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Perhaps many of us in this room to-
can remember the wild and almost insatiable
thrust with which the English far-
some twenty years ago received the assurance
that the returns of these mineral elements
plant food alone was all that was required
to preserve the unbounded fertility of their
and to produce astounding crops. The
that was necessary for an abundant crop

But let us ever remember that its boundaries are distinct and clear and mathematical, and that for this very reason it is defined, and its principles and truths are as fixed and alterable as eternity. Let us not forget with the soil itself we are dealing with the most inscrutable mysteries in the kingdom of nature. Of those subtle forces

SYSTEMS

years of age when he knows the large majority cannot attend after their sixteenth year without expressing some dissatisfaction. Our country school teacher cannot even devote undue time to the advanced pupil from the cultivated family of his district without exciting the jealousy of those less favored. Our system of education must be the outgrowth of our institutions; for no such government has ever before existed, and no such a heterogeneous mass of humanity has ever before passed under a common name as this called American. What we have educated our native ignorant, our freedmen and the European and Asiatic ignorant pouring into our country, we shall have developed an educational system that will command the admiration of the world; a system such as Frobel or Pestalozzi could have conceived; a system the outline of which is probably not in the mind of any living educator.

It is claimed that the study of mathematics as commonly taught in literary colleges, is a peculiar virtue in discipling the mind; and therefore, that a departure from the beaten path will be disadvantageous to the student. As the same position is held in regard to classics, both may be considered at once.

more than \$10 for foreclosing a mortgage where not contended. Ten dollars will not pay good wages, and all above that sum is just a legal steal. Now they covenant in the mortgage for a fee of \$25 up to \$100, even when the principal of the mortgage is only a few hundred dollars! Oh, the greed of the money lenders and their attorneys! If they didn't finally foreclose on them, there

For the Kansas Farmer.

Amend the Statutes so that the township

need not visit and lecture in each school district.

be taxed everywhere. In the city of

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January 12, 1875.

work, it is said, there are \$20,000,000 worth of property exempt from taxation, and in the United States more than \$200,000,000. Amend the Constitution so that the office of State Printer be abolished, and thereafter all public printing to be let to the lowest responsible bidder. Now, the public printing costs 15 per cent. more than it need under the contract system.

The foregoing suggestions may not be the best that can be made, still we think if carried into effect they will improve our present laws. Doubtless suggestions as to other portions of the statutes are as much needed, but we have no time to examine further. We would, however, suggest that what we desire of the Legislature is to amend the laws, that while their efficiency in promoting the public welfare shall be strengthened, they may at the same time be simplified, and their administration be made less expensive to the people.

To reform the laws in the interests of labor so much needed, and to purify legislation, are among the avowed purposes of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Therefore we invite our sister Granges throughout the State to join with us in making their wishes known to their representatives in the Legislature. By union we may influence legislation; and in a multitude of suggestions very likely hit upon some plan to have better laws and less taxes.

The above suggestions were adopted at a meeting of Newark Grange, No. 1,953, of Wilson county, Kansas, held December 25, 1874, and the Grange ask their publication in the KANSAS FARMER. P. S. BOOTH, W. L.

FROM DOUGLAS COUNTY.

DEAR FARMER—Christmas has come and gone, with its joys and pleasures to many, and with misery, sorrow, want and heart-ache to very, very, many more.

In spite of the drouth, chinch-bugs, grasshoppers and hard times, the holidays are being enjoyed by all. Christmas eve, the Presbyterian and Methodist Sabbath Schools, of Baldwin City, commemorated the approaching day with fine Christmas trees, and few, if any, of the members of the Sabbath Schools were forgotten. Each one, old and young, found some token of remembrance for them on the trees. We had supposed that the scarcity of currency would materially affect the giving of Christmas presents; but here, at least, it was not so, both trees were well filled, and many presents from friends and dear ones, gladdened the hearts of the remembered. Let us hope that when Christmas eve of 1875 is at hand, one and all of the great KANSAS FARMER family, and every family in disheartened Kansas, will have an abundance with which to gladden their own lives, and the hearts of their friends. What a reality is hope. When the bright light of faith is extinguished and life becomes a dark, dreary waste, hope still lingers, still buoy us up, and encourages us to renewed action.

The tax paying community of the county are "waking up," and are coming to a realization of their financial condition. All over the county meetings are being held sustaining the action of our county commissioners in refusing to levy the tax to pay interest on railroad bonds of the county. Resolutions similar to the following are being passed by every school district, and before the coming Legislature has convened every district will have been heard from:

"WHEREAS, We the citizens of school district No. 11, of Douglas county, Kansas, having signed a petition requesting our county commissioners not to levy any tax to pay interest on railroad bonds, and they having complied with our request, therefore,

Resolved, That having full confidence in the ability and integrity of the commissioners, and believing said bonds to be illegal, and hereby desire them to use all honorable means in their power in defence of the aforesaid action, at whatever cost, and we will sustain them

Resolved, That we demand of our representatives such legislation as may be necessary to protect the county commissioners in any action they may take to protect the tax-payers against railroad monopolies.

Republicans, Reformers and Democrats are unanimous in standing by the commissioners at all hazards. The determination is to thoroughly test the legality of the railroad bonds, as all are believed to be illegal and part of them unconstitutional.

Prospects for a fine and abundant wheat harvest are truly flattering; as yet we have had no frosts to throw the roots out of the ground, and few of the plants are in any way injured. Stock, especially horses, begin to show the want of grain. Never since the drouth of '60 has so small an amount of grain been fed stock, and from present appearances, there will be comparatively few farmers who will have teams strong enough to prepare for seed, the ground that was in cultivation this year.

Whether the cultivation of less acres in the coming season be advantageous to the farmer is a lesson to be learned, and will bear a close scrutiny, as the harvest of '75 is being gathered into the granaries. A diversified crop seems to be the order for the coming season. From conversation with fellow farmers, I gather that that there will be more flax, castor beans, hemp and broom-corn seed placed in mother earth in the spring, than ever before. Could we have facilities for manufacturing all these products here at home, Kansas would catch glimpses of the dawning day of prosperity and happiness.

Lawrence seems determined to further her

own interests even at the expense of the State at large, and especially the agricultural interests. It is understood that Messrs. Thatcher, Haskell and Gov. Robinson are each pledged to do all in their power to move the Agricultural College from Manhattan, and consolidate it with the State University, or in other words to steal from the farmers of Kansas their only school for giving their children a practical education in agriculture and mechanic arts. I believe that the agricultural part of the county is opposed to such a change. W. B. Baldwin City, Kan.

FROM BARTON COUNTY.

A few words from our part of the State. The weather at this date is very cold. The snow is about four inches deep; it fell mostly on the night of the 30th ult. And since that time, there has been the longest spell of severe cold weather since my residence in the State, it being my second winter here. From the fact that the ground is covered with snow, the severe weather will not be hard on the wheat, which is looking unusually well for this season of the year, and if it continues as well as it now looks until harvest, there will be no need of relief here next winter. The grasshopper sufferers are not suffering any thus far, having received contributions from different places—mostly from friends or relations—so none are in serious need as yet. There is a glimmering to be serious dissatisfaction manifested on the part of the needy here in regard to the State Central Committee. The sufferers knowing of the large amount of necessities of life already received by the said committee, and thinking that if other counties, that are in need, receive no more from said committee than those in this county have, there must be some "grabbing" going on. Your hits at the officers of the National Grange meet the approval of the people here, especially the Patrons. They are beginning to think there is too much money going up from subordinate granges to the State and National Granges; and as there is no visible disposition on the part of the National Grange to make use of the present opportunity to demonstrate the "living principles of the Order," they begin to think that all the National Grange is for is to gull the farmers of the west out of their money. And if there is not something done by the National Grange, in the way of a good liberal donation for the Patrons in the suffering districts, there is going to be a lively falling off in the memberships of subordinate granges in the suffering districts.

