

# THE KANSAS FARMER

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## THE KANSAS FARMER.

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### The Bee-keeper's Tools.

The discovery and introduction of the movable comb hive was the first real advance toward successful bee-culture. The Rev. L. L. Langstroth was among the first to introduce this hive in the United States, and took out a patent for his hive in 1852, which patent has now expired. There have been many changes in the size and form of hives since then, but all embodying the same principle; and the majority of bee-keepers in the United States use the Langstroth hive in preference to all others, a cut of which is here represented, showing a two-story hive containing ten frames in each story and extra boxes in second story.



With the movable frame hive the apianian has complete control of his bees and can examine the inside of the hive and inspect the condition of the swarm at pleasure. Frames, when filled, can be removed, and their places supplied by empty frames, and the honey thrown out by the use of the extractor, when the frame containing the empty comb can be again returned to the hive, which is immediately refilled by the bees when the honey season is at its height, and the bees storing honey rapidly. By the use of the honey extractor, the bees are saved a great deal of comb-building and waste of honey. The great advantage of the extractor will be readily seen when it is understood that it requires twenty to twenty-five pounds of honey to manufacture one pound of wax.

The movable comb hive, the honey extractor and the bellows smoker, are the great achievements which have brought bee-keeping to a systematized business, and by the use of which the honey interest is fast growing to be one of the great industries of the country. Quite a number of different styles of extractors have been made since the invention of that indispensable article in modern bee-keeping, by Major Her von Hruschka, a German. Extractors have been much improved by Yankee ingenuity, and the one represented in this article is manufactured by Chas. F. Muth, 976-78 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, which is one of the best made. The extractor is composed of a metal cylinder with wire-comb basket in which the frames containing comb honey are placed one at each side. The comb basket fits in the metal cylinder and is revolved by a crank and gearing as shown in the cut.



The centrifugal motion throws the honey from the cells of the comb, and but a few movements are required to empty the outside cells, when the combs are turned and the other side emptied in the same manner, the combs in the frames remaining unharmed. The extractor will hold about sixty-five pounds of honey below the basket, which is drawn off by a faucet at the bottom. Honey thus extracted is pure and clear of any admixture of bee-bread, pieces of broken comb, young bees and any other foreign matter, which polluted the strained honey obtained by the old process of squeezing the mashed combs through a linen bag, and vastly superior in quality.

sign matter, which polluted the strained honey obtained by the old process of squeezing the mashed combs through a linen bag, and vastly superior in quality.



### MUTH'S UNCAPPING KNIFE

is a fine, thin bladed knife, used for cutting the caps off the sealed combs before placing them in the extractor.

But in order to obtain the honey from the industrious and gallant family of little workers, which are ever ready to do battle in defense of their nectar stores, it is necessary to subdue without injuring them. The old-fashioned brimstone pit was a horrible alternative; and with the moveable comb hive and honey extractor is classed the third invention composing the trio of fundamental articles in the modern bee-keeper's outfit, the



### BINGHAM SMOKER.

This consists of a small, square bellows, 5x8 inches, with a round valve the size of a half dollar in the bottom, and a tin cylinder 2 to 2½ inches in diameter and the length of the bellows on top. There is a grate for the inside, made of perforated sheet iron, with flanges two inches long, which is placed in the cylinder and pushed down until the feet or flanges of the grate rest on the bottom. A small air-tube through the top of the bellows, corresponding with a similar tube near the bottom of the cylinder, admits the blast from the bellows. A roll of cotton rags or a bunch of dry hard-wood splints—wood slightly dozed is best—is ignited and placed in the cylinder and the point put on, when the operator is prepared to puff a volume of smoke into the hive, which will soon subdue the most vicious colony of bees, when they can be handled with ease, and the combs examined, removed or any disposition made of the hive and its contents, desired.

A bee-veil to draw over the face, and a pair of rubber or woolen gloves are recommended for use by beginners. To make a veil get one and a half yards of millinet, or any coarse, open stuff—dark colored is best. Gather one side of this into a band that will slip over the crown of the hat down to the brim. This may be secured by a string round the vest collar.

T. F. Bingham, inventor of the smoker represented in this article, resides at Otsego, Allegan county, Michigan, and to whom and Mr. C. F. Muth we are indebted for electrotype cuts used in this article. The Bingham smoker is patented and believed to be the best in use. These smokers are of three sizes, costing \$1.75, \$1.50 and \$1 each. Sent by mail, post-paid, on receipt of price.

The price of the Extractor is \$12, including uncapping knife. Mr. Muth is a dealer in bee supplies and recommends the Langstroth hive as his choice. The price of hives is \$2.75 each, for No. 1, and \$3 for No. 2.

Modern inventions and improvements in the art of bee-keeping have placed its successful practice within the reach of every farmer, and hundreds of gallons of honey might be gathered on every farm that yearly goes to waste for want of a few colonies of bees to gather and store it for the use of the family. There are doubtless enough products go to waste on every farm, or remain unused, to change "hard times" into prosperity and comfort, honey constituting an important one of them.

### Mangolds or Field Beets. No. 2.

EDS. FARMER.—Your highly prized journal—although I have informed your office of the fact—has not reached me in a month. But I learn through the post master at Vinton, Riley county, that you published my short article on the mangold, and, in a foot note, asked for a 2d paper "as soon as possible."

I hardly know where I left off in No. 1, as I seldom save a copy of the articles I write; I will dwell, therefore, to-day on the several varieties in common use, on the food this plant feeds upon, and on the best and most successful culture.

The varieties grown in this country are but few. They are the long red, long yellow, long orange, and the orange and red globes. The former—orange mangolds, are best adapted to a deep, rich soil, and the globes do best on a lighter texture. If the question be asked as to the merits of the respective colors of the long and globe varieties, I answer that this ques-

tion has never been satisfactorily answered by the culture I have witnessed in Kansas. I know that agricultural writers and seedsmen have wrung changes on the superiority of the orange globe, on account of its productiveness and superior value as a food plant, but having witnessed its culture, side by side, on the Agricultural College farm, and in other parts of the state; and having seen all the varieties I have named, tested as food, I have nothing to say in favor of one kind over another.

The mangold, although not an over feeder, has a good appetite and will assimilate almost any kind of plant food; but it has a special liking for decomposed farm-yard manure. The quantity given should be commensurate to the needs of the soil, but to land of average Kansas fertility, a few tons per acre would be ample. Common salt is of great value to this crop. I know not whether this is caused by the plant assimilating a large portion of this mineral during growth, or whether the salt renders certain constituents of the soil available for plant use. I incline to the belief, however, that the plant feeds freely upon salt, *per se*. Agricultural chemists assure us that the ash of both tops and bulbs contains a large degree of salt, (chloride of sodium). We all know that this ingredient is quite perceptible to the taste, in the growing plant, especially in the leaf; the large amount of sugar contained in the bulb neutralizes the salt flavor in that part of the plant. I need not add that salt in the hands of an inexperienced farmer is a dangerous fertilizer, and should be applied, at all times, with the greatest care, for when it comes in contact with seed it is apt to destroy its vitality.

Mangolds—they are often sown thus—should be sown in the same way as beets, and at the same season, which in Kansas is from the 10th of April to the 15th of May. If sown too early the plants are apt to run to seed, thus destroying the crop as a root.

The preparation of the soil for any of the beet family, and indeed for all roots, should be carefully done. Where the soil is naturally loose and friable, as most of our Kansas soil is, one deep, careful ploughing, with proper harrowing and rolling, will answer. But if the soil is tenacious clay, two or three ploughings may be necessary for the requisite pulverization of the seed bed.

I think I promised to say something about the storing of mangolds, and to show why age added greatly to the value of this root as an article of food, especially for fattening animals. But as the old-style cook-book taught us to catch the hare before skinning, it may be well to wave the little I have to say on this point, important though it be, until later in the season, when your readers having a large lot of mangolds on hand may appreciate another paper on this subject from Co-Ro-Lo.

P. S. The shepherds of Kansas are asked not to read this article as high authority declares that "mangolds should never be given to sheep."

C. R. L.

### Hedging.

I see an article in the FARMER of March 21st, on hedging by Mr. E. Tilton. I have been trying to raise hedge for some time and I see that we don't quite agree, so I will give you my thoughts on it, if you think they are worthy of notice. We both admit that osage orange is good enough, but to start I will say plant your seed thickly in the nursery, so that your plants will not stand more than 20 inches top, I find that the thicker you have them the more fibres the roots have, hence are more certain to grow. In planting seed draw a line and make the trench as narrow and straight as possible in order that you can cultivate close to plants, which saves much pulling of weeds with the fingers.

In setting hedge my opinion is that if your ground is dry enough, you had better throw out your hedge row in fall, leaving dead furrow where you want your hedge. Loosen up the bottom of furrow with cultivator and let it lie till spring; then set your plants in the furrow, and as you tend your hedge, you can always draw some dirt to the hedge, (but not to part) and at the end of three years your row will be on a level with the other ground. But some will ask, why plant in furrow? My reason is, we get our rows entirely too high by cultivation, for when they are raised it gives small pigs or chickens a better chance to get under, while in furrows to start with, they have to lie down and crawl through, which is hard for them to do, if it is on a level. As to splashing I think as soon as you can get the plants 1½ inches in diameter they are ready to be laid, which ought to be at the end of three years growth, after set in row. In setting plants my rule is so slant them well and just deep enough to keep moist

and one foot apart, I think that is as close as you can have them to splash well. Set them with a spade, wetting them first in green cow manure and earth reduced to the consistency of batter, and dip the plants in, then keep them in a bucket while setting to prevent drying. I have out 8 miles and will put out 2½ miles more this spring. I have two years old hedge that will turn any ordinary stock.

I will say that if a man has good luck it is the cheapest fence he can have.

L. B. TUNNELL.

Hutchinson, Kansas.

### Good Words from Michigan.

I am a subscriber to the FARMER. I have taken and read several agricultural papers, but I place yours in the van. Thinking you need the good will and appreciation of your patrons, as well as their money, I write this. I think the value of the work you are doing for Kansas farmers is beyond computation, and not one of them can afford to be without the FARMER, and as I expect to become a citizen of your state before winter, and can't afford to be without a good agricultural paper, you may count on me as a permanent subscriber so long as your paper retains its present high position.

Will you please send me or let me know how I can get Alfred Gray's Board of Agriculture Report? Think I can use it to good advantage here among my neighbors, in the interest of Kansas.

Not a stroke of work done yet this spring by farmers here. Our seasons are too short.

Wishing you abundant success, I remain,

Yours, SMITH M. COGHILL.

Gaines Station, Genesee Co., Michigan.

\*Write to him at Topeka, Kansas.

### Prairie Breaking Again.

Mr. P. Winer advises breaking shallow or sod will not rot well. I will say that I have broken 7 to 8 inches deep at one furrow in April and my sod rotted well. I have broke 350 acres in the last 6 years, some each year, except one. I find that early breaking rots best, and that broken late dries out without rotting. I think 4 inches a good depth, commence as soon as the frost is out and stop as soon as you see the dry season is coming on. Never break late unless you are pretty sure of getting rain on it soon, and if you plant corn on sod, plant with spade and let it well in the hard ground below so the roots will be in hard ground. I find that the corn is not so worry planted that way as stuck in sod with planter.

