf gratuitously, from which, it is presumable, most of the varieties now being planted are the descendants. Mr. Wray had most of his remaining seed planted in South Carolina, by the late Gov. J. H. Hammond, who invested considerable sums in preparing works for the manufacture of sugar, under the personal supervision of Mr. Wray, whose sanguine hopes, like many of the rest of us, were sadly blighted. The season was one of continuous rains, especially in the fall. This kept the cane constantly growing, and, when

finally worked, the juice was exceedingly weak and acid.

The seed I obtained was planted the 10th of June, that of Gov. Hammond's some later still; yet, had the season been favorable, most of our planting would have ripened. The other planting in different sections, of the sorgo or Chinese cane, was generally earlier and obtained a very large growth, shooting out suckers at several of the upper joints, upon which seed tufts formed. This is the tendency of all these canes, but more so of the old sorgo variety. Dry seasons are most favorable for the production of a rich quality of juice. I have found juice to mark 13 deg., Beaume's saccharometer, although 8 deg. will be found a high average. This is also the average of the Louisiana cane juice. But the latter possesses less free acid and feculent matter, which in our northern cane is not only abundant but fully as heavy as the saccharine properties, which, if not removed, must discount or neutralize the sweet. I will say, however, that this acid is not only desirable to many, especially children, but decidedly healthy. No person will become dyspeptic who uses it freely, and it is especially good for children having coughs. I shall treat this feature of the crop more fully in a future chapter.

The varieties now being most cultivated are the sorgo or Chinese, Oomseeance, (sometimes misnamed Otelahan), Librarian, which is a borrowed name given to one of Wray's Imphees, and the Neesazans. Either of the above may be grown anywhere in our corn-growing districts. I place more confidence in the Oomseeance than either of the others, as the syrup of it will more readily crystallize, or, in other words, it has more cane sugar in it, and hence richer. Its growth and the Siberian differ but little. They stand quite erect, though not tall; seed tufts of the former dark brown, the latter quite red—which redness even is apparent in the syrup. The Neesazans is a short, tender, green stock with a bushy-clumped seed tuft that drops on one side, similar to the Doura corn, and is often mistaken for it. They are so nearly related that they will very readily hybridize. The Chinese will mix more readily with broom-corn than any of the Imphees, still it is better to keep them all well apart, at least a quarter of a mile. If attention is given to gathering early seed tufts of fine growth, great good will result.

The soil best adapted is that which will produce the best quality of syrup or sugar, regardless of the quantity, as this is to be its chief recommendation. As previously stated, a corn-growing climate is suitable for cane, but not so with soils. Rich bottom or highly manured land will grow large crops of corn and also of cane, but the latter will be low in saccharine, costing much more in milling and also in boiling, and, when inspissated to syrup, it will be found very acid, rank in flavor and dark in color; in other words, unfit for use; while cane grown upon upland with southern exposure—clay, loam or sandy—in which there is a good deal of lime, the cane will be found rich in sugar, easy to work, less acid, and quite free of the usual herbaceous flavor, so objectionable to most people. It is essential to plow deep for this crop, as its roots run far down, and hence it can endure drouth much better than most crops. It will pay to use ashes, plaster or even lime with this crop; but in no case fresh manure, unless you wish its odors, etc., in your syrup. Select land free of foul seed, especially foxtail or summer grass, as it so nearly resembles the young cane as to deceive the cultivator in dressing it out. This, like all other crops, should be allowed to occupy the field alone. The time of planting is only when the ground is warm enough to insure ready vegetation. Test your seed by soaking in warm water a few days before planting, and plant in fresh soil, and cover shallow, and roll directly after, when it is possible to do so. To those desirous of growing a desirable green soil, to cut in the dry season for cows, hogs, or horses, I would recommend the use of a wheat drill, stopping off a part of the hoes to suit the strength of soil. In fact this method of planting may be quite as good for the regular crop, as by its greater uniformity of depth as well as quantity of seed can be obtained—two important items. If planted in drill, leave the rows wide apart, and run north and south to admit the noonday sun—for it must be remembered that it is the alternate sunshine and shade that develops the saccharine in all vegetation. Sugar is composed of nearly equal parts of hydrogen, oxygen and carbon. The first is early developed, hence the cane is an acid water, until the hot days and cool nights of August and September set in, which finish the chemical process and elaborate the sugar.

I have been thus practical in discussing these points here, for the reason that the scientific principles here involved are at the base of not only this product but every other one in which the farmer is engaged in cultivating. Who does not know that high, dry soil produces the best fruit, and on the south side of the tree are the best apples? I do not like the vegetables of the hot-house or "American bottom." They are very much like our city swill-milk as compared with country milk. It is just as important to have good food, air, and clean stalls for vegetation, as for animals. That great mortality should result from the free use of vegetable products, obtained from the forced conditions resorted to around our great cities—to supply early vegetables as well as cheap milk—is not at all surprising to the close investigator. If in this chapter I have omitted any point appearing essential to

his department, I would be glad to answer inquiries through this paper. My next will treat upon the manufacture, etc.

CULTIVATION OF PEANUTS.

Ground.—The value of the crop produced depends, in a great measure, upon the choice of ground upon which they are to be raised. In selecting our ground for this crop, the properties which are to influence us in making a choice, differ widely from those to be taken into consideration in selecting soil for any farm crop. In this case the inquiry is not "Is it rich?" but rather, "What are the colors?"

We may take to market two different lots of peanuts, equally well matured and perfectly cured, and yet for one lot we can get fifteen or twenty cents more per bushel than for the other. And why is this? The difference in the market price in this instance is caused only by the difference of the color of the lots, and the color of each is the effect of the soil in which they were raised. A dark soil colors the outside "shuck" or "shell" of the peanut (or "ground-nut," as it is generally called by the people at the south) and renders it as we have before intimated, of less market value than those of a lighter shade. A light gray colored soil, loose in its nature, but not too sandy, is always chosen when accessible.

The red clays of the south, as well as the heavy blue or dark chocolate clays of the north, are entirely unsuited for the cultivation of this crop. There is probably no soil at the north better adapted for the purpose under consideration than those places called "chestnut knolls" by the farmers of this region.