There has been quite an effort, notwithstanding the ravages of the "hoppers," on the part of the subscribers to the FARMER, for 1874 to renew their subscriptions for the year 1875. And also a desire, on the part of the persons who were not subscribers for 1874, to take it for the year 1875. All are being favorably impressed with the independent tone of its editorials, and the general features of the paper. Hoping that the FARMER will always be the independent advocate of the farmers rights that it now is, and have the support it deserves, I remain, A. R. HOCKENSMITH, Ellinwood, Barton Co., Kas., Jan. 6, 1875.

EDITOR FARMER—I see by the Los Angeles

(California) Herald, that a company has been formed at that place, for the purpose of raising the Eucalyptus tree for manufacturing purposes; that they have purchased two hundred acres and are to plant the whole tract with it. The tree is said to be a rapid grower, having made sixteen inches in diameter and forty feet in height in four and a half years from the seed. Now can you inform your readers about this tree? Is it a tropical tree, or can it be grown in this latitude? Where did it originate, abroad, or is it a native of Lower California?

Again—the American Agriculturist, for 1868, refers to a Chinese tree, the Kocler-n, grown by William L. Orange, of Edward county, Illinois. It was then an experiment. Can you tell us how it has succeeded in this country? It was supposed that it would prove a valuable accession to our forest and ornamental trees if it should be a success as far as propagation is concerned.

The editor of an Agricultural or Horticultural paper is presumed to know about everything in those departments, and if not some of his readers are, and therefore, I appeal to you for information, and pause for a reply, while I subscribe myself a planter instead of a destroyer of TREES.

SILVER LAKE TOWNSHIP, SHAWNEE CO.

November 28, 1874.

MR. EDITOR:—I have long been impressed with the idea that literary societies in the form of mock legislatures could be made more beneficial than the ordinary lyceums and debating societies. A little experience has confirmed me in this belief.

The greatest difficulty lies in the deficient knowledge of parliamentary laws and in securing a presiding officer, who will be able to conduct the business without getting entangled. We must not expect perfection, remembering that the best parliamentarians in our State legislature often become entangled. Let approximation with a determination to learn, be the motto, using all the means at our disposal, and astonishing results will be obtained. In debating societies one question is chosen for debate, and that may be far from our own choice; in the legislature you can propose such resolutions or bills as would embody your favorite ideas, and upon which you would feel more at ease in speaking. A leg-

islature contemplate nothing but business and debate, yet they have connected with them any and all literary exercises that are carried on in other societies. Without extenuating these thoughts, permit me to speak of the Mock Legislature in District No. 21, of this township.

This legislature was organized nearly a month ago. A speaker (speaker pro tem), chief clerk, docket clerk, sergeant at arms, door keeper and two pages were elected. The chief clerk was authorized to appoint his assistants. A committee was appointed to draft special constitutions and by-laws and to make such changes in the printed rules of the State Legislature as would be required to have them conform to the special use of the Mock Legislature.

The second meeting was spent in completing the organization, and electing a governor. Mrs. Hattie P. Hall was elected Governor. Several bills and resolutions were introduced.

At the third meeting the Governor was duly inducted into the office by taking the usual oath, whereupon she read her inaugural message, which by unanimous vote was referred to the committee on judiciary, and requested to be published in the KANSAS FARMER.

[We regret that our space will not permit us to present Mrs. Hall's message, it contains some excellent suggestions; and although it could not be called lengthy for a governor's message, and especially for a governor's message, it rather long for the FARMER.]

The idea of literary societies practicing as Mock Legislatures, we think an excellent one and believe it could be introduced into our public school and college lyceums with much benefit.—ED.]

Patrons of Husbandry.

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

It is also requested that each delegation from every county report the names and postoffice address of the Masters and Secretaries of the subordinate Granges of their respective counties at the coming meeting of the State Grange, on the third Wednesday of February next. G. W. SPRAGGON, Sec. State Grange, Topeka, Jan. 14, 1875.

To Deputies.

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

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

The Secretaries and Treasurers will please bear in mind that their Reports should not be sent to the State Agent at Topeka. We have received a large number of the reports of both Secretaries and Treasurers, some of them addressed to the State Agent, which, after being opened, costs the agency for remailing. Secretaries should send their reports to G. W. SPRAGGON, Jacksonville, Neosho county; and Treasurers, to H. H. Angell, Sherman City. J. G. ORRIS.

Below is a statement of cash paid out and purchases made. We will try next week, to furnish a statement showing what each county has received, had intended to have done this week but we are no overrun with work that we have not been able to complete it.

Nov. 24, 1874, Mrs. Miller, Morris Co.	\$10.00
" 24, Huff, Sumner Co.	10.00
Dec. 7, H. Daum, Phillips Co.	5.00
" 11, 2,400 flour at \$2.20	52.80
" " " " " " " "	62.80
" " " " " " " "	1.00
" 18 Shipping tags	3.00
" 21 Postoffice orders	1.00
" 28 Telegraph, 75 cts, Shipping cards, \$4.00	4.75
" " " " " " " "	4.00
" 32 Blank books	1.00
Jan. 1, 1875, Comforts purchased	8.75
" " " " " " " "	2.10
" " " " " " " "	2.00
" " " " " " " "	5.00
" 2, Paper and envelopes	2.15
" 53 pairs of shoes	75.00
" " " " " " " "	10.90
" Copying and a blank book	1.40
" " " " " " " "	86.00
" 11, 9,000 lbs flour	138.00
" " " " " " " "	1.00
" 5, Postal cards	5.00
" " Mrs. Pyles, flour and cash	7.20
" " 88 pair of shoes	125.00
" " 10 pair of mittens	5.00
" " " " " " " "	13.25
" 2,00 lbs flour	420.00
" 3 car loads of coal	81.00
" " " " " " " "	69.00
" Assistance to relief agents	8.00
" 6, Hauling boxes	1.00
" " Mr. Thomas (colored)	3.50
" " " " " " " "	31.00
" 4,000 lbs flour	89.00
" 100 flannel and muslin comforts	247.00
" Cartage	.75
" " " " " " " "	4.00
" 8, Comforts	3.75
" " " " " " " "	15.50
" " " " " " " "	220.00
" " 100 sacks of flour	15.00
" " To Nebraska from Indiana Farmer	15.00
" " Bro. Crabtree Marion Co. (house burned)	10.00

EDITOR FARMER—The members of Half-day Grange have formed a vigilance committee, and adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a committee of five be elected by the grange, to be called the Vigilance Committee of Half-day Grange.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of this committee to exercise surveillance over any suspicious characters who may reside in or be passing through the neighborhood. And it shall be the duty of every member of this grange, to give them as early notice as possible of the presence of such characters.