L. B. TUNNELL.

Hutchinson, Kansas.

### Making the Hedge Row.

We only have to say in the outset what nature dictates to you in making a hedge row. Every man will say as we do that anything that is worth doing at all is worth doing well. We have frequently made the assertion that one-half of the hedge fence is already made, when you make a hedge row as nature requires you to make it. Many thousands of good and fair plants are thrown away annually by putting them in a place where osage orange plants nor no other plant could possibly grow, simply because they were planted in a row where the attraction of the greatest moisture was every way but the right way. Plants would freeze because the roots run so near the top of the ground, and therefore the root was no support to the plant, and plants never grow enough to mature the roots in nature's time, and by the time the plant should have supported itself it was dead.

The making of a hedge row is simple, easy and natural, and must be made deep. Plow the width of two furrows, throwing it apart; try and plow the same down to the depth of two feet, which you can easily do with the modern style of plows. Stir the ground another foot with any kind of an instrument that you may construct with simplicity, even out of your cultivator shovels that you may loosen the ground another foot in the bottom of the row without throwing out the earth, only stirring it. The place for the reception of your plants will then be three feet deep; make it even deeper if you can; that will secure to you the greatest attraction of moisture far below your plant; and would further say it is natural for any plant to seek the greatest moisture and grow in that direction. Therefore after you have attained the above depth, you have your rows to close, and here is where beauty and nature meet. Whilst you attract the root from below, the lower root and the tap root, you also, by the great attraction and concentration to the center, you draw the side roots also deep down into the ground. You do not want your side roots to run out in your field so you can't raise corn because your

hedge roots sap your ground for two rods from your row. This can only be obviated by closing the row so as to attract the side roots also. This must be done by closing the row properly. The first round with your plow in the attempt to fill or close the row, it will be necessary to run the plow four times in the same place, as it is necessary to make one round with the plow in order to get the loose dirt thrown back the next three rounds, and if deep, will be sufficient. The second closing furrow you plow three times, of light depth of the plow. The third closing furrow plow one deep, or two light depths of your plow. This now makes a row of land of about eight feet wide, or eight widths of your plow. Two middle furrows very deep; next thrown in is not so deep, and the second two furrows very deep and third furrow one deep.

This row your harrow is then drawn over sufficiently to pulverize and is a good place to plant a plant of any kind. You have the greatest attraction of moisture under the plants. You concentrate your fresh moisture continually from the sides, it sending your side roots down nearly at an angle of forty-five degrees, because they are also attracted from the lower part of your row, like many hedge lines you may see daily when you pass by them; from two to five of larger plants in each rod of that line, and the balance of small, scrubby, bushy, tender and frozen, whilst the large plant is vigorous and healthy. This can only be accounted for in one natural way; that is, the large plant has by some means of attraction, grown the roots down beyond any possible reach of frost, heat or dry weather. The root thus gone down beyond a freezing point, if even one foot into the ground below, will draw the frost naturally from a tree or plant, and will do it exactly with the thermometer. Warmth in that root will rise and fall, as that root is the only conductor of that warmth below the frozen ground.

We can make but a few more points on this part of our subject. The aforesaid depth of our row is obtained by very simple instruments, such as a single narrow shovel on a rude stock, or make a coultter or sub-soiler in some cheap way, that you may loosen the ground. Don't fear that you go too deep; when that root is once down three to four feet, it will not turn the top of the root and grow back to the top of the ground again, but will penetrate anything else but rock.

This mode of making a row for planting, is easily adapted to tree planting. When that farmer will once stop and think of the hard work of digging those large holes for trees, and count the amount of labor in digging them, then see how easy his team can do the same work, and do it as nature wants it done.

### HOW TO PLANT.

Many are the ways and modes adopted in this country in planting when you have even a good row and plants. Nature frequently stands in awe while men will buy plants and then will put them in the ground so poorly that the impossibility of their growing is a fixed fact; and in twelve months or two years you will hear that man say: "Oh! you can't make a hedge fence in this country!" How does he know? It is to be hoped that he would not wish to call that a fair trial. If he calls that trying to make a hedge fence, may nature's God pity him.

After you have a good row as described in the foregoing, do not plow in your plants, as that kind of planting is too irregular, but assort your plants in two or three different sizes, (uniformity in plants is beautiful,) then make a line say fifty feet long, and draw in a red or blue string at every ten inches; then stretch your line by having it tied on two stakes, and your ground or row marked by stakes at both ends, and also intermediate stakes; set out your line and take a hedge or garden spade, put it down within one inch of the line, and the boy dropping or setting with the mark on the line, and tramp down over the plant as you walk along. This mode of setting is preferred; it is regular, uniform, good, and done all alike, and the man that is an expert can, by the assistance of a boy to drop or put in the plant, be able to plant from eight to fifteen thousand a day.

Thus you can make a fence as you have the plants, that is regular, uniform and good, and well planted, and will make a fence sooner and better than any way you plant, and is more natural to the plant.—Prof. P. B. Roush.

A correspondent says "in article on fruit, change Mo. pippen to N. Y. pippen where you say it is the same as Ben Davis." We are obliged to our correspondent for the correction, and are gratified to find that the numerous aliases of that very attractive (to the eye, but very inferior in merit) apple do not embrace the whole pippen family.



## Farm Stock.

### Sheep-Keeping in Small Flocks.

Many years ago there was no other farm industry that was so profitable, in proportion to the labor spent, as a small flock of sheep. During recent years, in which we have changed very much the old habits, the flock has, nevertheless, proved as profitable as ever where it has been kept with care. But it has been upon farms few and far between only that sheep have been retained and the flock has been kept to a profitable standard. Formerly, a dozen or two of sheep furnished wool for the domestic uses, mutton and lambs for the table, and wool and lambs for sale, by which a small but timely addition to the money income was made. Now, domestic habits have changed as to indispose the farmer's household to the use of the spinning-wheel or the knitting-needle, and in place of these evening occupations the preparation of more showy articles of dress, the use of books, or the enjoyment of music or social pleasures are preferred. Store goods are procured in place of the homespun, and, to purchase these, something must be produced that can be sold for money. The consequence of the wide-spread occurrence of such change as this has had a serious influence upon our social system. It has greatly enlarged the demand for manufactured goods; it has drawn many thousands of young men and women from farms to shops and factories, and this has of course taxed the productive interests for the support of these non-producers. The change is, perhaps, not to be regretted, if we can successfully fit our circumstances to it; if we can produce sufficient to enable us to support, on the farm, the position of greater ease to which we have gradually arrived during several years of good times. The majority of young people of the present day know nothing of the old times to which we have referred; their experience of life is confined to the flush period of the last eighteen years, when money has been plentiful, easy to obtain, and could be spent without carefulness. Any suggestion toward a return to the habits of their parents, is, therefore, an unpopular subject for them to consider. But at the same time they are complaining seriously of insufficient means to meet their comparatively expensive manner of living, and the main question is, what shall be done to make both ends meet in this respect? We are endeavoring to turn attention to better modes of culture, to better selections of crops, to the rearing of improved live-stock, and to the supplying of new markets for novel kinds of products. But, after all, it is in a more profitable use of what means we have, than in the search for others that we know not of, that the remedy lies; and among these means of profit, there has been none, and will probably be none, that will be more satisfactory than a small flock of sheep. As an example of what may be done in that way, may be cited a case near New York City. It was a small flock of fifty-five common, native ewes, purchased from a drover at three dollars per head in the fall, and kept until the summer. The cost of sheep and of their keep through the winter was \$370.84.

The income from the flock was as follows:

24 early lambs, sold at from \$7 to \$10 each.....	\$192.00
8 lambs, sold at \$4.50 each.....	36.00
15 lambs, sold at \$3.50 each.....	52.50
8 ewe lambs kept, worth \$4 each.....	32.00
9 pounds wool from three sheep killed by dogs.....	2.70
182 pounds of wool, at 35 cents.....	63.70
22 ewes remaining, at cost.....	156.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$524.40</b>

The balance of profit was \$153.56, which is nearly the first cost of the flock; or, if three sheep had not been killed by dogs, the whole flock would have paid for itself in less than a year, without accounting for a large pile of manure. The lambs were the produce of a pure Cotswold ram, and were sold in the New York market from April to July. It would be difficult to show an example of a more profitable enterprise or an easier method of turning a nice little profit than this, and yet there are thousands of farmers who are so situated as to be able to do something like this with the greatest convenience and advantage, the result varying of course with the change of circumstances. If a better class of sheep than these are chosen, the profit might consist in the better yield of wool.—*Exchange*.

Early lambs may not sell at a high price out of range of large cities, but they always sell at high prices if they are of a good mutton class. Neither will the raising of them cost as much in this western country as in the neighborhood of New York, and we doubt not that the clear profit on such a flock as here described, would fall little, if any, short of these figures, if raised within reach of any town in the country containing five to ten thousand inhabitants. There is no produce of the farm sells, universally, so readily and so well as early lambs, but they must be dropped in January and receive proper care and feed.

### Why Stock Farming is Better than Grain Farming.

The advocates of stock breeding and feeding as being more desirable farming than making grain growing a specialty, need not be without a reason for the faith that is within them. It is not a mere blind assertion that the former will pay better than the latter in a series of years. It has not simply "happened" that this has been true in the past. It can be shown that the principles of good business management strongly favor the plan of making live stock a prominent feature on the mass of farms of the country—certainly in the west. There are many farms of which this is not true, but they are in the minority, not the majority.

It is an obvious principle, that if we have to transport our products, especially long distances,

it is wise to reduce the weight and bulk as much as possible. This the farmer does in a marked degree where he feeds his grain and grass to animals instead of selling these products. The condensation is most marked where the product of the animal, as wool or milk, or, better, its products butter and cheese, are sold; but the homely proverb, that the best sack in which to ship corn to market is a beef hide or hog skin, expresses a truth forcibly, if not elegantly.

The one great disadvantage of western agriculture as compared with that of the east, is the greater distance from the great markets for farm products. Complaints of too high charges for transportation have been very common. A difference of even a small fraction of a cent in the freight charges per pound, for shipping corn, may decide whether the crop is to give a profit or loss, for its value at starting is now less than half a cent per pound. A like difference would be less important in the case of pork, beef, or mutton, still less in the case of cheese, butter, or wool. Here is one indisputable advantage the stock farmer has. It is a generally recognized rule, that the selling price of any article is largely affected by the time, labor, and skill required to produce or reproduce it.—*National Live Stock Journal*.

### Shearing Time.

The owners of large flocks of sheep are annually imposed upon by a class of "professional" shearers, whose manner of performing their work makes it desirable for them to seek new neighborhoods each year. Some of these men can do good work, but the system usually adopted by flock-holders serves as a premium upon poor work. There is little room for doubting that nine-tenths of the slovenly, unworkmanlike shearing to which the flocks of the country are yearly subjected is traceable directly to the system of compensating workmen according to the number of animals crowded across the shearing floor. Whatever pride the shearer may have in turning off a good job, is soon destroyed by the strife for high wages, which is characteristic of every gang of shearers whose compensation is made to depend upon the number of sheep handled rather than the skill and care evinced in the work performed. Shearers cannot, and very few would if they could, do themselves and their employers justice when urged to the extreme haste in executing their work. The fleece will in some places be cut too high—and more than the wages of the workmen thus be left on the sheep—while in other portions the skin will be clipped, inflicting pain and injury to the sheep, even though the wound should heal before being discovered and worked upon by the flies. Rough handling and the fright resulting from confusion, produce ill effects which are manifest for weeks to the eye of the close observer.

