

A piece of lard as big as a butternut, bed up with sugar, divided into three and given at intervals of twenty minutes cure the croup.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* tells how some of the farmers of Ashland county, Ohio, managed to promote a more healthy social intercourse among the younger portion of the community, which produced most gratifying results:

"The question how farmers can keep their sons and daughters contented on the farm, is one that has had a share of public attention of late, and is one of no little importance to farmers themselves. About a year ago the farmers and their wives, sons and daughters of this neighborhood, organized what we called a 'reading club,' or simply banded themselves together for social and literary culture, and we found it quite a success. The meetings were held weekly while the evenings were long, meeting always with the members at their private residences. During the summer months an occasional picnic in some nicely shaded garden took their place, and on the whole I think there has never been a plan hit upon among us that seemed to have the good effect shown by this one. The young people were delighted, and entered into the matter with a zeal we had not even anticipated. The social effect was admirable, almost wholly banishing the petty gossiping usual in every neighborhood, and creating a most friendly feeling among all classes that participated. The club is to be reorganized the coming winter. I have given this brief outline thinking that some other locality might wish to try its merits."

In the State University, Purdue University, and the State Normal School, we are annually expending nearly one hundred thousand dollars of the public funds to do what? Well, the first has a law department and a medical department in it; Purdue is bent in the direction of the university but also, and the Normal School is educating teachers. One hundred thousand dollars annually for the learned professions and the classic times, but not a dollar for the mechanic arts and agricultural knowledge other than in the most smattering and superficial sense. The great industries lie at the very foundation of all prosperity and greatness. Millions of the public funds of the country are spent to aid the few to qualify themselves in the professions, but the thousands upon whom the country must depend for greatness and prosperity, are utterly ignored in any practical educational method that is worth the name. Two or three percent of our people are assisted on the road to usefulness in life, while the other ninety-eight percent are left to grope their way along as best they can, and as a result the throng of tramps is constantly being recruited, and in turn the public work-house, prison and pauper asylums are filling up with the aimlessly educated.—*Indiana Farmer.*

The late fair brought prominently before the public the superiority of California raisins, and demonstrates the fact that California steps to the front and challenges competition in the manufacture of raisins. It must also be remembered that the settlement which produced the premium raisins—Riverside—is yet in its infancy, being only some eight years of age, and that this is only the second year that raisins have been manufactured to any extent in that locality.—*S. Cal. Horticulturist.*

Among the social institutions of moral life, farmers' clubs hold a prominent position, and as the evenings are now getting to be of such length as to warrant the establishment of this institution, a few suggestions as to its benefits and the mode of organization may be timely. In the first place, the benefits are two-fold—social and instructive. One of the great defects in the life of most farmers is the want of more society. It is this which is depopulating our hill-towns and by-places. The young folks desert the farms and resort to cities and villages in order to satisfy their craving for a more social life. In the early settlement of these towns large families were fashionable, and almost every family was a little republic in itself. Tea drinking, quilting frolics, husking-bess, apple-parings, "raisings," and various assemblies of this sort were also fashionable and satisfied the desire for society. Hospitality was the order of the day, and neighbors and strangers—tramps were then unknown—were entertained freely. Fashion is a fickle thing and these old customs are now pretty much obsolete, but man is, has been, and always will be a social being, and some provision must be made in the country or the want of his nature, or he will desert the farm for the village. The club is the modern institution which in a measure fills up the void occasioned by the changes in the social customs of the times. Ministers have their monthly meetings—in some neighborhoods they meet every Monday—merchants meet on "change" every day, lawyers and physicians have their regular social organizations, and why should not farmers gratify their desire for social life by organizing clubs?—*Mass. Ploughman.*

If the character of our county fairs ever is redeemed, it will have to be through the Grange. Originated for the promotion of agricultural pursuits, they have become promoters of evil, and are being very justly repudiated by all the best portion of the agricultural classes. They are, in many cases, conducted entirely by men having no interest whatever in agriculture—or in anything else, except filling their own pockets. It is to be hoped that the Grange may revolutionize this matter, and make the county fairs what they were intended to be, and remove from the farming community the disgrace of having what should be their fair simply a school of infamy.—*R. T. in Farmers' Monthly.*

Poultry.

PRODUCTION OF EGGS.

In "Poultry Notes" in *Country Gentleman* "C. B." under the above caption gives a great deal of valuable information on the subject of fowls, which would well repay a careful study. If the information is reduced to practice, Kansas is a good state for fowls, as it is for the raising of all kinds of stock. There is always a good demand for fine poultry and poultry produce in the large cities, and the facilities for sending any number to market is at hand. A portion of the stock of every Kansas farm should be fowls. There is as much clear profit in them on the capital invested, and attention bestowed, as in any other branch of the farm business. But the requisite knowledge in this, as every thing else, is necessary to profit; and the information once gained must be systematically and persistently followed up by practice. In point of fact this is the great secret of every "lucky man's" success, let him engage in whatever business he may.

There is a vast difference in hens as well as breeds, a variation which arises not from breed, and which may not be obviated by feed. It lies in the constitution. Strength and health constitute the fundamental laws whereon are based longevity and utility, and to secure these two requisites all the working organs must be in good order and in union. With some birds high feeding stimulates and produces fat rather than egg-production, which is not desirable when eggs are required. In the keeping of hens for eggs alone, such birds should be taken to the shambles, for when fed up to the desired point, they fail to lay eggs and it is useless to keep them, although they may be promising pullets, with beauty or size to recommend them. It is a mistake to breed from such fowls, unless show birds are desired. These (which I shall call barren hens, for they are oftentimes entirely so) are without exception very handsome, when full feathered and fattened. Their barrenness results from the weakness of some one or two of the organs, and constitutionally the fowl is not in full health or strength. Many think that exercise will remedy this defect, but although exercise be a good thing, it will make no difference with birds of this class.

Egg production causes the hen to be brisk and lively, for she is in full health and all the organs are performing their normal functions, that nature intended from the beginning. Feed has everything to do with the production of eggs. There is no telling how many eggs a hen may or may not produce in a year. A hen is not to be rejected for an egg producer merely from the fact that she belongs to a sitting variety. Many sitters are oftentimes quite as good egg producers in the long run as the non-sitters. The period of incubation is a rest intended by nature for the bird to gather strength and recuperate from the previous drain of rapid growth and production of eggs, thus dividing the clutches, which after a few weeks' nursing of the chicks, with good feeding, again come to perfection, and thus the hen is enabled to fulfill the end of her existence to the satisfaction of her owner. I think it better to allow the hens to sit and rear a brood of chicks annually where they belong to the regular established sitting class. We must not be too severe in violating the laws of nature. Any breed of sitters can be weaned from this inclination by judicious observation and breeding, selecting those which manifest the least desire to brooding, and rearing from them alone, and plying with good feed.

Pullets frequently commence laying when four and six months old, and oftentimes turn out to be good and lasting egg producers; but the great layers are principally those that do not begin until eight or nine months, or a year old. The bird should attain its full size and strength before commencing to lay, and to accomplish this object early chicks must be obtained and upon them must be expended feed, shelter and protection from wet and inclemencies of weather. Fine birds must not be expected for a song, and the expenditures must be doubled and doubled again according to the numbers of the flock or flocks. A hen that produces an egg every other day is to be preferred, especially for breeding purposes, before the one which produces one consecutively for three or even four days. While laying, the strength of the bird must be kept up. Frequently a bird of the non-sitting varieties will manifest a ferocious desire to sit, and no amount of punishment will break her up. She will be more persistent than even the worst specimen of the Brahma ever thinks of. This fowl is out of order and will lay no more. Send her to the pot.

Apiary.

PURE HONEY.

At the present time, in large cities particularly, there is more demand for comb honey in small frames and boxes than for extracted. This result is due, in a great measure, to the frauds that were practiced in former years by manufacturers of what was called "strained" honey.

Extracted honey is the purest possible, and physicians have often denounced the idea of eating honey and comb also; and when the useless and injurious effects of eating comb are generally understood, we should shrink from eating it as we would from eating glass.

Extracted honey may be eaten with impunity. Our Jewish friends use honey in

many of their religious rites. And when we consider that pure honey is the very essence of flowers and plants, in which we are told there is a remedy for every disease, surely we cannot doubt the happy combination of honey and medicine. The Scripture tells us in many passages, of the wonderful efficacy of honey as food and medicine. And I believe, as the treatment of disease becomes more and more rational, so will the value of honey as a medicine become more and more apparent. Honey has usually been looked on as a luxury. The price has been considered high; the consequence is that fashionable golden syrups have been filling the place that honey ought to occupy, and which honey is now fast superseding as the injurious effects of these syrups becomes more generally known. We have often wondered what discolored our teeth after eating certain syrups and drinking tea. Can we doubt but that it was the chemical action of the acids used in the manufacture of these syrups? How often has it been proved by analysis that these syrups are adulterated with injurious chemicals. In order to give them that bright color so inviting to look at—while pure extracted honey is as free from all impurity as the dewdrops of the morning, and I believe the time is not far distant when the use of honey in every home will become as common as "household words."—*Extract from an essay read before the Blue Grass Beekeepers' Association by Wm. Williamson.*

By the ruling of the Postmaster General, bees are decided not to be mailable matter.