Preparation.—Having selected our ground, the next step is to prepare it for the crop. It is not customary, for reasons which will hereafter appear, to plant these nuts upon newly turned turf. They usually follow any hoed crop excepting sweet potatoes. The ground must have been kept thoroughly clean from weeds during the preceding season. Ground that is rich enough to raise a fair crop of corn is rich enough for peanuts; but this is not all that is required. With no other fertilizers added, a large crop of what would resemble peanuts might be produced, but, upon examination, they would prove to be all shucks and no "meats," or "pops," as most generally termed. The remedy for this defect is furnished in the application of lime or by planting in land upon which a large quantity of manure has been previously spread.

The application of lime is made in as many different ways as are practiced in the applying of any other fertilizing agent. By some planters it is spread broadcast at the rate of forty or fifty bushels per acre, and plowed under. Others having plowed and perfectly pulverized their ground, make very shallow furrows where the seed is to be planted, and scatter the lime in these furrows, while still other planters meet with very good success by first planting and afterwards spreading lime upon the ridges in which the nuts have been planted. The main object is to apply the fertilized agent where its effect will be received by the crop, for the lime it must have.

This is a crop which requires shallow plowing. Four inches is deep enough. The vines will send their roots down until solid earth is reached, and if the ground has been plowed until eight or ten inches deep, the task of gathering the crop is increased ten-fold. The ridges upon which the nuts are to be planted should be about three and a half or four feet apart, rather flat upon the top and not more than three or four inches high. Plant the nuts about eighteen inches apart, two in a place.

The cultivation of the growing crop does not differ materially from that of other hoed crops. Run through between the rows occasionally with a cultivator, and keep down all weeds and grass. Care should be taken not to haul too much earth upon the hills, also that the vines be not covered with earth. After the vines have spread out so that the cultivator is liable to break or pull them, then the cultivation with a horse must cease and the work be done by hand. All that is required is to keep down weeds and grass.

The planting should be done from the first to the middle of May, or as soon as the ground is warm and the weather will permit. In our latitude it should be as early as possible. We must determine by our own judgment when the frosts are over and the ground sufficiently warm.

Gathering.—The gathering of the crop should take place from the first to the middle of October (though they are sometimes taken from the ground in September), or immediately after the first frost. First to go through with an ordinary potato-hook and loosen up the vines; then return, take hold of the tops and pull them up. If the ground is loose and has not been plowed too deep, nearly all the nuts will cling to the vines. Shake them free from dirt and leave them lying upon the ground.

If the weather is favorable, after a couple of days they should be carried together. Drive stakes into the ground, place rails or chunks as a foundation and stack the vines around the stake much in the same manner as would be pursued with beans. The diameter of the stack should be equal to the spread of a single vine. Place a cap of straw upon the top and leave them to cure twelve or fourteen days.

Next pick off those which have the appearance of being full and sound (experience will soon teach the picker to reject the worthless

ones), and carry them to the barn, where the curing is continued. Run them through a fanning-mill in order to remove such dirt as still clings to the pods, and they are ready for market.

Seed.—There are two varieties, the Virginia and the Carolina or African; the latter being somewhat larger and heavier than the former. Peanuts which are to be used for seed should not be picked from the vines until perfectly dry, nor allowed to become heated nor frozen in the process of drying. About two bushels of good nuts is sufficient to plant an acre.—*C. T. Leonard in Fruit Recorder.*

A FEW CHOICE EVERGREENS.

SAMUEL PARSONS.

The depth of winter would seem hardly a suitable time for selecting evergreens; but the appearance of the lawn owes, at this season, so much to evergreens, and there is so much leisure now to look up the matter, that we feel inclined to briefly call attention to the subject. Of course the solid frame-work of lawn-groupings must be constructed from the cheaper, more rapid growing and massive pines and spruces. These, arranged in belts, the individuals of which fill up the vacant spaces of either row in alternate fashion, will serve to shelter from winds, protect more precious plantations, and early give character and effect to landscape viewed as a whole. All this is, however, generally studied in constructing any well arranged lawn. The evergreens which we wish to notice just now, possess a more marked individuality and lasting nature. They neither lose their beauty in a few years, nor occupy after a time so much space on the lawn as to make them relatively monstrosities. Many such varieties may be selected of decided beauty and value, but it will be found after all that but two or three varieties of each species really possess the desired qualifications. Nor would we embrace every well-known species of evergreen in this selection, for neither the Yew nor the Chinese Arbor Vitae fall quite within our category.

Experience, thus far, decidedly indicates the Conical spruce as entitled to the highest rank among popular evergreens. And it has become popular not from an extreme pre-eminence in beauty, but from the possession of a high average of useful and attractive qualities. Every one, moreover, knows the Norway spruce and values it; the Conical spruce, therefore, independent of its own intrinsic value, obtains a certain favor at once from its being simply a symmetrical Norway spruce of dwarf, permanent habit. The Weeping spruce is quite as valuable a tree as the Conical spruce, and is only less popular because less familiar in its forms, which also, though picturesque and graceful, fail in that charm possessed by perfect symmetry for the popular eye. These forms, however, weeping and hugging the stem in the most irregular masses, must always constitute it one of the best of drooping evergreens.

The Oriental spruce is the very best of all spruces, if people did but know it. Unfortunately while young it resembles the Norway, lacking somewhat of that spruce's early vigor. As age increases, it develops more rapidly, and finally in no great time towers into a solid mass of dark, lustrous foliage possessing a very peculiar beauty and marked character on the lawn. It is, moreover, extremely enduring and hardy.

While the spruce is perhaps the most invariably enduring of evergreens, the Piceas or Silver fir excel all in beauty. For solid grandeur and unflinching attraction the Nordmann's Silver fir is almost without a peer. Very symmetrical, with shining, dark-green foliage, revealing light-blue shades on the under sides of the leaves, it wants but one quality to render it the finest of evergreens, and that is the power of retaining unaided a general shapeliness through life. The central leader will push up with a rapidity that is apt to destroy a proper and well filled base. An occasional pruning of the rampant leader will, however, curb this injurious tendency.

The Weeping Silver fir is not as picturesque in its forms as the Weeping spruce, because it is rounder and more compact, but much surpasses it in perfect curves and shining rich foliage.

The Dwarf Silver fir is the hardiest of a species, the other members of which scarcely equal in hardness those of the spruce family. Its compact form and rich foliage are also most attractive.