The excuse for the custom of paying "by the head" for shearing is, that such a policy is more economical. But is it? True, a few days in time will be gained; but the corrugated sides and fringed flanks detract from the beauty of the flock, and suggest unevenness in the length of the fleece for the present and following season. Something may have been gained in the board of men, but the wages of half these are clinging to the sheep they have slighted. It is further urged, that most men prefer to work for compensation depending upon the labor performed. Of the professional sheep shearer this is only partially true. When it is insisted that the character of the work must be considered, and made a part of the basis for compensation, he will be found quite ready to modify his demands. When he is to be paid only for what he does well, but paid fully for all that he performs, he will not care so much whether he is working by the day or the job. A man who, under these circumstances, cannot, or will not, do good, honest shearing, will find in his carrying or dirt shoveling a more congenial field for developing his peculiar talents than the shearing floor affords, and the sooner he is relegated to such fitter surroundings, the better for all parties interested.

More money is lost to the owners of large flocks during the shearing season than the average observer will suspect. The remedy for this lies with the flock owners, who need only to determine in advance upon a few plain, equitable rules, and stand by each other in their impartial enforcement. Let them pay well for what is done, while insisting that what they pay for must be well done.—*Live-Stock Journal*.

### Save Every Lamb.

Every lamb saved at the lambing season is equivalent to one hundred per cent. on the investment; and this is the season of the year of all others, when that saving must be done. The following suggestions of the *Western Rural* are reasonable:

The first thing to be observed is to let nature have her own way as much as possible during the lambing and after the lamb is born. Nature is, as a rule, abundantly capable of performing her own processes, and any intermeddling, under ordinary circumstances, is officious and hurtful. Never interfere, at least until nature has exhausted herself and prostration begins to be apparent, that is if there is a proper presentation and the ewe is in perfect health. The natural presentation of the lamb is with the nose and forehead on each side of it. If nature becomes exhausted and the ewe is evidently becoming prostrated, she should be approached gently, so as not to alarm her, and at every three, the shepherd should draw very gently on each foreleg alternately. If this is not sufficient the head and legs must be drawn forward with all the force that it is safe to use, good judgment directing the operation. If this fails, the lamb had better be dissected away.

When the lamb is born, give nature a chance here also. If the lamb is able to help itself, do not interfere with it. But if the lamb is weak, or shows no disposition to feed, it should be held up to the ewe, the teat placed in its mouth, and the back and roots of its tail lightly and rapidly rubbed. If this does not effect the desired object, milk a little milk from the teat into the mouth. Do not resort to the spoon, or sucking bottle as long as it is possible to succeed in the natural way. Be patient and persevering, and in nine cases out of ten success will crown the effort to induce the lamb to suck.

Sometimes the dam has not good milk ready for the lamb. In that case it is better, if possible, to let it suck some other ewe, or two or three of them, which can spare the milk from their own lambs. Let this continue for a few days, until the dam is ready to furnish the necessary supply and quality. If it is evident that the dam will never be able to do this, then cow's milk must be resorted to, and fed from a nursing bottle or a tea pot. The milk should be fed at its natural temperature, and when heated care must be taken not to scald it. A new born lamb, which is fed in this manner, should be fed at regular intervals about six times a day. An observance of these directions will often save the lamb, and frequently the ewe.

## Horticulture.

### Cause of Seed Failing to Germinate.

Occasionally complaint is made that some variety fails which we have tested in winter, and again in spring, planted in our grounds, and for which we have received high commendation from numerous patrons. In such case it is evident the failure is due to something outside of the seeds, and I wish particularly to call attention to some of the many causes that may have induced it. Some of these can be guarded against, while, others, especially climatic influences and atmospheric changes, are beyond the knowledge or foresight of the most discreet.

In hot-beds especially, the heat is liable to such variation, and the outside air to such sudden and great changes, that seeds sown one week may grow freely, while in the same bed, a week earlier, or a week later, but few will germinate. In certain conditions of the bed many small plants dampen off and disappear almost as rapidly as they come up. In the open air insects sometimes destroy young plants so quickly that the gardener can hardly believe the seed grew. This is especially the case with young cabbage and turnip plants. A driving shower immediately after small seeds have been sown will often impact the covering so that unless the seeds be quite thick they cannot lift the crust nor break through. This is especially the case with Carrot, Parsnip and Celery. If, after planting the seeds of tender plants, like Beans, Corn, Cucumbers, Egg Plant, Melons, Pepper and Squash, cold rains follow, the seed quite frequently rots, or if already sprouted the plants are but sickly, and often die before reaching the surface. The wrinkled and sweeter varieties of Peas unfortunately suffer in this way if sown too early. On the other hand, if a dry spell follows the sowing and the soil is not compacted about the seeds, the dryness extends below the seed and it lies dormant, or, if already sprouted, it dries out, and too often the seed is declared poor. If the ground has not been made fine and level, the seed is often not well covered in some places and too deeply in others, so that it grows but poorly in either situation.

Then again, there seems to be influences which cannot be understood nor explained, and they seem sometimes to extend to quality as well as vitality. In sending out choice Turnip seed of my own growth, parties have sent in orders two or three weeks apart, and they have been filled from the same lot and crop. Afterwards I have received word from the purchaser stating that one lot produced an excellent crop but the other was certainly a different and inferior stock. By a recent mail a patron in sending in his annual order writes me that he presumes the two lots of turnip seed sent him were from different growers, and suggests that I note that the last lot (sown later and maturing in the cool of the season) was better, and that that grower should be patronized, whereas both orders were filled from the same lot, and that of my own growth.

These suggestions of causes and influences are not made to ask favor or partiality in testing my seeds, for I have grown them with the greatest pains and have certainly tested them with unsparring severity, and they must speak for themselves. But I mention them so that in case of a possible failure—which I trust may never occur—you will seek the cause among them, and not hastily withdraw hard earned credit.—*Root's Garden Manual*.

### Asparagus Culture and Manure.

I have tried all kinds of manure for asparagus plants, and all sorts of treatment. Nothing, however, produced such rank growth and thick crop as cow manure. We have often used horse manure, well rotted, and salt and various other applications. But the pure cow manure, spread over the bed about three inches thick, proved far the best. The year before last we had the most wonderful growth, and, as we believe, entirely from this cause. We always leave our stalks until they are about one foot high before cutting them; we fancy they are much better, and we know we get three times as much vegetable food fit to eat. If we cut them just as they show above the earth, and to get sufficient length, point the knives somewhat diagonally downwards, severing the plant about three inches under the soil, we only get an edible portion of about two and a half inches in length; whereas if we wait

one or two days more for increased growth, and cut just at the surface, we get nearly or quite nine inches of excellent food, and we think our bed yields more of this long kind than the short, and that the plants really thrive better. After the first cutting thus delayed, there is no more lost time, as all future growth, by being allowed to flourish a little longer before cutting, comes in rotation the same as if cut earlier; but, as I before said, we think better and more crop can be obtained by this treatment.—*C., in Canada Farmer*.

### Trees in Public Grounds.

It seems as if those who control church and school properties and cemeteries would give more attention to beautifying their grounds with trees and shrubbery. It is perfectly distressing to see the utter barrenness of many rural cemeteries, churches and school grounds, and when we think that very often these grounds might be adorned by trees and shrubbery at the sole expense of transplanting them, the neglect appears to be wholly inexcusable. It is inexcusable, however, in the vast majority of cases under any circumstances, for if the trees must be purchased, they cost so little that the outlay would be insignificant. We always feel when passing a city schoolhouse with its bare grounds and desert surroundings, something as we used to feel when a boy in passing a graveyard at night. It appears dismal and lonely and ghost-like. But there is an excuse for this. The city is accustomed to the absence of trees, and sometimes the land is composed of such material as could not furnish sustenance to vegetation. It is entirely different, however, with our friends in the country. They have the soil, the trees often at hand, and the knowledge to cultivate their growth, and with these advantages every ground surrounding a church or schoolhouse, and every cemetery ought to be a beautiful bowdler.

It is not the expense, however, that prevents this being done, and it is not in all probability the trouble, but it is a failure to appreciate the beauties of such adornments. A nurseryman stated at a meeting of the Illinois Horticultural Society that he had offered to donate trees for these purposes, but that people were slow to come after them. It is a generous act to thus offer to donate trees, but that should not be asked or expected. There should be a sufficient public spirit in every community to sanction the small expenditure necessary to adorn the public grounds with trees. We believe that a tree should be planted wherever there is room for one, and certainly there can be no more favorable place than on public grounds, such as we have indicated. No possible objection can be urged against it. Trees thus planted interfere with nothing, and are always ornamental, and outside of the graveyard useful, and to some extent useful even there.—*Western Rural*.

## Dairy.

### More About Granulous Butter.

Prof. Arnold furnishes the *Tribune* the following article on this important subject: Several inquiries having been referred to me from various readers of the *Tribune* as to the details, etc., of the system of gathering and keeping butter in granules, I answer with, I trust, sufficient fullness to be understood by all: 1. Churn the same as usual till the butter comes and is almost ready to gather. Then turn into the churn, a little at a time, cold water enough to reduce the contents of the churn to about 54°, and churn slowly till the butter forms, as it soon will, into granules. 2. The buttermilk is best separated by drawing it out at the bottom of the churn. When this is not convenient the butter may be skimmed out at any convenient way and put into a vessel of cold water, or what is better, cold brine, and then stirred to cleanse it of buttermilk, repeating the washing in new brine till it runs off clear, thus avoiding any working, which is a very important point. It should lie in the last brine half an hour to an hour before salting. 3. When taken out of the salting it should be placed so that the brine will drain off, and when this is done it should be spread out thin and evenly, and the salt sifted on and stirred in. It is better to put on the salt at two or three different times, stirring it in well at each time, so that the salt shall be thoroughly mixed through the granules. The salted granules are then pressed into a mass by a butter-ladle, lever, or butter-worker, and set aside till the salt is dissolved, when it should be taken, a little at a time, and pressed or run through a butter-worker till it becomes solid, and as much brine is pressed out as desired, when it is ready for packing or for market.

4. When it is desired to preserve butter in brine, a vessel of wood or glass may be used. If wood, it is better not to have the casks very large—say, half barrel in size—and it must be thoroughly cleansed of all sap or woody flavor by first soaking in cold brine several days, and then filled with boiling hot brine and letting it stand till it becomes cold. This brine may be used to soak the next cask in. Before putting in butter the cask should be partly filled with clean, cold brine, as strong as it can be made, and then filled with butter in the granular form, and fresh from the churn as may be after washing off the buttermilk and soaking in brine for an hour or so. The cask is then to be headed, and through a hole in one end filled with brine and left to settle till every crevice is full and it will settle none the less. If necessary, more brine is added, and the cask is plugged. The butter is then canned in the usual way for preserving. Any canned butter for preserving should always be as strong as it can be made, and from pure salt, otherwise

it will bleach the surface of the granules. 6. The butter is kept from floating by keeping the vessel full of brine. It cannot then rise above the brine. 7. When desired for use or for market, it is taken from the cask and the brine ringed off with cold water, and then it will be found as fresh and rosy as when it came from the churn, and may be salted and put in any desired shape or it may be transported in the brine if it has far to go, and fitted for market at the end of its journey.

