

diversities of the warmth and rains which build plants and furnish fruits!

It is frequently asserted that a boy will become more skillful in the practice of agriculture if kept at work on the home farm, under his father's guidance, provided the latter be a farmer, than if placed under the instruction of a professor of practical agriculture; hence that there is no necessity for professional teaching.

Evidently, this depends upon several things. If the father has a better knowledge of the scientific principles actually used in agriculture; if he can apply these principles more successfully, if he has better apparatus for illustrating both the principles and their applications, in the shape of the greatest variety of soils, of the best implements, cultures, crops, cattle and fruits; if he is a better teacher; and if he will fully devote himself and his farm to the task of teaching the boy what to do and what not to do as a practical farmer, and drilling him in the best ways of doing a desirable thing and preventing an undesirable thing—certainly such a farmer should keep his boy at home, unless the latter is deficient in that branch of education given by the literary departments of the college. But is this fortunate combination of essential advantages often found? On the one hand, many capable farmers are not able to buy the necessary apparatus. On the other, many rich farmers have not the requisite scientific knowledge. And he who possesses both the means and the knowledge, willing to teach his own son, is usually not so willing to follow the business of teaching other men's sons simply because farming pays better than teaching. These advantages should be provided by Agricultural Colleges, and should be used in giving the best instructions and drill in the practice of agriculture. Whether they really are so provided and used is another question, but evidently they can be.

The above assertion would not be so frequently made by experienced farmers with out some reason. In many instances, their observation of men who claim to farm "scientifically," has justified one, and often both, of two conclusions: either, that the given claimants made false pretensions, or, that "scientific farming" mixed a little sense with a deal of humbug. Furthermore there is a natural tendency to overestimate the actual power of science, and to believe it possessed of a greater practical value than it really has. And there is no doubt that in many colleges too much attention has been given to overestimated branches, and too little, or none at all, to drill in the practice of agriculture; as an inevitable result their graduates have not succeeded in farming as well as neighbors who never attended college.

To be continued.

Scientific Miscellany.

From the American Journal of Science and Arts.

RABIES MEPHITICA.

BY REV. HORACE C. HOVEY, M. A.

My subject concerns alike medical science and natural history. For while proving the existence of a new disease, some singular facts will be brought to light about a familiar member of the American fauna. It is cruel to add aught to the odium already attached to the common skunk (*Mephitis mephitis* Shaw; *M. chinga* Tiedmann). But, clearly, he is as dangerous as he is disagreeable. In a wild state he is by no means the weak, timid, harmless creature commonly described by naturalists; although it is said that, if disarmed of his weapons of offence while young, he may be safely domesticated.

A peculiar poison is sometimes contained in the saliva of animals belonging to the canine and feline families, the production of which, it has been generally supposed, is limited to them. Other animals, of the same or different species, may be inoculated with this virus; the result being a mysterious malady, which men have observed from the days of Homer and Aristotle, but which has never been either cured or understood. This frightful disease has been called, from its origin, *Rabies canina*, and from one of its symptoms, *hydrophobia*. Probably it is not communicable by any species but those with which it originates. A few instances have been recorded to the contrary; but they were so imperfectly observed as merely to stimulate us to further investigation. It is stated by the best medical writers (e. g., Watson Cross, and Aitken), as an undeniable fact, that no instance is known of hydrophobia having been communicated from one human being to another, although many patients, in their spasms, have bitten their attendants. An interesting case, but inconclusive, being the only one of its kind, is reported by M. Guillery, in which an aged man experienced spontaneous hydrophobia. (Bulletin of Belgian Academy, No. 8, 1871.) In such exceptional instances there may have been previous inoculation, unnoticed or forgotten; for the least particle of this deadly poison will be sufficient, and yet it is always tardy in its period of incubation.

The facts now collated will show, it is thought, one of two things, either that the hydrophobic virus is both generated and communicated by some of the *Mustelida* as well as the *Felida* and *Canida*; or else, that a new disease has been discovered, which generically resembles *Rabies canina*, while differing from it specifically. My judgment favors the latter opinion, decidedly, for reasons to be adduced; and accordingly I may name this new malady,

from the animal in whose saliva it is generated.

RABIES MEPHITICA.

The varieties of *Mephitis* are notorious for the singular battery with which they are provided by nature. It consists of two anal glands from which, by the contraction of sub-caudal muscles, an offensive fluid can be discharged in thread-like streams, with such accuracy of aim as to strike any object within fifteen feet. This secretion is either colorless, or of a pale yellow hue. It is phosphorescent. Viewed from a safe distance, its discharge looks like a puff of steam or white smoke. Its odor is far more persistent than that of musk. If too freely inhaled it causes intense nausea, followed by distressing gastric cramp. In minute doses it is said to be a valuable anti-spasmodic. If so why not experiment with it as a cure for hydrophobic convulsions? It is not known what the effect would be of injecting this fluid beneath the skin. Interesting results might be attained by any one who was willing, in behalf of science, to investigate further in this inviting path! There certainly seems to be some connection between it and the disease under consideration; for, in every instance, the rabid skunk has either exhausted his mephitic battery, or else has lost the projectile force by which it is discharged. Perhaps the secretion is only checked by the feverish state of the system. Possibly there may be a causative connection between this inactivity of the anal glands and the generation of malignant virus in the glands of the mouth.

An adventure, while on a summer tour amid the Rocky Mountains, first called my attention to the novel class of facts about to be presented. Our camp was invaded by a nocturnal prowler, which proved to be a large coal-black skunk. Anxious to secure his fine silky fur uninjured, I attempted to kill him with small shot, and failed. He made characteristic retaliation; and then, rushing at me with ferocity, he seized the muzzle of my gun between his teeth! Of course the penalty was instant death. An experienced hunter then started us by saying that the bite of this animal is invariably fatal, and that when in perfect apparent health it is always rabid. He resented our incredulity and confirmed his statement by several instances of dogs and men dying in convulsions shortly after being thus bitten.

On mentioning this adventure to H. R. Payne, M.D., who had been camping with miners near Canon City, Col., he said that at night skunks would come into their tent, making a peculiar crying noise. And threatening to attack them. His companions, from Texas and elsewhere, had accounts to give of fatal results following the bite of this animal.

Since returning to Kansas City, I have had extensive correspondence with hunters, taxidermists, surgeons and others, by which means the particulars have been obtained of forty-one cases of *Rabies mephitis*, occurring in Virginia, Michigan, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, and Texas. All were fatal except one; that was a case of a farmer, named Fletcher, living near Gainesville, Texas, who was twice bitten by *M. macroura*, yet recovered and is living still. On further inquiry it was found that he was aware of his danger, and used prompt preventive treatment. Another case was alleged to be an exception; that of a dog which was severely bitten in a long fight with a skunk, but whose wounds healed readily and without subsequent disease. It seems, however, that this dog afterward died with mysterious symptoms like those of hydrophobia in some of its less aggravated forms.

Instead of burdening this article with a mass of circumstantial details, a few cases only will be given best fitted to show the peculiarities of the malady; and those are preferred that are located on the almost uninhabited plains of western Kansas, because there the mephitic weasels would be least liable to be inoculated with canine virus.

A veteran hunter, Nathaniel Douglas, was hunting buffalo, in June, 1873, fourteen miles north of Park's Fort. While asleep he was bitten on the thumb by a skunk. Fourteen days afterward singular sensations caused him to seek medical advice. But it was too late, and after convulsions lasting for ten hours he died. This case is reported by an eye-witness, Mr. E. S. Love, of Wyandotte, Kansas, who also gives several similar accounts.

One of the men employed by H. P. Wilson, Esq., of Hayes City, Kansas, was bitten by a skunk at night, while herding cattle on the plains. About ten days after he was seized with delirium and fearful convulsions, which followed each other until death brought relief. Mr. Wilson also reports other cases, one of which is very recent. In the summer of 1873, a Swedish girl was bitten by a skunk while going to a neighbor's house. As the wound was slight and readily cured, the affair was hardly thought worthy of remembrance. But on Jan. 24th, 1874, the virus, which had been latent for five months, asserted its power. She was seized with terrible paroxysms. Large doses of morphia were administered, which ended both her agony and her life.

In October, 1871, a hunter on Walnut Creek, Kansas, was awakened by having his left ear bitten by some animal. Seizing it with his hand, he found it to be a skunk, which after a struggle he killed, but not until his hand was painfully punctured and lacerated. He presented himself for treatment to Dr. J. H. Janeway, army surgeon at Fort Hayes, from whom I have the facts. The wounds in the hands were cauterized, much to the man's disgust, who thought simple dressing sufficient. He refused to have the wound in the ear touched,

and went to Fort Harker to consult Dr. R. C. Brewer. Twelve days afterwards the latter reported that his patient had died with hydrophobic symptoms.

Another hunter, in the fall of 1873, applied to Dr. Janeway to be treated for a bite through one of the alae of the nose. He had been attacked by a skunk, while in camp on the Smoky River, two nights previous. He had been imbibing stimulants freely and was highly excited and nervous. A stick of nitrate of silver was passed through the wounds several times. He was kept under treatment for two days, when he left to have a "madstone" applied. He afterward went home to his ranch, and died in convulsions twenty-one days from the time he was inoculated.

I give but one more of the cases reported to me by Dr. Janeway. In October, 1871, he was called to see a young man living in a "dog-out," a few miles from the Fort. He had been bitten by a skunk, seventeen days previous, in the little finger of the left hand. His face was flushed, and he complained that his throat seemed to be turning into bone. On hearing the sound of water poured from a pail into a tin cup, he went into convulsions, that followed each other with rapidity and violence for sixteen hours, terminating in death. This man's dog had also been bitten, and it was suggested that he had better be shut up. He chanced at the time to be in the hog-pen, and he was confined in that enclosure. Ere long he had begun to gnaw furiously at the rails and posts of the pen and to bite the hogs; until the bystanders, convinced that he was mad, ended the scene by shooting all the animals in the pen.

It is evidently the opinion of Dr. Janeway that the malady produced by mephitic virus is simply hydrophobia. Should he be correct, then all that is established by these facts would be this, viz: that hence forth the varieties of *Mephitis* must be classed with those animals that spontaneously generate poison in the glands of the mouth and communicate it by salivary inoculation; from this, as a starting-point, we might go further and seek a solution of the whole mystery of hydrophobia in the theory that this dread malady primarily originates with the allied genera of *Mephitis*, *Putorius* and *Mustela*, widely scattered over the earth,* being from them transferred to the Felidae and Canidae and other families of animals. And then, if it could be proved experimentally that the characteristic mephitic secretions contained an antidote for the virus of the saliva, we should have the whole subject arranged very beautifully!