Resolved, That in case of an animal or other property of value being stolen from a member of this grange, the owner shall give notice of the fact to the vigilance committee, and it shall be their duty to use their best endeavors to discover the thief or thieves, and to go in pursuit of them as soon as possible.

Resolved, That said committee shall receive for services rendered, compensation from the treasury of the grange, on presentation of their claim, and adjustment thereby by the finance committee, to be approved by the grange. That a sum of money be set apart for the use of the committee, in case of need of funds in starting in pursuit; the amount of the sum necessary for such occasion, to be left to the discretion of the master and secretary.

Resolved, That while engaged in the pursuit of the thief or thieves, it will be considered a favor if all grangers will give their gratuitous hospitality, and afford them every assistance in their power.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the KANSAS FARMER for publication.

JOHN KEMP, Secretary Half-day Grange.

Dec. 30, 1874.

At a meeting of Indianola Grange No. 1244, held Dec. 11th, 1874. A resolution was presented and passed, which was as follows:

Resolved by the Indianola Grange No. 1244, That the State Grange be invited to use as much of the funds in the hands of the State Treasurer, which can be spared, for the relief of the suffering brothers of the western counties.

Resolved moreover, That the State Treasurer be requested to publish a statement of the funds in his hands, and the use they are to be put to.

C. L. WARD, Secretary.

WHEN we see the agricultural interest of the whole nation becoming a prey to the avarice of monopolists it is evident to our minds that the very foundations of our government are being undermined.

When we see nine tenths of the press the subsidized organs of the monied powers and even a majority of the agricultural press acting in concert with them, we think it is time to express our opinions, hence we rejoice in the course of the FARMER and we wish every Agricultural Paper in the land would be as fearless in denouncing corruption in high places, as the FARMER.

As regards part the writer has always been identified with the Republican party. But at this time neither prominent party has the interests of the laboring classes in view further than to control votes, while both of them hold and advocate principles which tend to advance the schemes of the rings of monied scoundrels all over this nation.

We need reform and who are better fitted to bring it about than the Yeomany. They are the motive power in the nation and I think sufficient brain power can be found to run the machinery of the government till the present race of scoundrels, have passed away. We should learn a lesson from the conditions of Greece in her palmy days when her citizens were divided, as ours, into three classes. The nobles, merchants and peasants. Every interest of the latter was gradually crushed out till forbearance ceased to be a virtue and a resort to arms brought the two arbitrary powers under control of the peasants so it must be in this country excepting we may find a more peaceful way to carry our points than to resort to war, and a united effort of the Agricultural men of America would most effectually do the work.

Still I say agitate reform by word, by the press, at home, abroad, in the parlor, in the field, to the old and the young, by night and by day, until the monopolists of this country shall tremble and fall.

I. H. HAYNES.

Delphia, Ind.

Osborn County.

We have a beautiful country here, soil good and the country lays well for farming. Quite a number of vacant claims here yet, of as nice prairie land as any one could wish.

Owing to the destruction of all our crops, except a little wheat and oats, many of the settlers are in very destitute circumstances, with but little clothing, some barefooted, others nearly out of provisions, and all of us will be nearly without seeds of all kinds in the spring.

Mount Ayr Grange, No. 1275, has a membership of about 25. Our business committee is using the money in the treasury to purchase salt and other necessities at wholesale. We purchased one barrel of salt and retailed it at 1 1/2 cents per pound, while it was selling in town at 2 1/2 cents. Although our capital is small it can as well be used that way as to lie idle these hard times.

We have learned that circulars have been issued by the Master of the State Grange to the subordinate granges that are in destitute circumstances, to ascertain their needs. For some cause this grange has not received any such circular yet.

The undersigned has been appointed agent for the grange, to whom all communications relative to our destitution may be addressed. We trust the officers of the State Grange will notice this, and do their duty towards relieving the destitute brethren of this grange.

J. W. WINSLOW.

Mount Ayr, Osborn County.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

THE KANSAS STATE Agricultural College

NOW furnishes a THOROUGH and DIRECT EDUCATION to those who intend to be FARMERS, MECHANICS, or to follow other Industrial Pursuits. THE FOUR COURSES OF INSTRUCTION, FARMERS, MECHANICS, BUSINESS and WOMEN, are prepared with express reference to these things:

1. What the student knows when received;
2. The time he will remain;
3. The use which is really made of a given science in his proposed occupation, the studies being so arranged that, at the close of each year, he will have gained that knowledge which is of most value in his business.

The FIRST OBJECT in each course is to make every student a Master of the English Language, and an Expert in its use; and also, skillful in Mathematics as employed in every day life, including Book Keeping, Business Law and Industrial Drawing.

In addition the special object of the

FARMERS COURSE

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

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

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

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

SUPERIOR ADVANTAGES

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

THE MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

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

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

THE COURSE FOR WOMEN

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

TUITION ABSOLUTELY FREE,

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

Boarding paid for \$3.75 to \$4 per week.

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

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

For further information apply to

J. A. ANDERSON, President, Manhattan, Kansas.

The Patrons Mutual Insurance Association.

OFFICERS—BOARD OF DIRECTORS: M. E. Hudson, Master of State Grange, Wm. Sims, Governor, W. J. Pope, F. H. Dumbauld, J. B. Shaffer, Executive Committee: A. Washburne, Treasurer; S. H. Downes, Secretary.

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

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

We give the following as an illustration of the difference between our rates and joint stock companies. Joint stock company lowest cash rate, per annum on \$1,000.....\$5.00 On each \$1,000, for three years.....\$15.00 A policy fee of.....\$3.00-17.00 which amount is paid in advance.

The Patrons Association rates are, A membership fee of.....\$1.50 On policy of \$1,000, first year's premium, 25 cents on each \$100.....\$2.50 Total cash paid.....\$4.00 A policy is then issued for 3 years, and a premium note taken for the remaining 2 years of.....\$5.00 Total cost of insurance for 3 years.....\$9.00

The premium note is liable to assessment at any time to pay expenses and losses. On a policy of \$500 the cost is as follows: Membership fee.....\$1.50 Premium for first year.....\$2.75 Total cash payment.....\$4.25 Note for remaining two years.....\$5.50 Total cost for three years.....\$9.75

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

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

The "Planet" Double-wheel Hoe

work Onions, Roots, Garden Crops, Cuttings, Seedlings, etc., closer, better and more certain than the hand hoe. Circulars Free. S. L. ALLEN & CO. 119 E. 4th St., Topeka, Kas.

A LIVE AGENT WANTED IN EVERY TOWN!

MARKET GARDENERS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS,

WILL find it to their advantage to call on, or apply by mail to the undersigned for

Good, Pure Garden Seeds,

grown by J. B. ROOT, Rockford, Ill.; also, for S. L. Allen's "Planet" Hand Seed Drills and Wheel Hoes, that took the First Premium at the Kansas State Fair in 1874.

Sample machines to be seen near the Times office, North Topeka, where orders will be received for them and all kinds of Garden, Flower or Field Seeds, at wholesale and retail rates.

Catalogues and price list on application. Prices and terms to suit the times. O. H. BARTON, Special Agt. Postoffice box 206, North Topeka, Kansas.

PATRONS' HAND-BOOK.

Price Reduced.

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

\$2.00 PER DOZEN.

J. K. HUDSON, TOPEKA, KANSAS.

The Kansas Farmer.