8. Butter has not, that we are aware of, been sent to market in the granular form, the samples kept in brine, having been put in form for marketing at the dairy or creamery. Small packages have been sent over long journeys in hot weather to test its ability to stand heat and rough usage while in brine, with excellent results, and this after it has stood a long time in the brine.

## Poultry.

### Food for Early Chickens.

For a growing food for early chicks, breed meal-worms. Get a stock at any bird store, put them in a box with a few old stockings, bits of flannel and cloth, well sprinkled with meal moistened with a few drops of beer or water. In a month or so they will have increased wonderfully. The cost and trouble of breeding them is nothing, but they will prove valuable food the year through.—*Fanciers' Journal, March*.

### Easter Feast of Eggs.

The custom of eating eggs at Easter has been traced up, not only to the theology of Egypt, but to the philosophy of the Persians, the Gauls, the Greeks, and the Romans, all of whom regard the egg as an emblem of the universe and the work of Deity. "Easter," says Gebelin, "and New Years have been marked by similar distinctions. Among the Romans the New Year is looked upon as the renewal of all things and is noted for the triumph of the sun of nature, Easter is with the Christians for the Son of Justice, the Savior of the world over death by his resurrection." The early Christians of Mesopotamia originated the custom of dyeing and decorating eggs at Easter. They were stained red in memory of the blood of Christ shed at His crucifixion. The Romish Church adopted the custom, and regarded the eggs as the emblem of the resurrection, as is evidenced by the benediction of Pope Paul V., about 1610, which thus read: "Bless O Lord! we beseech Thee, this Thy creature of eggs, that it may become a wholesome sustenance to Thy faithful servants, eating it in thankfulness to Thee on account of the resurrection of the Lord." Thus the custom has come down from ages lost in antiquity.—*Poultry World*.

### A Ptridge and her Chicks.

When spending a few holidays in the High lands last summer I was witness of a somewhat peculiar incident: Accompanying the worthy farmer, with whom I was staying, to the hayfield one morning, the reapers discovered a ptridge sitting on her eggs right in the way of their sythes. As they could not proceed without being removed, the farmer gently lifted her and placed the eggs one by one in his hat, to carry them to a place of safety; the poor bird meanwhile being in great distress, watching every movement with fluttering wings and palpitating heart, thinking, no doubt, we intended robbing her. No sooner had she seen the last egg safely removed, than, with a cry of delight, she flew on his shoulder, and leaping down on the hat containing her eggs, carefully spread her feathers, and remained sitting upon them till they were placed out of all danger under one of the hayricks. On going to see how she fared in her new abode in the evening, we were greatly surprised to see her surrounded by a numerous and interesting family. This bird continued about the farm all the time the brood remained by her, and at last got so tame that she would feed with the poultry. But alas! puss made sad havoc among her chicks, only seven out of the twenty-three which were hatched coming to maturity. Whenever they got the use of their wings they disappeared, and have probably ere this time gone the way of all flesh.

We find this suggestive bit of natural history among our exchanges. This was a very remarkable ptridge! We have seen very many ptridges disturbed in a similar manner in hay fields, but have never yet known of one to go near a nest of eggs again after being rudely disturbed.

### Fixing up Men's Linen.

A butler explained that his shirt bosom and collars were badly done up, and the case was referred to a knowing shirtmaker, and his answer was worthy the attention of house-keepers:

"Yes," said the man, "the fault is with your laundry. While doing up your collars, she stretches them the wrong way. Damp linen is very pliable, and a good pull will alter fourteen into a fifteen inch collar in the twinkling of an eye. She ought to stretch them crosswise instead of lengthwise, particularly in the neighborhood of the neck. A lengthwise pull will draw the front of the neckband somewhat under your chin, where it was never meant to go, and of course it spoils the set of your collar. With the front of your neckband an inch too high, and your collar an inch too long, you have a most undesirable combination."

The necessary changes were made in the methods of the laundry, and all was right with shirts and collars.



R	Wayne, DuPage Co., Ill.
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HUDSON & EWING, Editors & Proprietors,  
Topeka, Kansas.

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## Prospectus of "The Daily Capital."

On Monday, April 21, 1879, the undersigned, proprietors of the "Kansas Farmer Steam Printing House," will commence the publication in Topeka, of The Daily CAPITAL, an evening paper, Republican in principle and independent in politics, the price of which will be 10 cents per week, delivered by carrier or through the post office. The paper will be issued in usual folio form, pages 14x21 inches, five columns to the page.

The CAPITAL will contain the latest telegraphic, state and county news. Particular attention will be given to local city news, political, social, educational and religious. In all that pertains to the welfare of Topeka and Kansas, the CAPITAL will be a friend and advocate. The publication of the CAPITAL is undertaken as a business matter, a part of the general plan of our Publishing House.

We shall place the paper before the people upon its merits, as a live, progressive newspaper, conducted upon business principles. We believe every citizen can afford to place in his family a good daily newspaper at 10 cents per week. We ask the people interested in establishing such a journal as the CAPITAL, to give it a trial.

Very truly,  
HUDSON & EWING,  
Editors and Proprietors.

## The Evil—Its Cause and Remedy.

The road to success in anything intended to be permanent, is careful, steady work. This business principle seems to be overlooked by a class of well intentioned people who brood over, and fret about, the wrongs and impositions heaped upon the agricultural class. Animadversion, anathemas, epithets and a misanthropic spirit, as used and practiced by a class of writers, talkers and papers, are not the means by which to accomplish what agriculture stands most in need of. The class whose business is confined to cultivating the soil, outnumber many times all others. It contains among its followers many able men, many educated men, and multitudes of men who possess strong common sense, while there are also hosts of light-headed innocents. It will be readily seen that here is material in abundance out of which to form a political, social and moral force which may easily shape and direct the destinies of these United States. There is no class in whose keeping the destinies of a nation can be so safely trusted as the class who own the soil. Their every interest, their very existence in the present, as in the future, depend upon stable, just and economical government. They cannot fold their tent, like the Arab, and as "quietly steal away." They are anchored to the everlasting hills. The expense of government must mainly be paid by them, directly or indirectly. They cannot change or conceal their property to any noticeable extent to evade the tax assessor.

By force of numbers and ownership of the bulk of real property, they are masters of the continent, if they know what to do and how to do it. A careful business policy must be devised and steadily pursued, executed in all of its details without heat and fuss, too much of which is substituted in place of telling work by the agricultural press. Corporations must not have law on their side which permits evil doing, or they cannot be restrained.

Farmers may learn a useful lesson from an anecdote of Jay Gould, who being examined by a committee of the legislature in relation to some of his Erie railroad finesse, answered, that when he was in a strong republican district he sided with the republicans, where the democrats were in the ascendancy he trained with them, and where the parties were about evenly balanced or the independents predominated, he ceased to be partizan, but on all occasions and under all conditions he was an Erie man. The business of Gould's life was to advance the interest of Erie. Without copying the great railroad magnate's morality, his political business tactics are worthy of careful study by farmers. Their patriotism has been so artfully played upon by office hunters and professional politicians, that the belief is grounded in them that their party alone is the true catholic in politics, and upon its success or failure largely depends the weal or woe of the state. Through the force of this pernicious teaching, scores of knaves are annually boosted into office, while, at the same time, they are known of all men to be knaves, shysters and tricksters. The average voter fails to see that the worst stab he can

give his party is to assist in voting a knave into responsible office under its panoply. The party is cursed by his knavery. The agricultural class is more addicted to this pernicious system of politics than any other property owning class. No other class in the country votes persistently against its interest save the farmers. All of this grows out of a lack of organization and information among the rural population. They must be organized as a class before they can be brought to see the evil and its remedy. While they remain, politically, the disorganized rabble that they are, then millions will count as nothing before the trained handfulls of other professions, pursuits and interests. To organize and teach the rural population by appealing to the individual as well as en masse, is the duty of the more intelligent and able men among the farmers. To anathematize banks, railroad corporations, transportation companies, money sharks, etc., etc., is sheer nonsense. These men are made of the same stuff that farmers are made of, and all that is required to change the actions and opinions of the two parties, is to reverse their business. Take the money bags from the "shylocks," the charters and railroads from those tyrannical corporations, and plant the same men on the soil, and they will become, in an incredibly short space of time, "honest yeoman," while the complaining farmers of today, entering into the successorship of their old enemies, will be metamorphosed into the money sharks, the soulless corporation robber. It is not the men but the legal opportunity that is at fault. Don't legalize wrong if men are to be restrained from practicing it.

American farmers must be taught to become competent law makers, and as a class they will enact more just laws and administer government with more economy than any other, because it is their interest to do so. They would not fear losing power and resort to trimming and log-rolling to retain control, because their overwhelming numbers would insure their permanence. The road to lower taxes, cheaper government, and less commotion in the halls of congress, is steady organization of the agricultural class, and instruction in political economy as a primary part of the farmer's education; then the "shylocks," the "railroad kings," the "monied aristocracy" and "thieving rings," will "roar as harmless as sucking doves."

## Home Beauty.

It is always in place to advise, and now is the time, to fix up about the farmer's home, by laying out neat grounds about the dwelling, planting trees and shrubs for shade and ornament. It will require but three, four or five days to make the farmer's home attractive. The time thus spent will be the most profitable work done on the place during the whole season. Profitable in dollars if the farm should ever be put into the market for sale; profitable in comfort, satisfaction and the love of beauty and conscious refinement enjoyed by having a home that is an abiding pleasure to all who dwell in, or visit the place.

Plenty of green grass, a few evergreen trees, a choice selection of rose bushes, clumps of trees that shelter from the fierce, cold winds of winter and break the force of the strong south wind which is such a feature of the climate of the country of the middle plains, with convenient neatly constructed walks through the grounds, will in a few years transform the most monotonous piece of prairie land into an enchanted spot. Such an arrangement for a farm house forms a beautiful contrast to too many that are met with, surrounded with old tumble down, rough, unsightly fences, a yard overrun with weeds, and strewn with rubbish; the debris of a wood-pile scattered about the door, ash piles, weather beaten chicken coops, etc. Most farmers who dwell in the midst of slovenly surroundings believe they have not the time to fix up, but it is not so much the want of time as a knowledge of the time to act, and now is the proper time. One day at the opening of spring expended in such work is worth more than a week at any other season. It is a primary object of life to dwell in the midst of pleasant surroundings, where rough, unkempt objects do not obtrude to offend the eye. People who have abundance of means, and enjoy cultivated tastes, spend thousands of dollars to surround themselves with beautiful grounds, which every farmer may have if he but wills it, without much pecuniary outlay, and a comparatively small expenditure of time and labor, if properly directed. What is considered so indispensable to the enjoyment of the rich, would prove equally a luxury to those in more moderate circumstances, and does not fail to add fully as much to the real enjoyment of the intelligent families of farmers as any other class of the community. The more beautiful and adorned homes we can induce farmers to make, the more advanced in refinement, intelligence and morality will the rural population be found.