I am favored by Dr. M. M. Shearer, surgeon in the 6th U. S. Cavalry, with notes from his case-book, of four cases in which persons have died from the bite of the skunk; and he also mentions additional instances reported to him by other observers. He thinks there is a marked difference between the symptoms of their malady and those of hydrophobia. I shall refer to his testimony again, but pause for a moment to notice his final conclusions, from which, original and interesting as they are, I must dissent. He says: "I regard this virus as being as peculiar to the skunk as the venom of the rattlesnake is to that creature; and not an occasional outbreak of disease as the *aestus venereus* of the wolf or the *rabies canina*." Singular as this theory may seem, it is not wholly without support. It is remarkable that of all the cases thus far reported to me there is but one instance of recovery. It is stated in Watson's Physic (vol. 1, p. 615) that of one hundred and fourteen bitten by rabid wolves only sixty-seven died; and of those bitten by rabid dogs the proportion is still less. But mephitic inoculation is sure death. Then again it is to be observed that the only peculiarity noticeable in these biting skunks is the arrest of their effluvium. They approach stealthily, while their victims are asleep, and inflict the deadly wound on some minor member—the thumb, the little finger, the lobe of the ear, one of the alae of the nose. How different from the fierce assault of a mad dog! How subtle and snake-like! It may be remarked, also, that dogs are generally as cautious and adroit in attacking these odious enemies as they are in seizing venomous snakes. But we must remember, on the other hand, that thousands of skunks are killed annually, partly as pests and partly for the fur trade; and it is incredible that an animal whose ordinary bite is as venomous as that of a rattlesnake, should so seldom resort to that mode of defence, if it be his.

The resulting disease resembles hydrophobia more than it does the effects of ophioid venom. But here, as observed at the outset the likeness is only generic, while specifically there are marked differences. These have purposely been kept in the background until now. And in giving a differential diagnosis, I shall avoid repetitions details, and combine facts gathered from many sources with the close and accurate observations which Dr. Shearer has put at my disposal.

1. The period of incubation is alike in *Rabies canina* and *Rabies mephitis*. That is, it is indefinite, ranging from ten days to twelve months, with no opportunity meanwhile for subsequent inoculation. But (during the incubative period of *R. mephitis*, no perceptible changes take place in the constitution as in hydrophobia. In only one instance was there unusual nervousness, and that might have

*Since forwarding this article for publication, I have obtained an answer to my inquiries made in California through my friend, Dr. J. G. Tidball, respecting the *Mephitis* variety. He described it as a very pretty little animal which usually allows itself to be killed without resistance. But he adds that its bite is highly dangerous, causing a fatal disease like hydrophobia. I regret that he gives no particulars of actual cases. But his testimony is interesting, as it brings into condemnation a species of *Mephitis*, quite different from *M. chinga*.

been due to alcohol. In every case, where there was time for it, the wounds healed over smoothly and permanently, and in several instances not even a scar was visible. In not one case was there recrudescence of the wound, always seen in hydrophobia. Indeed, there were so few premonitions of any kind that, in most instances, the attending physicians themselves supposed the ailment to be simple and trivial, until the sudden and fearful convulsions came on to baffle all their skill.

2. Characteristic pustules form, in hydrophobia, beneath the tongue and near the orifices of the sub-maxillary glands. (See Aitken, Sci. and Pract. Med., vol. 1, p. 653.) These were not reported in a single case of *R. mephitis*. Dr. Shearer looked for them carefully in all his cases, but did not find them.

3. The specific action of hydrophobic virus affects the eighth pair of cranial nerves and their branches, especially the oesophageal branch, the result being great difficulty in swallowing; and the motor nerve of the larynx, causing sighing, catching of the breath, and difficulty in expelling the frothy mucus accumulated in the throat. These invariable accompaniments of *R. canina* are usually wanting in *R. mephitis*; the exceptions being in the case of the Swedish girl, who complained of pain in her chest; and the young man Dr. Janeway's patient, whose constriction of the throat was decided, as well as his sensitiveness to water. Dr. Shearer's patients had no such trouble. A taxidermist, who has seen four dogs die from *R. mephitis*, in Michigan, says they did not seem to have any fear of water, or other signs which he had supposed were characteristic of *R. canina*. Ordinary hydrophobia, again, is marked by constant hyperaesthesia of the skin, so that the slightest breath of air will precipitate convulsions. But, in *R. mephitis*, fanning the face affords relief, and even cloths dipped in water and laid on the forehead were soothing!

4. In hydrophobia the perceptions are intensified, so that even the deaf are said to have their hearing restored; the pupils are strongly dilated, imparting to the eyes a wild, glaring expression; the spasms are tonic, i. e., steady and continuous; the pulse is feeble; and delirium is occasionally relieved by lucid intervals. But the symptoms are wholly different in *R. mephitis*: there is oscillation of the pupil; the spasms are clonic, i. e., marked by rapid alternate contraction and relaxation of the muscles; small but wiry radial pulse and rapid carotids; positive loss of perception and volition throughout, until delirium ends in persistent unconsciousness, simultaneously with cold perspiration and relaxation of the sphincters.

5. The mode of death is by asphyxia in both forms of rabies; but in *R. canina* the frightful struggles of nature to eliminate the poison are more prolonged than in *R. mephitis*; and in the latter they may, on occasion, be still further abridged by the use of morphia, which has no narcotic effect upon the former, even in the largest doses and injected into the veins! I have thus endeavored to describe, and also to explain, these strange and painful phenomena. I must leave the reader to form his own decision, only hoping that some one may be encouraged to follow this pioneer work in a new path, by further and more able investigations of his own.

Patrons of Husbandry.

It is requested that all Granges within the state report the names and postoffice address of their Masters and Secretaries, elected for the ensuing year, to the Secretary of the State Grange, G. W. Brunson, of Jacksonville, Neosho county, Kansas.

It is also requested that each delegation from every county report the names and postoffice address of the Masters and Secretaries of the Subordinate Granges of their respective counties at the coming meeting of the State Grange, on the third Wednesday of February next.

Topeka, Jan. 14, 1874.

To Deputies.

The various Deputies will greatly oblige us by sending lists of Granges, when organized, for publication in this column.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

The Secretaries and Treasurers will please bear in mind that their Reports should not be sent to the State Agent at Topeka. We have received a large number of the reports of both Secretary and Treasurer, some of them addressed to the State Agent, which, after being opened, costs the agency for remailing.

Secretaries should send their reports to G. W. Brunson, Jacksonville, Neosho county; and Treasurers, to H. H. Angell, Sherman City.

CHATS WITH PATRONS AND REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BY W. F. FOFENOE.

Communications for this Department must be accompanied by full name and postoffice address. Questions are often asked which it would be improper to answer in this column. We shall not publish names—only initials.

J. G.—Is there any specified time for the annual election and installation of officers, or can we do it at our own convenience? Also, who are the proper persons to install the officers?

The election of officers should be held at the last meeting in December, and the installation at the first meeting in January. The Past Masters are proper persons to install your officers. It is pleasant to exchange with another Grange, you and so many of your Grange as can go, visit a neighboring Grange and assist them in their ceremonies of installation and invite them to return the visit on mass. You will have a pleasant, social meeting and be much pleased with the arrangement.

Two or three communications from subordinate Granges in Sumner County asking for aid. Sumner Council, or the Masters of the Granges must appoint some suitable person as an agent for the distribution of relief, and notify the State Agent who he is, and where to ship supplies to. The railroad companies do not propose (and rightly too) to ship free to anybody and everybody. Write us who is your regularly appointed agent.

An appeal from Spring Creek Grange, No. 1801. No county or post office. Where is it?

A brother from Smith county writes: "It may seem strange to you that the people of so fertile a county should be reduced to a condition of actual want by the loss of a single crop. The explanation is, that the settlers came here within the past one or two years, that they came here poor, that they have laid out all their available means in implements, that most of them were unable to obtain wheat to sow last spring and that their entire dependence was upon their garden and corn and potato crops for a living the coming year. How bitterly they have been disappointed can be readily realized when I say that not one of our number raised a single bushel of corn or potatoes nor saved enough vegetables to make a single meal. Under these circumstances we lay aside all false pride, and appeal (shall I not say with confidence) to our brethren in more favored localities, for a little out of their abundance to help us to bridge over the gulf that exists between this and another crop. In addition to the want of food, I think I can safely say that a majority of our people, including children, are without shoes and comfortable winter clothing. Hoping to hear from you," etc.

Comment is unnecessary; here are the facts in the case, in Smith as well as other western counties. If we are able to take care of our destitute let us be up and doing; talk will not feed them. You say you pity the settlers on the borders. How much do you pity them? That is the question.

LETTER FROM OUR STATE AGENT, MR. JOHN G. OTIS.

We had the pleasure of attending a social meeting of Prairie Grove Grange on Saturday evening, Nov. 28. It indeed gave us pleasure to meet with so large and so intelligent a gathering of people in this excellent farming region of Doniphan county.

The tables, heavily laden with food of all descriptions, was in marked contrast to the scanty supplies witnessed by us lately in the destitute counties of the West.

Doniphan and Leavenworth counties now consider themselves highly blessed, so far as crops are concerned, the present season. The pens of fat hogs, and the moderate supply of grain found in these counties are a refreshing sight, when compared with the almost total destitution found in many counties west.

Doniphan people think their corn crop light, and so it is when compared with other years, but when compared with the crop of many farmers in Sumner, Rice and Barton counties it seems a luxuriant harvest.

But to our grange meeting. After refreshments were served and the tables cleared away, we were called upon for remarks, and in our feeble way presented to the meeting the condition of the Patrons of Sumner, Reno, Rice, Barton, McPherson, and other western frontier counties, stating their urgent need of food, clothing and the necessities of life, showing the plan of relief which our Executive Committee has provided, and urged all, whether Patrons or not, to do all in their power to add to the relief fund and help aid the sufferers, and if we mistake not the spirit of this meeting, and of all the Patrons and other citizens in Doniphan county with whom we have conversed, this county will do her duty nobly in this matter of relief. Bro. J. M. Tracy, at Troy, is acting as the agent for bulking of relief supplies in this county, and we believe he is the right man in the right place.

At this meeting, Bro. Hinckley, of Oakland Grove Grange, Bro. Rippey, and others made some remarks, assuring us that they were awake to this subject, and that Doniphan co would acquit herself handsomely in this relief matter.

After listening to the reading of a very interesting address from Bro. Ludwig, Lecturer of this Grange, on the subject of farmers daughters, and remarks by various members, giving evidence that the grange is still alive and active in this region, the grange adjourned to meet on Monday evening, the 30th, to appoint a relief committee and to take into consideration the commercial and business features of the Order.

We have sent out appointments to various granges in the county, and shall employ the next ten days or two weeks in working up this relief matter and the business features of our Order in Doniphan Co. JOHN G. OTIS.

LETTER FROM MARSHALL COUNTY.

EDITOR FARMER: I am thinking whether the farmers of this State, should they enumerate the failures and successes of their avocation, would be given entirely to fault finding and dissatisfaction in judging of the situation.