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

TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.
 One Copy, Weekly, for one year, \$2.00
 One Copy, Weekly, for six months, \$1.25
 Three Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$5.00
 Five Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$7.50
 Ten Copies, Weekly, for one year, \$12.00

ADVERTISING RATES:
 One Insertion, 10 cents per line, nonparel, each insertion.
 Two Insertions, 15 cents per line, nonparel, each insertion.
 One Year, 10 cents per line, nonparel, each insertion.
 Special Notice, 25 cents per line. No advertisement taken for less than one dollar.

SPECIAL RATES FOR LARGE CONTRACTS.
 In the Readers' Nurserymen and Seedmen's Directory we will print a card of three lines for one year, for \$2.00. This will give a circulation to the card of nearly 50,000 copies during the year, the best of ever made by a first-class weekly paper.

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 C. W. JOHNSON, Atchison, Kan.
 "OLD CENTRE," "COUNTRY LAD," "HOOSIER GIRL," W. P. PAPER, ALFRED, GRAY, PROF. SNOW, PROF. KEDDIE, PROF. M. J. B. and host of other valuable contributors, who will assist in giving the farmers of Kansas a paper not equalled in the country for originality and merit.
 A special and interesting department of the paper will be the short letters from farmers and breeders, fruit-growers and others interested in the various branches of agriculture. A live discussion upon the topics of the day, embracing full and complete information upon every phase of the farmer's movement, will also be a prominent feature of the paper. Specimen copies will be sent free to any address.

THE DUTY OF KANSAS TOWARDS HER OWN NEEDS.

At no time since the admission of Kansas as a state, has there been more important legislative action needed than at this time. The great and growing problem of caring for the needy on our frontier requires prompt, wise and generous action at the hands of our legislators. It is conceded that the late special session of the legislature was a failure, so far as giving to the State, legislation of a practical character, in view of the extent of suffering which prevails. The result has been that the people finding themselves unprotected, have taken the matter into their own hands, and sent throughout the East a large number of persons soliciting aid. No other course remained to be pursued; and while there may be impostors who will take advantage of the present condition of affairs to secure money and provisions for their own use, the character of most of the persons who have been endorsed by the Central Relief Committee, or who have gone under the auspices of the Grange, are citizens of good character, and trustworthy. If the people dislike to see their State asking for charity, they must remember that no adequate provision has been made to secure the frontier settlers against want and suffering. The time for the meeting of the legislature has arrived, and every citizen who values the character and reputation of his State, expects to see immediate legislation which will show to the people of the country, that Kansas can help her own needy. If the statistics and returns which can now be secured, showing the extent of the destitution, show that Kansas requires a half million of dollars to take care of her citizens—let it be given at once! The credit of Kansas is as good as any western state, and upon a valuation of one hundred and thirty millions of dollars, the tax for relief bonds, if it requires a half million of dollars, would be but a few mills. We present to the country, at this time, the humiliating spectacle of asking help without making an active effort to help ourselves. It is time to stop the "spread eagle" business and falsely covering up the extent of the necessities, and come down courageously and manfully to take care of our own destitute. The present and future of every county in the State, east or west, north or south, is directly interested in securing such legislation as will give to all the settlers of the frontier full confidence that they will not be permitted to suffer. This will make unnecessary the sending of more persons East, who are compelled to say at this time, "Our state will not take care of its destitute, and we are here asking help." The people of Kansas are looking to this legislature for prompt and vigorous action. Will they be disappointed?

STATE TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Temperance League of the State of Kansas, will be held at Lawrence, commencing on Wednesday evening, January 27, 1875, and continue over Thursday. Each county is entitled to one delegate for every three thousand or fraction thereof of its population, and all church organizations and temperance societies are entitled to representation.
 —All delegates and others in attendance will be provided for during the session.
 Arrangements will doubtless be completed with the different railroad companies whereby delegates may be transported at reduced rates of fare.
 It is hoped there will be a full attendance of these representative temperance men and women of the State as the work for the coming year is to be marked out.
 By order of the executive committee,
 B. CORDLEY, President.
 DAVID C. BEACH, Secretary.

THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE UNIVERSITY AND THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

We have been aware for some time that there were rumors abroad that an effort would be made on the part of the Douglas County delegates to secure the removal of the Agricultural College from Manhattan, merging it into the University now located at Lawrence.

We do not believe there is any foundation in fact for these rumors as the whole thing is preposterously absurd. The history of these institutions throughout this country where ever they have endeavored to unite a classical institution and an industrial school in one is, that the agricultural or industrial portion speedily dies out and the classical end fattens on the endowment which was intended to establish an agricultural and mechanical school. Besides this the State University has at this time the finest educational building in Kansas and 45,000 acres of land unsold, and no doubt in the future will become the Yale of the West, while the Agricultural College at Manhattan now so prosperously making its mark among the institutions of its class in the country, will in a short time be to the farmers and mechanics of Kansas what the Agricultural College of Michigan is to the people of Michigan. We have even very much higher anticipations for it than that.

The "new departure" in this college under the vigorous and able management of its President, J. A. Anderson, will create for it a character which will place it as the foremost industrial school of this country. This subject President Anderson has thoroughly discussed in his Hand-Book which should be read by every farmer and mechanic in Kansas.

We know the intelligent gentleman composing the Douglas County delegation, and we cannot for a moment think they would espouse a scheme of such doubtful wisdom and one which would certainly end in defeat.

HON. E. H. FUNSTON, SPEAKER.

The selection of Hon. E. H. Funston for Speaker of the House is one that will be received by the people of Kansas with satisfaction and approval. In Mr. Funston the farmers of Kansas have an intelligent and able representative; and what is of much greater importance, a man who cannot be used by the corrupt rings and cliques which have cursed our State. We look upon his selection for this responsible position, not only as a high compliment to Mr. Funston's honorable course heretofore as a public officer, but as an evidence that the present legislature has the strength and courage to legislate in the interest of the people of the State.

SHALL THE MEETING OF THE STATE GRANGE BE POSTPONED?

As the time for the meeting of the State Grange approaches, the advisability of postponing the meeting becomes a question of considerable importance. In view of the depleted condition of the treasury, the necessity of remitting the dues to most of the western counties, and the extreme scarcity of money throughout the State it would seem to be a necessary measure of economy to postpone the meeting until after another crop shall have been harvested.

All measures which would probably come before the State Grange for consideration may be for the present postponed or settled by our present efficient Executive Committee. All available means of our farmers are needed in their farming operations and in assisting those who may need help on the frontiers. We hope when the Executive Committee of the State Grange meets it will assume the responsibility of postponing the annual meeting. We believe this course will secure the hearty approval of the patrons of the State.

MINOR ITEMS.

Big Intention.—Lloyd, the famous map man, who made all the maps for General Grant and the Union army, certificates of which he published, has just invented a way of getting a relief plate from steel so as to print Lloyd's Map of American Continent—showing from ocean to ocean—on one entire sheet of blank paper, 40x50 inches large, on a lightening press, and colored, sized and varnished for the wall so as to stand washing, and mailing anywhere in the world for 25 cents, or unvarnished for 10 cents. This map shows the whole United States and Territories in a group, from surveys to 1875, with a million places on it, such as towns, cities, villages, mountains, lakes, rivers, streams, gold mines, railway stations, &c. This map should be in every house. Send 25 cents to the Lloyd Map Company, Philadelphia, and you will get a copy by return mail.