## Lighter Bacon.

The indications are that lighter bacon is likely to have a run, and those progressive farmers who have learned that fashion rules in matters of general utility, influencing the current price of meats to a considerable extent, as well as the style of bonnets and cut of skirts, will shape their management to catch the shifting demand. Information comes from across the water that some of the principal firms of English curers of bacon are giving their customers notice that large, fat bacon is not wanted by the pork eating Britons, but a lighter, sweeter meat, with more lean and less fat. The truth is that fat has come to be a very low-priced article. The stock of grease is in excess of the demand, the surplus grease which has been manufactured in the dairy under the name of butter, in recent years, has added largely to the stock, and served to

bring down the price of that article to a very low figure. People have learned also that fat is the poorest kind of meat food, not wholesome, and contains less nutriment than most other articles of diet, in fact, is little else than a heat generator, which is unnecessary in our warm climate the larger part of the year.

Lighter pigs with more lean well mixed with the fat is the kind of meat that will satisfy the demand likely to increase in the future, both in the United States and in Europe. The demand for small hams is very extensive, while the large ones are neglected.

The breeders of heavy hogs will doubtless attack this senseless change of taste, as they will term it, and stubbornly refuse to acknowledge the force of the argument till severe losses chasten their understanding. A lighter pig with less lard in proportion to lean meat is the animal the provision market of the future will demand; or is now demanding.

## Agricultural Statistics.

## WHAT IT COSTS TO FENCE.

The number of rods of fence of various kinds given in the report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, are: Stone, 1,007,196; rail, 6,674,761; board, 2,574,937; wire, 1,684,134; hedge, 11,619,914, being a total of 23,560,944 rods, of which about one half is hedge. The total value of this fencing is put down at \$22,058,544. The hedge is valued at \$6,583,877, or a little more than half a dollar a rod. The wire fence, composing something over a million and a half of rods, cost \$1,212,702. All other material cost over a dollar a rod. If this data shall be accepted as conclusive, hedge fence for Kansas is by far the least costly as well as the most lasting.

## THE LIVE STOCK OF THE STATE.

From the same valuable report we find the number of horses owned in the state in 1878, amounted to 586,000; sheep, 243,760; swine, 1,195,000; mules and asses 40,564; milch cows, 286,241.

In sheep and mules there would seem to be a wide and profitable field unoccupied. Mutton sheep would seem to be especially profitable, the price of mutton in the markets of the state ranging from 2½ to 3 cents higher than choice cuts of beef. The mutton produced on the high, dry prairies of Kansas, is remarkable for its mild, fine flavor, as far as we have been able to experiment, by actual test with mutton chops, singularly free from the sheepy taste, found in a great deal of mutton, and which is so objectionable to most tastes. While the fine woolled sheep take the lead at present, and very reasonably so, breeding mainly for wool having been the custom heretofore on the plains and in the far west, we believe that the time has arrived when the heavy mutton breeds, would prove the most profitable. A fine lot of fat wethers will always command a handsome price, and at two years old Cotswold weathers could be made to weigh gross 250 lbs. a fleece that would average 12 pounds of most saleable wool. There is an active and increasing home demand for good mutton in all the towns of the state and in the cities east and west, while the demand for lambs fit for the shambles in June and July far outruns the supply.

The demand for large mules is always brisk and there is no class of stock raised on the farm which will command the sum of money at one year old that a good mule will, while they are easily and cheaply raised. While the rage for wheat raising with all its vicissitudes absorbs the attention of all classes, and immense areas of corn tax the labor of the state; to produce these bulky products, whose transportation to market costs very nearly all they will sell for above cost of production, the two classes of live stock, requiring not one fourth the labor and expense to produce, are comparatively neglected. With millions of acres of fine, nutritious grasses growing without care or labor from man, it is passing strange that the chief aim of every farmer is not directed to utilizing this wild, spontaneous wealth. But such is the force of habit that men will invest enough capital in costly farm machinery to purchase a fair herd of animals, and incur heavy expense in labor and money, in turning under hundreds of square miles of green herbage, already provided by nature without cost to man, for the support of flocks and herds.

In 1878 there was raised in the state of Kansas nearly 33 million bushels of wheat, and 90 million bushels of corn. Had half the labor and expense been invested in sheep and other stock, does anyone doubt that the profit would be four fold? The markets cannot be glutted with draft animals and a superior quality of mutton sheep and combing wools.

The fine pasture fields of Kansas are being ruthlessly destroyed to raise grain, which every farmer you meet, will acknowledge costs nearly, if not quite all it is worth, over and above cost of raising to get it to market! If the feeding grounds were sown with blue-grass seed when the stock have eaten the grass close, in a short time a blue grass sod as fine as any in Kentucky would replace the wild grasses, creating eventually, pasture fields whose value in dollars, it would be impossible to estimate. It has been demonstrated by actual trial, that a man may, by pursuing a systematic course, convert his range into a blue-grass sod without breaking a foot of it with the plow.

## Shawnee County Agricultural Society.

On Thursday afternoon, the 8th inst., the regular meeting of the Shawnee County Agricultural Society was held at the Court House, about sixty-five members being present. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Wm. Sims, President; A. C. Sherman, Vice-President; T. L. Stringham, Secretary, and W. S. Curry, Treasurer.

The following were elected a Board of Directors, which consists of one member from each township and ward, and one from the county at large:

Rossville Township, Squire Oliver.  
Silver Lake Township, B. F. Van Horn.  
Soldier Township, Golden Silvers.  
Dover Township, E. G. Moon.  
Mission Township, Thos. E. White.  
Auburn Township, S. J. Yager.  
Williamsport Township, J. S. Jordan.  
Monmouth Township, W. P. Popenoe.  
Tecumseh Township, J. B. Miller.  
Topeka Township, A. Washburn.  
First Ward, City of Topeka, W. S. Charles.  
Second Ward, City of Topeka, J. A. Polley.  
Third Ward, City of Topeka, C. P. Bolmar.  
Fourth Ward, City of Topeka, J. Lee Knight.  
County at Large, W. D. Alexander.

The Society then adjourned, and the Board of Directors held their meeting.

These gentlemen are all active business men, and will devote their earnest attention to advancing the interests of the Society, and getting up such an agricultural display next fall, as will be a credit to the capital of the state, and give the agricultural interest of this part of the state an impetus that will carry it to the front. Like a large number of agricultural societies in all parts of the country, too much reliance has been heretofore placed in trotting horses, which has been proved every where a delusion.

If the managers and officers of the Society will have faith in a bona fide agricultural fair, embracing all the departments of agriculture, and avoid giving undue prominence to any one branch or department, and have faith in their work, we have no doubt of a most gratifying success. If farmers, agricultural implement men, stock breeders, horticulturalists, gardeners, and all others interested in the multifarious business of agriculture, are fully persuaded that a genuine agricultural fair may be expected, in place of a horse jockey meeting and a gamblers' reunion, there is no doubt that a hearty response will be received from farmers and the public generally.

## Horticulture.

The last meeting of the Shawnee Horticultural Society was held at the office of Bradford Miller, at Dudley's Bank, and was well attended. Report on ornamental shade trees, by John Guthrie and Joab Mulvan, recommending, 1st, Cedar; 2d, Austrian Pine; 3d, Scotch Pine.

Judge Grear's report on orchard planting and culture was accepted. It was very interesting, covering the history of the apple, from the garden of Eden to his present orchard.

After some lively discussions upon choice varieties the society adopted the following as the best varieties, everything considered:

For winter: 1st, Winesap; 2d, Raul's Janet; 3d, Missouri Pippin; 4th, Jonathan; 5th, Smith's Cider; 6th, Ben Davis.

Fall apple: 1st, Maiden's Blush; 2d, Fameuse or Snow Apple; 3d, Rambo; 4th, Golden Pippin; 5th, Keswic Codling; 6th, Swar.

Summer apples: 1st, Early Harvest; 2d, Cooper's Early White; 3d, Red Astrachan; 4th, Carolina Red; 5th, Sweet June.

Peaches: 1st, Amsden; 2d, Beatrice; 3d, Hales Early; 4th, Cole's Red; 5th, Crawford's Early and Late.

Adjourned for one month to meet at the educational rooms in the new city building, the last Thursday of April.

The object of this society is the promotion of a knowledge and love of the useful and ornamental arts by which the homes of Shawnee county may be improved and beautified. The society is open to all citizens, ladies as well as gentlemen, both in city and country.

The present membership would be glad of the counsel and thoughtful experience of their fellow-citizens generally. To this end an earnest invitation is now and always extended to all who will, to come and participate with us in the consideration of these questions of great popular interest. The ladies are especially and cordially invited.

## Large Sale of Short Horn Cattle.

Our readers will see by the advertisement of J. C. Stone Jr., of Leavenworth Kansas the time and particulars of his great Short Horn Cattle Sale. This will be the largest offering of the year, of finely bred short horns, by a Kansas breeder, and the opportunity to retain these animals within our state should not be disregarded by Kansas farmers and breeders who are looking to beef and cattle for profit. The catalogue has some features of special value which are given by the compiler Mr. L. P. Muir, the widely known auctioneer and breeder of short horn cattle in Kentucky. In a letter to Mr Stone he says:

"In compiling your catalogue I have taken particular pains to examine their pedigrees carefully, and after so doing can without any hesitation, say that it is the best bred herd west of the Mississippi. It has been my good luck to compile catalogues and make the sales of many of the leading breeders, both in the western states and Canada, and I have not yet compiled a catalogue that gives me as much satisfaction and so little objection to the blood. You know that T. Cropton, of Stoney Well; C. Toumey, of Toumey Park; A. L. Maynard, of Morton La More; John Millward, of Yorkshire, Col.; Kingscote, of Gloucestershire; J. Mordhouse, of Bridge Heuch; R. Catly, of Bradley, Kan. etc., were the very best breeders of their day, and when an animal's pedigree is traced to their herds, you may feel assured they came from a grand family. I have given a history of each imported cow that each animal in your herd descends from at the foot of the pedigree in catalogue as well as stating which family or blood the sires come from. I am satisfied if breeders in the west admire good cattle and extra bred ones you will receive a meritorious reward for being the owner of such an excellent herd."

Yours truly,  
L. P. MUIR.  
To J. C. STONE, Leavenworth, Kas."

The following regarding this sale is from the National Live Stock Journal, for April:

"There will be some 82 head offered—63 females, and 19 bulls—the latter ranging from eight months to three years old; 40 of the females are two-year-olds, all red but one, that a roan. The families represented are Craggs, Bracelet, Rosabella, Forindia, Lady Elizabeth, and others equally well known and desirable. Mr. Stone writes that all this stock is recorded and guaranteed in all respects. Mr. Stone has also engaged the Journal tent, and will be prepared to make those in attendance comfortable, no matter what the weather may be."

The Kansas Churchman and Kansas Methodist for April are both out. These two religious monthlies, the former the organ of the P. E. Church, and the latter of the M. E. Church, both published at Topeka, display much editorial ability and are handsomely printed. These papers appeal strongly by their ability and merit to the religious denominations in whose interest they are published, for a cordial support.

Rev. Mr. Loring who has so ably edited the Churchman since its commencement, gives notice of his retirement from the editorial chair of the paper with this number. The numerous friends of the Churchman will regret parting with Mr. Loring, but the immediate care of the Churchman devolves upon Bishop Vail, whose well-known ability will be a sufficient assurance for the future.