The Retinosporas, not only fairly introduced to America, are worthy of very particular attention. Their forms and colors are most varied and their fern-like grace is unsurpassed. Quite hardy and of compact habit, it is strange they are not better known. Chief among them are pilsifera and obtusa. One, termed pulmosa aurea, (said, however, to be simply a form of pilsifera), has great value for its rich golden hue, retained and even deepened throughout the fall and winter.

The queen of all evergreens is the Weeping Hemlock. Its graceful sprays have a permanent beauty that we only see equaled, in a fleeting way, by some stray form of common hemlock. Not less striking, in its way, is the broad-leaved hemlock, the dark, massive foliage of which contrasts finely with the Golden Retinospora.—*Rural New Yorker.*

The model husband has been found in Albany. He don't permit his wife to do more than half the work. She puts up the canned fruit in summer, and he puts it down in winter. Artemus Ward used to ask what species of rose could be most frequently met with in Africa. The answer was, "The negroes."

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

SOMEBODY'S MOTHER.

The woman was old and ragged and gray,
And bent with the chill of the winter's day;
The street was wet with a recent snow,
And the woman's feet were aged and slow.
She stood at the crossing, and waited long,
Alone, uncared for, amid the throng.
Of human beings who passed her by,
Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eye.
Down the street, with laughter and shout,
Glad in the freedom of "school let out,"
Came the boys, like a flock of sheep,
Hailing the snow piled white and deep.
Past the woman's old and gray
Hastened the children on their way,
Nor offered a helping hand to her,
Nor meek, so timid, afraid to stir.
Lest the carriage wheels or, the horses' feet
Should crowd her down in the slippery street.
At last came one of the merry troops—
The gayest laddie of all the group;
He paused beside her, and whispered low,
"I'll help you across, if you wish to go."
Her aged hand on his strong young arm
She placed, and so, without harm or harm,
He guided the trembling feet along,
Proud that his own were firm and strong.
Then back again to his friends he went,
His young heart happy and well content.
"She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,
For all she's aged and poor and slow;
And I hope some fellow will lend a hand
To help my mother, you understand,
If ever she's poor and old and gray,
When her own dear boy is far away."
And "somebody's mother" bowed low her head
In her home that night, and the prayer she said
Was, "God, be kind to the noble boy,
Who is somebody's son and pride and joy!"

DARNING AND THINKING.

Is it not nearly time we were thinking
about house-cleaning? The first of April is
early, usually, but when May comes in March
and even the prairies begin to grow green,
we cannot clean house and make garden by
rule. If we had no stoves, we might begin
almost any time, but nobody wants to put up
the stoves after the carpets are dusted and
turned, and the clean curtains hung, and we
know the danger of banishing the stoves too
soon, so what can we do but wait. Oh, yes!
there are the cupboards, and closets, and
drawers, it expedites the general cleaning
very much if they are all put in order first.
And the cellar, it is never too soon to begin
there.

It seems to us that if every housekeeper
could hear what Henry Ward Beecher says
about cellars, in his lecture on "Wastes and
Burdens of Society," and would read what
Prof. Kedzie says about walls in last week's
FARMER, and use their own common sense
about carpets, a revolution would take place
immediately, in the structure of the homes of
civilized people.

But is it not encouraging, from a sanitary
point of view, that one of the greatest think-
ers and orators of the age shall lift up his
voice throughout the length and breadth of
the land, upon subjects which so practically
and vitally concern our every-day home life?
Beecher says that when the little child is tak-
en sick and the doctor is called in, he looks
about the elegant apartments and at the vel-
vet carpets, and wonders how disease could
come into such a delightful home. Later,
when the mother falls sick too, he says it
is marvelous that in such a healthy location
he is unable to control the malady. And
when at last the father comes down also, the
doctor brings the minister along, and he
shakes his head mournfully and says it is a
"mysterious dispensation of Providence." Mys-
terious providence, indeed! It is rotten onions
in the cellar. In the fall our cellars are filled
with vegetables of all descriptions, and no
sooner are they put there than a slow process
of decay begins; towards spring it is acceler-
ated, the poisonous gases escape and steal up-
ward into our living rooms through every
crevice, and Beecher is right when he says
that as long as we continue to live over these
mines of slow poison, so long will we continue
to fall mysteriously sick.

It seems strange that even people who had
never seen the great preacher, until this west-
ern trip, and who were curious and suspicious
concerning him, should remember so little of
him, and so much of what he said. His master-
ly power of making people think, soon over-
came what there may have been of wonder
and doubt and scorn in the minds of his audi-
ence. The subject in hand became all-import-
ant and absorbing, and every man and wo-
man went from his presence feeling stronger,
with good purpose, good intent, and good will.
We have all heard a great deal about his
strong personality, but it can be best under-
stood by remembering that every listener feels
as if a new element had been injected into his
veins; all take away something. And yet one
who heard him in Topeka, exclaimed: "What
a reserve power he seems to have; one would
think that if his subject called for it he could
explode." And another said: "What tender-
ness and pathos he must express when he
preaches the love of God." During his whole
lecture he weighed every thing against brains,
and every one who hears him must value that
commodity higher.

Of the unwholesomeness of carpets we have
talked, perhaps in season and out of season,
and we will only say now that a carpet wears
twice as long if the breadths are ripped apart
occasionally and moved about. Carpets on
common living-rooms should be taken up

every spring and fall at least, and the oftener
the better. If it is thought best to let them
remain longer on rooms that are seldom used,
they can be best cleaned by sweeping with a
carpet-sweeper. If that cannot be had, open
the windows and doors so as to have a direct
draught, some windy day, and sweep hard
several times. It is astonishing how much dust
will fly out the window. Maiting, with here
and there a soft rug, is the coolest, cleanest
and prettiest carpeting for chambers, in sum-
mer, and is quite as nice for sitting-rooms
that do not have much hard wear.

ANOTHER BUNCH OF LETTERS.

DEAR FARMER: I keep my milk in a
warm room, in winter; fill the pans about
two-thirds full, and put a tablespoonful of
buttermilk in each pan, this will cause it to
sour and be ready to skim in about 36 hours.
If it has to stand longer it is apt to get strong,
and that is a great cause of so much bad but-
ter in winter. I am in the habit of churning
twice a week; I take it out of the churn and
salt it and let it stand about four hours, then
work again. If the color is not just what I
want, I use the "Perfect Butter Color," adver-
tised in the Kansas FARMER; it makes a per-
fect imitation of gilt-edged butter, and can-
not be told from it, if properly managed.