The Atchison Champion.—We intended to acknowledge our indebtedness to the *Champion* for a portion of its Yearly Summary which was published in the *FARMER* last week. Among the dailies of the state none show the "ear marks" of editorial hand work bestowed upon the *Champion*.

Special Offer.—To induce persons to send a copy of the *FARMER* to their friends outside of Kansas we make the following offer.

Where a party subscribes for two copies, one to be sent to his address in the State and one to be sent out of the State; we will forward

ward the two copies one year for three dollars. The *FARMER* gives all important State news full correspondence from all parts of the State, markets, the most complete weather reports from three points in the State and is in every way a paper that citizens may send out of the State as a representative of the agricultural and material interests of the State.

EDITOR FARMER.—An article under the head of "General News" in your issue of Dec. 30th, may mislead homesteaders and pre-emptors and occasion them to lose their lands. The recent act of Congress only permits an absence until July 1st, 1875, and in case of devastation of crops during the present year, then the absence may be pardoned until July 1st, 1876.

The Coffee County Superintendency case we understand is not to be carried into the higher courts. Miss Wright does not feel sufficient interest in the matter to incur the expense of litigation herself or to permit her friends to do for her. As the matter now stands it leaves the other lady superintendents elect in a precarious position; for, in view of the decision of the Coffee County court, the Boards of Commissioners of other counties will hardly take the responsibility of paying the salary to persons not legally capacitated to fill the office.

Would it not be well for the Legislature by special act to make ladies eligible to this office?

Good Wishes From Jefferson County.—Resolved, by the Jefferson County Central Council, That we heartily endorse the *KANSAS FARMER*, and cheerfully recommend it to all those desiring a good family and farm paper.

The Industrial Age.—The "Industrial Age," published weekly in Chicago, by J. A. Noonan, Chas. E. Barney and S. M. Smith. The "Age" is the great anti-monopoly paper of the West, devoted to the discussion of public measures and all political questions affecting the rights and interests of the country. It is ably edited and sustains the reforms of the day with a vigor and courage that should place it in every household. We value the "Age" for its ability and its clear grit.

Clubs Are Coming.—Many friends write asking "how does the farmer stand these grass hoppers time?" In reply to one and all, we will say that a greater number of subscribers have been received the past three weeks than the corresponding three weeks of last year. As large a proportion of the new lists came from extreme western counties, as from any other parts of the State. Clubs have been received from Norton, Russell, Smith, Lincoln, Reno, Barton, Rice, Marlon, McPherson et al., showing that our people must read if times are hard.

The Farmer.—Very few persons are aware of the large amount of hard work involved in preparing a weekly journal, such as the *FARMER*, for its readers. The demand for new and valuable matter, the selection, revision, correcting, day after day, week after week, is slightly comprehended. The ability of the editor is shown as much in his selections as in his editorials, as much in what he does not, as what he does publish. Every paper, large or small, bears upon its face the evidence of industry or laziness, as much as does a man's farm. The editor may have ideas, but his principal business is to collect those of others, cut out the weedy, flat and unprofitable parts, and place before his readers the meat of the articles. Correcting bad grammar and spelling is the ordinary drudgery of the printer. The chief difficulty the editor encounters is in making the variety and scope of original and selected matter large enough to meet the thousand tastes and wants of his readers. The press of the day has reached such a perfection that the reader demands that his paper be an epitome of science, religion, politics, literature and news from every quarter of the globe—a daily encyclopedia.

State News Items.

The committee has received in cash the sum of \$14,566.97. The largest sum received from a single source came from the city of Boston, and amounted to \$5,510. The next largest sum, \$1,908.83, is credited to the New York *Tribune*; and the next largest, \$1,500, came from the city of Philadelphia. These are all the cash donations that exceed \$500; and the remaining ones range from one, two and three hundred dollars down to fifty cents.—*Commonwealth*.

At least two thousand buffalo were seen on Saturday between Aroya and Mirage stations, all in one herd. An engineer caused his train to be stopped for fear of being thrown from the track, as the buffalo were crossing at the time.—*Saline Co. Journal*.

A small number of persons are in the arrears with their taxes, in this county than at last payment. The farmers have been especially prompt.—*Manhattan Nationalist*.

A special dispatch from Wallace, Kansas, to the Kansas City Journal of Commerce says: The scouting party in command of Lieutenant Hinkle, returned at midnight on the 6th, with Indian prisoners, including one chief. After three days scouting in pursuit of the Indians who killed the hunter, Brown, a snow storm overtook them. All the men are frostbitten—several badly, and will lose parts of their feet. The Sioux, Cheyennes, and Arapahoes, are forming a camp eighty miles south of Wallace. An Indian Chief says that five or six hundred Sioux and Arapahoes will be there in five days. A party is expected to leave here on another scout in a few days.

On the 30th ult. Judge Peyton convened court here and delivered his opinion in the superintendent matter. Judge Allison's rulings were

reaffirmed throughout. The point in the decision is this: that Miss Mary P. Wright being a woman, here her from holding the office. We will publish the opinion of Judge Peyton next week, as it is a matter of importance, and we understand the case is to go to the Supreme Court for final settlement.—*Burlington Patriot*.

Ms. CONN introduced a bill in the House of Representatives on the 6th inst. to provide a temporary government for the Indian Territory.

FIVE hay presses are in operation in this place, besides several others in the vicinity. Several car loads of hay are being shipped daily.—*Columbus Courier*.

THE Board of Regents of the State University have elected Rev. Jas. Marvin, D. D., as president of that institution, in place of Gen. Frazier, who was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

OUR last issue gave an account of the discovery of coal in Riley township, this county. We have information that is probably correct to the effect that upon going to a depth of 90 feet the same parties found a vein about 6 feet thick.—*Peabody Gazette*.

JAMES J. Whitehouse, whose parents live near Westport, was arrested on Saturday last, charged with being one of the Muncie train robbers. We understand that a requisition has been procured for him, and that he will be brought here for examination at an early day, perhaps to day (Friday) or to-morrow. He is a young man, is considered a pretty hard case, and is said to answer the description of one of the robbers.—*Wyandotte Gazette*.

SUPREME COURT SYLLABI.

STATE OF KANSAS, SUPREME COURT.

The City of Leavenworth vs. D. P. Stille.

Error from Leavenworth County.

AFFIRMED.

By the Court.

I. In 1868 D. P. Stille, under a contract with the City of Leavenworth, graded a certain street. Afterwards the city levied a special tax on certain real estate belonging to Stille's wife and occupied by himself and wife as a homestead, and on other real estate abutting on said street, to pay for said grading, but did not provide any means for collecting said tax. Stille then commenced an action against the city to recover compensation for said grading; and the city failed to provide any means for collecting said tax, said action may be maintained, as well for the grading done in front of his wife's property as for that done in front of other property.

All the Justices concurring.

David G. Swartz vs. J. C. Redfield et al.

Error from Allen County.

AFFIRMED.

By the Court.

I. The indorsement of a note after maturity, is in effect the drawing of a note payable on demand, and to hold the indorser, demand and notice of non-payment are essential.

II. Where the indorsers of an overdue note ratify the time of the indorsement, and the action is commenced against the maker, which action is continued thereafter terminated adversely to them, on the ground that their interest in the note had ceased; **Held**, that in order to charge them on their indorsement demand and notice were essential.