Our local papers come to us with a proclamation from high officials setting aside a day in this month for returning thanks for the many bounties that have been bestowed upon us, and while we have had many failures and discouragements, yet there is much for which we should be sincerely grateful. True it is

hard for us farmers to be compelled to depend upon our local dealers for our supply of potatoes, vegetables, etc., shipped here by our more fortunate brother farmers in Iowa, yet, perhaps another season will enable us to balance the account by divesting the Iowans of their surplus greenbacks for the large number of stock steers that have been held over for better prices. Surely we ought not to complain too much when we can realize as good a crop of small grain as we have the past season. Much more fortunate are we than our neighbors in Nebraska, who, according to report, are in a very destitute condition. We ought to turn our calamities to the best account by profiting by the experience which may be drawn from them and used to advantage in our future farming operations.

We have learned that a mixed husbandry is better adapted to our purpose here, and that we seldom have a failure in all kinds of crops.

Winter wheat in this part of the State has been almost an entire failure for several years and farmers are very wisely turning their attention to rye as a substitute, which is very hardy and which, upon an emergency, could be used to good advantage in the absence of other material as the staff of life. Probably there is no other cereal so well adapted to promote intelligence and civilization among a people, as wheat. Yet the history of many European countries where rye is largely used for family use, teaches us that it occupies no secondary place in raising and maintaining an energetic labor enduring people.

A large area has been sown in Northern Kansas to rye the past fall, and it is growing in favor more and more among the farmers. While we as farmers in Kansas have some grievances to endure, yet our prospects might be far worse.

I have recently received letters from friends in the east who report that in some sections of New England entire farms are being abandoned, not being productive enough to support their owners. One case in particular I remember of a friend visiting his old homestead and finding the present owner struggling hard to support his small family and the farm stock, consisting of two cows, twenty sheep and a single team upon an area of 500 acres, who remarked that he would soon have to enlarge his farm or sell of a part of his stock to make the ends of the year meet.

This farm was fenced with a stone wall seven feet thick at the base and three on top, yet the profuse display of boulders left upon its surface would hardly indicate that a single load had ever been removed.

Should we farmers of Kansas encounter such obstacles, I believe our charity would very much enlarge for the friendly visits of our grasshopper friends and a few week's drouth occasionally.

Stock here will go into winter quarters in very fair condition, the early fall rains having made good feed for several months past.

We speak of mixed husbandry as being desirable in grain raising, should we not apply the same in stock raising? Several of our neighbors engaged in sheep raising a few years since, with very poor success at first. Nearly whole flocks in some instances having died with disease, yet those that survived and became acclimated are doing exceedingly well at present. I believe they will be very profitable in the future. There is a large amount of wheat being held in this section for better prices, and times are very dull in consequence. Surely, fifty to fifty-five cents per bushel for wheat would soon bring ruin upon any country, but let us, as farmers, hope for better times. Providence has allotted to us the choicest portion of the great American Republic and at no distant day this magnificent valley of the Mississippi will richly support its teeming millions of intelligent energetic people. I feel very grateful myself that fortune has cast my lot among so intelligent, moral and religious people as are found in north-west Kansas. There is an enterprising resolution here to succeed, which grasshoppers cannot overcome nor drouths subvert.

HORACE SMITH.
Waterville, Marshall Co., Kansas.

A Live Grange.

A brother writes, "Our Grange is a live one." Only six little words, but how significant they set us to thinking. There are too many dead Granges, too many that have just enough vitality to keep them alive, and none to spare. These hang like an incubus upon the body of the great Reform, dragging it downward and impeding its progress. There are rash Granges, impetuous Granges, indiscreet Granges, but worst of all is the dead Grange, for it sends forth from its carcass the foul odors of decomposition, and fills the moral air around it with its festering breath, and men avoid it as they would contagion itself.

Reader, is your Grange a live one? If not, what killed it? Is there vitality enough in it yet to restore it, to preserve its life? How many live members have you? Go to work with renewed zeal. Fan the little flame if there is one. Infuse new life into new members, and the next time you write to us, say "Our Grange is a live one." There may be live Granges with dead members in them, but there can be no dead Granges with live members in them. A half dozen live, vigorous, energetic, persevering Grangers will keep any Grange in the country in a healthy condition, and are worth a whole regiment of cold, lukewarm, half and half members.—Ohio Farmer.

By the Indiana purchasing agent arrangements are being made to furnish a weekly Price Current of staple articles which the farmers buy and sell. Also, the condition and prospects of the markets.

No Grange Aristocracy.

The very influential Hamilton, Ohio, County Council has adopted the following plain and pertinent resolutions:

Whereas, The County Councils of the Patrons of Husbandry throughout the State of Ohio, and other States, have been organized in good faith, the members being selected for their honesty and business capacity, and now subserving the best interests of the Order; and Whereas, The establishment of fifth degree Granges, as contemplated by the National Grange, would not only disorganize and destroy the present councils, but entail a social distinction endangering the Order by establishing class degrees to control its business and educational interests; therefore

Resolved, That we respectfully request our representatives in the National Grange to seriously consider this subject at their next session and urge the propriety of only one class of degrees for all—fixing forever one common level on which all Patrons, from the highest to the lowest, may meet in harmony; further

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolutions be placed in the hands of the Worthy Master of the State Grange, respectfully requesting him, as our representative in the National Grange, to bring this measure forward early in the session, and give it his special attention.

We take the following items from the Grange column of the N. Y. World.

The Patrons of Monticello, Ia., have raised nearly all the money required for the construction of a grange elevator and warehouse, and will immediately set about building it.

Mount Vernon Grange, 408, Minnesota, has voted five cents per member per month to help distressed Patrons in the grasshopper district, and a bushel of corn each in addition.

The Patrons of Riverside, Ia., claim that by trading through the Grange agency they have saved from 10 to 100 per cent. This is certainly the most remarkable success recorded.

Riverside, Ia., which was only a farm two years ago, is now building a grange elevator. The Patrons trade direct with a grange house at Chicago, and report a heavy saving.

For manufacturing and other improvements, Solomon beats any town in the State. The new salt well now being sunk is destined to give additional importance to this city. The parties who have taken hold of the project are amply able to push it to a successful issue. They have now reached a depth of over one hundred feet. A vein of gypsum, fourteen feet thick, was struck ninety feet below the surface. There is no telling how deep they will have to go before reaching the "briny regions," but that they will succeed there is no doubt.—Solomon Gazette.

The Baxter Springs Republican says the Council at Talequah don't talk anything about opening the territory for white settlers.

The hog crop is coming in quite lively, and we are pleased to note that prices have an upward tendency. From \$2,000 to \$3,000 is paid out daily for this crop.—South Kansas Tribune.

State Agent Frew, of Illinois, posts Harris Brothers, of Boston and Canada, who are offering Slinger machines at \$30, as swindlers, on information furnished by the Boston police authorities.

A FEARLESS OFFICER OF STATE.

Extracts From Report of Auditor of State, D. W. Wilder.

We lay before our readers some extracts from the Report of Mr. Wilder, for 1874:

TOPEKA, November 30, 1874.

Hon. Thomas A. Osborn, Governor:

DEAR SIR—The following suggestions in regard to the financial condition and history of the State are respectfully submitted. The tone of the politicians around me is opposed to reform, to purity, to do anything for the public welfare. These men do not favor these things, and do not know what they are. In writing my Reports, I keep such men out of my mind, and write for the great body of the people, who love honor and truth and never forsake them.

Any party which expects to be or remain in power in Kansas, must abandon scheming legislation and special jobs, whether for persons, corporations, or localities. It must show by its acts that it desires to promote the prosperity of the State. Such a party can make mistakes and escape censure. To pursue the opposite policy—the one for which every volume of our law furnishes so many precedents—is to court defeat. While I was musing, says the Psalmist, the fire burned. While I was paying taxes, says the Kansas voter, I was making a platform.

In Vermont there is a constitutional provision which requires every young man, when he becomes of age, before he is permitted to vote, to take what is rightly called the Freeman's Oath:

"I solemnly swear by the ever living God, that whenever I am called to give my vote or suffrage touching any matter that concerns the State of Vermont, I will do it as in my conscience I shall judge will most conduce to the best good of the same, without fear or favor to any man."

DANIEL W. WILDER,
Auditor of State.

Following this letter of transmission to the Governor, Auditor Wilder opens his Report with "Exhibit Z," which opens with

Here's freedom to him that would read,
Here's freedom to him that would write!
There's none ever feared that the truth should be heard,
But they whom the truth would indict.

—Robert Burns.

Upon this, follows a detailed statement of the Treasury Investigation of last winter, which led to the commencement of the trial of Treasurer Hays, in which occurs the following:

"From the time I came into office, the then Treasurer went out, the public money was never in the Treasury. It was loaned to banks and to private citizens, and interest received upon it for the personal gain of the Treasurer. Warrants were stamped 'Not paid for want of funds' when there were funds to pay them. Such warrants were sold by the holders at a discount; the people lost the discount and the speculators made it. The State has thus lost, through various administrations, more than one hundred thousand dollars in interest

money. The people have lost many times that amount in depreciated State paper. It seemed to be time to put an end to these crimes; to this perjury and to this stealing. No State officer, as that term is commonly understood, sustained me in my course. Some of them said I was meddling with what was none of my business. The officers who did not connive at fraud, but who wanted the truth told and disobedience of law to stop, were SAMUEL A. KINGMAN, GEORGE W. MARTIN, DAVID DICKINSON. The journey begun alone was ended with an abundance of company.

"The Governor, in his Message, and the Secretary of State, in his Report, avoided the subject. This snub from a majority of the Examining Board, was a severe reflection upon the truthfulness of the Auditor's Report. The Governor knew the condition of the Treasury better than I did. The saying 'that one in the right is a majority' is true; but the One has a lone, some time and is long looked upon as a fool or a scoundrel.

The law requiring an Annual Report is in these words:

"It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State, the State Auditor, the State Treasurer and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to make out their Annual Reports and deliver them to the Governor on or before the twentieth day of December; and in such Reports they shall mention all the apparent defects, inconsistencies, omissions, unequal or oppressive laws which they shall have severally discovered, for the purpose of enabling the Legislature to make such amendments as will tend to perfect the statute laws of the State."

[Chapter 102, Section 77, Laws 1868.]

In section 34, chapter 102, it is said of the Auditor: "He shall also suggest plans for the improvement and management of the public revenues."

No fault was found when Auditors presented their Reports so late in the session of the Legislature as to have little practical value, and when such Reports were little silent. It was the prompt and legally issued Report that was "clandestine and suspicious." The Treasurer's artfully concealed crime was called "technical violation of the law." My open exposure of it was branded as a "dark and secret" conspiracy. The matter is of no importance now except a warning for future State officers who may love money more than honor, and who would rather steal than keep their oath of office. There is even a temporal day of judgment for them all. They shall suffer while they steal.

Last year this Report advocated prevention by publicity, and quoted from the statutes of Maine, which require the State Treasurer to prepare a statement "at the expiration of each month," and "file it in the office of the Secretary of State, to be open to public inspection." Publication in a newspaper, as then recommended, is a better remedy. Once a month is none too frequent for such publications to be made by the State Treasurer. An honest Treasurer will deem it a pleasure to have the opportunity to show every month that he is true to his trust. A dishonest officer will call it a hardship, will lobby against the passage of such a law, and will resort to every lie and subterfuge to evade it after it is enacted.