MRS. MARY E. KENNEDY.

RAG CARPETS.

MRS. HUDSON: This is my first visit to
your pleasant domestic department, though I
have been an interested observer of the say-
ings and doings of others. I would like to
say to Miss S. Wilson, that I think it most
decidedly does not pay to make rag carpets,
if one has even a suspicion of lung, throat or
catarrhal trouble, and must do the cutting and
tearing. My own health has always been
excellent in every other respect, but I know I
have done irreparable injury to my lungs by
persisting in making rag carpet, before I felt
able to buy others, and before good ingrain
could be bought as cheaply as now. I think
after every article has been dusted and wash-
ed, the cutting should be done during the
summer months, in the open air, that the
wind may carry off some of the minute parti-
cles of lint, dust, etc. Aside from the health
question, I think it does pay to make good rag
carpets, and by that I mean those that will
stand wear and washing if necessary, and still
look bright and new. To many of us, a wishy-
wasby, faded rag carpet becomes disgusting
before half worn out. Having been obliged
to learn, in thirteen years of busy, married
life, to condense every duty and effort to a
practical point, I resolved that my work
should not be labor lost again. My last one
made five years ago, I still use as a winter
carpet in our large, pleasant sitting-room, as
as we have four children. It is as fresh and
cheerful-looking as ever, and visitors, espe-
cially gentlemen, often say, "What a pretty
carpet, it is not rag carpet, is it?" Many of
my friends go to so much trouble to have
every color of the rainbow in their carpets,
and, in my estimation, just spoil them. Mine
has but three bright colors, the predominant
one a pretty pea-green, and there is a good
deal of that; next red, and two threads of
yellow, which on each side of fancy stripe is
enough to suit most tastes. The green is all
old, white flannel, and shaker flannel colored.
The red flannel from children's wear. The
yellow is white cotton rags colored with cop-
per, set with lye, then washed in two or
three waters of strong soft soap suds, to pre-
vent rotting. This is the only perfectly dur-
able cotton coloring that I have tried. Of
course, these colors are intermingled with
brown, gray, and dark wool rags from men's
and boy's clothes. Mine is also striped in the
warp, half white and half brown, in stripes of
about one and one-half inches. Cotton rags
of all sorts can be used for the "hit or miss
stripe." I trust Miss Wilson will excuse me
if I have exceeded her questions. If this is
considered worthy insertion, I will mention a
friend's experience with her house plants,
which is something I have never seen in print.
I have my opinion of Lonesome Ben, also,
but I do not know that I shall tell it, for
"Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be
wise." Without doubt he will have become
more enlightened before that peach tree is
grown.

STARCH POLISH.

MRS. HUDSON: I have taken a great inter-
est in your department, and have seen some
very good recipes, but I have looked in vain
for one that I would like you or one of your
experienced readers to give me, and that is,
how to make a starch that will iron with a
nice polish. Now, I have been doing up
shirts for my big brothers for some time, but
do not always succeed in pleasing them. For
instance, the other day, after doing my best,
brother came and looked at them, and said,
"That will do very well, Sis, but you did not
get very much of a shine on them, did you?"
I was so vexed that I wished he was with
Lonesome Ben, making his own yeast bread,
and doing up his own shirts. I do not think
my brothers are exceptions to the rule, for
they all find fault, more or less, with their
sisters, especially about their shirts. I am real
glad Lonesome Ben has no sister to depend on
for he would have her making his bread, and
then would tell her it was not like mother made
I like his sentiments on a good wife, but what
about the men? must they not be sociable
and agreeable, and not fault-finding, to make
home agreeable?

WILD ROSE.

THE KANSAS FARMER AND AMERICAN
YOUNG FOLKS Sent postage paid one year for
\$2.00.

NEIGHBORHOOD TATTLEERS.

In one particular, he (or she) is like the
noise which accompanies lumber wagons, a
thing utterly useless, but equally impossible
to suppress. They are of spontaneous produc-
tions, coming up like volunteer hills of corn
or potatoes, in the spring, in some choice lo-
cation, where they grow very thriftily, only
to find by and by that they are in somebody's
way. Like the volunteer potato or grain of
corn, they never lose the opportunity of get-
ting an early start. They are up and out by
times with their lightning calculators. Their
success is generally proportioned to their abili-
ty to get out reports of all the transactions
in the community, considerably in advance of
the transactions themselves. When their
battery is well charged, they are prepared to
annihilate time and distance. The neighbor-
hood tattleer belongs to a regular organization;
notwithstanding this fact, he is self-appointed;
he is never required to present his credentials;
he works for nothing and boards himself.

Sometimes they represent the wealth of the
community, and sometimes they are poor.
Like buzzards, they sail high, probably to re-
pel the suspicion that they would feast on
carion. The neighborhood tattleer wants and
expects all mankind to know and believe that
he is wise.

J. A. B.

MRS. HUDSON:—I too am a woman's rights
woman, I believe no one has the right to dic-
tate to us, "Thus far shalt thou come but no
farther." That we should have the right of
franchise is unquestionable, but whether it
would be expedient to use the right is an
open question.

I would hesitate a while before I would go
to the polls side by side with an element that
is brought out on election day.

I do not think politics very attractive, in-
deed so dishonorable have been some things
in its connection, we should be glad we are
not responsible. It is said woman should not
lower her standard but should raise politics
to her level. I admit she might have a bene-
ficial influence; but if we pour clear water
into a muddy pool it all becomes muddy,
though it has a purifying tendency. Come,
let us reason together and see if there is not
a way to secure equity without entering the
political whirlpool. If not, then of the "two
evils let's choose the less."

I was much interested in Aunt Mary's let-
ter, am always glad when a spirited woman
comes to the front; but do you not think if to
woman was granted the right of suffrage,
those who are the best fitted to reflect honor
on the sex in public service, are the ones who
would shrink from publicity?

If it were only true as the poetical story in
the last FARMER would teach, that the wife
always rules at home, then we might easily
right our wrongs.

M. M. T.

MRS. HUDSON: People seem to come to you
with their troubles, and you have a good,
common-sense way of advising them; even
Ben the Lonesome, has received fifty dollars'
worth of yeast recipes.