A swarm of bees at Cold Spring, Conn., lived in a chimney flue, which they stopped up with comb five and a half feet wide. Sixty-seven pounds of honey were there stored away.—*Bee Journal.*

No farmer need expect to be successful with bees unless he is willing to give time to them. They will suffer from neglect quite as much as growing, ripening crops. He cannot reasonably expect honey unless there are flowers in the vicinity from which it can be collected. If there are no flowering trees and plants growing naturally, they must be cultivated. Knowledge of cultivating corn, digging potatoes, curing tobacco, breeding sheep and fattening hogs will not avail a farmer in managing an apiary. The art of bee keeping is unlike any other required on the farm. A manual of bee keeping should first be faithfully studied and the reports of conventions carefully read. After this preliminary information has been gained he may begin to experiment. He must expect, however, to spend some time in learning his new trade. Several years' experience is required to produce a successful apiary.

Farm Stock.

CLEANLINESS OF STABLES.

We frequently come across remonstrances against keeping harness in stables, the reason given being that the ammonia prevalent there rots the leather and soon destroys the harness. Now this is beginning at the wrong end to remedy an evil. We may talk and advise "year in and year out," about this matter, but harness will be kept in the stable in spite of all. Where else can the majority of people who keep horses hang these trappings? A rich man may have a closet in which the harness may hang safely from fear of ammonia and all other dangers; but the average horse-owner will have his peg behind the beam, because he can have no other way of disposing of the harness. But the trouble would end if the production of ammonia was prevented. Enter an ordinary stable at any period, but especially in the winter, when every cranny through which the wind can come in is carefully stopped, and what an offensive odor offends the nostrils and irritates the eyes! Is this odor of ammonia, strongly alkaline and irritant, injurious only to the harness? What of the horses, and the tender membranes of the eye, the throat and the nasal passages? Do you think they are less sensitive than oak-tanned harness leather, well greased and preserved as it is? By no means. If the prevalent odors injuriously effect the leather, you may be sure the eyes suffer; the throat and lungs are irritated and the nasal passages become inflamed. Then occurs the frequent moon blindness; ophthalmia, weeping of the eyes, followed by inflammation, white specks, clouded cornea, and finally loss of sight; then follow coughs, bronchitis, pneumonia, heaves, catarrh, nasal gleet; and by-and-by, when the blood has become poisoned by the absorption of diseased matter from inflamed and suppurated membranes, farcy and glanders—dreadful and fatal to man and beast, too—result. And while we think of saving the harness and removing it to a purer place, the beast, which is worth a dozen sets of it, is left to rot from these pungent gases without any help. Clean the stables and the harness may hang in them safely; and be sure, if the stable is not a fit place for the harness, it is no place for the horse. A barrel of plaster can be procured for about one dollar. It is worth that as a fertilizer. It is worth ten dollars as absorbent of ammonia, and a hundred as a health preserver to the horses; not counting the saving to the harness. Sprinkle it everywhere and be liberal with it.—*Rural New Yorker.*

The gardeners in the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, have employed sulphate of iron as a remedy for the yellows in the peach, with success.

Horticulture.

THE ORANGE ORANGE AND CATALPA.

We are much inclined to coincide with the views of "B. F. J." of Champaign, Ill., who, writing to the *Country Gentleman* on the subject of tree culture on the prairies, says:

"The orange, either for rapid growth, hardiness, durability of timber, habit and form, denseness of shade and general beauty of shape and outline, when growing by itself, is ten times more valuable, desirable and beautiful than the catalpa of any species of which we lately have heard so much. And after twenty years observation of it, were I about to plant a grove, or lay out a timber belt for shelter and ornament, I know of nothing I would sooner select than the orange. The young plants may be procured abundantly and cheaply, they start as surely as any of the self-wooded trees; they grow fast, and stand heat and drought admirably, and are impatient only of wet feet, so that they do not take kindly to low and wet situations. Not only is the timber very hard and durable, but it has great beauty of grain, and where sawed into veneers, or plank, and used in solid form, like black walnut, or mahogany, it may be made into office or household furniture of the most attractive style. And its durability is something quite wonderful and deserves to be enlarged upon. Where a hedge has been winter-killed, as is often the case in the north when an intensely cold winter followed a hot and wet growing season, the dead fence will sometimes stand for years and perform the office of a live one. Young trees of not more than two or three inches in diameter, or the limbs of mature ones of the same size, are not only stronger and stiffer than any other wood that can be procured, but as vine stakes they outlast any wood that has yet been tried. When dry the wood is as hard as hickory and as heavy as the best white oak, and this may be an objection to its being sawed into boards or planks for building or fencing. I have seen the common catalpa growing in Illinois from the Kankakee to the Cooke. I have raised it from the seed, transplanted it in considerable numbers, and there are now growing of these, half rifle-shot distance from where I write, some fair specimens eighteen years old, but they are small, ragged, open-limbed, round-headed and scraggy, and are very much like all others to be seen, as shade trees, up and down the state, between the two rivers named. I know there are many groves of young catalpas scattered about the state, and I conclude there are few sales for them, and little or no use, but I am not disposed to help put upon the market a timber tree in which I have so little faith. It is possible the *Catalpa speciosa* may be quite different, and that it will not take the awkward, ragged and round-headed form of the common one, when left to stand by itself, but I should like to be assured of that fact before I invested in it for myself or recommended it to others. Indeed, I should much prefer the alanthus, with all its suckering and its stench, for it is indeed a fast growing tree and quickly attains magnificent proportions of trunk, breadth and height, and when seen no further south than 38 degrees, it towers above and dwarfs the catalpa in a most striking way. As long as central and southern Illinois have the black walnut, the blue ash, the sugar maple and the osage orange, all trees possessing almost every desirable quality wanted in a tree for timber, shade, shelter, or ornament, there will be no lack of material for increasing the forest growth of these parts of the state, and farmers and planters can well afford to await for further developments.

FROM LABETTE COUNTY.

Six months have now elapsed since my last communication to the *FARMER*. At that writing we hoped that the floods were over, and were anticipating a pleasant harvest just then at hand, but we were woefully disappointed. The flood-gates were closed for a few days, only to collect a more abundant supply, which was poured out without stint during the month of June and well into July. It rained June 2, 6, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 24, 27, 28, 30, twelve days, and in July 2, 4, 5, 8, 24, 28, six days. After the 11th of June it was impossible to operate a reaper in most of the fields in all southeastern Kansas.

About the 20th those who could do so obtained cradles and waded into the grain with them, and thus about one thousand cradles were distributed through Labette and Montgomery counties, and more than double that would have been sold if the demand could have been supplied. Fortunately the extreme wet weather had destroyed the bugs, and it was remarkable how long the grain stood up, but the heads became very brittle and a great amount of the grain was shattered out and lost, for hundreds of acres stood dead ripe from 20 to 30 days before it could be cut. Comparing early cut grain with the later, I am of the opinion that one-eighth of the entire wheat crop of Labette county was wasted in consequence of the extreme wet harvest. Our oats crop was a fair yield and of good quality.

Most people in this vicinity are disappointed with the yield of their corn crop, which is not so heavy as the stalks would indicate; however, a large amount of corn is moving into the various markets for shipment, some of which may be needed here before another harvest.

About the first of August the weather changed suddenly, dry and hot, which soon baked the land so hard that it was next to

impossible to plow for the fall crops, and this state of affairs has continued to this date, which has curtailed the breadth of land sown to wheat the present fall, very materially, probably one-half, and much of that sown is suffering for rain.

Aside from these disadvantages, I think we have had the loveliest fall I ever enjoyed. Every day, almost, for weeks and months, the pure, mellow autumn sun has smiled upon us. The effect is so enchanting and soul-cheering, who can be otherwise than happy? No cold weather yet; the leaves upon the apple trees still fresh and green. If anything will weld a man to Kansas it is these beautiful falls. And the stock all about us are so sleek and comfortable, I know they enjoy themselves hugely.

Brother farmers, now is the time, if you have not already done so, to prepare for winter. I have been gratified on seeing, already, several articles in the *FARMER* upon the subject of protection for stock in winter, and too much cannot be said upon that question, for a neglect to provide suitable protection for the stock is a glaring sin, met with all over the west.

We are almost certain to have some cold, pinching rains before spring, when the stock will need protection and must have it or suffer exceedingly and perhaps die. Who can sit down by the warm fire contented and happy, while his stock are lumped up in the fence corners enduring a pelting storm unprotected? Who can lay his head upon his pillow at night and sleep soundly while his cattle are exposed to a drenching rain and sleet, driven by the fierce wind all the long, tedious night? If you can do such things as that, reader, you are no Christian, that is the amount of it; and yet I see such things so often, in winter, that I feel called upon to admonish you in season.

How many people are there who would go into the stock business but they never have any luck with stock. They are so apt to die in winter or spring, and if they ever do raise a calf, it takes two men, one at the tail and one at the neck to raise him.