The new County Treasury law may be found wanting in stringency, but its general features and purpose are refreshingly sound. A state officer is no better, no more sacred, than a County officer, and a law similar to this will probably be the best means of protecting the State Treasury. The Board of Examiners might be elected from the State Senators, by a *visa voce* vote of the members of the House, each year. The examination made by this board should include every State officer, whether elected or appointed. We should all be the better for it, and the expense of it would be much less than the cost of holding Courts of Impeachment. This is the prevention of crime. The members of the Board should be paid for their services. The Board elected in this manner would probably do its duty faithfully, while it has been shown that State officers will not investigate each other. Our State officers have always been members of the same political party. The new law should give the minority a fair representation on this Board.

Thus far our financial officers, State and local, have been a law unto themselves. Of investigations, defalcations, law suits, we have had no end. The people universally demand financial reform. The means to discover the guilt of an officer must be ample and sufficient; the manner of removing a faithless servant must be certain and speedy. Hitherto our laws have lacked these requisites. Lost money has not been recovered; lawless officers have not been punished. A State Treasury law is as much a necessity as was the County Treasury law, and conviction and removal from office must follow crime. At present the criminal holds office after the House has voted for his impeachment. The thief continues to have custody of the public funds, and to defy the law. A law can be framed that will put such a person into the Penitentiary and out of office without the delay, and respectability of trial before a "High Court of Impeachment." Stealing is too common for this cumbersome process. The constitutional provision for the impeachment of a State officer does not prevent his indictment and punishment.

ANNUAL EXPENDITURES OF THE STATE.
Considerable time and labor have been expended in compiling the following tables. They are not absolutely accurate, especially for some of the earlier years, but they are suf-

ficiently exact to point out all the important facts to enable any one to compare the present with the past, and to be used as a guide by the Legislature in making appropriations. The want of such statistics has been seriously felt in this office, and probably by men interested in public affairs in every part of the State.

The following is given as a companion table to show what the state has attempted to raise each year by taxation:

Year.	Rate of tax on the dollar.	Tax levied.	Taxable property as fixed by the State Board.
1861.....	5 mills.....	74,923	\$ 24,744,833
1862.....	5 ".....	101,469	19,823,749
1863.....	5 ".....	127,302	25,460,400
1864.....	5 ".....	132,334	30,508,791
1865.....	5 ".....	181,136	56,327,200
1866.....	4 ".....	201,760	50,429,894
1867.....	5 ".....	281,381	56,376,350
1868.....	5 1/2 ".....	435,407	65,949,549
1869.....	10 ".....	783,836	76,828,697
1870.....	8 1/2 ".....	699,630	82,526,096
1871.....	8 ".....	692,521	108,733,575
1872.....	8 1/2 ".....	1,085,573	127,690,987
1873.....	8 ".....	724,105	125,684,176
1874.....	6 ".....	773,499	128,916,519

*For the purpose of showing the taxable property of the several States, as given in

The peculiar revelation made in the foregoing tables is the expenditure, in 1873, for printing, of \$5,971.48 more than was appropriated. This crime would appear incredible, had not equally deliberate plundering been exposed in this Report last year. The printed report of the Auditor, for 1871, makes no record of this expenditure. The Treasurer's report for that year shows only the total amount paid on warrants and the interest on them—a convenient way of concealing details. The Auditor and Treasurer owe this amount to the State.* This fraud shows the necessity for selecting a committee to serve all the year to investigate the books and affairs of all the State officers.

*This statement will rouse again the feeling of sympathy for these ex-officers. It is wonderful how many friends a thief has. They swarm around a criminal. Leading Dailies and prominent politicians work for and apologize for a defaulter. The good things a man does hurt him with politicians; the bad are heard with a chuckle of delight. Can a political criminal be convicted in Kansas? Scoundrels are the stoutest partisans. Having no character of their own, they put on that of the party. It is a shield, and gives them prestige, office, control. They scourge as a traitor any honest man who discards a single button of the party uniform. It is amusing to look in on the Caucus, the Convention, the Legislature, and to see the triumphant power of men who do not pay their bills, do not use the truth, do white wash their party friends, and do not go to the Penitentiary. Always an amusing and instructive spectacle.

THE PUBLIC PRINTING.

The State has paid for public printing, since its organization, \$460,398.48. Under the contract system, the work was shabbily done. Since we have had a State Printer, our printing compares favorably with that of other States. Since the present officer, GEORGE W. MARTIN, was elected the work has not only escaped censure, but has been heartily commended by all competent judges. Mr. MARTIN, of his own motion, has introduced reforms in his office which should not only secure his triumphant re-election, but which entitle him to the lasting gratitude of the people. He is a faithful, painstaking, conscientious man, who has done honest work, and who has every day saved money to the State instead of trying to enrich himself. The work has been done upon honor, with no "fattening," no unjust bills, no frauds.

But the laws governing the public printing require amendment. They were enacted when paper and labor were higher than they are now; were enacted to make fat jobs, and not in the interest of the people and economy. They were dictated for selfish purposes; public spirit and a regard for the general welfare are not in them.

THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

The law creating an Insurance Department, (Chapter 93, Laws of 1871,) is a fifth wheel to a coach. It created a new State office with a salary \$1,000 higher than the Governor then received, and \$1,500 higher than the other State officers then received. The salary of the chief clerk, \$1,800, is higher than any other clerk, in any department, has received, but is not more than a competent man deserves and earns in that office or in the offices of the Treasurer and Auditor. The Superintendent's salary, whether high or low, was simply a needless expenditure. No Superintendent has made his residence at the Capital, the work is mainly done by the clerk, and the office is a sinecure. Before this wheel was tied to the coach, the insurance business was done—sometimes badly and dishonestly—by the Auditor. It would not be good policy to restore that condition of affairs, the Auditor already having enough to attend to. A good lawyer is needed at the head of the Insurance Department, and good sense and economy would dictate that the Attorney General be made ex-officio Superintendent of Insurance. Beyond the routine of the office, the most important questions arising are legal ones, and are now referred to the Attorney General for his decision. When an officer now in existence can do the work better and at less cost to the State, there is certainly no good reason for creating a new office.

The present law demands thorough revision or repeal. By this law the fiscal year of the Superintendent ends December 31st, and his Annual Report is made on the first of July. With all other officers, the year ends November 30th, and Reports are made in December. The exception made in favor of the Insurance Department seems to have been for the purpose of keeping the Report from the examination and scrutiny of the Legislature. But eternal watching is still the price of good administration."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE KANSAS STATE Agricultural College

NOW furnishes a THOROUGH and DIRECT EDUCATION to those who intend to be FARMERS, MECHANICS, or to follow other Industrial Pursuits.

THE FOUR COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, FARMERS, MECHANICS, BUSINESS and WOMEN, are prepared with express reference to these things:

1. What the student knows when received;
 2. The time he will remain;
 3. The use which is really made of a given science in his proposed occupation, the studies being so arranged that, at the close of each year, he will have gained that knowledge which is of most value in his business.
- The FIRST OBJECT in each course is to make every student a Master of the English Language, and an Expert in its use; and also, skillful in Mathematics as employed in every day life, including Book Keeping, Business Law and Industrial Drawing.

FARMERS COURSE

Is to give him a practical knowledge of the Structure, Growth and value of Plants; of Light, Heat and Moisture, and of Inorganic, Organic, Analytical and Agricultural Chemistry, as these are related to Plant and Animal Growth; of Economic Zoology, and particularly of Practical Agriculture.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE, including such instruction and drill in the Field, in the Handling of Stock, in the Nursery and in the Wood and Iron Shops as will enable the graduate to Perform Readily each of the varied operations of Actual Farm Life.

In the other courses, the special studies are equally determined by the requirements of the proposed vocation. To MECHANICS, applied mathematics and industrial drawing are given instead of botany, chemistry and zoology, as above; and Shop Practice in place of Practical Agriculture.

The instruction in CHEMISTRY and PHYSICS is fully equal to that of the best eastern institutions, including Practice in Laboratories, and

SUPERIOR ADVANTAGES

are offered to students of Higher Chemistry, to Mineralogists, Druggists, Operators and Workers in Metals. Full collections of the Plants, Insects and Birds of Kansas are being made as rapidly as possible.

THE MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

gives Daily Practice in the following well equipped Shops and Offices:

1. CARPENTER.
2. CABINET.
3. WAGON.
4. BLACKSMITH.
5. PAINT.
6. SEWING.
7. PRINTING.
8. TELEGRAPH.

THE COURSE FOR WOMEN

is Liberal and Practical, including Instrumental Music. Each student is required to take not less than one Industrial and three Literary studies.

TUITION ABSOLUTELY FREE,

and no contingent fees, except for use of pianos and organs.

Boarding ranges from \$3.75 to \$4 per week.

Students PAID FOR LABOR on the Farm and in the Shops, which is not educational, and which the institution needs performed.

The NEXT TERM begins August 20, 1874, when New Classes will be formed.

For further information apply to
J. A. ANDERSON, President,
Manhattan, Kansas.

The Patrons Mutual Insurance Association.

OFFICERS—BOARD OF DIRECTORS: M. E. Hudson, Master of State Grange; Wm Sims, Overseer; W. F. Poppeno, J. H. Dumbauld, J. B. Shaeffer, Executive Committee; A. Washburne, Treasurer; S. H. Downs, Secretary.

RAISES.—The printed by laws and articles of association give the plan and rates. Our plan is to insure farm property belonging to Patrons. Our rates are based upon the experience of the Michigan Farmers' Mutual Insurance Association.

In order to be safe, the Association fixes the rate at one-fifth higher than the average rate of all the companies in Michigan. The difference in the construction of buildings, and danger from prairie fire, adds something to risks in Kansas as compared with Michigan.

We give the following as an illustration of the difference between our rates and joint stock companies.

Joint stock company lowest cash rate, per annum on \$1,000.....\$5 00
On each \$1,000, for three years.....\$15 00
A policy fee of.....\$10 00
which amount is paid in advance.

The Patrons Association rates are,

A membership fee of.....\$1 50
On policy of \$1,000, first year's premium.....\$1 50
cents on each \$100.....2 50

Total cash paid.....\$4 50

A policy is then issued for 3 years, and a premium note taken for the remaining 2 years of.....\$5 00

Total cost of insurance for 3 years.....\$9 50

The premium note is liable to assessment at \$500 time to pay expenses and losses. On a policy of \$500 the cost is as follows:

Membership fee.....\$1 50
Premium for first year.....\$1 50

Total cash payment.....\$3 00

Note for remaining two years.....\$5 00

Total cost for three years.....\$8 00

Our rates are about one-half of the joint stock companies rates, and only a small part of the premium required to be paid in cash.

Address S. H. DOWNS, Secretary, Topeka, Kan.

PATRONS' HAND-BOOK.

Price Reduced.