They say there is a skeleton in every house;
now I discovered some, time since that there
were three skeletons in our house, a sort of
trinity of skeletons. They do not reside here
permanently, as yet they are only "personal
property," and I hope, by your help, to make
"real estate" of them.

Whenever a dark cloud comes up from the
southwest, my wife assures me there is going
to be a tornado. "It is certainly coming now,
what shall we do?" I tell her that tornadoes
are of rare occurrence elsewhere than about
St. Louis and Leavenworth. Mr. Tice offered
one to our locality, last summer, but we
preferred to take a car-load of almanacs in-
stead. We can't decide where to go when
the tornado comes. The children want to go
to the cellar, so as to be near the sweet pickles
in case the house with the cupboard in is car-
ried off. My wife insists on my building a
"dug-out" in the garden, but I am ashamed
to do it; my neighbors will laugh at me. I
fear we shall have to compromise on the cis-
tern, even if it drowns us all.

Then we are always going to be struck by
lightning. If a storm comes up at night, my
wife always gets up and lights the lamp; I
don't know what for unless it is to see the
lightning strike us, just what I don't want
to see. I tell her only one person in 4,000,000
is struck in a month, but that don't make any
difference. The beds are pulled out from the
walls, and the children are put on pillows as
far as the pillows extend. Now did you ever
hear of a good Christian being struck by light-
ning? I never did, and I tell Mrs. H. so (she
is a Christian if ever there was one). She re-
fers me to that bright and shining man who
went up in a chariot of fire. "Wasn't he
struck by lightning?"

We take a paper which frequently has ac-
counts of burglaries; if I see these items, I
forget to bring the paper home. My sleep is
as sweet to me as that of a richer man. The
skeleton comes in this way: At midnight I am
dreaming of the hour when all my bills shall
be paid.

"Captain, Captain!" says Mrs. H., in her
quiet, persistent manner.

"What is it?" I ask.

"Did you hear that noise? There is some-
body in the house."

The sweet dream fades, and the skeleton in
armor treads upon the rag carpet in the kit-
chen—no I believe it is the dining-room. I
have no faith in burglars, so without more
ado, go to the land of Nod.

"Captain! there is some one in the house."

"Why of course there is, I am in the house
and so are you."

"Do get up and see what it is."
What surprises me is, that Mrs. H. is will-
ing to have me killed so unceremoniously.
However the peace of the family require the
sacrifice, and the usual investigation follows.

Now, when I was in the army for a year or
two, I felt not much fear of personal harm, as
statistics showed that only one bullet in 728
killed anybody. Can there not be some calcu-
lations made, some statistics given, showing
how few of the great number whose vivid
imagination renders life often quite miserable,
are ever really in danger? Is there no way
of driving these grim, ungainly skeletons
from our houses?

W. A. H.

RECIPES.

TURNIP PICKLES.—Wash several turnips
clean, then boil till quite tender; then peel
and slice them and pour over them hot vine-
gar. Add spices if you wish them.

RYE ROLLS.—One pint of sour milk, three
eggs beaten light, a scant teaspoonful of sal-
eratus, a little salt, and meal enough to make
a stiff batter. Bake in a quick oven, in a roll
pan previously heated.

JELLY ROLL.—Take three eggs well beaten
one tablespoonful of water, one teaspoonful of
baking powder, one cup of sugar, mix with
flour, but not very thick, as this causes
it to break in rolling. Spread paper in
your dripping pan, and bake quickly, after
which spread with tart jelly and roll up.

DRIED PEACH BROWN BETTY.—A layer of
peach sauce in the bottom of the pudding
dish, a layer of bread crumbs about an inch
thick, sprinkled with sugar; another of stew-
ed peaches, and a second layer of bread
crumbs and sugar, with enough thin, sweet
cream poured over the top to wet the upper
layer of crumbs. Bake from half an hour to
an hour, according to the heat of the oven.
This to be eaten with good milk, but sweeten-
ed cream will not spoil it.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

50 PIECES FINE JEWELRY FOR \$1.
Descriptive circular free. Agents wanted.
Address: F. HANBORG & CO., OMAHA, NEB.

AGENTS wanted to sell our Watches,
Jewelry, etc. Sample Watch
free. Outfit Free. G. M. HANSON & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

\$5 to \$20 per day at home. Samples worth \$5 free
Address: ESTLIN & CO., Portland, Maine

\$66 week in your own town. Terms and \$5 outfit
free. Address: H. HALLITT & CO., Portland, Maine

\$52-\$77 a week to Agents. \$10 Outfit Free.
P. O. VICKER & Y. AUGUSTA, MAINE.

\$2500 a year. Agents wanted everywhere. Busi-
ness strictly legitimate. Particulars free
Address: J. WORTH & CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

\$1200 a year. Salaries wanted to sell our
Watches, Jewelry, etc. Sample Watch
free. Outfit Free. G. M. HANSON & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

A WHITCOMB, Lawrence, Kansas, Florist Cata-
logue of Greenhouse, and bedding plants, free.

CCC 40 Elegant cards, Hash, Oriental, Dagma, &c.
16 cts. Imperial Card Co. Fair Haven, Ct.

SCARCE GOODS, Books, Photos, &c. Sample &
Catalogue, free. Paris Book Co., Chicago, Ill.

\$125 a month and expenses
to Agents. Send stamp for terms.
S. C. FOSTER & CO., CINCINNATI, O.

\$3300 a year. How to Make It
Sample Book for Agents. Address:
C. H. YONGE, St. Louis, Mo.

\$45 a year. Premium Watch and Chain—a
diamond watch, free with every order. Out-
fit free. J. B. Gaylord & Co., Chicago, Ill.

50 NICE CARDS, Plain, Rep. Silk, Block, &c., with
name 13c. F. W. AUSTIN & CO., North Haven, Ct.

SHEEP LABEL
Centennial Medal awarded. Sizes suit-
able for marking Cattle, Sheep and Swine.
Samples free. Agents wanted. Address:
C. H. DANA, West Lebanon, N. H.

50 LARGE MIXED CARDS with name, 13c. 40
in case 13c. 20 styles Acquaintance Cards 10c.
Agents outfit 10c. DOWD & CO., Bristol, Conn.