There is no cholera among the hogs in this county that I know of, and none among fowls. We have noticed some of those black-fleshed fowls spoken of by one of your correspondents some time since, among ours, last year and this.

I do not think it a disease for I find it confined to a certain mongrel class. However, like him, we do not feel like eating them, and when we get hold of one it goes to the hogs, for we intend to rid our coops of them. There has been a disease among the horses here, both last season and the present, which has caused the death of quite a number. As near as I can ascertain it is what is known as the Spanish fever. Few that are attacked with it ever recover. Mules are not apt to have it.

Who can furnish a reliable remedy for the disease named. Mr. Adam son, of Phillips county, speaking of the fatality among horses in that locality, attributes it to the eating of wormy corn, but I do not see how the worm could be so injurious to the health of stock that eat it with the corn. Let somebody explain the chemical properties of the worm dust and its effect upon stock. I have always fed such corn to my stock regardless of its presence, and have never sustained any loss that I know of, on that account.

I have been both amused and interested in the protracted discussion in the *FARMER*, the past few months, upon the chess question. I think the editor is entitled to great credit for the good humor and forbearance he has maintained while treating the question. I am almost sorry that he has committed himself in the premises, but I think the subject ought to be agitated until the real truth can be obtained to the satisfaction of all concerned, and I think that some sort of an explanation on the part of Mr. Cone would be very appropriate.

When I alluded to that subject in my last letter published in the *FARMER* of June 12th, I had no thought that I was opening up a protracted discussion; but when Mr. Cone replied in his peculiar language, I expected the fur would fly. And as it was my fortune to open that important question, I desire to reserve my right at some future time to the closing argument, and since I have my foot in it, (the trap, I mean), I propose to place myself square on the affirmative side of the question.

Low prices and hard times are the order of the day in this vicinity. Wheat is selling for shipment at 60¢ to 70¢; oats 10¢ to 18¢; corn 15¢ to 78¢; potatoes, not for shipment, 40¢ to 50¢; apples 75¢ to \$1. Stock: Horses \$75 to \$100; extra \$125; cows, \$18 to \$25; two-year-olds \$16 to \$20; yearlings \$12 to \$15; calves \$5 to \$8; beef 2½¢ to 3¢ gross; hogs 2 to 2½¢; butter 15¢; cheese 12½¢; eggs 10¢. Price of land unchanged, but good demand.

I am much interested in the great transportation question based upon the theory of a ship canal from St. Louis to the Gulf via the Mississippi river, constructed by government and state contribution. This is fairly a national question and should be made a political issue. Such a canal would reclaim all the swamp lands along the route and add millions to the adjoining states. It would furnish employment for the surplus help of the nation, and on its consummation, in my opinion, hangs the future prosperity of the great west.

Since writing the foregoing we have had a nice rain which places the wheat in good condition to go into winter quarters, and has moistened the ground enough to plow for the spring crops.

J. B. COOLY.
"The time for 'argument' has been consumed. Facts are next in order; but not appearances instead of facts. [Eds.]

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THE NEW ORLEANS COMMERCIAL CONVENTION AND THE TRANSPORTATION QUESTION.

Mr. Underwood of Kentucky, chairman of the committee appointed by the Commercial Convention, recently assembled at New Orleans to report on the improvement of the Mississippi, submitted the report to the Convention on the 5th inst., which was adopted by that body and Mr. Underwood appointed a committee of one to address the governors of the states bordering on the Mississippi river and its navigable tributaries, and urge them to appoint a Board of Commissioners whose duty it shall be to inquire into all matters pertaining to the improvement of the Mississippi river and streams emptying into it, and of the improvement of their banks, and the knowledge acquired by this Board shall be published through the press and by address, so that a general interest may be awakened among the people on this important subject. The facts gathered and embodied by the Commissioners are to be laid before Congress with the ultimate design of inducing that body to grant appropriations for permanently improv-

ing the "father of waters." The report favors the jetty plan adopted by Captain Eads, and urges that it is the duty of the general Government to make such appropriations for the Mississippi river and its tributaries as are required, to so deepen the channels of these rivers as to afford cheap, easy and uninterrupted transportation, at low rates, for the products of the people living on these rivers, to adjoining states and to foreign countries.

This is an important step which should be sustained by the people of the states which are embraced in the valley of the Mississippi and Missouri. The legislatures of those states, which will soon be in session, should be memorialized to make provision for some such joint committee as recommended, by necessary acts and appropriations to enable the executives of the states to carry out their instructions. A water way to the sea from the valley of the Mississippi, is the only possible solution to the problem of transportation, which is a question of as vital importance to every producer in this valley, reaching from the Alleghenies to the Rocky mountains, as planting and cultivating his farm. That there is water enough in the Mississippi at all seasons of the year to bear safely to the Gulf every pound of produce made in the regions drained by it and its tributaries, is not doubted; and that these waters can be brought under complete subservience to man by his skill and control of the elements, is also a question about which there can be but little doubt entertained.

FARM WAGES TOO HIGH.

On this question which is so important to every farmer, W. J. Chamberlain, of Summit county, O., concludes a very able and truthful article published in the *Country Gentleman*, with the following summary of the subject:

Thus we see that the farmer receives a little less than half as much for his produce now as he did under war prices, and the laborer pays a little less than half as much for what he buys. A comparison with prices of products before the war, will show that they are about the same on the average now as then. But prices of farm wages are by no means down in proportion. In the cities and on the railroads, and in the large manufacturing, the wages of unskilled laborers and even of mechanics are nearly down to prices before the war; but in the country, and especially on our farms, I repeat, it is by no means so. The average price per month, for six or eight months, was \$12 and board for prime farm hands. It rose to \$25 and board, or more, as it ought when gold was above 200; but it has by no means fallen again to \$12, and hardly to \$18, in this country. But there is no reason why the price of labor, as of other things, should not be down again to the gold basis. There is no fear of oppressing the poor. The laborers are not the poor here and now. They fare, dress and dwell better and more luxuriously than in any country on the globe, and better here the past ten years than ever before. Railway hands, common laborers and mechanics, have expensive watches, set expensive tables, have expensive furniture, wear fine clothes, have pianos in their houses, and even drive fine horses and carriages. Irish servant girls wear more expensive dresses than their mistresses, or wives of farmers, ministers and college professors can afford. No one can object provided they do not buy them with the extra wages not fairly theirs by the prices of the times. Now if farmers will be of one mind, and feel that justice to ourselves and to our families demands a reduction, and that no injustice will be done to the employed by making it, we need not pay over \$12, or at most \$14, for the best help next year. These, at least, are my views, and they seem to be warranted by the figures I have given. I hope it will receive the attention it deserves through your columns and elsewhere, till the desired result is secured.

READING FOR FARMERS.

Farmers who are habitual readers of one or more agricultural papers, are invariably the most intelligent, and as a class, the most successful in their business. It is true we have known many farmers who had the proud distinction of being considered the most successful in their neighborhood, but they achieved success in spite of the difficulties they had to contend with. Such men are careful observers, and combine native good judgment with unflagging industry. If they possessed the advantage of the experience of others, with the scientific knowledge and habit of analytic thought which is the result of much careful reading on subjects which engage them in the daily round of their business, there can be little or no doubt that the same men would rise in their business to a point they never reach, and would prove a power and example among farmers which they never dream of, plodding along in the rush-light of their own experience.

If the farmers who habitually read agricultural papers and seek to keep posted in the discoveries and progress of the business on which they depend for a living, are numbered they will count by hundreds and thousands; but if placed beside the multitudes that seldom read, or if at all no more than a few paragraphs of the daily news or local gossip, the former will be dwarfed into insignificance.

Of all the papers a farmer can read or have in his family, agricultural journals are the most profitable. The county newspaper and the daily journal should be found in every farmer's home, but not to the exclusion of a good agricultural paper, which is constantly placing before him in his leisure moments, the

opinions and experiments of the best informed, the closest thinkers and the most faithful within the broad fields of agriculture. Others, he finds have trodden the path that he is moving on, before him, and without weary days of labor and disappointment, he learns of their failures and successes, and is constantly cheered and profited by their experiences.

Again, reading is the very best habit that the boys and girls of the farm can be led into. There is more pleasant company and solid comfort in interesting and instructive books and papers than in all the idle village gossip that can be retailed by the most expert news-monger of the town. Those who from habit learn to enjoy books and papers, are seldom lonesome. And in solving the question—How shall we interest the boys on the farm and satisfy their natural craving for society? one of the most important aids will be found in leading them to become habitual readers. In order to accomplish this primary end, no means will be found so cheap and effective as supplying the farmer's home with agricultural papers. Habits of thought are formed by reading. A good reader holds the keys to the storehouse of all knowledge.