That every Patron in the State may have the benefit of a copy of the Patron's Hand-Book, we have determined to reduce the price within the reach of every grange in the State. It will be sent to any address, postage paid, for

\$2.00 PER DOZEN.

Let every grange read the high endorsements from officers of the National and State Granges, particularly from those of our own State. The Hand-Book contains, in the most condensed form, a Complete Compendium of Grange Literature, valuable alike to every member of the grange.

Let every grange send for at least one dozen copies, which will be sent postage paid for \$3; single copy sent for 25 cents.

If you have not seen the large descriptive circular of the Patron's Hand-Book, send your address at once to this office and a copy will be forwarded to you postage paid. It contains the opinions of the public press on the merits of the book, and also the highest expressions of approval from officers and members of the Order from all parts of the United States.

Remember the price per dozen is reduced from \$3 down to \$2. Send your orders.

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Kansas City, Mo.,

Manufacturers of every variety of

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The Kansas Farmer.

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

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One Copy, Weekly, for one year, \$2.00
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 Three Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$5.00
 Five Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$8.00
 Ten Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$15.00

ADVERTISING RATES:

One insertion, 30 cents per line, nonpareil type.
 One Month, 10 cents per line, nonpareil, each insertion.
 Three Months, 12 cents per line, nonpareil, each insertion.
 One Year, 10 cents per line, nonpareil, each insertion.
 Special Notices, 25 cents per line. No advertisement taken for less than one dollar.

SPECIAL RATES FOR LARGE CONTRACTS.

In the Breeder's, Nurseryman's and Seedmen's Directories we will print a card of three lines for one year, for \$5. This will give a circulation to the card of nearly 500,000 copies during the year, the best offer ever made by a first-class weekly paper.

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DR. JOHN A. WARDER, Ohio.
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 "OLD CENTRE," "COUNTRY LAD," PROF. SNOW, PAOY, KNOX, PAOY, MUDGE, and host of other valuable contributors, who will assist in giving the farmers of Kansas a paper not equalled in the country for originality and merit.
 A special and interesting department of the paper will be the short letters from farmers and breeders, fruit-growers and others, in which they discuss the topics of the day, embracing full and complete information upon every phase of the farmers' movement, will also be a prominent feature of the paper. Specimen copies will be sent free to any address.

CONCERNING YOUNG MEN WHO CAME WEST TO GROW UP WITH THE COUNTRY.

They have come, thousands upon thousands, without capital or a serious intention to do hard work of any kind by which to make their living. They have filled every possible vacant clerkship, have striven to make the ends meet by light easy employment of any and every kind, that would keep up the show of making a living, without work. The trouble with the young men who come West is not that they lack intelligence or energy, but that they have come to the west with some indefinite idea it was the place to make money easy, that there was some royal road opened up to young men who came west, by which they easily acquired wealth and distinction. In the stern reality of making the ends meet, their rosy dreams are dissipated. The young man finds the lack of capital here in the West quite as serious a drawback as anywhere else in the country. He finds thousands of others like himself, unable to realize their great expectations, and they settle into the first place offered, giving up the battle with a slight effort, too proud or lazy to work at such a business as their acquisitions and their capital especially fit them for; all is sacrificed to the great American insanity of keeping up appearances and making a living without honest labor. Merchantile and professional callings are full to running over. Thousands of good mechanics and farmers are ruined to make second and third rate merchants and professional men.

This ambition to make a living without work reaches the farm, and many strong, manly and able young men, long to leave the hard work of the field and apprentice themselves to sweep stores, build fires, run errands, anything that will enable them to wear city clothes and flashy jewelry. The number of apprentices to the trades is yearly decreasing, and the tendency among American born citizens is to escape manual labor. Restless, ambitious and energetic young men seek the West as a field of adventure and to make for themselves a name and a place among men; and the west, like all other localities, presents opportunities for those who have capital to invest judiciously, who are willing to persevere labor and to seek success through honest and legitimate channels. The time for fortunes to be made in reckless land speculations, for honorable positions to be gained by political gambling are passed, and those who come to the West, old and young, expecting to reach success without adequate means, will meet with failure and disappointment.

OUR STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

We wish that every citizen in Kansas could spend a day at our Agricultural College. In the wide field of experiment and research, which may be included in the term industrial education, the Agricultural College of Kansas has made as rapid strides towards the interpretation of the true field for such schools as any in the whole country. A full plain and practical discussion of this subject is prepared by the President, Jno. A. Anderson, and we hope every reader of the FARMER will secure a copy and carefully read the presentation of the subject by President Anderson. This can be obtained by addressing him at Manhattan. There will be included in the pamphlet, reports from the various professors, and a very clear idea may thus be formed of the value of the "new departure" in this institution, under President Anderson. The report contains much that is new and valuable upon practical education, and we anticipate that it will elicit from the classical routine educators of the East and West severe criticism.

The Kansas State Agricultural College as an industrial school, if it is sustained, will make a place for itself among the great institutions of the land.

It is only just to say, in this connection, that no official act of Governor Osborn's is more entitled to consideration than his consistent support of the "new departure" in this institution.

AUDITOR WILDER'S REPORT.

Auditor Wilder talks frankly and honestly, as becomes a servant of the people, concerning abuses of official power, squandering and stealing of public money, and the needed correction of reckless bad laws. His report sounds like a good reform speech based upon the official records. His departure from the time-honored, stately, dry statistical report is refreshing, and it is welcome, because Daniel W. Wilder has the courage to tell the truth. Men who proclaimed the same principles, and some of the facts contained in this report, during the late campaign, were denounced as "Copperheads," "fodder hunters," etc.; and we imagine that Auditor Wilder will draw down upon his head, the vehement curses of the "organs," and the scheming party tricksters, who, as he says, "discards a single button of the party uniform."

DOES YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRE JANUARY 1st?

Does your subscription expire January 1st? If so, join the club at your post-office or in your grange and have it forwarded at once. It will very much help us in keeping our subscription books. Remember that the subscription terms of the FARMER include the prepayment of postage. If none have started a club in your community, drop us a postal card asking for posters and club terms, and help us in sustaining the farm and family paper of the State. One energetic friend in every community who will give the FARMER a little time, will insure us a club. During the present year public spirited friends in various localities have sent in from 25 to 100 subscribers. The FARMER for 1875, will be brighter, better, stronger than ever before.

OUR NEXT NUMBER.

From our esteemed correspondent on "Treeless Plains," Mr. C. W. Johnston, of Atchison, formerly of Hiawatha, we have for next week a valuable contribution, "The Drainage Rate, as Affecting Climate." From Mr. Copley a temperate and well-written article on "Agricultural Colleges." A paper from Judge Hanway, and one from a lady who discusses the co-education of the sexes, together with much other original and valuable matter.

A NOBLE RESPONSE FROM LOUISIANA STATE GRANGE.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Dec. 7, 1874.
 M. E. Hudson, Master Kansas State Grange:
 WORTHY BROTHER—State Grange sends cordial greeting. Have voted suffering brothers five hundred dollars.
 H. W. LEWIS,
 Master Louisiana State Grange.

50,000 "SILENT PECUNIARY INTERESTS" IN THE KANSAS FARMER WANTED.

"Mr. P. H. Tierman, the present state binder, is an old business associate of Mr. Wilder's. Mr. Wilder at Mr. Tierman's instance, used his newly-acquired official influence in behalf of Mr. Martin when that gentleman was first elected, and the possession of a silent and pecuniary interest in the KANSAS FARMER is imputed to him.—Commonwealth's Review of Auditor Wilder's Report."

We are pleased to be able to say that all of the above gentlemen have silent pecuniary interest in the KANSAS FARMER. They have paid their subscriptions, \$3 per year in advance. This and nothing more. Thousands of other citizens are invited to secure similar "silent pecuniary interests" in the FARMER for 1875. Sample copies, large posters and club-list sent free to any address.

FROM HANCOCK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Eureka Grange, No. 675, of Elvaston, Hancock county, Illinois, have donated a car load of shelled corn.

The Patrons, of Mercer county, Mo., meet in delegate convention on the third Saturday of December, to take concerted action for the benefit of Kansas Patrons on the frontier.

MARRIED:

At the residence of the bride's father, J. C. Collins, Esq., of Topeka, on Thursday evening, Dec. 3d, by Rev. C. A. Curtis, Mr. GEORGE ROGERS SPALDING and Miss SARAH K. COLLINS.

The above happy event is a matter of interest to the FARMER FAMILY. Mr. Spalding has for the past year been connected with the mechanical department of our establishment, and for his faithfulness in the discharge of his every duty, he deserves his present good fortune. The party, which assembled at the pleasant residence of Mr. Collins was a large and fashionable one, and was finely entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Collins.

We sincerely wish the young couple a long and prosperous voyage, and may their "golden wedding" be as happy as that of Dec. 3d.

Meteorology.

For the Kansas Farmer.

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT.

SIGNAL SERVICE, U. S. ARMY. LEAVENWORTH STATION, Dec. 1, 1874.

TABLE

Showing Daily and Monthly Mean of Barometer and Thermometer, Monthly Velocity of Wind, prevailing Direction of Wind, and Amount of Rainfall for the past month.

DATE.	BAR.	AV. THERM.	HUMID.	RAIN.
Tuesday.....	30.06	43	48	
Wednesday.....	30.08	53	49	
Thursday.....	30.28	57.3	53	
Friday.....	30.60	63	60	.01
Saturday.....	30.00	58	60	
Sunday.....	30.28	68	64.5	.96
Monday.....	30.78	61.8	67.0	
Tuesday.....	30.96	51.3	61	
Wednesday.....	30.32	53.3	56.8	
Thursday.....	30.06	47.8	47.8	
Friday.....	30.31	41.5	71	
Saturday.....	30.30	40.8	81	
Sunday.....	30.18	49.8	41.3	
Monday.....	30.39	48.8	65.8	
Tuesday.....	30.32	46	71.8	.98
Wednesday.....	30.39	49	92.8	
Thursday.....	30.45	33.3	74.3	.94
Friday.....	30.34	33.8	77.8	.94
Saturday.....	30.23	19.8	80.8	
Sunday.....	30.28	33.3	65.8	.96
Monday.....	30.28	41.3	83.8	
Tuesday.....	30.20	18.5	73.5	.08
Wednesday.....	30.27	29	63.3	.01
Thursday.....	30.26	38.8	64.8	.98
Friday.....	30.46	31	70.5	
Saturday.....	30.41	23	66.8	
Sunday.....	30.32	24.8	69.8	
Monthly Means..	30.07	40	66	8.46

Highest Barometer, 30.70; Lowest Barometer, 29.06; Range of Barometer, 1.64 in.
 Highest Thermometer, 77°; Lowest Thermometer, 10°; Range of Thermometer, 67°.
 Prevailing wind, South; Average Direction, North; Max. Velocity, 28 miles per hour.
 Total Number of Cloudy Days, 9; Rainy, 9; Fair, 0; EDGAR MCGOVERN, Observer.

METEOROLOGY OF NOVEMBER 1874.