25 Fashionable Cards, no 2 alike, with name 10c.
post-paid. GEO. I. HEDD & CO., Nassau, N. Y.

OPIUM
Any worker can make \$12 a day at home. Costly
Outfit free. Address: TAYLOR & CO. Augusta, Maine

\$3 GOLD PLATED WATCHES, Cheapest
in the known world. Sample Watch
free. Agents. Address: A. COULTER & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

25 Extra Mixed Cards, Snowflake, Oriental, &c.
with name, 10 cts. J. B. Husted, Nassau, N. Y.

NASBY. A novel by this celebrated
humorist, and eight other
humorous stories, all for 25 cents. Would cost \$5.00
in book form. Address: BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

50 Best Cards, no 2 alike, printed in crimson or
jet, 13c. CLINTON BROS., Clintonville, Conn.

Eggs for Hatching.
From choice Light Brahmas, \$1.25 per 13. J. F. ROE
Vinland, Kansas.

Farm Seed For Sale.
Seed Oats, Hungarian and Millet Seed for sale by
W. EDSON, Topeka, Kansas.

SWEET POTATOES
For Seed Sweet Potatoes and Plants in their season
call on or address J. V. CARTER, Emporia, Kansas.

MONEY TO LOAN.
WASHBURN Money to loan on long time, reason-
able interest. No commission. Ad-
dress: C. W. JEWELL, Topeka, Kas

The Western Queen Bee Hive
This hive is acknowledged by
competent judges to be the best,
cheapest, and most convenient
State and county rights low for
cash or good trade. Price for
move and farm right, \$7.00.
Hive, bees, and right for \$12.00.
For particulars, address
H. STACCS, Patentee
Topeka, Kansas.

Amsden Peach Trees.
Five 6 foot trees, delivered at any R. R. Station in
Kansas or Missouri, at \$15 per 100. (3 must be paid
before shipment.) This kind of early peaches sold at
\$5 to \$7 per bushel in Topeka, last season. 20 other
sorts of peach trees. JOHN WAMPLER, Carthage,
Missouri.

Kansas Seed House

F. BARTEDES & CO.,

143 and 144 Mass St., Lawrence, Kansas. Wholesale
and Retail Dealers in Field, Grass, and Garden Seeds.
Roots and Plants a specialty. Catalogue and price
lists mailed free on application. Correspondence so-
lited. Orders from abroad carefully filled by mail,
express or freight.

Our Garden Seeds are from the celebrated House of
David Landreth & Sons, and sold at Philadelphia
prices.

NURSERY CROWN
ORNAMENTAL and FOREST TREE
SEEDLINGS.

The largest stock in the United States of small sizes or
Scotch, Austrian and Mountain Pine
American White Ash,
European Larch,
Norway Spruce,
Hardy Defensive Hedge Plants, etc.,
suitable for Line Fences, Nursery Row, Forest Planta-
tions, Wind Breaks, Screens and Shelter Belts for the pro-
tection of buildings, orchards, live-stock, hot beds and
growing plants.
Send for 40 page Illustrated Catalogue, containing valu-
able information for tree planters, orchard growers, nur-
serymen, real estate owners and farmers.
H. M. THOMPSON & SON,
St. Francis, Milwaukee Co., Wis.

SUFFERERS

from Pulmonary Diseases, (Consumption) Dyspepsia,
general Debility, Hypochondriasis, and Diseases of
the Urinary System, (Diabetes mellitus, Bright's dis-
ease) ought not to fail to apply for a circular to Dr.
Korwitzer, North Topeka, Kansas.

SURPRISE MELON

Our new Melon is the most Delicious
ever introduced. For pkg. 25c.
TOM THUMB SWEET CORN
Earliest known. Per pkg. 25c. Both
by mail, 25c. Send for our catalogue,
96 pages and 400 illustrations, which
fully describes them. Mailed free.
PRICE & KNICKERBOCKER
30 State St., Albany, N. Y.

Apple Trees.

Grape Vines, Hedge Plants, and a general line of Nur-
sery stock for sale at wholesale and retail. Stock,
first class. Price list free, correspondence solicited.
Address: ELSLEY & CO., Vineland Nursery, St.
Joseph, Mo.

Osage Hedge Plants.

1,500,000 Osage Hedge Plants for sale at Wholesale
and Retail, also an assortment of other nursery
stock cheap, apply for price list. H. B. TRENT, Prop.
Woodland Park Nursery, Atchison, Kansas.

Red Cedar Seedlings!

A few inches high, \$4.00 per 1000
6 to 9 " " \$6.00 per 1000
9 to 12 " " \$7.00 per 1000
Address: BAILEY & HANFORD, Makanda, Jack-
son Co., Ills.

MONEY

To Loan on Mortgage

from 1 to 5 years, at fair rates. Send for application
blank and terms. Some good cheap farms for sale.
Bonds Wanted Interest paid on time deposits.
Address: JOHN D. KNOX & CO., Bankers,
Topeka, Kansas.

All diseases of
the Eye and Ear
scientifically
cured. Cross eyes
easily straightened,
and all other
operations on the
Eye and Ear skillfully
executed.

Also Chronic and Surgical diseases,
TOPEKA MEDICAL & SURGICAL INSTITUTE,
AND EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY. For further
information or consultation, call on or address
DR. ELLISON & MURRAY,
Physicians and Surgeons in Charge,
Topeka, Kansas.

SET OUT GRAPE VINES.

For 1.50 I will forward by mail prepaid:
1 Elvira, retail price \$1.00,
1 Taylor, " " " " " "
1 Goethe, " " " " " "
1 Wilder, " " " " " "
6 Concord, " " " " " " equal to
one year old Concord Grape Vines at \$18.00
per thousand; two year old at \$30.00 per thousand, de-
liver at Express office. One year old Concord vines
by mail, prepaid, \$1.00 per doz. Two year \$1.50 per
doz. Pure Concord Wines; put up express for Medical
and Sacramental purposes, securely packed and de-
livered at express office, \$6.00 per doz. quart bottles,
Address: J. G. WALNUT,
Clover Farm Vineyard, Butler, Bates Co., Mo.

Mulberry Trees.