No man can advance the interest in farming in his neighborhood, add to the wealth of his class and elevate it so much socially as to alight a cost, as by inducing his neighbors to subscribe for and read carefully one or more good agricultural papers; and if every subscriber to the Kansas FARMER, when he renews his subscription, would induce a neighbor who is living without such light in his daily business, to become a subscriber and reader of the FARMER, he would advance the interests of his neighborhood and the value of every foot of land in it, for nothing else increases the value of property as rapidly as increasing the intelligence of the community.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

Teachers' Institutes have become one of the most important auxiliaries in school teaching, and why should we not have Farmers' Institutes? They could be made as useful in imparting a knowledge of farming as the former has proved in assisting the school-master and school-ma'am to improve their modes of teaching. The idea, it seems, has taken shape in Massachusetts, and the State Board of Agriculture has requested the agricultural societies to organize Farmers' Institutes within their limits. The *Ploughman* says that under this advice about twenty institutes were held in the state last spring. Since that time the spirit has been spreading among the farmers, and many others are announced to be held soon. These local meetings are necessarily organized on a small scale, their meetings or sessions occupying but one day each. The State Board of Agriculture, however, have made arrangements to hold an institute on a more extensive scale, at Hingham, which will occupy several days, and the exercises promise to be most interesting and instructive to farmers of the old Bay State. A number of learned and able lecturers have been engaged for this occasion, and an interesting programme of exercises has been published. Among the subjects for lectures and essays are, Root and Vegetable Culture, The Agriculture of Japan, The Legal Rights and Duties of Farmers, Recent Researches in regard to Seeds, War with Insects, Exhaustion of Soils by the Growth of Plants, etc. After the delivery or reading of each lecture or paper, the points of the subject treated will be discussed by the members.

The meeting is open to the public. All are cordially invited to attend and take part in the discussions.

A question-box will be provided for the deposit of any question upon subjects not included in the programme, and any one who may desire information on any subject relating to the farm, the orchard or the garden, will be at liberty to ask for such information, and may expect to receive it from experts on the particular subject to which the question relates.

Farmers and others who may wish to attend are invited to bring or send specimens of corn, grains, fruits and vegetables of all kinds, for exhibition upon the occasion.

The Farmers' Institute will strike every farmer as a valuable organization to promote a knowledge of the business he is engaged in, and commends itself to every community where farmers are hoping and striving to reach a higher plain in agriculture and occupy a position which will command more respect and influence than the great fundamental industry of the world, in its present position, can hope to possess.

SHELTER BELTS.

There is an old maxim which claims that work is already half done when begun rightly. We know of none who should keep this truth so prominently in view as the settlers on the prairies who open farms on the bosom of mother earth, just as it came from the hand of the Creator. A man may make a prairie farm exactly what his ideal of a farm should be, if he will but fix that ideal in his mind. A true farmer has always associated with his conception of a farm, trees and groves, which break the monotony of the expanding landscape, and form pleasant backgrounds to his fields and ever varying tints of light and shade. Groves of tall trees break the lonely expanse and bring the home picture closer to view, brightening its beauty and heightening every charm.

A beautiful farm has many endearing and lasting ties for those who have been raised on it, while a cheerless, scarred and unsightly

place is repulsive, assisting more than most farmers are aware of, to shape and fashion the character of those who grow among such surroundings, as beauty, and symmetry, and tidiness, on the other hand, promote that which is best, most admired and endearing.

To those who pride themselves on being less controlled by moral than material considerations, who pass all sentiment by with a pitying glance, and acknowledge that only as worthy their attention which offers pecuniary advantages, and is of practicable utility in the economy of the farm, the timber belt and groves of stately trees commend themselves as among the most useful and profitable products of the place.

Shelter belts serve to break the strong winds which sweep the prairies at all seasons of the year, affording protection alike to stock, grain, grass and fruit trees. There is no protection to an orchard equal to belts of tall timber, and in their sheltering lee stock find security from the strong gales. The value of the protection to fields of wheat and grass in winter, and to the corn crop from blowing storms in summer, by timber belts across a farm, cannot be estimated.

The birds which are lured to nest among the branches in summer, assist in no small measure to destroy and keep in check insects which prey upon the grain and fruit. For wood, fencing and building purposes, timber on a farm is indispensable; and few, if any, farms are found with a full complement of buildings and other fixtures which are necessary, if the place is destitute of timber.

A sheltering grove on the north and west sides of a barn or dwelling, increases their warmth and comfort mightily during the existence of severe winter gales; and in summer there is nothing approaches a grove of trees around the dwelling for combining comfort and adornment.

For all purposes of the farm and for rapid growth, there is, perhaps, no tree superior to the native black walnut. There are many other kinds that are better adapted for shade trees about the barn and dwelling. For this purpose the elm has no superior. Now is the time to plant the nuts of the black walnut, and every farmer may gather bushels of nuts if he will take the trouble to pick them up from where they have fallen, and lay under the trees along every stream.

GRANGE ANNIVERSARY.

The Capital Grange of Shawnee county, held its usual anniversary and festival on Wednesday last, at Odd Fellows' Hall, in Topeka. The banquet was spread as none but farmers' wives and daughters know how to lay a feast, and it would be superfluous to say that the table, reaching the length of the hall, "groaned" with the substantials and luxuries which are met with nowhere in such abundance as in the houses of the prosperous farmers.

Being a festive and joyous occasion, conversation and music enlivened the members and their guests till dinner was served, after which the company was further entertained with speeches by J. G. Otis, J. K. Hudson of the Kansas FARMER, W. P. Popenoe, and others. The speech of Mr. Otis was earnest, and admirably suited to the occasion. He urged the question of the proper education of our farmer boys and girls, dwelt upon the benefit of social relations among farmers and the importance for these and other reasons, of maintaining and advancing, of spreading and building up a wider and stronger interest in the grange and the associations of farmers.

The hall was comfortably full, but the condition of the roads prevented many from attending who would have contributed to increase the numbers and interest in this pleasant farmers' anniversary. Considerable disappointment was felt on account of the absence of Worthy Master Sims, delegate from Kansas to the National Grange which has been in session recently in Virginia, and who had not returned. May Capital, and all other granges, enjoy many such social meetings and festivals as that of the 14th inst.

WEATHER REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 1878.

[From observations taken at Lawrence by Prof. S. H. Snow, of the Kansas State University.]

The warmest November on our eleven years' record. Mean temperature, 45.87 degs., which is 7.06 degs. above the average November temperature of the ten preceding years. The mercury fell below freezing point on only three days. The highest temperature was 72 degs., on the 5th; the lowest was 23 degs., on the 8th; range of temperature, 50 degs. The mean at 7 A. M., was 38.53 degs.; at 2 P. M., 55.83 degs.; at 9 P. M., 44.53 degs.

Rain and melted snow, 1.55 inches, which is 23 inches below the November average. Rain fell on 7 days. Snow fell on the 30th to the depth of two inches. The entire rainfall for the eleven months of 1878, now completed, has been 34.50 inches, which is 3.24 inches above the average for the same period for ten years.

Mean cloudiness, 48 per cent. of the sky, the month being slightly clearer than usual. The number of clear days was 17 (entirely clear, 6; half-clear, 3; cloudy, 10 (entirely cloudy, 3). Mean cloudiness at 7 A. M., 43.83 per cent; at 2 P. M. 46.66 per cent; at 9 P. M. 37 per cent.

Wind—N. W., 34 times; S. W., 19 times; N. E., 14 times; S. E., 13 times; N., 7 times; S., 3 times. The entire distance traveled by the wind was 11,198 miles, which gives a mean daily velocity of 373, and a mean hourly velocity of 15.55 miles. The highest velocity was 40 miles an hour on the 27th.

Relative Humidity—Mean for the month, 63.6; at 7 A. M., 76.9; at 2 P. M., 40.0; at 9 P. M., 70.3; greatest, 97.3 on the 10th; least, 18.2 on the 27th; mean, 7 A. M., 76.9; at 2 P. M., 40.0; at 9 P. M., 70.3. There was one fog—on the 7th.

Mrs. Debora K. Longshore, whose professional card appears in this week's FARMER, is a regular graduate of the Woman's Medical College of Pa., the oldest medical school for women in the United States. Mrs. Longshore brings with her the highest testimonials from the physicians with whom she has practiced the past six years in Philadelphia. She comes to Topeka to make it her permanent home, and offers her professional services as a physician. Mrs. Longshore is a sister of Mrs. J. K. Hudson, of the FARMER.

The attention of our readers is called to the public sale advertisement of Messrs. Pratt & Farrie. The sale will take place at Silver Lake, Kansas, on the Kansas Pacific R. R., a few miles west of Topeka. This firm offer their pure-bred Berkshire and Poland-China pigs for sale at public auction on Thursday, December 19th. The firm has very superior stock, and the sale is a good opportunity to secure pure-bred animals at a reasonable price.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Congress assembled on Monday of last week and the President's message was transmitted to both houses.

The message opens with expressions of gratitude to the Divine Being for the many blessings conferred upon the country; the yellow fever pestilence is referred to, and the assistance provided by the government to the people of the lower Mississippi. The pacification of the south is next taken up and dwelt upon at some length. In this connection the President says:

"The permanent pacification of the country by the complete protection of all citizens in every civil and political right, continues to be of paramount interest with the great body of our people. Every step in this direction is welcomed with public approval, and every interruption of steady and uniform progress to the desired consummation, awakens general uneasiness and wide-spread condemnation. The people of the former slave-holding states

ACCEPTED THE RESULTS, and gave in every practicable form, assurances that the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, and the laws passed in pursuance thereof, should, in good faith, be enforced rigidly and impartially in the letter and spirit, to the end that the humblest citizen, without distinction of race or color, should under them, receive full and equal protection in person and property, and in political rights and privileges.