Condensed by Prof. Kedzie, from the records of the Kansas State Agricultural College:
 Mean temperature of month, 39° 25, which is 1° 43 below the average temperature of November for the past fourteen years.
 Max. temp. of month, 6th, 78°; Min. temp. of month, 19th, 3°; Range of temp. of month, 75°.
 Snow fall for month, 11½ inches, which is more than twice the depth ever before measured for this month and this station.
 Rain and melted snow of month, 3.13 inches.
 Mean height of Barometer, 30.13 in.; per cent. of cloudiness, 58; slight hail storm on the 7th.

WEATHER REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1874.

PREPARED BY PROF. F. H. SNOW, OF THE KANSAS UNIVERSITY.

Station—Lawrence, Kansas, corner of Tennessee and Pinckney streets; elevation of barometer and thermometer, 884 feet above sea level, and 14 feet above the ground; anemometer on the University building, 105 feet above the ground.

Mean temperature, 38.74°, which is 0.76° below the November average. The first half of the month was the warmest on our seven years record, while the second half was colder than usual, but not as cold as in 1871 and 1872.

Mean temperature at 7 A. M., 33.95°; at 2 P. M., 46.80°; at 9 P. M., 37.07°; maximum, 77.5° on the 6th; minimum, 5.5° on the 20th; range of temperature for the month, 72°.

Highest mean temperature, 66°, the warmest November day on our record; lowest, 16° on the 24th, there having been 8 colder November days in 1871 and 1872.

Rain and melted snow, 3.69 inches, which is 2.08 inches above (more than double) the November average. Either rain or snow fell on 11 days. The first snow of the season appeared in a few scattering flakes, on the 17th, a later date than usual. The entire depth of snow was 14 inches, which amount is unprecedented for this month, and has been exceeded only twice in any month of our record, December 1868 and January 1873, which each produced 16 inches. The 24 hours storm on the 26th-27th brought 10 inches of snow, the greatest depth for any single storm on our record, next to it being the 9 inches of December 6th, 1868. The entire amount of rain and melted snow for the 11 months of 1874 now completed is 27.70 inches, leaving still a deficiency of 4.89 inches.

Mean cloudiness 59.87 per cent. of the sky the month being 8.54 per cent. cloudier than the average. Number of clear days (less than one-third of the sky clouded) 8; entirely clear, 1; half clear days, (from one to two thirds clouded) 10; cloudy days, more than two-thirds cloudy, 12; entirely cloudy days, 5. Mean cloudiness at 7 A. M., 55 per cent.; at 2 P. M., 62.33 per cent.; at 9 P. M., 52.67 per cent.

Mean height of the barometer, 29.164 inches; at 7 A. M., 29.189 inches; at 2 P. M., 29.124 inches; at 9 P. M., 29.178 inches; maximum, 29.677 inches at 7 A. M., on the 18th; minimum 28.267 inches, at 2 P. M., on the 22d, this being the lowest reading of our record, except that of January 16th 1870, 28.191 inches. Range for the month, 1.486 inches. (Our barometer observations are reduced for temperature but not for elevation, thus giving the actual height of the mercury column at our station.)

Relative Humidity—Mean for the month, 72.47; at 7 a.m., 85.47; at 2 p.m., 58.87; at 9 p.m., 78.08. The air was saturated with moisture 5 times. There were 2 fogs. The air was driest at 2 p.m. on the 1st, containing less than one-sixth the amount of moisture necessary for saturation.

Force of vapor in inches—Mean for the month, 0.183; at 7 A. M., 0.183; at 2 P. M., 0.180;

at 9 P. M., 0.185; greatest, 0.463 at 2 P. M., on the 4th; least, 0.049 at 7 A. M., on the 20.

Wind.—S.W., 29 times; N.W., 19 times; N.E., 18 times; N., 8 times; S., 6 times; S.E., 5 times; E., 3 times; calm, once. The number of miles traveled by the wind during the month was 14,189, which gives a mean daily velocity of 478 miles, and a mean hourly velocity of 19.71 miles. The greatest hourly velocity was 55 miles, at 3 P. M., on the 7th; the greatest daily velocity was 889 miles, on the 4th.

State News Items.

During the present season the trade of Paola has been greatly in excess of that with which it has been favored for a number of years; indeed our dry goods men say that their trade is larger than ever before known, and they all wear the outward appearance of entire satisfaction.—*Missouri Republican*.

Nearly one hundred cars of grain per month are shipped from Clay Center, and the *Lawrence Standard* says it is good enough for a grasshopper country.

The average disbursements per day of the Fall City packing house is \$1,000. The number of hogs slaughtered daily is two hundred and forty.

Hon. S. A. Cobb, has written a letter to the *Kansas City Times*, disclaiming any complicity in the fraudulent circular circulated at Parsons and vicinity on the day of election, to prejudice the minds of the voters against Judge Goodin.

Orders have been received for the removal of the Cawker City land office to Kirwin, Phillips county. Business will close at Cawker City on the 19th inst., and be resumed at Kirwin on the fourth of January.—*Seneca Courier*.

The county commissioners of Montgomery county recently reduced the salary of the county attorney from \$1,000 to \$600 per annum and cut off all salary allowed the probate judge.

Coal exports from this station are increasing steadily. During the last week there were sent off a hundred and one cars full, amounting to 1213 tons—worth over \$3,500—a very nice sum for one week to keep business flourishing.—*Oaage Shaft*.

We clip the following from the *Salina Herald*, 21st:

The trial of Barney Bohan, charged with the murder in the killing of Thomas Anderson on the morning of the 3d inst., commenced Friday afternoon, the 14th inst., before the Salina county district court, Judge J. H. Prescott presiding.

A drove of sixty hogs came into Ottawa Tuesday, from Lyndon, which had been driven from the latter place since last Saturday through the snow. The hogs were in excellent condition, and were purchased by Messrs. Freshaw & Jones, at 5½ and \$8 per hundred. Ottawa appears to be the stock market for most of the adjoining counties.—*Ottawa Republican*.

The Manhattan people hope by next spring to have better railroad facilities than any other town in Kansas.

Independence, Kansas, is quite a cotton market. One firm in the place has paid out over \$10,000 this season for Kansas cotton.

Louis Laurent and Dr. Campdoras published a communication in the *Commonwealth* addressed to Gov. Osborn, stating that there are fifty French people in Topeka in destitute circumstances, having been induced to leave their native country by one George de Pardonnet, who claimed to be "special agent of emigration for the State of Kansas in Europe."

Emigration is pouring in and the county is rapidly settling up. The people everywhere are becoming convinced that the speedy building of the Paola and Fall River R. R. is a fixed fact.—*Sumner County Press*.

We understand that taxes are coming in about as usual, notwithstanding the hard times. About as many have paid as at the same time last year, but some have only paid half instead of all their taxes, as formerly. There has not been as much half-paying done as was expected, however.—*Garnett Plaindealer*.

Wheat is bringing 90c. for good milling quality; oats, 40; new corn, 75 to 80.—*La Cuyne Journal*.

Hay is \$3 a ton in Wilson county, and \$12 in Leavenworth City.

The *El Dorado Times* learns that at least one third of the cultivated land in Butler county has been sown in wheat. It adds that the prospect for a good crop was never better at this season.

SOUP.—The soup house project is at last well under way. Mr. Insley is president of the association of relief, a most excellent choice. We have no better or more enterprising citizen than M. H. Insley, and, supported as he is by an excellent lot of vice-presidents and committees, the enterprise which owes its beginning to his generosity, will owe its successful conduct to his oversight and counsel.—*Beangel*.

Postoffice Changes.

In Kansas during the week ending Nov. 27th, 1874, furnished by Wm. VanVleck, of the postoffice department:

Established—Westfield, McPherson county; Nathaniel Hempstead, postmaster.

Discontinued—Gregory, Cherokee county; St. Paul, Howard county.

Appointed—Albany, Nemaha county, Mrs. C. B. Stinson; Appanoose, Franklin county, Marcus St. John; Belmont, Woodson county, Charles C. Miller; Dimon, Leavenworth county, William Gatchell; Exeter, Clay county, A. C. Butler; Farland, McPherson county, Mrs. Sarah A. Geer; Littleton, Sumner county, E. A. Kennedy; Logan, Phillips county, William H. Gray; Oakland, Jewell county, Bowan F. Howe; Washington, Washington county, Erastus Emmons.

Notwithstanding the partial failure of crops, Peabody merchants cannot complain of dull times. Every day some of them are opening new goods and it is seldom that their stores do not contain customers.—*Peabody Gazette*.

According to estimates made by Messrs. Huffbauer and Quinell there was sown in Rockford township, in this county, this fall, 2,000 acres of wheat and 200 acres of rye. Allowing the estimate to be correct, and it cannot be far out of the way, we will have as the product of a single township in 1875, at less than an average yield, 40,000 bushels of wheat and 4,000 bushels of rye. That amount of wheat at eighty cents per bushel will amount to thirty-two thousand dollars, to say nothing of the rye, oats, corn and other products that will be grown and harvested.

FAT HOGS.—Thomas and Reuben Brown, sons of R. H. Brown living north of the city in Quindaro township, sold to George D. Bowling 118 head of fat hogs. The first lot delivered—81 head—averaged 196 pounds, making a total of 11,946 pounds! This last was sold at \$6.50 per cwt., and brought them \$777.49.

The second lot, 37 in number weighed 19,570 pounds, being average of 348½ pounds per head and were sold for \$7,000, or \$1869.90 for the lot. Making a total for the 118 head of \$2146.39.—*Wyandotte Herald*.

It appears, on investigation, that the foreign coal trade in this city during the month of November, just closed, foots up as follows:

Scranton shaft, sold by J. L. W. Bell, 40 tons, 1,000 bushels, at 20 cents, \$800.00; Oaage shaft, A. F. Wilson, 60 tons, 1,500 bushels, 20 cents, \$800.00; Fort Scott, J. S. Watson, dealer, 85 tons, 2,125 bushels, 22 cents, \$467.50; making a total of \$967.50 for foreign coal paid out during the month last past.—*Emporia News*.

The *Farmers Union*, in a timely and thoughtful article, dwells upon the advantages that an active and intelligent lecturer can confer upon his grange during the winter season now commencing.

DIPHTHERIA.

A few years ago this disease was very fatal from ignorance of true remedies. Now it is rarely ever fatal and is very easily cured.

It is, in its severe form, croup and putrid sore throat combined. It begins from exposure, wet feet, taking cold, etc.

The throat rapidly swells, and is thickened and closed up inside very much. The patient feels as if breathing through wool or cloth. The throat often swells externally, and if greatly neglected the attack may prove fatal.

It is perfectly curable in a little while.

First rub the throat with any good strong irritating liniment, or hartshorn and sweet oil, of hennock or cedar, etc. After this is well done cover the throat around perfectly with a cloth dipped in ice water, and cover again with flannels to cause profuse sweating. Let the wet cloth be flannel or cotton of three or four thicknesses, so as to cover the throat and top of the chest perfectly, if the breathing is much affected. Change this cloth once in two hours, and if very bad, every hour or half hour.