## Catalogues and Pamphlets.

H. C. HOFFMAN, Horsedealer, Chemung Co., N. Y. Sale Catalogue of Thoroughbred Holstein Cattle. This sale will commence May the 7th.

HANS NIELSON, St. Joseph, Mo. Catalogue of D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Michigan, Seed Annual for 1879, pp. 144, illustrated covers and profusely illustrated; a valuable handbook for gardeners and florists.

Our readers will do well to notice, in another column, the advertisement of Auction Sale of Live Stock and implements, by the church committee at St. Marys. To be held Saturday, April 26th.

## Artichokes.

The articles published in the FARMER on artichokes have created a good deal of interest. Mr. S. C. Evans, of Clay county, Mo., adds his experience to that of others in raising and feeding artichokes. We copy from Coleman's Rural the following on the subject:

"I have grown the artichoke for a number of years, and during the time have experimented in various ways, and I am now ready to say that growing it for hogs is one of the means to produce cheap pork. Usually the crop is ready to turn out about the first of October. One acre will keep twenty hogs in a good growing condition from that time till the middle or last of March; or, with the addition of half the corn usually fed, it will fatten them in less time than all the corn, and as far as I have been able to see, the pork is just as good. A portion of the crop should be dug and housed, or put in mounds, to be fed when the ground is too hard frozen for the hogs to root.

While the artichoke is generally valued only for hogs, I have found it quite valuable for all kinds of stock. Horses relish them, and work horses will look better and feel better on half the corn usually fed, if they get plenty of artichokes. They are fine for sheep, and especially ewes with young lambs. And, if you want gilt-edged butter in mid-winter, feed your Jersey cow no corn, but plenty of artichokes, with good clover and timothy hay, and you will get the best.

I will not undertake to say that artichokes will cure the so-called hog cholera, but I believe it to be a good preventive. I have never known hogs to have any disease while feeding on them. Indeed, I believe they are as near a natural hog food as any product we grow. I grow a variety known here as the large white. I have had but little experience with any other, but from all I can learn from persons who have grown other varieties, I consider it preferable to all others."

The seed can be procured of Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen, Kansas City, and other dealers in seed whose advertisements will be found in the Kansas FARMER.

Water, water! pure cold water, can be obtained, with comparatively small expense, by the use of "Brockett's Well Auger."

Money, money! who does not want it? Many men are making money quite rapidly, by putting down wells with "Brockett's Well Auger." See advertisement on last page.

Neither failing teeth, nor the peeping wrinkles of time, so forcibly tell of advancing years, as your gray hair. Ayer's vigor restores its color and makes your appearance more agreeable to others, as well as yourself. With fresh, luxuriant hair, the infirmities of age are far less noticeable.

## A Well-known American Author.

Referring to his own complete restoration to health through the use of "Compound Oxygen," after many years of invalidism and exhaustion from over-work, T. S. Arthur, the well-known American author, says in his Home Magazine, under date of February, 1878: "Dr. Starkey and Palen are physicians in regular standing, of high personal character, and above the suspicion of quackery or pretense. A new curative agent has come into their possession, and their administration of it, so far, has resulted in restoring to health many who had regarded their ailments as incurable, and in giving back a good measure of health to a large number of invalids who had vainly sought for help through other means of cure." The testimony of others as well known to the public will be found in our Treatise on the Nature, Action, and Results of "Compound Oxygen." It is mailed free. Address Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, 1112 Girard Street, Philadelphia, Pa.







## Literary and Domestic.

## One by One.

One by one earth's wrongs are smitten,  
One by one its errors fall;  
One by one are carved and written  
Truth's great triumphs over all.  
One by one the dreary places  
Glow with green and gush with light;  
One by one God's finger traces  
Moons and stars upon the night.

One by one are rent and riven  
All the links of hell's hot gyves;  
One by one the chords of heaven  
Gently, strongly clasp our lives;  
One by one earth's bitter weanings  
Leave us nearer to the skies;  
One by one life's higher meanings  
Break like sunlight on our eyes.

O, the weary months of sorrow!  
O, the long and solemn years!  
O, the yearning for the morrow,  
That should give him joy for tears!  
O, the unending heart's great anguish!  
O, the wasting of the frame—  
And the love that could not languish,  
And the spirit ringed with flame!

Let it pass; the blessed throbbing  
Of the purple heart of morn  
Drew its pulses from the sobbing  
Midnight—setting in her scorn.  
And the calm soul's higher thirsting,  
And the light of true eyes—  
These are but the upward bursting  
Of the seeds of sacrifice.

Therefore, though the iron shackle  
Clasp and clench the writhing spheres;  
Though the red fire flame and crackle  
Through the ghastly, shuddering years;  
Though the green earth weep unshriven,  
And thick midday blast the sun,  
Still shall all, save man and heaven,  
Pass and perish, one by one.

## Going After the Cows.

They waited there by the pasture bars—  
Dapple and Dolly and the rest—  
So I slip the bars in the well-worn posts.  
And drop them one by one,  
But I do not go, as I always go,  
To see the milking done.

I lean my cheek on the pasture bars,  
And watch the stars come out;  
Perhaps they will miss me up at the house,  
And wonder what I am about;  
But I've something to think of here to-night,  
While I watch the stars come out.

Last night, when I came for the beauties,  
Willie was walking with me,  
And he asked me if I thought ever  
A farmer's wife I could be;  
For I am a city girl you know,  
And a farmer's son is he.

Willie wears home-spun trousers,  
And such a coarse straw hat!  
But the face that looks under the rim  
Is handsome and brave for all that;  
And his eyes, they look at me so queer  
That my heart goes pit-a-pat.

Every night, when work is done,  
We sit in the twilight gray—  
Willie and I in the wicker porch,  
And sing the hours away;  
I think it is better than opera,  
Or theatre, any day.

He said, last night, that the summer  
Is brighter because I am here;  
That his work was never so easy  
As it is when I am near—  
And he said—but there, I won't tell,  
Such words are too sacred and dear.

How pure is the breath of clover  
That comes from the meadows mown!  
How holy the sky above me,  
With the twinkling lights full blown!  
No wonder that Willie is better  
Than men who live in town.

So I think I will stay in the country,  
With Dolly and Dapple and Dun;  
Perhaps in the far sweet summers,  
They would know, should I fail to come  
In the dewy eve to the pasture bars,  
To drop them one by one.

## Woman's Love for Dumb Animals.

I am anxious to hear how Mrs. L. manages her cow; not that I do not know. Whoever is merciful to chickens would be to cows, those blessed creatures! that give us delicious milk, cream and butter, and seem sometimes to have really more intelligence and less of the brute than those who abuse them. But I want to hear and read that something it is worth their while to "manage" them gently and pet them.

I pet my chickens and turkeys and have good success with them. Why, when Hayes was inaugurated, I decided to have a cool hundred, in honor of the event, and I did. The 4th of March I had over a hundred young chickens. I could not get names for them as I had been in the habit, but drilled them in squads, and they would come by thirties and by twenty-fives to the tune of "Coodly, Coodly," or "Tweedledee, Tweedledee," or, "Humpty-Dumpty-Dumpty." I tell you it was a pretty sight.

I would like to pet cows if there were not too many—just two. I want one white as snow and one dark-red, for white and red clover; or three I could do justice by; and unless two were superior they would not supply my family; so I would have the third and that should be "Flossy."

What's in a name? say some. I say, a good deal. For instance, if a man calls his wife "Darling," instead of "fool," does it not stand to reason that he takes better care of her and tries to please her? and she, being the sensible woman such a sensible man would be likely to choose, would appreciate such tenderness and care, and endeavor to return it fourfold; and he, being the stronger, of course will never think of being outdone in any strife, and so with wave on wave of kindness and its concomitant—love—heaven will seem not so far away as it sometimes does; for where love reigns there Heaven is.

But I want to show the difference of people in caring for our domestic creatures. I am going to tell how ours are treated. A man had been promised the exchange of a creature he did not need, for a cow, but he dying before the exchange was made, his widow asked for the exchange. The one he had been promised would not suit her—she could do nothing with that. Well could she not have such a one that was in the yard? "Suppose so." So I carried the news, and she sent her two little boys to drive them home; a cow and calf, the latter very smart but the cow very poor, had not done well at all, but she could nurse her up. She was kept in the yard with the cows we milked, but had not been milked but once or twice; was not supposed to be vicious, and was not, but she shook her head at the little boys, not being accustomed to any but grown men; whereupon two large men took her in hand,

and with the boys whooping and hallooing, succeeded in getting her so wrought up to frenzy that in self defense she would run at any of them. They got a rope around her horns and hitched her to the back of a log wagon, and (I, in mortal fear that she would get her legs broken under the wheels) they nearly tired her out with whacking and driving her around the yard. They thought she would go, but she had never been led and naturally pulled back, but a stout team pulled her along, sometimes standing, sometimes on her side down a stony, hill road, and when I saw her on her stomach, with her hind feet stretched out, I could not stand it any longer. I fell across the garden fence, not fainting, but I must have felt as people do sometimes, or used to at a "hanging."

I begged of them not to try any more that way, but wait until she had recovered and then drive her on horseback as she had been accustomed with the herd; but they would not, and all of this was interspersed with oaths, epithets, hooting, swinging of arms, and grotesque unbecoming a lot of Indians around their victim. Well, they got her away from the farm, but had to leave her on the road and bring her back in a wagon, or some way, and doctor her up. I felt that there were no words for such cruelty. She was only just able to live; had to be nursed for weeks. Now, I ask, is there no penalty for cruelty to animals outside the cities? This, of course, is but a faint outlining of a picture, but I want to hear of another way to treat cows. I always said that a man that would kick a cow would beat a woman, and I believe it, but I sincerely hope that not many will suspect that their wife has been writing them up, and subscribed herself

SALLY ANN.

## Scraps.

I would like to ask the worthy literary editor if those "orange blossoms," etc., spoken of in the article bearing the caption "The Royal Wedding" were actually purchased in Topeka or is the inference only a little advertisement for our loyal, royal little capital town. Happy Topeka, to be able to contribute to the royalty of the old world! Talk about Boston being the hub of the universe. "Nevermore!" What is Boston compared to Topeka? Royalty did not purchase her orange blossoms there but in Topeka—at least so says the KANSAS FARMER.

Looking through the Domestic Department for something new or startling, my attention was suddenly riveted by "Men as Friends." "Me Judice" is a woman I know, and the sentiments she expresses so fearlessly find an echo in many a true woman's heart who has not the courage to speak out as she has done. But before men in general are the noble friends, "Me Judice" speaks of, they must lay aside the disagreeable health-destroying habits which Sylvia mentions, which degrade, and others still which sap their very manhood, and only when they do so can they "be true to right and duty," and acquire that unbending rectitude, which all men should possess to fulfill the manhood God intended them to have.

May the strength and power to become such men begin on husbands and brothers, is the earnest prayer of a devoted friend to the FARMER. MRS. IDA WELLS.

Topeka Township.  
Of course Topeka can furnish orange blossoms and brides to wear 'em too, "as fair as e'er the sun shone on." If this is doubted send the young men up to see. "The hub" in sooth. Why the fellows and the spokes are leaving the old "hub" daily and coming out to Topeka; deserting the net work of crow paths sometimes called streets, which environ the "hub," and planting themselves along the broad avenues of Topeka, the pivot of the great Yankee nation.—[LIT. ED.]