All the Justices concurring.

James DeLong vs. Jonathan Stahl.

Error from Montgomery County.

REVERSED.

By the Court.

I. The powers of a referee are limited by the order appointing him, and when in such order he is directed to make a report within a certain time, and such time passes without his report, his powers are at an end, and a report thereafter is a mere volunteer report and without validity.

II. It is error for the court to confirm any such volunteer report.

III. Trial courts should by general rule, or in each order of reference, require notice to be given by the referees of the completion of their report to each party, a reasonable time before its filing, in order to give opportunity for the preparation and presentation of a bill of exceptions.

Kingsman, C. J., concurring. Valentine, J., concurs in the decision upon the ground stated in the first paragraph of this syllabus.

The St. Louis, Kansas City and Northern Railway Co. vs. S. O. Thacher.

Error from Douglas County.

AFFIRMED.

By the Court.

I. Where a person acting for himself and also acting as the agent for a certain principal, entered into a contract in his own name with a railway company for the transportation of certain specific cattle, a portion of which belonged to himself and the other portion belonged to his principal, and the name of his principal was not disclosed in said contract, and the cattle were injured during their transportation through the negligence of the railroad company, and the principal commenced an action against the railway company for the losses sustained by himself, not making the agent a party to the action, and no claim was made that there was any defect in the parties either plaintiff or defendant, but the action was tried upon it as if the judgment rendered for the plaintiff; **Held**, that in such a case the action may be maintained.

All the Justices concurring.

The City of Emporia et al. vs. H. E. Norton et al.

Error from Chase County.

REVERSED.

By the Court.

I. A law may be so completely at variance with some constitutional provision as to be absolutely and under all circumstances void; or it may be valid as to some classes of cases and void as to others; or it may be fairly susceptible of two constructions, one of which conflicts with the other harmonizes with the constitution.

II. In the first class of cases the decisions would be uniformly against the law and all rights claimed thereunder; in the second they would vary with the class of the case for which the support of the law was invoked; while in the third that construction which supports, would be preferred to that which destroys the law.

III. Sec. 41, of chap. 100, of the laws of 1872, which purports to grant to cities of the second class power in all cases of inefficient levy or assessment, to rel-y and reassess, may be placed in the second class of cases above named.

IV. Purporting to cure all defects, it cures all within the power of the legislature to cure.

V. Though out-lining no restriction on the power of levy taxes, it is not in conflict with sec. 6, art. XII, of the constitution.

VI. Where the original purpose for which the power of taxation is invoked is one of the ordinary purposes of municipal government, and within the power granted, and where there is no fraud or oppression in the creation of the debt or burden, and no inequality or injustice in the apportionment of the tax; **Held**, that the legislature can by subsequent enactment cure any defect in the proceedings to collect the tax which it could in the first instance by prior enactment have made immaterial.

VII. The city of Emporia, a city of the second class, was authorized to improve its streets. It caused one to be graded, guttered and macadamized. It attempted to collect the cost thereof from the adjoining lots, at \$100 each, owing entirely to the fact that no estimate of the cost had been made by the engineer and submitted to the council prior to the contracts therefor. **Held**, that this cured the defect caused by the omission of a reasonable estimate, and that the city could proceed to reassess and collect the taxes therefor.

All the Justices concurring.

The State of Kansas vs. Walter Beebe.

Appeal from Sedgewick County.

REVERSED.

By the Court.

I. Where a person charged with the commission of a criminal offense is at liberty on bail, and his sureties with his consent but without any copy of the recognizance delivers him to the sheriff, taking his receipt therefor; **Held**, that the sheriff, without having any copy of the recognizance, cannot lawfully hold the accused in custody against his will, and therefore that he is not liable for the escape of the accused, and that the sheriff without committing a felony, and without committing any other person may assist him to escape without committing a felony.

Drewyer, J., concurring. Kingsman, C. J., dissents.

The State of Kansas vs. Peter Marsh.

Appeal from Mitchell County.

AFFIRMED.

By the Court.

I. While a grand jury should only be called by order of the district court, yet when one has been called by order of a judge in vacation, and has been impaneled, charged and sworn by the court, it is a fact of record, and under sec. 79 of the Code of Criminal Procedure no objection is good to an indictment presented by it on account of the manner of its organization, which does not imply corruption in such organization.

All the Justices concurring.

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of Sedgewick vs. H. W. Bailey.

Original Proceeding in Mandamus. Judgment for Defendant.

By the Court.

I. The constitutional provision that "No bill shall contain more than one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in its title," (Const. art. 5, sec. 16), is mandatory; and if the legislature should attempt to make a provision by putting something in the body of an act clearly not embraced in the title thereof, or wholly foreign to the title, it would be the duty of the courts to declare such portion of the act void, as to make it inoperative in the legislature, should in any of its attempts to amend the constitution, it would be the duty of the courts to declare the amendment void, as to make it inoperative.

II. Where the legislature, on March 31, 1868, passed an act entitled "An act defining the boundaries of counties," (Gen. Stat. 228), and afterwards passed another act entitled "An act amendatory and supplemental to an act entitled 'An act defining the boundaries of counties,' approved March 31, 1868," (Laws of 1872, page 183), and by section 5 of the last mentioned act created a new county of Harvey, taking a portion of the county of Sedgewick and placing it within the boundaries of Harvey, and by section 6 of said last mentioned act provided, by an arbitrary rule, for taxing the territory detached from Sedgewick county and attached to Harvey county, to assess in paying certain old debts of Sedgewick county; **Held**, that the matters contained in section 6 were not expressed in the title to the bill, and therefore that said section 6 is unconstitutional and void.

All the Justices concurring.

A. G. Magill vs. Edwin A. Wade et al.

Error from Bourbon County.

REVERSED.

By the Court.

I. While the ordinary rule is that where the statute prescribes the form of a tax deed, a compliance with that form is sufficient, yet where the conditions of the sale are such that to follow the form is to rectify an undue and show an illegal sale, the form must be modified to suit the facts.

II. A county may not enter into competition with individuals as a voluntary bidder at a tax sale; it can only become the involuntary purchaser of what cannot be otherwise sold.

III. The statutory form of a tax deed is for voluntary purchases, and where such a deed is based upon a sale made by a county, it must be modified so as to show the conditions upon which a county can lawfully become a purchaser.

All the Justices concurring.

Samuel Lappin vs. James E. Munford.

Error from Nemaha County.

REVERSED.

By the Court.

I. A claim existing in favor of an estate, or services rendered by the decedent in his life time, is a personal property which may be sold by the administrator.

II. The legal title to the personal property of a decedent is vested in his executor or administrator, and except as restricted by provisions of a statute, such executor or administrator can legally alien and dispose of any or all of such property.

III. Section 63 of the Executive Act does not restrict the power of sale. Its purpose is to enable the administrator or executor to obtain proper credit for doubtful claims without subjecting the estate to expense.

IV. Where personal property is ordered by the probate court to be sold at private sale, and the court intends to impose no other than the statutory restriction as to price, it is unnecessary to specify such restriction in the order.

V. The court may not order a private sale at less than three-fourths of the appraised value, and it may increase the limit to any extent deemed best for the interest of the estate.