By these Constitutional amendments, the southern section of the Union obtained a LARGE INCREASE OF POLITICAL POWER. In this expectation the country has been grievously disappointed. In the states of Louisiana and South Carolina, at large, and in some particular Congressional districts outside of these states, the records of the elections seem to compel the conclusion that THE RIGHTS OF THE COLORED VOTERS HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED.

and their participation in the elections not permitted to be either general or free. Congress is reminded that it will be its duty to inquire into, and determine the validity of, the claims of members to seats in that body. The Executive and Judicial departments of the government, will inquire into and punish violations of the laws of the United States. The President is unwilling to undergo a renewed appeal to the courts and people of the states where these violations of the law have occurred, toward giving their assistance to bring the offenders to justice, but will use all the means in his power "to obtain a full and fair investigation of the alleged crimes and to secure the conviction and just punishment of the guilty. The message urges at some length, and in very forcible language, the importance of congressional elections in every district. In each state every political party is entitled to the share of power which is conferred by legal and constitutional suffrage.

"No temporary administrative interests of the Government, however urgent or weighty, will ever displace the zeal of our people in defense of the primary rights of citizenship. They understand that the protection of liberty requires the maintenance in full vigor of the many methods of free speech, free press and free suffrage, and will SUSTAIN THE FULL AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ENFORCE THE LAWS, which are formed to preserve the inestimable rights."

The President concludes this part of his message with the following strong expression: "The power of PUBLIC OPINION WILL OVERRIDE ALL POLITICAL PREJUDICES, and all sectional or state relations, in demanding that all over our wide territory the names and character of citizens of the United States shall mean one and the same thing, and carry with them unchanged security and respect."

Reference is made to the yellow fever plague, and the efforts for the relief of the victims. The number of cases of fever is estimated at 100,000, of which about 20,000 proved fatal. The loss to the country in a material way, the president says "is reckoned by the hundred millions of dollars." The Government furnished about 1,800 tents and about \$25,000 worth of donations to the stricken cities.

Our relations with foreign countries are on the most peaceful footing. Our neutrality in the contest between foreign powers has been maintained. Our contributions to the Paris Exposition were creditable to the nation and gratifying in scope and character.

The Bi-Metallic conference held in Paris last summer had no important results. No common ratio between gold and silver could be agreed upon by the Conference.

The fishery award of \$5,500,000 was paid to Great Britain, according to the terms of the Joint Commission, accompanied with a protest against any other construction of the same. Confident expectations of a revival of trade with Cuba, is expressed, the suppression of the insurrection in that island, having been successfully accomplished.

Our relations with China, Japan and the Samoan islands are stated. Correspondence with Mexico continues upon the questions which threatened to disturb the peaceful relations of the two republics. An effective force of the two governments on either side of the Rio Grande has done much to hold in check the marauding Indians and Mexicans. It is proposed to hold next year an

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION IN MEXICO, and it is believed that the display of the agricultural and manufacturing products of the two nations, will tend to a better understanding, and increased commercial intercourse between the people.

A naval expedition up the Amazon and Madeira rivers, has brought back information, valuable both for scientific and commercial purposes. A like expedition is about visiting the coast of Africa, and the Indian ocean. Of the financial condition of the country the message states: "The ordinary revenues from all sources for the year ended June 30, 1878, were \$27,763,878.70. The ordinary expenditures for the same period were \$26,664,326.80; leaving a surplus revenue for the year of \$1,099,551.90. Actual receipts for the first quarter, commencing July 1, 1878, \$73,359,743.43 estimated receipts for the remaining three-quarters of the year, \$191,210,256.57; total receipts for the

current fiscal year, actual and estimated, \$264,500,000.

The total expenditures, actual and estimated, for the same period are \$240,700,000, and leaving an estimated surplus revenue for the year ending June 30, 1879, of \$24,000,000.

By the terms of the act of Feb. 1862 providing a sinking fund the public debt should have been reduced, between 1862 and the close of the last fiscal year, \$518,361,806.25. The actual reduction of the ascertained debt in that period has been \$720,644,739.61, being in excess of the reduction required by the Sinking Fund Act of \$202,282,933.33. The amount of the public debt at the close of the fiscal year, November 1st, 1878, was \$2,024,300,983.18, a reduction since the same date last year, of \$3,150,617.39. The progress made during the last year in refunding the public debt at a lower rate of interest is very gratifying. The amount of four per cent. bonds sold during the present year, prior to November 23, 1878, is \$100,700,000, and six per cent. bonds, commonly known as five-twenties, to an equal amount, has been, or will be redeemable as calls mature. It has been the policy of the department to place the four per cent. bonds within easy reach of every citizen who desires to invest his savings, whether small or great, in these securities.

The Secretary of the treasury recommends a law authorizing the issue of certificates of deposit of the denomination of ten dollars bearing interest at the rate of 3 1/2 per cent., convertible at any time within one year after issue into four per cent. bonds, and to be issued only in exchange for United States notes sent to the treasury by mail or otherwise.

The coinage of gold during the last fiscal year was \$3,798,980; the coinage of silver dollars under the act passed February 28, 1878, to \$19,814,550, of which amount \$4,984,947 are in circulation and the balance, \$14,829,603, is still in the possession of the government.

The president expresses conviction that the welfare of the business of the country will be promoted by congress abstaining from making radical changes in existing financial legislation; and that the resumption of specie payments "which will take place at the appointed time, will be successfully and easily maintained, and that it will be followed by a healthful and enduring revival of business prosperity.

The army have been actively employed and have faithfully performed all the service required of them.

The navy has been much improved during the year.

The actual expenditures of the Postoffice Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, are \$33,874,647.50. The amount drawn from the Treasury on appropriation, in addition to the revenues of the Department, was \$5,307,652.83. The expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, are estimated at \$36,571,900; the receipts from all sources at \$30,664,043.90, leaving a deficiency to be appropriated out of the Treasury of \$5,907,856.10.

The business of the Supreme Court and Federal courts in many of the states has so increased that additional legislation is needed for relief.

"A corps of mounted Indian auxiliaries" are recommended to be formed to assist in guarding the tribes on their reservations; this Indian cavalry to be under command of the army. The Indian problem is discussed at considerable length, and the sentimental side in general adopted by the president. "Many of the tribes which are now quiet and orderly, and self-supporting, were once as savage as any that at present roam over the plains, or in the mountains of the far West, and were there considered inaccessible to civilizing influences. It may be impossible to train them fully up to the level of the white population of the United States, but we should not forget that they are the aborigines of the country, and called the soil their own on which our people have grown rich, powerful and happy. We owe it to them as a moral duty, to help them in attaining, at least to that degree of civilization which they may be able to reach."

The Message implies fear that the attempt may be renewed by Congress to place the Indians under the military department of the government, and begs that the above and similar reasons be kept in view in the discussion of any meditated change.

A modification of the law for the protection of timber on the public lands is asked for in order to secure its better protection.

Of agriculture, the Message says: "About one-half of the population of the United States is engaged in agriculture. The value of the agricultural products of the United States for the year 1878 is estimated at three thousand millions of dollars. The exports of agricultural products for the year 1877, as appears from the report of the Bureau of Statistics, were five hundred and twenty-four millions of dollars."

"The abuse of animals in transit is widely attracting public attention. A National Convention of societies specially interested in the subject, has recently met at Baltimore, and the facts developed, both in regard to cruelty to animals, and the effect of such cruelties upon the public health, would seem to demand the careful consideration of Congress, and the enactment of more effective laws for the prevention of such abuses."

The work of the Bureau of Education shows gratifying results for the year.

Domestic Dry Goods very cheap. Best prints 5c a yard, 20 yards for \$1. Best Lancaster gingham 10c a yard. Canton flannels 7c, 10c, 12 1/2c, 15c. Gray flannels (5 job lot) 15c and 25c. Wide bleached and unbleached muslins, equally cheap, from 5c up. Tickings, drilling, ducks and Cheviots, at

BARTHOLOMEW'S Cheap Cash Store, 177 Kansas Avenue.

Underwear for ladies, men, boys and children, very cheap—men's at 25, 35, 40 and 50c to \$1.50; ladies' at 50, 60, 75 and 90c to \$1.45; children's at 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 to 60c at

BARTHOLOMEW'S Cheap Cash Store, 177 Kansas Avenue.

Wool Jackets—We beat all in the prices of Wool Jackets. Men's at \$1.25, \$1.50 to \$2; ladies' at 50, 60, 75 and 90c to \$1.45; children's at 25, 35, 50 to 90c at

BARTHOLOMEW'S Cheap Cash Store, 177 Kansas Avenue.

For Holiday Presents of intrinsic value go to BARTHOLOMEW'S "Cheap Cash Store," 177 Kansas Avenue.

Holiday Attractions at the "CHEAP CASH STORE," 177 Kansas Avenue.