## House Plants.

How I treat my plants. I take equal parts of good loamy, garden soil, sand and well sorted sheep manure, and then set it on the stove and heat it thoroughly to be sure that no worms are left alive, then if I have not enough flower pots, I take tin cans and punch with large nails two or three holes in the bottom of the can, so that the water will drain off, I then put one or two pieces of charcoal in the bottom and fill up with soil. Once a week I give them a shower bath and water them with liquid manure. I use horse manure for making the liquid manure. I have had blooming all winter, Geraniums, Heliotrope, Petunias, Mignonette and Oxalis. What is more beautiful for a hanging basket than the Oxalis with their pink and white blossoms? The yellow is a little different from the others. It is a native of Peru and the leaf, and flowers are much larger. It is also very fragrant. Do not let the sun shine directly on them or they will wilt. As soon as my plants are through blooming, I change the earth, and slip those I wish. As soon as the weather is warm enough, I shall take an old dry goods box, set it out of doors on the east side of the house, fill it half full of dirt and set my plants in it. I keep all of the buds picked off until fall, when I bring them in the house and they will bloom all winter. Keep a few boards handy to cover the box when it storms and when the wind blows too hard.

It is time to plant Zeinns, Poppies, Morning Glories, Mignonette and Sweet Peas.

To MAKE A TAPER AND MATCH RECEIVER, make six cornucopias medium size, of perforated card board, work a pretty border around the top of each one, and put an embossed picture in the center of each. Fasten together at the top and bottom in a circle. From the top of each cornucopia, suspend by a thread about three and a half inches long, a pendent made by sewing together, four small squares of card

board, as in air castles. Put a pretty picture on each side of each square. Embossed pictures look the best. Now make six cornucopias half the size of the others, sew them together and suspend small pendants from the tips as you did the others, putting a picture on each piece. Suspend the smallest set from the lowest point of the large one by a cord and then hang the whole with cord and tassels.

BRAMBLEBUSH.

## Letter From American Girl.

Nearly all the farmers are done sowing oats, flax and castor beans, also great many are done planting corn, and some not commenced. Rain is very much needed. We had no rain in March. We had a light frost last night. I tied up our Dwarf Pears in quilts for fear they would be killed. Peaches are scattering. We planted eight kinds of raspberries three years ago, only two kinds of which are doing extra well. They are Doolittle's Blackcap and Mammoth Cluster Blackcap. We are trying to raise all kinds of fruit, both large and small, tame and wild; we even have planted pawpaws (the mushy things), but then we will likely have friends visit us who like them. Our currants are looking well (Louise and C. Bishir notwithstanding). I only recommend them for planting by those who take good care of such things. I see Louise does not want hedge around her yard. (Will Jas. Hanway, of the "Literary Items," please tell us the meaning and origin of the word "yard?") Now, I think country folks have no use for a yard; five acres at the least, and from that up to forty, is better than a little 8 by 10 picket fenced yard, only large enough to throw out the dish-water and have the dogs fight in. But take several acres; plant fruit, forest and ornamental trees, shrubs, vines, flowers, and last, but not least, plenty of grass seed; it will in a few years make a place that town-people will be delighted to catch a glimpse of. We country folks have patterned after town lots long enough. Think of it, ye Kansas women. Land is plenty. Why not have five or ten acres devoted to trees, flowers and garden, where the children (both young and old) can have plenty of room to play under the shade of trees, and on the soft grass? I think I hear a farmer say, "I want to turn my hogs in my orchard; they eat up all the fallen fruit, you know." Yes, but can't Johnny and Willie and Mary do that part? They want to be out; so have them pick up the fallen fruit in the wheel-barrow and wheel it to the hog lot, and then your orchard will always be fit to invite the President out to see, if he happens to come along, and no danger of him, as he looks up at the fruit, stepping in a hog hole and falling down. You know you would hate such an accident to happen; and by the way, if any of the correspondents of the FARMER, or the editor, comes down this way, give us a call. I'll show you that I practice what I preach.

I see "Kansas Girl," in Feb. 19th of FARMER, wishes to know about floriculture. I have had good success with nearly all varieties of flowers. I have something near two hundred varieties of flowers, shrubs and vines. I took all the premiums at our county fair last fall on cut flowers, after hauling fourteen miles, and I think this year my flower garden will be still better. I have just received a lot of roses and shrubs for myself and neighbors, from Ohio, as Kansas growers are so dear with plants.

AMERICAN GIRL.

Hepler, Crawford Co.

## Soft Maple From Seed.

Every farmer ought to have an orchard, and every orchard a wind-break. Stock is sheltered a great deal during our bleak winters by having good shelter belts of some kind of forest trees around lots where yarded. Soft maple is valuable on account of quick growth for both shelter and fuel. As the seed can be found along most of the streams of Eastern Kansas, it can be easily gathered by most of the inhabitants. No definite date can be set when the seed is ripe, as it ripens earlier south and later northward.

About the 20th of May I have gathered it in our latitude (39 degrees) several years. At any rate it is safe to say, it ripens in a busy time of year, but should not be neglected on that account. Success depends on gathering the seed when just at the right stage of ripeness. If picked too green, a great share will never germinate. If left too long it falls off the trees and is soon attacked by an insect which destroys its vitality. It should be gathered from the trees just as it begins to fall, and planted as soon as can be after gathering, for if left to wilt and dry it is killed and labor lost. Soft maples are best raised in seed beds, which should be thoroughly prepared as heretofore stated, where they may be planted thickly in the rows, but rows may be same distance apart as corn, and cultivated same as corn, thereby saving much hand labor which has to be expended to cultivate well when the rows are only 18 or 20 inches apart. At one year old set out where they are to remain. Then cultivate two years and mulch heavily with old prairie hay or straw. The former is preferable as it is free of weed seeds. After this they will care for themselves if fire and stock are excluded.

Lawndale, Kansas.

## To Sylvia.

I think, Sylvia, if our husbands, brothers or fathers, had been members of the legislature of 1879, the body would have presented a more commendable appearance, given evidence of more ability, and their youthful faces would have been decidedly in their favor. Do you not candidly think so, on sober, second thought? Wisdom does not always come with wrinkles and silver hair.

## Girls.

Girls from eight years to twenty-five—perhaps I had better say twenty-one, for then you are legally of age and probably privileged "to get married" and "pick your teeth with a fork." But this last I will rescind for I never saw a "female woman" do anything so disgusting as that, and indeed it seems to be generally acknowledged as a manly accomplishment. But I have no interest in man and considerable in girls, hence this article. Neatness, you know, is one of the cardinal virtues of a woman, although you yourself may not possess it in the highest degree, yet you will always acknowledge it to be so. Some will say, "I don't think that neatness has much connection with home manners," but I say it has, for if a father or brothers come home and find greasy and dirty looking daughters and sisters, do you suppose that they are going to smile graciously upon you and pay you a nice little compliment? No, they are very apt to make some unkind, but not undeserving remark, which is answered by perhaps an "Oh, you shut up," or "Mind your business." Now, girls, it is very easy for you to dress yourselves neatly, and be always presentable. In the morning when you rise, put on a neat calico wrapper—wrappers are no harm when they are neat and worn only in the morning—and come down stairs greeting all with a pleasant good-morning. If there are any little brothers or sisters to come for a morning kiss give it to them and a half dozen in the bargain; you or somebody else will never miss them, and as a little boy once said you can "make some more," if they are required. Should a brother come into the house during the day, and inquire for the screw-driver or gimlet—such things are in continual demand whether in the play-room or in the workshop—tell him where it is or get it for him, no matter if he has muddy shoes or left the door open; there is not a particle of use to "yell" at him that he ought to be ashamed of himself to come in. A long tirade is supposed to follow, which the reader may imagine for himself. Ask him quietly to please close the door, just as if you were making a common-place remark. Probably some of you think it is exceedingly common-place and every day like. I assure you if you use gentleness they will not forget it, unless he happens to be some ugly boor that thinks it is smart to pay no heed to a woman's request. Mrs. France speaks of the farmer's children starving for some kind word or caress. Girls—big sisters—you have it in your power to feed these hungry and longing little souls. Talk to them and, as I said before, kiss them. The poet says.

"Now all feuds, at least, all mine,  
Are forgotten in this kiss of thine."

Should you during the day enter into an altercation—I know it is one of the impossibilities of life for brothers and sisters to exist without some differences, and sometimes pretty lively ones—don't harbor the unkind words said; try to forget them; do so with a kiss. There are very few girls can caress a little brother and nurse anger in their hearts.

You can train a young mind and heart in any direction you choose; you have the power of implanting an abhorrence of rude uncouth things, and bringing all the better feelings and longings into play. I am speaking seriously, girls, and I want you to try my plan, and see if by cultivating a kindly spirit and patience towards the little ones, and big ones too, you will not enhance your own pleasure. Converse with them upon intelligent questions—the leading questions of the day—upon the rules and laws of their own country. If you lack in knowledge, inform yourself upon these subjects. In lending your ideas you will find that you receive many even from these little folks. Knowledge is culture, and culture is good manners and a kindly spirit.—Farmers Friend.

## Bulb Culture.

The best time, perhaps, to plant bulbs, is during the month of April, and later, if the weather permits. The soil must be rich and loose, and well drained. Plant in rows, ten or twelve inches apart, and four to eight apart in the rows, to be regulated by the size of the plants. Hyacinths, lilies, peonies, etc., should be planted four inches apart; tulips, jonquils, etc., three inches; snow-drop and crocus two inches—from top of bulb.

After the ground is frozen two or three inches deep, (to prevent the mice eating the bulb), cover the beds with four to six inches of leaves if they can be had, if not, coarse manure will do nearly as well; if leaves are used throw over a little brush or earth to prevent blowing off. In the South where the ground does not freeze more than a slight crust, they will require no protection. About a month after they are through flowering, or when the tops appear yellow and decayed, they should be taken up and the tops cut off within an inch of the bulb, but leave the roots on, spread them in a dry airy room for ten or twelve days to dry, after which, wrap them in paper or pack them in perfectly dry sand, and store in a dry cool place until wanted for planting. If the beds in which they have bloomed are wanted for bedding plants, they may be taken up as soon as they are through flowering, and heeled in the ground in some out-of-the-way place with the tops on until they ripen, then treat them the same as if they had ripened in the beds. Nothing can be more pleasing than a few of these lovely flowers in the sitting room or parlor during the winter months, when there is so little outside to please the eye. A few dozen bulbs will give a continuous bloom for months, by bringing a few into the heat at a time. They can be grown and flowered during winter with as much certainty of success as a geranium during the summer season. Among all the bulbs used for winter flowers, the hyacinth stands foremost on the list. Two methods are employed in flowering the hyacinth in winter, one in glasses filled with water, the other in pots or boxes of soil.

## Advertisements.

In answering an advertisement found in these columns, our readers will confer on us a favor by stating that they saw the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

ARTISTS' Materials, Wax, Goods, Shades, &c. A. H. ABBOTT & CO., Chicago.

FREE NEW and Scientific cure for Nervous Debility, without Medicine, from whatever cause. Mailed free. Electro-Chemical Pad Co. P.O. Box 228, N.Y.