Morus Alba, Morus Rosae, Moretti, Mulberry, Lhon
or Japanese Mulberry Trees. The above varieties are
the best for silkworm food, for forest, ornamental and
fruit trees. They are untouched by insects and bor-
ers and grow in all kinds of soil. Send for Circular.
Eggs of Silkworms \$1.00 per doz. Sample sent for
50 cts. A Treatise on Silk Culture for 50 cents.

Address: L. S. CROZIER,
Franklin County, Kansas. Williamsburg.

PIMPLES.

I will mail (Free) the recipe for a simple Vegetable
Balm that will remove Tan, Freckles, Pimples and
Blotches, leaving the skin soft, clear and beautiful;
also instructions for producing a luxurious growth of
hair on a bald head or smooth face. Address, inclos-
ing 3c. stamp, BENJAMIN & CO., 20 Ann St.,
N. Y.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

The advertiser, having been permanently cured of
that dread disease, Consumption, by a simple reme-
dy, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers
the means of cure. To all who desire it, he will send
a copy of the prescription used, (free of charge) with
the directions for preparing and using the same,
which they will find a sure cure for Consumption,
Asthma, Bronchitis, &c. Parties wishing the pre-
scription, will please send to E. A. WILSON, 194
Penn St., Williamsburgh, N. Y.

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By reading and practicing
the instructions in this con-
tained in the best medical
book ever issued, entitled
SELF-PRESERVATION
Price only \$1. Sent by mail
on receipt of price. It
treats of Exhausted Vitality, Premature Decline,
Nervous and Physical Debility, and the endless
concomitant ills and untold miseries that result
therefrom, many one of which is worth the price of
the book. This book was written by the most ex-
perienced and probably the most skillful practitioner
called medical by the National Medical Association.
A Pamphlet, illustrated with the very finest
Steel Engravings—a mar-
vel of art and beauty—
sent free to all. Send
for it at once. Address
PEARBODY MEDICAL
INSTITUTE, No. 4 Bul-
finch St., Boston, Mass.

HEAL
THYSELF

THE STRAY LIST.

Strays For Week Ending April 3, 1878.

Brown County—Henry Isely, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by A. E. Twidwell, Hamilton Tp. (Morrill P. O.) Nov. 23, 1877, one white steer 2 yrs old, red ears, valued at \$10.

CHAS. COUNTY—S. A. Brees, Clerk.

MARE PONY—Taken up by J. W. Byram, Cottonwood Tp. Jan. 1, 1878, one sorrel mare pony, white strip in face, both hind feet white, flax mane and tail, 3 yrs old. Valued at \$15.

Also, one mare colt, dun, black stripes on back, one yr old. Valued at \$12.

CLOUD COUNTY—E. E. Swearingin, Clerk.

Taken up by B. C. Sanders, Sibley, Tp. March 13, 1878, 15 hogs described as follows:

One black sow, no marks nor brands, 18 months old. Appraised at \$5.

One black sow, no marks nor brands, 18 months old. Appraised at \$5.

One black sow, ear crop, 18 months old. Appraised at \$5.

One black sow, no marks, 18 months old. Appraised at \$5.

One black and white barrow shoot, 6 months old. Appraised at \$1.

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Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned Administrator of the estate of Theron Tucker deceased will make final settlement of said estate at the April term of the Probate Court of Shawnee County Kansas, on the 8th day of April A. D. 1878. J. WILLETS.

DR. ROOT'S

Hand Book of Finance.

This work which contains 236 pages, was published to sell at 75 cents. It is a radical view of the Greenback side of the money question. Sent postage paid to any address for 10 cents. Address KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

BURKHARDT & OSWALD,

Manufacturers of HARNESS, SADDLES, COLLARS,

BURKHARDT & OSWALD, 164 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

BRIDLES, HALTERS, WHIPS, etc. This establishment is one of the oldest in the State. Good work for reasonable prices. Prices sent by mail to persons living at a distance.

Money for Farmers.

You can always obtain the full worth in CASH for your Hides, Furs, Wool, Felts and Tallow at the

TOPEKA LEATHER STORE,

135 KANSAS AVENUE.

We can also supply the best of Harness, Leather, Sole and Upper Leather, in any quantity, together with all kinds of Shoe Findings at the lowest market price.

HARTSOCK & GOSSETT.

Edwards County—R. L. Ford, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by A. L. Kendall, Kinsley Tp. March 3, 1878, one white cow with cropped ears. Valued at \$20.

Jefferson County—J. N. Isely, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by John H. Davis, Okemore Tp. one deep red steer, one yr old, white face and hind feet, small red spot on nose, some red between the horns, red around the eyes, tail partly white, left ear, crop off right ear, no other marks nor brands. Valued at \$14.

Also, one bay horse colt 2 yrs old, 12½ hands high, star and lump in forehead, no other marks nor brands. Valued at \$20.

STEER—Taken up by R. S. Lang, Burlington Tp. one red roan, yearling steer, no marks nor brands. Valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by J. W. Allen, California Tp. one white, yearling steer, branded H on right hip. Valued at \$15.

STEER—Taken up by Frank Drum, Pottawatomie Tp. one 3-yr-old spotted steer, crop off left ear. Valued at \$18.

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Edwards County—R. L. Ford, Clerk.

DR. PIERCE'S

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Concord Grapes

Also Hartford, Ives and others.

Apple Grafts,

A No. 1. Hedge Plants, No. 1, and No. 2, 1 and 2 yr.

Apple Trees, 2 and 3 yr. Evergreens, all sizes and kinds, small fruits including Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, and Strawberries.

The above at unusually low rates. Will pay 10 cents to get our prices before buying.

Also usual assortment of Pear, Plum, (Wild Goose and Minor), Cherry, Peach, Ornamental, &c. &c.

Address CLOSSON BROS.

Prairie Nursery, Prairie City, Ill.

Evergreens 3 to 6 feet high for Parks, Cemeteries, Lawns, Door Yards, etc.

Shelter Belts, or Windbreaks, at lower rates than ever.

Larch, and other forest trees, Seedlings, all Nursery grown, at very low rates, in large or small quantities.

Send for catalogue and write to us for very low rates by the car load.

Evergreens and American White Birch, European Larch, Scotch, Austrian and White Pine, Norway and White Spruce of small sizes for Nursery and Forest Plantings of which we have by far the largest stock in America, and they are very fine.

Address, ROBERT DOUGLAS & SONS, Waukegan, Ill.