Fascinating at fascinating prices at BARTHOLOMEW'S "Cheap Cash Store," 177 Kansas Avenue.

Makes a beautiful appearance!—Bartholomew's Cheap Cash store in holiday attire—decorated with the useful, durable, ornamental and seasonable.

Dr. Jacques' German Worm Cakes stand unrivaled as a worm medicine. Give them a trial. Sold by all druggists.

The MARSH AGUE CURE is sold at the low price of 50 cents. It will cure the worst cases of Tertian, or THIRD DAY AGUE, as well as the mildest forms of Chills and Fever, after other remedies fail. Prepared only by MARSH BROS., Pharmacists, Kansas City, Mo.

For sale by Swift & Holliday, Topeka, Kas. and DRUGGISTS and MEDICINE DEALERS everywhere.

When you feel a cough or bronchial affection creeping on the lungs, take Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and cure it before it becomes incurable.

8 and 9
Eight and nine per cent. interest on farm loans in Shawnee county.
Ten per cent on city property.
All good bonds bought at sight.
For ready money and low interest, call on A. PRESCOTT & CO.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.
Notwithstanding the fact that thousands of our people are at present worrying themselves almost to death over this vexed question, even to the extent of neglecting their business, their homes and their duty to their families, there are still thousands upon thousands of smart, hard working, intelligent men pouring into the great Arkansas Valley, the Garden of the West, where the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad offers them their choice of 2,500,000 acres of the finest farming lands in the world at almost their own prices. If you don't believe it, write to the undersigned, who will tell you where you can get a cheap land exploring ticket, and how, at a moderate expense, you can see for yourselves and be convinced.

W. F. WHITE,
General Passenger and Ticket Agent,
Topeka, Kansas.

Peculiar children have worms. Dr. Jaques' German Worm Cakes will destroy the worms and make the children happy.

For every ache, pain and bruise on man or beast, Uncle Sam's Nerve and Bone Liniment is the balm. Sold by all Druggists.

Why be distressed with headache, low spirits and nervousness, when Ellert's Daylight Liver pills are sold by all Druggists.

Uncle Sam's Harness Oil put on to your harness, will make the leather look new, and keep it soft and pliable. Give it a trial.

Mother, when your dear baby suffers in teething, use Dr. Winchell's Teething Syrup. It regulates the bowels, soothes the pain and brings natural sleep. Sold by Druggists at 25 cents a bottle.

For information concerning the treatment of chronic diseases with Electricity, send for a pamphlet on Electric treatment, which will be sent free, on application to the McIntosh Electric Belt and Battery Co., 192 & 194 Jackson St., Chicago, Ill.

When horses and cattle are spiritless, scraggy and feeble, they need treatment with Uncle Sam's Condition Powder. It purifies the blood, improves the appetite, cures Colic and Distempers, invigorates the system and will keep the animal in a healthy, handsome condition. Sold by all Druggists.

The enterprise of publishing the *Central Stock Journal*, in St. Louis, requiring all the time and attention of H. C. Brown, he has decided to close out his entire herd of thoroughbred Berkshires, consisting of about fifty. They will be sold at private sales any time up to next Jan. 1st. Prices exceedingly low, about half the usual price. In his absence there will be a man with the herd, authorized to sell. Terms, cash, or notes approved by the local banks. The herd is at Newton, Ke. Address H. C. Brown, 918 North Sixth St., St. Louis, Mo.

The yellow fever epidemic created intense excitement throughout the country, yet every community has a greater foe to human life, which stalks abroad unheeded. Yellow fever has slain its thousands, but neglected colds its tens of thousands. The practice of letting a cold cure itself is fraught with suffering, sorrow and with death. There is no remedy more valuable than Ellert's Extract of Tar and Wild Cherry, those that use it know its worth, and will not be without it, for it surely and quickly cures Colds, Coughs, Croup, Catarrh, Bronchial and Pulmonary Complaints. Sold by all Druggists.

DOES THE WORLD MOVE?

The Rev. John Jasper, of Virginia, says: "De sun do move, for in de mornin' it shines on dis side ob de house, while in de ebenin' on dat side ob de house. Now, ef he don't move, how come he day?" Notwithstanding Mr. Jasper's logic, we yet believe the world moves. When Mr. Jasper's ideas constituted the popular belief, people thought that to die of small-pox or cholera was simply fulfilling one of nature's laws. Now, through vaccination, small-pox is averted, while cholera, cholera morbus, dysentery (flux) and diarrhoea are readily cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Compound Extract of Smart-weed. Does not such evidence tend to prove that "the world moves?" As an external remedy for cuts, bruises, sprains, swelling, bites and stings of insects, the Compound Extract of Smart-weed has no equal. Veterinary surgeons have also employed it with marked success.

CHURCH ORGANS.
Improved style Church Organs, strictly first class, with Sub-bass and Octave Coupler at \$100, \$115, and \$125. E. B. GUILD, Topeka, Kansas.

INDIGESTION.

The main cause of nervousness is indigestion, and that is caused by weakness of the stomach. No one can have sound nerves and good health without using Hop Bitters to strengthen the stomach, purify the blood, and to keep the liver and kidneys active, to carry off all the poisonous and waste matter of the system. See other column.

MALARIAL FEVER.

Malarial fevers, constipation, torpidity of the liver and kidneys, general debility, nervousness and neuralgic ailments yield readily to this great disease conqueror, Hop Bitters. It repairs the ravages of disease by converting the food into rich blood, and it gives new life and vigor to the aged and infirm always. See "Proverbs" in other column.

MONEY! MONEY!!

If you wish to borrow money upon Real Estate, and get your money without sending paper East, and at reasonable rates, go to the KANSAS LOAN AND TRUST CO. Topeka, Kansas.

MISERABLENESS.
The most wonderful and marvelous success, in cases where persons are sick or pining away from a condition of miserableness, that no one knows what ails them, (profitable patients for doctors) is obtained by the use of Hop Bitters. They begin to care from the first dose and keep it up until perfect health and strength is restored. Whoever is afflicted in this way need not suffer, when they can get Hop Bitters. See "Truths" and "Proverbs" in another column.

IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE.
that a remedy, made of such common, staple plants as hops, buckwheat, mandrake, dandelion, etc., should make so many and such marvelous and wonderful cures as Hop Bitters do, but when old and young, rich and poor, pastor and doctor, lawyer and editor all testify to having been cured by them, you must believe and try them yourself, and doubt no longer. See other column.

ANOTHER PAT MAN REDUCED.
H. A. Kufus, dealer in dry-goods, Wood-hull, Ill., writes Botanic Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y., June 23d, 1878: "Gentlemen—Please find enclosed five dollars, for which send me, by express, Anti-Fat. I have taken one bottle and I lost five and one-quarter pounds."

Markets.
(December 9, 1878.)

New York Money Market.
GOLD—Quiet at 100 1/2.
LOANS—Carrying rates 1/2 @ 3 per cent.; borrowing rates flat.
GOVERNMENTS—Dull.
RAILROAD BONDS—Irregular.
STATE SECURITIES—Nominal.
STOCKS—The Stock Market was feverish and unsettled throughout the day. At the opening prices declined 1/2 @ 1 per cent., but this was followed by an advance of 1/2 @ 1 per cent. During the afternoon the general list lost the early improvement, the market closing heavy.
London, December 9.—Silver to-day, 50 1/2 pence.

New York Produce Market.
FLOUR—Dull and nominal; superfine, \$3 40 @ 3 75; common to good \$3 37 @ 3 40; good to choice, \$4 15 @ 4 20; white wheat extra, \$4 55 @ 5 25; St. Louis, \$3 80 @ 5 75.
WHEAT—Dull, weak, lower; No. 3 spring, 90 @ 91 1/2; No. 3 red, 90 @ 91 1/2; No. 2 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 1 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 1 white, 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 2 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 3 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 4 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 5 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 6 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 7 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 8 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 9 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 10 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 11 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 12 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 13 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 14 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 15 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 16 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 17 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 18 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 19 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 20 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 21 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 22 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 23 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 24 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 25 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 26 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 27 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 28 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 29 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 30 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 31 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 32 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 33 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 34 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 35 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; No. 36 do., 91 @ 92 1/2; 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Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

BEREFT.