VI. Where a party enters on a claim purchased from an estate, and alleges in his petition that the court ordered such claim sold at private sale, and that he has an assignment to him made with the approval of the court, and gives a copy of such order and assignment, and it appears that such order and assignment are both silent as to the price, it will be presumed that both court and administrator complied with the requirements of the statute, and such a showing of a sale will be held sufficient on demurrer.

All the Justices concurring.

A. B. Stoddard vs. R. J. Vanlaningham.

Error from Neosho County.

AFFIRMED.

By the Court.

I. On an application for a temporary injunction, where notice of the same has been required to be given to the defendant, and notice has been so given, the defendant may, on the hearing of the application, even before answer filed, introduce any legal evidence that would tend to show that the injunction should not be granted. He is not confined to evidence that merely tends to deprive the allegations of the plaintiff's petition.

II. Where an election for the location of a county seat has been held, and two places are voted for—one place being at the time the county seat, and the other place not, and the board of county commissioners afterwards duly canvass the votes and declare that the other place has received a majority of all the votes cast, and has thereby become the county seat; and a certain person, being friendly to the old county seat, afterwards commences an action, under section 5 of the act providing for the contest of county seat and other elections, (Laws of 1871, page 193), against the county clerk to perpetually enjoin him from moving his office from the old county seat to the new county seat; and the said action is prosecuted in good faith, in the district court to final judgment upon its merits, and the final judgment is rendered in favor of the defendant, and against the plaintiff; and where another person, also friendly to the old county seat, immediately afterwards commences another action, under said section 5, to perpetually enjoin the register of deeds from mov-

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

For the Kansas Farmer.

NO LITTLE STOCKING TO HANG UP TO-NIGHT.

BY JULIA.

'Twas the night before Christmas and laughter and mirth
Were joyously ringing round many a hearth,
Where light hearted children, ere nine o'clock
sped,
Would hang up their stockings and scamper
to bed,
Impatient to dream till the bright morning
light
Revealed treasures that Santa Claus brought
last night.

In a far away western prairie home
A mother sits silently weeping alone;
Her darlings, too, have crept to rest
But troublesome sighs still heave the breast,
Their frugal repast of fresh boiled wheat
For childish questions they scarce could eat,
And to no rapture brings morning light
For they've no little stocking to hang up to-night.

Oh! ye who revel, the rich and the fair,
Who of your abundance have plenty to spare,
Ye who the commands of our Savior would heed,
Then clothe the naked, the hungry feed;
Parents and children have tolled for naught,
Ruin and death hath the season brought,
In many a home they feel the blight,
And they've nothing to put in a stocking to-night.
Round Prairie, Kansas.

WE ARE ALL HUMAN.

Shall we quit giving because our donations do not all go where they are most needed, or where it is intended they should go? Were the sufferers from a famine, a fire or flood ever relieved without somebody appropriating "beans" that did not belong to them, and others being blamed with pocketing commissions which they never did pocket?

We would be a moral State, indeed, if we had no farmers [who would accept relief except to save life, and no commission men, no agents who could be influenced to deliver supplies where they are not needed. Every community has its share of dishonest characters. We all know it; why not take it into consideration in the beginning, and, as the farmer does when he plants corn, calculate enough for the black-birds too. Of course, it is aggravating and discouraging; but since we are all human there is no use in expecting any of us to be angels.

But because some in whose hands relief goods were intrusted for distribution, prove to be dishonest, we hope that every agent who falls to please every sufferer, will not be charged with fraud and neglect of duties and partially. There is no more unenviable position than to be the disbursing officer of peoples charity; it is impossible to please all of the donors and receivers; it is a man of not only thorough integrity, but a great deal of tact as well, and we might add a very lucky man, who can fill this important and necessary place and come out of it with a good name.

We trust that all patrons particularly will remember what a difficult work this is and not be too severe on the agents; we know of several who are working hard, all day and every day, without compensation, but they don't succeed in pleasing everybody. If, however, a man in this position is suspected of being dishonest; the Grange to which he belongs should be able to settle the question at once by his accounts, which should be such an accurate record of what he receives and from whom, what he distributes and receipts from those who accept aid, that there could be no doubt about it and no delay in removing him if he is a scoundrel.

These things are so important for the good name of the Order as well as for the benefit of the sufferers who should receive every dollar that is donated to them, that every Grange should see to it that their relief agent is a man of business capacity as well as honesty; the work is a big one and before spring will be badly mixed up if we do not start right. We hope the patrons will see to it that there are no Pomeroy records made in their ranks.

PARTRIDGES AND THEIR YOUNG

The partridge, which is generally considered a very timid and shy bird, is really among the most brave and fearless of the feathered tribes when it has under its protection its young. Were it not for this bravery added to a remarkable degree of sagacity, the number of partridges would very rapidly decrease, as the eggs are sought after by animals, birds and reptiles, and the chickens pounced upon by hawks and crows as soon as they leave their shells, if discovered.

The parent birds have been seen to fight a crow, for the protection of their young, with a fierceness that is truly remarkable, and to succeed in driving the hungry interloper away. Where the enemy is too strong to be overcome by the partridge in a square contest, strategy is resorted to. It has been seen to run along shivering with wings drooping as if wounded, at last drooping upon its side as if unable to move further, but when approached would spring up, run shivering along a little way, and then drop again. When the enemy has been lured far enough away to insure the safety of the young, the artful mother takes wing and rapidly leaves the spot.

The bird has a great devotion to her eggs, and especially when near the termination of

the period of incubation. Instances are given where the partridge has set upon her nest and suffered death rather than leave her treasure. A farmer tells of having discovered this bird sitting on her eggs in a field, and as she did not move for him he stooped and stroked her back; while she showed fear, she would not leave her nest, and even pecked the intruding hand when it was placed upon her eggs.

Wood says, in his work on birds, that a gentleman one day saw a partridge slip gently off her nest, so near the foot of one of his plow horses that he thought the eggs must be crushed. This however was not the case. The nest had escaped for that time, but it was plain that the next time the plow passed, it would bury the nest and eggs in the furrow. When he returned with the plow the nest was there, but both birds and eggs were gone. He looked all around the field to see what had become of them, and had the pleasure of finding them all safe under a hedge. In about twenty minutes, the time which had been taken for the round of plowing, the parent birds had removed twenty-one eggs from the nest to the hedge, a distance of forty yards.

The young partridges appear to have as strong an attachment for their parent as their parent has for them, for they will crawl upon her back while the old bird is basking in the sun, and cuddle up to her neck with the apparent fondness of a human baby for its mother.

Behavior at Table.

From "How to be a man."

Did it ever occur to you to inquire why all civilized people have their food prepared at particular hours, and all the family sit together? Why not have the food prepared, and placed where every one can go and eat, whenever he pleases, by himself? One great advantage of having a whole family sit together and partake of their meals at the same time, is that it brings them together in a social way, every day. But for this, and the assembling of the family at prayers, they may not all meet at once for a long time. But eating together is a mark of friendship; and it tends to promote social feeling. In a well-regulated family, also, it is a means of great improvement, both in mind and manners. It is in fact, a school of good manners. You will perceive, then, how very important it is, that your behavior at the table should always be regulated by the rules of propriety. If you acquire vulgar habits here, or practice rudeness, you will find it difficult to overcome them; and they will make you appear to a great disadvantage.