Trees, Trees, Trees.

I have for the spring trade a large and varied assortment of Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Bulbs, Grape Vines, etc., of nearly all the varieties that succeed well in our climate.

Look at the prices of some of my surplus light stock suitable for shipping. Cash must accompany all orders and stock must be taken as specified.

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Apples, our selection of varieties, 2 years, or selected, 1 year old.

From 2½ to 4 feet. \$5.00, \$40.00

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Cherries Early Richmond, 2½ to 4 feet (Budded). 10.00

Early Richmond on their own roots 1 to 4 feet. 10.00

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Concord Grapes 1 year. 3.00, 90.00

SIDES DAT.

BY QUINCY TAYLOR.

Mah's Jedge o' de cote, an' de jury,
I have a few words to say
Afore you convince me 'slealin'
For which I'm charged to-day.
De lawyer, dey spluttered an' hummed
'Bout intrinsec, feathers an' tracks,
An' 'twi' you v' everything nearly,
But wuel, n' g'it down to de fac's.

De ebberdunce say that de plater—
Which 'ears is de brack nigger Ben—
Had stolen from out his peach tree
A valuable cominick hen.
Nex' mornin' a hen was diavivered—
All true—an' also it was dead.
A cominick hen, please yer honor,
Discovered dar under my bed.

An' here is de Ghieri Refuter
(Dey say he ain't nuffin but Dutch)
Says I stole de hen 'slealin'—
At 'lunge to de Meofide Ch'ch!
While de plater—Well, he's been a mo' aer
A nunnud revivul or tw' kages,
An' a nunnud, sah, mo' will be needed
For him an' his likes to pull 'tough.

Now, de cote-ous, an' also de jury,
De troof an' de fac's o' de case
Is just as I'm gwinter relate um,
In a mighty short period uv space.
You see dat de hen 'longed to me, sah,
I owned her in good title-dead—
De same on' in contrivance,
An' which all de witnesses seed.

De hen, she war berry domestic,
An' so when we'd et all'n her aidge,
She settled down under de bedstead,
Among all de boxes an' kages,
An' 'twi' de cote-ous an' 'slealin',
Flat down on de empty, hard flo',
On nuffin but two sweet potatoes—
A-settin' furebber mo'.

Well, de night' at de stealin' war done on,
I heard a moos' curious soon'
Says I to my wife—which is Lacy—
'Ole 'oman, 'sah, I'll be boun'
De rat is killing dat chicken.'
Nex' mornin', she 'nough she war dead.
So dat's all I knows 'bout de hen, sah,
Discovered beneath o' my bed.

An' now, sah, de cote-ous an' 'slealin',
I hopes you all fully parsee,
I've explained de whole matter so cl'arly,
You 'boun' fur to lemme go free.
'Sides dat, when do awtice comed dar,
An' looked fur an' 'bout de ole hen,
I'd 'lunned myself fur to take her
An' carry her back to de Be!

A hornet is not so innocent as a katterpillar,
but I venerate them more. There is one end
of them that no man kan with impunity
phool with.

A hawk swooped down upon a weather vane
on a church spire, and was disgusted to find it
only an imitation rooster. That bird now
agrees with the preacher of the church—that
all is vane-ty.

About three-fifths of the jury trials in this
country include at least one man on the jury
who ought to have been born a mule.

"What is the age of your little boy?" in-
quired a venerable gentleman of the mother
of an impertinent youngster. "The sauce
age, of course," replied the mother. The
sage saw it.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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



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LIVER DISEASE and in-
digestion prevail to a great
extent than probably any
other malady, and relief is
always anxiously sought
after. If the Liver is Reg-
ulated in its action health is almost invariably secured.
Indigestion or want of action in the Liver causes Head-
ache, Constipation, Jaundice, Pain in the Shoulders,
Cough, Dizziness, Sour Stomach, bad taste in the
mouth, bilious attacks, palpitation of the heart, de-
pression of spirits or the blues, and a hundred other
symptoms. Simmons' Liver Regulator is the best
remedy that has ever been discovered for these ail-
ments. It acts mildly, effectually, and being a sim-
ple vegetable compound, can do no injury in any quan-
tities that it may be taken. It is harmless in every
way; it has been used for forty years, and hundreds
from all parts of the country will vouch for its virtues,
viz: Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia; Bishop
Pierce of Georgia; John Gill Shorter, of Alabama; Gen.
John B. Gordon, of S. C.;
Mott of Columbia, Ga. are
among the hundreds to
whom we can refer. Extract of a letter from Hon. Alex-
ander H. Stephens, dated March 8, 1872: "I occa-
sionally use when my condition requires it. Dr. Sim-
mons' Liver Regulator, with good effect. It is mild,
and suits me more better than active medicine."

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It is not the quantity eat-
en that gives strength, life,
blood, and health. It is the
thorough digestion of the
food taken let it be much
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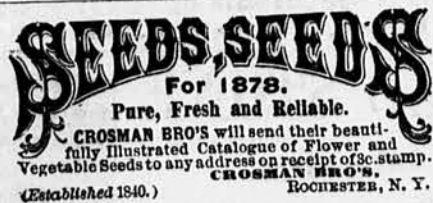
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MANUFACTURED AT DAYTON, OHIO, AND THE FAMOUS Union Corn Planter, EQUALLED
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Which we claim to be the best CORN PLANTER in the market.We handle the only 2 Lever Plows made where both
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IT GIVES ENTIRE SATISFACTION.

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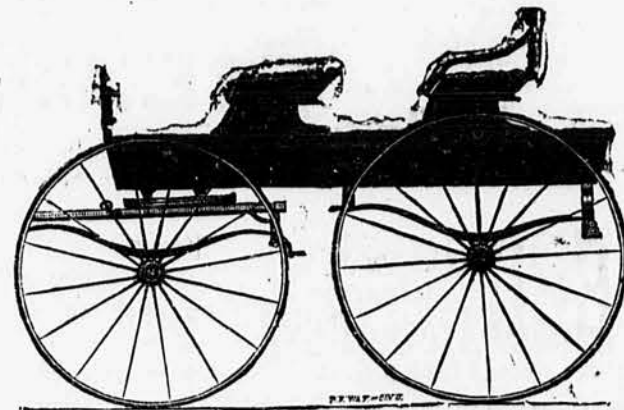
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