This is my little sweetheart, dead,
Blue were her eyes, and her cheek was red,
And warm at my touch when I saw her last.
When she smiled on me, and held me fast.
By the light, soft clasp of her slender hand;
But now beside her I may stand and stand—
On that dead white cheek, and those shut blue eyes
Will never unclasp at my kiss or call.
If this be the end, if this be a lie,
That I am to know of this woman dear,
If the beautiful girl I knew lies here,
With the beautiful body, cold and still,
If while I stand here, and stand and stand,
With my yearning memories, sore at heart,
For a token or sign to read apart,
The pitiless veil, the noisome shroud;
If this woman so fair, so true, so fond,
With the life and the soul that shone
In her eyes, her voice, which made her in truth
The woman I loved, if this woman forsooth
Is dead as this dead clay that lies,
Under my gaze with close shut eyes;
Then what is the meaning of life, when death
Can break it all as breaks a breath,
The child's blown bubble float in the sun.
What is the meaning of life, if all is don't,
When the life goes out into empty air,
Like this child's playing flimsy and fair;
What is the meaning of love's long pain,
The yearning memories that rend and strain
The living heart and the living soul;
If this is the end—if this the whole
Of life and death; if this the plan
Which drops in the dust, before the plan
Which the brain conceives is half complete,
Making life but the babe's empty cheat,
When a year ago through all the mazes
Of speculations far hung haze,
I wandered on with careless tread,
I had not looked then on my dead—
My dead so infinitely dead—
My dead that coldly lying here,
Mocked my fond heart with semblance fair,
Chilled me with senseless despair.
Then I could calmly measure fate
With Nature's laws, and speculate
On all the doubts that religion brings.
Now, standing here, what is it springs
Within my soul, and makes me despair
Not quite despair. Oh! fond, old fair,
Oh! little sweetheart dead to me;
Somewhere, or other thou must wait for me;
Somewhere, somewhere, I shall not look in vain.
To find thy living face, thy living love again.
—E. W. A. M.

DARNING AND THINKING.
MOTHERS AND SONS.

Darning little toes and heels that all day
long go tramp, tramp, tramp and hurry,
skurry, over fences and into barn lofts,
down the street and over the rough road to
school and always on the highway to man-
hood. Sometimes to greatness, and some-
times, alas, to infamy and shame.

It is our task, as mothers, not only to
close the rents in worn garments, but to
guide the spirit among the snares and pit-
falls that surround youth everywhere. If
most mothers will reflect a moment they
will realize how far away from them their
growing sons are, how little they really
know of the thoughts that most occupy the
minds of boys from ten to eighteen years of
age, and the saddest part of it is that half
of them have been pushed away. The
mother was too busy to listen, or sympathize
with the boyish troubles and ambitions until
he has learned to do without her. Villan-
ous ideas have been poured into his mind
from a dozen sources that she knows noth-
ing of, indeed does not even suspect, be-
cause her world is in her home; her boys
world is in the school where he has compan-
ions of every degree, who impart to him
their own immature notions of the great
outside world and the conduct of life.
These notions have been drawn from every
imaginable source, good and bad, and too
often the growing boy is left to sift them
alone. He has no counsellor but compan-
ions of his own age, no spiritual friend to
teach him the fallacy of this and the dan-
ger of that theory, nor to lead him in the
safe and honorable way.

How many mothers spend an hour, or a
half hour, or any time at all, alone with
their sons each day? How many sons want
to spend any time alone with their moth-
ers, and whose fault is it if they don't want
to?

We have no time, we say, we do not take
time as we should, is the right way of put-
ting it, to make ourselves interesting to our
children, we do not talk to them as if they
were reasoning, thinking beings, whom it is
our duty to help in every way. We love
them and we attend to their physical needs,
but we seldom talk with them.

After a time when they are gone and time
hangs heavy on our wrinkled hands, we will
wonder that we did not teach them many
things that only a mother can, or, if we
have done our best it will be the sweetest
reflection of our declining years. The boy
whose mother was his friend, teacher and
helpmate never forgets it; from every ora-
tor in the land whose mother was all to him
that a mother should be, we hear it boasted
as the proudest record in his life.

No mother can look forward to this honor
unless she takes time to be a friend, not a
slave, to her boy, and no mother has done
her whole duty who only sews and cooks and
washes and punishes and loves. It means
something more to be a good mother in the
age and the land where statesmen and pro-
fessors are born in every home.

RECIPES.

RAISIN CAKE.—One cup sugar, one cup
butter, one-fourth cup butter, two cups
flour, one teaspoonful soda, one teaspoon-
ful spice; lastly add one cup raisins, chop-
ped, and sprinkled with flour. Bake slow-
ly.

GOOD COMMON CAKE.—Two cups sugar;
one tablespoon butter; one cup sweet milk;
two and a half cups flour; one small tea-

spoon soda; two teaspoonfuls cream of tar-
tar; nutmeg to taste. Add one egg, last be-
fore baking.

MARTHA.

INDIAN PUDDING.—Scald three cups of
sweet milk, stir in one cup of Indian meal,
and boil five minutes; take from the fire,
and when cool add the yolks of three eggs
well beaten, one cup sugar, and one-half
cup milk. Bake one hour, and beat the
whites of eggs to a stiff froth, and spread
on top of the pudding.

TO SUGAR OR CRYSTALLIZE POP-CORN.—
Put into an iron kettle one tablespoonful of
butter, three tablespoonfuls of water, and
one teacupful of sugar; boil until ready to
candy, then throw in three quarts of corn,
nicely popped; stir briskly until the candy
is evenly distributed over corn; set the ket-
tle from the fire, and stir until it has cooled
a little, and you have each grain separate
and crystallized with the sugar: care should
be taken not to have too hot a fire lest you
scorch the kernels when crystallizing. Nuts
of any kind when prepared in this way are
delicious.

APPLE-BUTTER.—Making this is well
understood by most old farmers' wives, but
people who live in cities, and depend on
the market and the family grocer to furnish
them all such articles ready prepared, do
not know how vastly more economical it is to
make their own. Take good apples, all of
one kind, so they will cook evenly, pare
and quarter them, then put into boiling ci-
der, about 2 gallons of apples to 1 of cider;
Boil it first and then simmer slowly (stirring
constantly), about 12 hours, till it is reduced
to a thick smooth pulp, when it can be put
away in open jars for winter use. Now is
the time for making apple-butter, while ap-
ples and cider are plenty and good.

APPLE-BUTTER.—Pare and quarter one
bushel of tart apples. Place them over a
fire, with sufficient water to them. After
they are dissolved by boiling, add two and
a half gallons sweet cider, and boil together
until the apples and cider appear perfectly
smooth or not separate from each other.
About one hour before taking off, add three
and a half pounds brown sugar, and half
an ounce of cinnamon. Some add a tea-
spoonful of cloves. When the apples begin
dissolve, which will be indicated by their
settling, they must be constantly stirred, un-
til the butter is ready to come off the fire,
both for the purpose of keeping them from
burning and to make the butter fine and
free from lumps.

JENNIE B.

SOME MEN'S WIVES.

"I tell you what it is," said one of a
small coterie of wealthy men, who had met
in the office of one of their number, "they
may say what they please about the use-
lessness of modern women, but my wife
has done her share toward securing our
success in life. Everybody knows that her
family was aristocratic, and very exclusive,
and all that, and when I married her she
had never done a day's work in her life;
but when W. & Co. failed, and I had to
commence at the foot of the hill again, she
discharged the servants and chose out a
neat little cottage, and did her own house-
keeping until I was better off again."

"And my wife," said a second, "was an
only daughter, petted and caressed to
death, and everybody said, 'Well, if he
will marry a doll like that, he'll make the
greatest mistake of his life; but when I
came home the first year of our marriage
sick with the fever, she nursed me back to
health, and I never knew her to murmur
because we could not afford any better
style, or more luxuries."

"Well, gentlemen," chimed in a third, "I
married a smart, healthy, pretty girl, but
she was a regular blue-stocking—she
adored Tennyson, doted on Byron, read
Emerson, and named the first baby Ralph
Waldo, and the second Maud; but I tell
you what it is," and the speaker's eyes
grew moist, "when we laid little Maud in
her last bed, at Auburn, my wife had no
remembrance of neglect, or stinted moth-
erly care, and the little dresses that still lie
in the locked drawer, were all made by her
own hand."—*Journal of Commerce.*

NEW BOOKS.

How to Destroy Insects.

This is a very valuable little book to win-
dow gardeners and lovers of flowers, as it tells
how to destroy numerous kinds of insects de-
structive to plants both indoors and out. It
gives directions for fertilizing and stimulating
plants, and relates valuable experiences of
cultivators in keeping plants healthy. It is
also valuable to housekeepers who are trou-
bled with vermin of any kind. Price 30 cents
by mail, post-paid. Published by Henry T.
Williams, N. Y.

Popular Songs.

Will L. Thompson's songs have recently
become so popular that a music firm in Boston
has been compelled to order fifteen thousand
copies of the following pieces to supply the
demand:
"Gathering Shells from the Sea Shore."
"Drifting with the Tide."
"The Poor Old Tramp."
Each piece is a beautiful song and chorus.
Any music dealer will mail them to your ad-
dress on receipt of price, 40 cents each. Pub-
lished by W. L. Thompson & Co., East Liver-
pool, Ohio.

MISS GREY'S THANKSGIVING.

BY VIOLET HASTINGS.

Joanna folded her arms, and stood wait-
ing.

"Two years ago," said the woman, "I
came to America with my mistress, who
was then a young bride, having married an
American gentleman. She was French,
and so was I, but we had been living in
England since her parents died, when she
was a child. My mistress was at school,
educating herself for a governess; but her
health gave way, and she was obliged to
give up her studies. She had no relatives,
and she was quite poor, for she was sent to
school by an old lady who had taken a fan-
cy to her, and had died leaving her a sum
to educate herself with. Well the gentle-
man had become acquainted with her case,
and he took care of her, and married her
in a few weeks after she left school. We
came to this country about a year afterward.
We lived at a boarding house in New York.
Soon after we came over, the gentleman
was obliged to return to England to secure
some property which belonged to him there.
He was to be back as soon as the trip could
be made."