The patient may eat ice all the time, taking little pieces in the mouth the size of beans, and letting them melt over his throat freely.

Besides this, take the following mixture every half hour one teaspoonful:

Chlorate of Potash..... ¼ oz.
 Muriate of Ammonia..... 30 grains.
 Liquorice ball..... ¼ oz.
 Water..... 1 gill.

Mix. Use this mixture several days after the throat is better.

Swab the throat faithfully with the following:

Nitrate of Potash..... ½ oz.
 Chlorate of Potash..... ½ oz.
 Common Salt..... ½ oz.
 or 2 teaspoonfuls each.

Loaf Sugar..... ½ pound.

Mix all together.

Swab the throat freely with this in a dry state, and rinse the throat with cold water.

Take also a half to one teaspoonful of this mixture every half to one or three hours, according to the violence of the disease.

This will soon wholly cure all the sore throat.

Avoid taking cold afterwards.

If the above preparations cannot be obtained, equal parts of lemon juice and water may be used as a gargle, and a wet cloth applied to the throat.

The above is copied from Dr. S. S. Fitch's new book, called "The Family Physician," of which an advertisement appears in another column of this paper. This little book will be found invaluable to every family.

THE ROAD TO HEALTH.

Cleanse the stomach, bowels and blood from all the acid, corrupt and offensive accumulations which produce functional derangement, and you remove the cause of most diseases which afflict the human family, and thus save large doctor bills. The most effective and reliable remedy for this purpose is found in Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets. No cheap wood or paper boxes, but kept fresh and reliable in vials.

High livers, those indulging in ease and pleasure, and those of sedentary habits, can prevent Boils, Carbuncles, Gout, Red Skin, Eruptions, Pimples, Constipation, Piles, Dropsy, Biliousness, and other conditions induced by such habits, by taking from four to six of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets once a week, or better still, one or two each night. They are sold by dealers in medicine.

SUPREME COURT SYLLABI.

STATE OF KANSAS, }
SUPREME COURT.

Thomas H. Butler vs. G. W. McMillan.

Error from Neosho County.

AFFIRMED.

By the Court. Brewer, J.

I. A trial should be completed, so far at least as the introduction of testimony is concerned, at the term at which it is commenced.

II. Where a trial has been commenced at one term, the testimony of the plaintiff and part of that of the defendant introduced, and then the trial stopped by reason of the close of the term, and the case continued from term to term till the third ensuing term, and at such third term the trial is resumed over the objection of the defendant, and the defendant concludes his testimony, and there is nothing further offered except evidence in rebuttal; H. N. that a finding supported by the testimony offered at the last term would not be disturbed, nor could any enquiry be made at

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

WRITING FOR PAY.

There are but few young people who have ever written anything for a newspaper, whether it was printed or not, that have not had an ambition to write for pay, as well as for glory. If their contributions are alighted, or returned, it is the most natural thing in the world for them to feel that they have been abused and that the editor to whom they had sent their effort was unappreciative as well as unkind. We say this is the most natural reasoning, because if the article was considered by its author worth publishing, (and what article is not?) before it was sent to the editor, it will usually be thought equally valuable after its refusal. It is true there are a few natural writers whose first productions are good, and no doubt worth a price, if there was a market for them, but there is not; neither is there a market for the first rude drawings of a young man or woman who dreams of being an artist, nor for the advice of a youth who expects to be a physician, nor for the whittlings of a boy who is going to be an inventor. It has been decided by the high courts that the occupation of a journalist is a profession, and it is about time, we think, that people who do not constitute high courts and particularly young people, understand that before they can get remuneration for their composition, they must serve an apprenticeship.

In some classes of goods, the first and newest are the most valuable, as for instance, new varieties of fruits and vegetables bring fabulous prices among horticulturists, but the products of the mind don't take rank that way. The more experience and practice the brain has had, the more valuable its works; and in no other kind of work are the first efforts more crude and worthless to all except the authors. To them they not only appear to possess merit but they are frequently a great advantage. We would like to encourage every girl and boy to try to put their thoughts and knowledge into good, plain language, and study to make it concise, strong and elegant, there can be no better help to a young person's education, and if they are fortunate enough to find a newspaper to publish what they write, they ought to feel thankful for the opportunity given them of hearing the criticisms and opinions of unprejudiced readers; beginners in no other walk of life have so good a medium through which they can offer their work for public criticism and favor, but instead of appreciating the press as a friend and educator, the young writers of today, as soon as they see their thoughts in print, conclude they will "write for pay," and at the same time relax their efforts to compose anything worth reading. It is not an unusual thing for ambitious young authors to have their second attempts discarded as worthless, because carelessly composed while the first was complimented for the study which had evidently been bestowed upon it, and its careful construction.

There is just as great a proportion of poor journalists and poor authors as there is of poor farmers and poor doctors, and they get paid for their work accordingly, and like apprentices in other trades, they do not get paid for taking their first lessons.

We receive many contributions from old, practiced and intelligent writers, which come accompanied with the assurance that it is considered a pleasure to write them, and a privilege to communicate them through the paper, and of course all such contributions are valuable to us and always thankfully received, and if the FARMER prospers will be liberally paid for some day; but our contributions from young people, young teachers, young students in the professions, etc., invariably bring an inquiry from the author to know what they are worth, and before we can encourage young folks to write any more, we must say that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred they are worth nothing to us, and if the writer does not consider the effort worth anything to himself, he must make up his mind to do without any compensation. We are always glad to criticize to the best of our limited ability, anything our young friends send us, and to publish every thing we think worthy, as well as to tell them what persons of learning and experience in the literary professions advise as the best course to pursue if one wants to make authorship his life work, but we are sorry that either they, or those who only aspire to be amateur writers, should expect a cash value to be put upon first efforts, for both classes are doomed to disappointment, and perhaps our telling them so may save them from having their feelings hurt by more than one publisher.

The FARMER is published principally for hard working people, whose thoughts and studies are of practical subjects, and of course the real experience and conclusions of the fathers and mothers is what we most desire to receive and publish, but there is always a warm corner for the young folks in our hearts, and if they will only write for their own and each other's improvement, as most older folks do, we will be glad to help them along; and when it can be said of their writings, as it has been by able critics of a book by a lady writer well known in America, that "there is not a careless word or sentence in the whole book; the artistic execution is absolutely faultless," they may expect their contributions to be accepted with thanks, sought after and liberally paid for.

MARY MOORE.

All my life I had known Mary Moore; all my life I had loved her. Our mothers were old school mates and first cousins. My first recollections are of a boy, in a red frock and morocco shoes, rocking a cradle in which reposed a sunny-haired, blue-eyed baby, not quite a year old. That boy was myself—Harry Chester; that baby was Mary Moore.

Later still, I see myself at the old school house, drawing my little chair up to the door that Mary might ride home. Many a beating have I gained on such occasions, for other boys besides me liked her, and she, I fear, was something of a flirt, even in her pinafore. How elegantly she came tipping down the steps when I called her name; how sweetly her blue eyes looked at me; how gaily rang out her merry laugh! No one but Mary could ever bring her heart so near to her lips. I followed that laugh from my days of childhood till I became an awkward, blushing youth; I followed it through the heated noon of manhood; and now the frosts of age are shriveling my hair and many children climb upon my knee and call me "father." I find that the memories of youth are strong, and that, even in gray hairs, I'm following the music still. When I was fifteen the first great sorrow of my life came on my breath. I was sent to school and was obliged to leave Mary. We were not to see each other for three long years. This to me was like a sentence of death, for Mary was like life itself to me. But hearts are tough things after all.

I left college in the flush of my nineteenth year. I was no longer embarrassed. I had grown into a tall, slender strapping, with a very good opinion of myself both in general and particular. If I thought of Mary Moore, it was to think how I could dazzle and bewilder her with my good looks and wonderful attainments, and never thinking that she could dazzle me still more. I was a coxcomb, I knew, but as youth and good looks have fled, I trust that I may be believed when I say that self-conceit has left me also.

An advantageous proposal was made me at this time, and, accepting it, I gave up all idea of a profession, and prepared to go to India. In my hurried visit home I saw nothing of Mary Moore. She had gone to a boarding school at some distance, and was not expected home until the following May. I uttered a sigh to the memory of my little blue-eyed playmate, and then called myself a "man" again, away from our door—I will return, and if, perhaps, I will marry her.

And thus I settled the future of a young lady whom I had not seen for four years. I never thought of the possibility of such as her refusing my offer!

But now I know that had Mary met me then she would have despised me. Perhaps in the scented and affected student she might have found plenty of sport; but as for loving me, I should perhaps have found myself mistaken.

India was my salvation, not merely because of my success, but my laborious industry had developed the better man. When at the end of three years, I prepared to return, I said nothing of the reformation of myself, which I knew had taken place. They love me as I was, I murmured to myself, and they shall find out for themselves whether I am better worth loving than formerly.

I picked up many a token from that land of romance and gold for the friends I hoped to meet. The gift of Mary Moore I selected with a beating heart; it was a ring of rough virgin gold with my name and her engraved inside that was all, yet the little toy strangely thrilled me as I balanced it on my finger.

To the eyes of others it was but a plain circle, suggesting thoughts, perhaps, of its elegance of the beautiful white hand that was to wear it, but not to me—how much was embodied there—all these delights were hidden within that little ring of gold.

Tall, bearded and bronzed I knocked at my father's house. The lights in the parlor winked, and the hum of conversation and cheerful laughter, showed me that company assembled there. I hoped that sister Lizzie would come to the door, and I might greet my family when no strange eye was looking carelessly on.

But a servant answered my summons. They were too merry in the parlor to heed the long absent one who asked for admittance. A bitter thought ran through my mind as I heard the sound from the parlor, and saw that half-suppressed smile on the servant's face.

I hesitated a moment before making myself known or asking for any of my family. And while I stood silent a strange apparition came up before me, from behind the servant peered out a golden head, a tiny, delicate form, so like a sweet, childish face, with blue eyes, so like those of one who had brightened my boyhood, that I started with sudden pain.

"What is your name, my pretty?" I asked, while the wandering servant held the door. "Mary Moore." "And what else?" I asked quickly. She lifted up her hands to shade her face—I had seen that very attitude in another, in my boyhood, many and many a time—and answered in a sweet, bird-like voice: "Mary Moore Chester."

My heart sank down like lead. Here was an end to all the bright dreams and hopes of my youth and manhood. Frank Chester, my boyish rival, who had often tried in vain to usurp my place beside the girl, had succeeded at last, and had won her away from me. This was their child, his child and Mary's.

I sank, body and soul, beneath this blow, and hiding my face in my hands, I leaned against the door, while my heart wept and blood; the little one gazed at me, as if about amazed, and put up her pretty lips as if about to cry, while the perplexed servant stepped to the parlor and called my sister out to see who it was that conducted so strangely. I heard a light step, and a pleasant voice saying, "Do you wish to see my father, sir?" I looked up. There stood a pretty-faced maiden of about twenty, not much changed from the dear little sister I used to love so well. I looked after her a moment, and, stilling the tempest of my heart, by a mighty effort, I opened my arms and said:

"Lizzie don't you know me?"