SALESMEN and EXPENSES WANTED \$125 A Month and Expenses. SAMPLES FREE. GEO. L. REED & CO., NASSA, N.Y.

\$7 A DAY to Agents canvassing for the Fireside Visitor. Terms and Outfit Free. Address: F. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

60 Chromo, Perfumed, Snowflake, and Lace Cards, name on all 10c. Game Authors, 15c. LYMAN & CO., Clintonville, Ct.

60 Chromo and Perfumed Cards, no. 3 alike, name in Gold and Get, 10c. CLINTON BROS., Clintonville, Conn.

25 of the PRETTIEST CARDS you ever saw, with name 10c postpaid. GEO. L. REED & CO., NASSA, N.Y.

\$77 A Month and expenses guaranteed to Agent. Outfit free. Shaw & Co., Augusta, Maine.

AGENTS READ THIS We will pay Agents a Salary of \$100 per month and expenses, or allow a large commission, to sell our new and wonderful inventions. We mean what we say. Sample free. Address: S. J. CRABBE & CO., Marshall, Mich.

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## Literary and Domestic.

## One by One.

One by one earth's wreaths are smitten,  
One by one its errors fall;  
One by one are carved and written  
Truth's great triumphs over all.  
One by one the dreary places  
Glow with green and gleam with light;  
One by one the dark finger traces  
Moons and stars upon the night.

One by one are rent and riven  
All the links of hell's hot gyres;  
One by one the chords of heaven  
Gently, strongly clasp our lives;  
One by one earth's blither wearings  
Leave us nearer to the skies;  
One by one life's higher meanings  
Break like sunlight on our eyes.

O, the weary months of sorrow!  
O, the long and solemn years!  
O, the yearning for the morrow,  
That should give him joy for tears!  
O, the unsetting heart's great anguish!  
O, the wasting of the frame—  
And the love that could not languish,  
And the spirit wrung with flame!

Let it pass; the blessed throbbing  
Of the purple heart of morn  
Drew its puls from the sobbing  
Midnight—getting in her scorn  
And the calm soul's higher thriving,  
And the light of truer eyes—  
These are but the upward burning  
Of the seeds of sacrifice.

Therefore, and other iron shackles  
Clasp; strawberries, raspberries,  
Thou, strawberries, raspberries,  
Thou, grapes, pears, etc., etc.,  
Thou, grapes, pears, etc., etc.,  
Thou, grapes, pears, etc., etc.,  
Thou, grapes, pears, etc., etc.,  
Thou, grapes, pears, etc., etc.,

and driven, too much to do in my fields, to bother with the garden." We repeat, with emphasis, that every farmer can have most, if not all the above healthful and pleasant variety with less labor and less expense than the table can be supplied in any other way. Every day's work in the garden will produce several dollars' worth of good things. One quarter of an acre, more or less, according to the size of the family, will suffice. Select the best soil available, as near the house as possible, but at a distance if absolutely necessary. A good loam where water never stands is desirable. Heavy clay will not do well without a good deal of preparation. If not naturally dry, underdraining is desirable, but even an open ditch around the plot, and one or two through it if needed, may answer for the present. Plow and harrow fine, working in a liberal supply of the best well rotted manure that can be obtained—half a wagon load on every square rod will be all the better, but much less can be got along with.—*American Agriculturist.*

Fifty families from Illinois have sent a committee to select lands in Morris county.—*Parkinson's Ecclipses.*

At the joint sale of Short-horn cattle belonging to A. W. Seymour, William H. Jones, John S. Steele and George Grimes, at Chillicothe, O., on March 27, the highest price obtained was \$310 for the first Duchess of Sharon. Third Duchess of Sharon brought the next highest price, \$210. The other sales ranged from \$40 to \$200. The sales aggregated about \$8,000.

## Salt for Fowls.

The majority of people have an idea that salt is rank poison to all feathered creatures. This is a great mistake, as salt is as wholesome to them as to us, and their food should be salted about three times a week, in about the same proportion as for our own taste. When fowls cannot have access to green grass, I have found dry bran an excellent thing to keep their bowels regular, and they seem to be very fond of it after they have found out how good it is. My turkeys and chickens will very often leave their grain trough and go to the one containing bran, and "gobble" it down with an evident relish.—*Cor. of Prairie Farmer.*

The great 40,000 acre corn farm of M. L. Sullivan, Champaign county, Illinois has gone under. Mr. Sullivan has been compelled to succumb to the pressure of the day. The farm sold under the hammer for \$100,000 less than the liabilities. Such has been almost the universal result of reaching out to such an unreasonable extent. Dalrymple, of Minnesota, the great wheat farmer, broke up a few years ago; he is at work again on a smaller scale, and may succeed—hope he will. Henry, the Kansas wheat king, not content with a three thousand acre field, has reached out and is now holding a five thousand acre patch. Better "go a little slow."—*Nebraska Farmer.*

## Farm Letters.

## From Doniphan County.

April, 10th.—We have had no rain since last October, until the 4th instant, now we are having a perfect deluge which makes the farmers all happy. The ground had become very dry, the early sown spring grain is now fast making its appearance; the fall wheat is looking very well. The cold spell of weather we had in the latter part of March and the first of April, injured the fall wheat to some extent; say 20 per cent. Spring wheat, for the last two years, has been almost a failure, not averaging more than seven bushels per acre, consequently farmers have abandoned it as a crop. There will be 50 per cent. more of corn planted this year than last year.

This region is about the centre of the great corn belt, hence corn is king in "these diggins." All kinds of stock are healthy and in good condition. Fat cattle and hogs mostly marketed. I am called an old foggy in my neighborhood. When I was a boy I was taught the maxim of Dr. Franklin: "Plow deep while sluggards sleep, and you shall have corn to sell and keep," and have followed it to this day. There is a great furor for listing corn. The furrow is opened with a double mould-board plow and the corn is dropped in this furrow. The ground between the rows is not disturbed, and it is claimed that more corn can be raised than by any other mode of cultivation. But sir, are we not killing the goose to get the golden egg? I think such farming will soon exhaust the virgin soil and entail upon our posterity a worthless encumbrance. I set my plow at a uniform depth each year, and in plowing I find that I turn up from one to two inches of subsoil, this being mixed and well incorporated with the soil will keep your land in

and with the boys whooping and hallooing, succeeded in getting her so wrought-up to frenzy that in self defense she would run at any of them. They got a rope around her horns and hitched her to the back of a log wagon, and (I, in mortal fear that she would get her legs broken under the wheels) they nearly tired her out with whacking and driving her around the yard. They thought she would go, but she had never been led and naturally pulled back, but a stout team pulled her along, sometimes standing, sometimes on her side down a stony, hill road, and when I saw her on her stomach, with her hind feet stretched out, I could not stand it any longer. I fell across the garden fence, not fainting, but I must have felt as people do sometimes, or used to at a "hanging." I begged of them not to try any more that way, but wait until she had recovered and then drive her on horseback as she had been accustomed with the herd; but they would not, and all of this was interspersed with oaths, epithets, hooting, swinging of arms, and grotesque unbecoming a lot of Indians around their victim. Well, they got her away from the farm, but had to leave her on the road and bring her back in a wagon, or some way, and doctor her up. I felt that there were no words for such cruelty. She was only just able to live; had to double their weeks. Now, I ask, is it not a terrible thing to see a woman so treated? The subtle spell thus thrown around the people must be broken, or we may patiently submit to this ever increasing and debasing thralldom while history repeats itself with mathematical precision, and the strength and beauty of our republic are remembered with things that were.

But recently a correspondent of one of our best agricultural papers, (a gentleman of mature thought), impeached officials of that of which we know them guilty, and suggested a general turning out of official money changers; and, though his proposition seemed to me a perfect paragon of clemency, yet he received such an editorial castigation for his temerity as to drive him to forgetfulness and the subject from the columns of the paper almost.

Is this the mission of the agricultural press, to teach us to be a free, self governed people as well as to teach us the occult mysteries of hog and hominy?

If not, then give us the sensational political pandora's box with which to amuse ourselves while the work of spoliation is pushed to a point beyond our reach. I cannot penetrate the sanctum sanctorum, and drag success from editorial ink, nor am I competent to even sympathize with all the ills that editors are heir to, yet one thing is patent even to me, a novice, that to cover up in a cold bath to those who have the independence to unmask official corruption and call things by their right name will never create a diversion in favor of independent, unbiased and correct thought that should characterize a freeman and lover of exact justice.

J. M. Fox.  
P. S.—Peach crop all killed in March and wheat very badly damaged. Corn planting well advanced.

We fear our correspondent will not succeed as a reformer; not because his heart is not in the right place, but like too many other reformers, he loses patience with the tardy movements of the stiff-necked class he would lead up out of bondage, and is ready to exclaim: "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Hard epithets may serve to stir up the passions, but never convince the mind. It is but recently that agricultural papers have begun to discuss questions of political economy from the farmer's stand point, and we conceive they have made most encouraging progress. The frenzied appeal made through the Granges a few years ago, by a class who were mostly composed of hot-headed designing men, worked untold injury to the reform in farm life which was then started.

We all feel, who are laboring in the cause of the short sighted policy of the great mass of the farmers in their comparative neglect of the papers which are working for their interests, and their willingness to follow the lead of mere professional politicians and office seekers, but there is a steady change taking place in this matter, and with more rapid progress than those impatient brethren believe. To make proselytes it is necessary to mix among the farmers and talk to them individually. This mode is always pursued by the skilled politician, and they are a class of men possessing much worldly wisdom.—*Eds.*

## Wabaunsee County.

Farmers generally are at their plows, turning up the soil; some with their gang plows, riding at leisure, others footing it, as your correspondent has to do yet, but looking forward to the day when he, too, may ride. We are having very dry weather. It has rained to-day enough to lay the dust and drive me to the house from splitting posts. I would like to have those Berkshire pigs, but suppose I will not be the lucky one. May I ask if the names of the subscribers all have to be sent from the same post-office, as I have some friends that I have not applied to that live in other states; and some in this state that I think would like the FARMER, if they are as sensible as I think they are. The FARMER is regular and welcome with us. I and my wife both like it very much. I close by wishing much success to those who are trying for the Berkshire pigs, for it is a good cause they are engaged in—getting subscribers for a valuable paper. S. HADLEY.

Get subscribers where ever you can. Papers will be mailed wherever ordered.—*Ed.*

## Beloit, Mitchell County.

As I have been a reader of the FARMER for sometime past, I feel quite an interest in the letters from the different counties, and in answer to Mrs. N. B. L., for a receipt for tomato pickles I send mine which I think cannot be beaten:—

## GREEN TOMATO PICKLES.

Slice the tomatoes in thin slices and let stand over night in a salt brine, not very strong. In the morning skim out the tomatoes and put on the stove to cook, being covered with good vinegar, and boil till tender; skim out the tomatoes, to the vinegar add one pint of molasses to every gallon of vinegar; add spices to taste. Boil for half an hour, then pour over the tomatoes.

The longer it stands the better it grows. Please try and let me know how you like it, through the FARMER.

Mrs. HATTIE K. COOKE.

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N. B.—This firm is thoroughly reliable, and will strive to give satisfaction.—F. Long, Ed. Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

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