"Well, mistress waited as long as she
could, poor thing. She was quite alone but
for me. When the time had set for his
return had passed by, and he did not re-
turn, she became quite ill. I don't know
how long we waited—it seemed like months,
and she grew worse all the time, till her ba-
by was born. Then she got another letter
from her husband. He had been delayed
by business, but would come in the next
steamer, without fail."

"She was getting stronger fast, and was
looking for him hourly, when the news
came that the vessel was lost at sea, and
his name was not among the few who were
saved. She only lived two days. She be-
gged me to take care of her baby, and died
in my arms."

"I had a cousin living in Pennsylvania.
I had her address with me, I took the child
and what money my mistress had left, and
went to the place; but she had 'moved
West,' the people said."

"I was a stranger and nobody would em-
ploy me. I started on foot for the nearest
seaport; for I thought if I could only get
back to my own country, I could live and
keep the child. I had still enough money
left to pay my passage across. But I was
obliged to spend some of it, and by the
time I reached this village I was so tired
and discouraged that I was ready for almost
anything."

"I passed this house in the afternoon of
that dreary Thanksgiving eve, and it looked
so quiet and peaceful that I thought, 'What
a good shelter it might be for the poor
homeless baby!' After I had passed down
the hill and left the village away on my
right, I looked back and saw the white
house still looking down on me from the
hill. And it seemed to draw me back.
I walked on till night, but found no place to
stay, and then I made up my mind to come
back."

"I reached the foot of the hill a little after
midnight, and walked back and forth with
the baby in my arms to keep warm till near-
ly day-light. It soon began to snow, but I
wrapped the baby so snugly in its blankets
that it kept warm all the while in its little
basket where I had put it with a few things
that I intended leaving with it. After I had
placed it on the steps, I hid in the grove of
oaks outside the gate, until I saw the smoke
curling from your chimney. Then I crept
away, and, leaving the village road, kept in
the by-ways until I got some distance into
the country. I met some people moving to
another State, and they let me go with
them."

"And where are you going now?" asked Jo-
anna, looking in her face.

"I am going back to my own kindred, if I
can live to reach them. I have a little
money, you see, but it is to take me
across the ocean."

"What was the name of the child's
father?"

"His name was Philip Westmore."

"That man!" gasped Joanna, "what have
you done, woman?"

"The tramp-woman shrunk from Joanna's
fierce eyes. 'What have I done?' she re-
peated vaguely.

"There isn't a living soul," said Joanna,
"who dares to breathe that name to my
mistress. And now—Hush!"

"Joanna" called her mistress, impera-
tively.

Obediently the summons, she found Miss
Grey, sitting by the fire, with little Emily in
her lap. The hoarse, peculiar cough, never
heard by nurse or mother without a thrill of
alarm, told that croup had seized its vic-
tim.

"Run for Dr. Vincent," said Mrs. Grey,
briefly; and in another minute Joanna had
thrown a shawl on her head and was tramp-
ing through the star-lit night.

Dr. Vincent was not in his office. He
had been called to a patient several miles
away. Joanna's visit had caused a little
stir in the village hotel, in an upper room of
which the doctor had his office; and as she
was turning away from the door, a gentle-
man came out and said in a pleasant, cour-
teous tone.

"If you are in want of a physician, per-
haps I can be of service to you."

"Come on, then, if you please," said Jo-
anna.

He put on his hat, said a few words to
the landlord, and started in the wake of the
woman who walked at an astonishing pace.

"Who is your mistress?" he asked.

"Miss Grey, sir."

"Ah, indeed!" with which exclamation,
whatever it might mean, the stranger re-
lapsed into a silence that was not broken
until they reached the house.

Joanna opened the door of the sitting-
room, and stood aside for him to pass.

"Walk in, sir," said she. And he walked
into the full glow of the fire-light, and saw
the woman sitting by the hearth, with the
child on her knee. It was sound asleep
now. Miss Grey had administered a quan-
tity of alum and sugar, which "acted like a
charm," and little Emily slumbered peace-
fully on the bosom which had grown more
soft and womanly since the baby head had
nestled there.

The "tramp woman" toods behind Miss

Grey's chair. As the tall figure in the door-
way stepped into the light, there came a cry
of surprise and terror from the strange wo-
man, and a smothered gasping sound from
Miss Grey. And then, for the first time in
her life, Joanna thought her mistress was
going to faint, she looked so white and
stricken, all at once.

"Miss Grey," said the stranger in a voice
voice that trembled perceptibly, "perhaps
you recall my name? I was told that you
needed a doctor, and as Dr. Vincent was
absent, I came to offer my services. But I
was not aware at the time that I was about
to intrude upon you, madam."

Miss Grey lifted her head. "I thank you,"
she said—trying to speak in the regal tone
that was her own—"I believe the danger is
past, and I can happily dispense with your
services."

She did not ask him to be seated, and he
still stood with hat in hand, looking upon
her with an expression half proud, half
pleading. She drew the child to her breast
with a gesture that said, as plainly as though
her lips had spoken it—"You shall not touch
her."

The tramp-woman came forward a step
or two, looking from one to the other, and
spoke, as though the words came without
any volition of hers—

"The child is this, lady."

The stranger looked at her in a kind of
stupor of surprise, that gave way in a mo-
ment to eager excitement.

"Martha Elson!" he ejaculated quickly;
but before he could utter anything more,
Miss Grey had risen to her feet, and stood
before them with flashing eyes.

"What did you say, woman?" she cried
fiercely.

"This is his baby, ma'am," answered
Martha, who had grown calmer; and turn-
ing to him she added, "I can prove it to
you, Dr. Westmore. This is the child that
my young mistress gave to me when she
died."

"Tell me the whole story, Martha," he
said brokenly. "God-knows I have sought
you far and wide, but never thought to find
you here to-night."

She told him then. Miss Grey had sunk
into her seat again, and Joanna, striding
across the room, stood at the back of her
mistress' chair. Dr. Westmore stood with
folded arms to listen, his face growing paler,
and indescribably tender and mournful as
she proceeded. The little Emily lay still
like a fair carved cherub, her golden hair
falling in a shining silken mesh over Miss
Grey's somber dress. Her foster-mother
gazed steadfastly upon the beautiful face,
and her lips trembled.

When the woman had ended her story,
Dr. Westmore came nearer and looked
down upon the bowed head.

"Theodora," he said, "will you let me
look at my child?"

She lifted her face, and the proud eyes
fell before his mournful gaze.

"Are you going to take her from me?"
she faltered.

"No."

"Sit down."

He took the chair on the opposite side of
the hearth. She rose, crossed the floor, and
laid the child in his arms; then turned to
Joanna, with a feeble uncertain motion, and
let the strong, faithful creature lead her from
the room.

They left the father alone with his child
for a while; and when he left the house, to
return to the village, it was understood that
he should return in the morning.

When he was going, Miss Grey laid the
still sleeping child in her bed; then going to
a chest of drawers in the corner of the
room, she took out garment after garment
of dainty size and workmanship, letting the
locked tears fall upon them as she unfolded
them. They were her baby's clothes.

At last she came to the long, fine, French
slip, of spotless white which had clothed its
dainty limbs when she first looked upon it;
the robe which its young, broken-hearted
mother had wrought upon with such loving
patience. This, with a few other things
found in the basket with it she laid aside to
give to the baby's father.

He came in the morning, when the roses
were bright on little Emily's cheeks, and
looked for the first time into the blue eyes
that to him were a perfect copy of the soft
violet eyes of his innocent "child-bride."

And almost unconsciously he found himself
speaking to Theodora tenderly and rever-
ently of that gentle child, who, though she
never won the best love of his manhood,
had found in him a tender and faithful pro-
tector and friend.

And somehow, in speaking to her of his
past, uncovered from the rubbish of by-gone
memories the key to a miserable labyrinth
of misunderstandings which had swallowed
up their early love and hopes; and the veil
fell from their eyes, and they saw each
other's hearts as they had been in the first
glow of their youthful affection.

And so the quarrel that had been for so
long was no more, but had vanished like a
troubled dream. After this Miss Grey melt-
ed and softened into a real woman; such a
woman as Philip Westmore and his little
Lily—or Emily, as he called her—had cause
to thank God for, ever after. And Joanna
and the tramp woman lived together in har-
mony, happy in serving the two friends.

[CONCLUDED.]

It is said in Washington, that there will be
a movement, as soon as congress meets, to
make the trade dollar a legal tender, and thus
to add twenty millions of coin to the circula-
tion. The Treasury authorities claim to have
information that almost the entire amount of
the trade dollars in this country are in the
hands of brokers who are holding them ex-
pecting legislation which will increase their
value 10 per cent.

The United States post office department
has recently issued a report that should serve
to warn people against carelessness. It states
that an average of 4,000,000 dead letters are
received annually at the dead letter office—
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dressed, 6,000 with no address; \$1,500,000 of
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