"Harry! Oh, my brother Harry!" she cried, and threw herself upon my breast, and wept as if her heart would break.

I could not weep. I drew her gently into the lighted parlor, and stood with her before them all.

There was a rush, and a cry of joy, and then my father and mother sprang towards me, and welcomed me home with heart-felt tears.

Oh, strange and passing sweet in such a greeting to the worn traveler. And as I held my dear old mother to my heart, and grasped my dear old father's hand, while Lizzie clung beside me, I felt that all was not lost; and although another had secured life's almost

choicest blessing, many a joy remained for me in the dear sanctuary of home. There were four inmates of the room, who had risen on my sudden entrance. One was the blue-eyed child whom I had already seen, who now stood beside Frank Chester, clinging to his hand. Near by stood Lizzie Moore, Mary's elder sister, and in a distant corner, to which she had hurriedly retired, stood a tall, slender figure, half hidden by the heavy window curtains that fell to the floor.

When the first raucous greeting was over Lizzie led me forward with a timid grace, and Frank Chester grasped my hand. "Welcome home, my boy!" he said, with the loud, cheerful tones I remembered so well. "You have changed so that I never would have known you; but no matter about that—your heart is in the right place, I know."

"How can you see he has changed?" said my mother, gently. "To be sure he looks older and graver, and more like a man than when he went away, but his eye and smile are the same as ever. It is a heavy heart which changes him. He is my boy still."

"Aye, mother," I answered sadly, "I am your boy still."

Heaven help me! At that moment I felt like a little boy, and it would have been a relief to have wept upon her breast as I had done in my infancy. But I kept down the tremor of my lips, and answered quietly, as I looked into this full, handsome face.

"You have changed too, Frank, but I think for the better."

"Oh yes—thank you for the compliment," he answered with a hearty laugh. "My wife tells me I grow handsomer every day."

His wife! Could I hear that name and keep silent?

"And have you seen my little girl?" he added, lifting the infant in his arms, and kissing her crimson cheek. "I tell you, Harry, there is no such other in the world. Don't you think she looks very much like her mother used to?"

"Very much," I faltered.

"Hello!" cried Frank, with a suddenness which made me start violently. "I have forgotten to introduce you to my wife; I believe you and she used to be playmates in your younger days—yes, Harry, and she then try and on the back—for the sake of old times, and because you knew her once, but mind, old fellow, you are never to repeat the ceremony. Come, here I am for one want to see how you will manage those ferocious mustaches of yours in the operation!"

He pushed Lizzie, laughing and blushing towards me. A gleam of light and hope almost too dazzling to bear, came over me, and I cried out before I thought, "Not Mary!"

I must have betrayed my secret to every one in the room. But nothing was said; even Frank, in general so obtuse, was this time silent. I kissed the fair cheek of the young wife, and hurried to the silent figure looking out of the window.

"Mary—Mary Moore!" I said in a low, eager tone "have you no welcome for the wanderer?"

She turned, and laid her hand in mine and said, hurriedly—

"I am glad to see you here, Harry."

Simple words, and yet how happy they made me. I would not have yielded her up at that moment for an Emperor's crown. For there was the happy home group and the dear home friends, with sweet Mary Moore. The eyes I had dreamed of day and night were falling beneath the ardent gaze of mine, and the sweet face I had so long prayed to see was there beside me. I knew not the meaning of happiness until that moment.

Many years have passed since that happy night, and the hair that was glossy is fast turning gray. I am now an old man, and can look back to a happy, and I hope, a well spent life.

And yet sweet as it has been, I would not recall a single day, for the love that made my manhood so bright shines also upon my white hairs.

"An old man! can this be so? At heart I am as young as ever. And Mary, with her bright hair parted smoothly from a brow that has a light furrow upon it, is still the Mary of old days. To me she can never grow old or change. The heart that held her in infancy and sheltered her in the flush and beauty of womanhood can never cast her out till life ceases to warm it."

Judging by Appearances.

In the other years, when Maine was a district of Massachusetts, Ezekiel Whiteman was among the chosen to represent the district in the Massachusetts Legislature. He was an eccentric man, and one of the best lawyers of his time. In those days Whiteman owned a farm, and did much work upon his land; and it so happened that when the time came for him to set out for Boston his best clothes were a suit of home-spun. His wife objected to his going in that garb, but he did not care. "I will get a nice, fashionable suit made as soon as I reach Boston," he said.

Reaching his destination, Whiteman found rest at Doolittle's City Tavern. Let it be understood that he was a graduate of Harvard, and at this tavern he was at home.

As he entered the parlor of the house he found that several ladies and two or three gentlemen were there assembled, and he heard a remark from one of them, "Ah, here comes a countryman of the real home-spun genus. Here's fun." Whiteman stared at the company, and then sat down.

"Say, my friend, you are from the country," remarked one of the gentlemen.

"Ya as," answered Ezekiel, with a ludicrous twist of the face.

"The ladies tittered."

"And what do you think of our city?"

"It's a pooty thick settled place, anyhow. It's got the sweepin' sight o' housin' in it."

"And a good many people, too."

"Ya-as, I should reckon so."

"Wal, some."

"Plenty of ladies, I suppose?"

"Ya as, a fair sprinklin'."

"And I don't doubt that you are quite a beau among them."

"Ya-as, I beaus 'em home—tew meetin' an' singin' schewl."

"Perhaps the gentleman from the country will take a glass of wine?"

"Thank-ee. Don't keef if I do."

The wine was brought.

"You must drink a toast."

"Oh, git out! I eat toast—never heard o' such a thing as drinkin' it. But I kin give ye a sentiment."

The ladies clapped their hands; but what was their surprise when the stranger, rising, spoke calmly and clearly, in tones ornate and dignified, as follows:

"Ladies and gentlemen, permit me to wish you health and happiness, with every blessing earth can afford; and may you grow better and wiser with advancing years, bearing even in mind that outward appearances are often

deceitful. You mistook me, from my dress, for a country booby, while I, from the same superficial cause, thought you were ladies and gentlemen. The mistake has been mutual."

He had just spoken when Caleb Strong, the Governor of the State, entered and inquired for Mr. Whiteman.

"Ah—here I am, Governor. Glad to see you." Then turning to the dumbfounded company—

"I wish you a very good evening."

And he left them feeling about as small and cheap as it is possible for full-grown people to feel.

Deafness.

Probably the most frequent way in which the ears are injured is by the attempt to clean them. It ought to be understood that the passage of the ear does not require cleaning by us. Nature undertakes that task, and in the healthy state fulfills it perfectly. Her means for cleaning the ear in the wax. Perhaps the reader has never heard what becomes of the ear wax. I will tell him. It dries up into thin, fine scales, and these peel off one by one from the surface of the passage, and fall imperceptibly, leaving behind them a perfectly clean, smooth surface. In health the passage of the ear is never dirty; but if we attempt to clean it we invariably make it so. Here, by a strange lack of justice, it would seem, which, however, has no doubt a deep meaning, which, however, the best people, and justice at the bottom—the best people, and those who love cleanliness, suffer most, and who are careful nurses do a mischief neglect and avoid. Washing the ears out with soap and water is bad; it keeps the wax moist when it ought to become scaly; increases its quantity unduly, and makes it absorb the dust with which the air always abounds. But the most hurtful thing is introducing the corner of the towel screwed up, and twisting it round. This does more harm to ears than all other mistakes together. It drives down the wax upon the membrane much more than it gets out. Let any one who doubts this make a tube like the passage, especially with the curve which it possesses; let him put a thin membrane at one end, smear its inner surface with a substance like the ear wax, and then try and get it out so by a towel! But this plan does much more mischief than merely pressing down the wax. It irritates the passage, and makes it cast off small flakes of skin, which dry up and become extremely hard, and these are also pressed down upon the membrane. Often it is not only deafness which ensues, but pain and inflammation, and then matter is formed which the hard mass prevents from escaping, and the membrane becomes diseased, and worse may follow. The ear should never be cleaned out with the screwed-up corner of a towel. Washing should extend only to the outer surface, as far as the finger can reach.—Hinton's Physiology for Practical Use.

TO THE GIRLS ENTERING THEIR TEENS.

Mrs. Laura E. Lyman, in the "Home Interests" department of the N. Y. Tribune, says: "You are no longer children, no indeed, but getting ready to be young ladies. By this time you are quite through arithmetic and geography and are studying algebra and natural philosophy, trying perhaps to write poetry now and then, and thinking what kind of a woman you will be in six or seven years from now. That is a very good thing to think about; and while you are thinking what you will be and do when you are 18 and 19 and 20, let your minds run forward and try to think what you will be and do at 30 and 35. 'Why, then we shall be old married women,' you say, 'and begin to wear spectacles.' Very true, doubtless, in many cases, if you all live; but what kind of 'old married women' do you intend to be? Girls that are pretty at 18 and 20—pretty and nothing more—by the time they are 30 and 35 are usually not pretty at all, but faded, disappointed and unhappy. There's nothing that wears through the years that doesn't wear out, but grows brighter and better the longer it lasts, like sweetness of temper and intellectual culture. It will be a great thing for you girls, by and by that you are perfect now in Algebra, in History, in Philosophy and of course in reading and spelling and arithmetic; perfect in all your studies 'At thirty-four,' writes a mother, 'I find myself unable to help my children in their studies and suffer painfully at times from early disad-vantages.' Her May time was clouded with rain and chilled with frost, and you all know how hard it is to plant seed in July and try to get a good return from it—in fact that most people find that it cannot be done. This is your May time, it will sometime be July and August and November with you. What kind of a woman will you be then? Old, wrinkled, ugly, tedious, uninteresting? Mrs. Summerville was beautiful to extreme old age because she was so intelligent—because her May and June were so diligently employed in planting in her mind the seeds of all knowledge. Mrs. Barbauld, Miss Mitford, Mrs. Joanna Baillie, Mrs. Montague were as interesting in their age as in their youth. Though they grew in years they grew in knowledge and favor, because the seed time of their lives was sedulously improved. That's a big word, but look it out in the dictionary; hunt out all the words you don't know the meanings of; hunt up all the places in the geography whose location you are uncertain of, and if you have a biographical dictionary, read up all the characters spoken of in your school and reading books. Of course you will play, and sew, and help your mothers about the housework, learn how to do everything; but when you go to school, don't waste your time; when you study don't dawdle over your book, but study in earnest and with a purpose to learn. In a few years from now, when you are grown, there will be intelligent men you are now intelligent wives. You all know that women who are both amiable and cultivated, even if their faces are plain, needn't be old maids unless they choose to be. One word is enough here. You know, too, that bright, gifted, intellectual men and women are rarely decedent from stupid, ignorant, uninspiring parents. Now for most stupid, try and see how much and how thoroughly you will learn your lessons this fall, and winter, and what excellent little women you will be."

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