I shall mention a few things to be observed at the table, by one who would maintain a character for good breeding. And, first of all, be not tardy in taking your place at the table. In a well-regulated family, the master of the house will not wait upon the table till all are seated.

Suppose there are five persons at the table, and you hinder them all by your tardiness three minutes, you waste fifteen minutes of precious time. To those who set a proper value upon time, this is a great evil. There is no need of it; you may as easily be at your seat in time as too late. When called to a meal, never wait to finish what you are doing, but promptly leave it, and proceed to your place.

The table is the place for easy, cheerful, social intercourse; but some children make it a place of noisy clamor. The younger members of the family should leave it for the parents (and guests, if there any), to take the lead in conversation.

It does not appear well for a very young person to be forward and talkative at the table. You should generally wait till you are spoken to; or, if you wish to make an inquiry or a remark, do it in a modest and unassuming way, not raising your voice, nor spinning out a story. And be especially careful not to interrupt any other person. Sensible persons will get a very unfavorable impression concerning you, if they see you bold and talkative at the table. Yet you should never appear inattentive to what others are saying.

Be not so intent on discussing the contents of your plate, as not to observe the movements of others, or hear their conversation. Show your interest in what is said by an occasional glance at the speaker, and by the expression of your countenance; but be not so anxious to put a word in yourself. Some children make themselves ridiculous, by always joining in, and making their remarks, when older persons are speaking, often giving a grave opinion of some matter about which they know nothing.

Be helpful to others, without staring at them, or neglecting your own plate. You may keep your eye on the movements around you, to pass a cup and saucer, to notice if any one near you needs helping, or to help any dish that is within your reach. By so doing, you may relieve your father and mother, who must be very busy, if they help all the family. By cultivating a close observation, and studying to know and anticipate the wants of others, you will be able to do these things in a genteel and graceful manner, without appearing obtrusive or forward.

Study propriety. If asked what you will be helped to, do not answer in an indefinite manner, saying, "you have no choice;" for this will put the master of the house to the inconvenience of choosing for you. Do not wait after you are asked, to determine what you will have, but answer promptly; and do not be particular in your choices. To be very particular in the choice of food is not agreeable to good breeding.

Never ask for what is not on the table. Do not make remarks respecting the food; and avoid expressing your likes and dislikes of particular articles. One of your age should not appear to be an epicure. Show your praise of the food set before you, by the good nature and relish with which you partake of it; but do not eat so fast as to appear voracious.

Never put on sour looks, nor turn up your nose at your food. This is unmanly, and a serious affront to the mistress of the table.

Be careful to use your knife and fork as other people do, and to know when to lay them down, and when to hold them in your hands. Be careful not to drop your food, nor spill liquids on the cloth. Do not leave the table before the family withdraw from it unless it is necessary; and then ask to be excused. Neither linger to finish your meal after you perceive the rest have done.

Besides what I have mentioned there are a great many nameless little things that go to make up good manners at the table, which you must learn by studying the rules of propriety and observing the behavior of others.

Feminine Hats.

"You meet a remarkably modest and timid, appearing young lady to-day, and you notice that her hat has a meek and shrinking indentation in the crown. It looks as if it wanted to shun the wicked world and hang itself up in a nursery. To-morrow you meet the same lady, and what a change? She appears as daring as Joan of Arc and as independent as the President of Woman's Congress, and her whole appearance is thus altered by pinning up the front of that hat. Next day she appears like a brigand. The brim is flattened out and her eyes gleam furiously from underneath, as if watching an opportunity to order you to stand and deliver. You see her again, and the rim is turned up behind, while it is very flat in the front giving her an appearance of a female Solon Shingle trying to find a customer for that bar'l of apple sauce." Again, and it is pitched on the extreme back of the head, reminding you of Toddlers in his cups, when he is assuring the 'sailor man' that when his father heard of the sailor man's death 'he went broken hearted to his grave and died there.' With all these advantages it is no wonder that the reigning hat is popular. It is comfortable to the head—so they say—but that is no particular recommendation to a woman.

Sex in Conversation.

Somebody chatters thus knowingly about the effect of sex in an interchange of thoughts.

The old-time complaint of men regarding the burden of ladies in general conversation is mostly obsolete. In our day women, on the whole, talk quite as well as men. They are not quite so epigrammatic, and sometimes lack condensation; but they are decidedly more sprightly, and tell a story which requires quiet dramatic expression a good deal better. Their grand defect in conversation is obligingness. If the subject started is a bore to him, or one he knows nothing about, the man will change it or be silent; but a woman will often go on, out of mere obligingness, with a show of interest which is visibly pretence, and a series of replies which are rapid as white of egg. No man talks as badly as most women on subjects they care nothing about, for no man who, under these circumstances, talks at all, hesitates to be a little bitter—and vanilla, be it nice or not, has at worst more flavors than cream-cheese. But the serene, equable flow of woman's talk helps mean while to prevent conversation from degenerating into intellectual duelling—which, though amusing for two minutes, is a weariness after five, and to be perfect should be arrested after two shots each. Women moreover, wake up talkativeness in the men—an attribute of the sex which is too often overlooked.

A Christmas Legend.

It was Christmas Eve. The night was very dark and the snow falling fast, as Hermann, the charcoal-burner, drew his cloak tighter around him, and the wind whistled fiercely through the trees of the Black Forest. He had been to carry a load to a castle near, and was now hastening home to his little hut. Although he worked very hard, he was poor, gaining barely enough for the wants of his wife and four little children. He was thinking of them, when he heard a faint wailing. Guided by the sound, he groped about and found a little child, scantily clothed, shivering and sobbing by itself in the snow.

"Why, little one, have you left thee here all alone to face this cruel blast?"

The child answered nothing, but looked piteously up in the charcoal-burner's face.

"Well, I cannot leave thee here. Thou wouldst be dead before morning."

So saying, Hermann raised it in his arms wrapping it in his cloak and warming its little cold hands in his bosom. When he arrived at his hut, he put down the child and tapped at the door, which was immediately thrown open, and the children rushed to meet him.

"Here wife, is a guest to our Christmas Eve supper," said he, leading in the little one, who held tightly to his finger with its tiny hand. "And welcome he is," said his wife. "Now let him come and warm himself by the fire." The children all pressed around to welcome and gaze at the little new comer. They showed him their pretty fireside, decorated with bright, colored lambs in honor of Christmas Eve, which the good mother had endeavored to make a *fete* for the children.

Then they sat down to supper, each child contributing of its portion for the guest, looking with admiration at its clear, blue eyes and golden hair, which shone so as to shed a brighter light in the little room; and, as they gazed, it grew into a sort of halo round his head, and his eyes beamed with a heavenly lustre. Soon two white wings appeared at his shoulders, and he seemed to grow larger and larger, and then the beautiful vision vanished, spreading out its hands as in benediction over them.

Hermann and his wife fell on their knees, exclaiming, in awe-struck voices: The holy Christ child! and then embraced their wondering children in joy and thankfulness that they had entertained the Heavenly Guest.

The next morning, as Hermann passed by the place where he had found the fair child, he saw a cluster of lovely white flowers, with dark green leaves, looking as though the snow itself had blossomed. Hermann plucked some, and carried them reverently home to his wife and children, who treasured the fair blossoms and tended them carefully in remembrance of that wonderful Christmas Eve, calling them Chrysanthemums; and every year, as the time

came round, they put aside a portion of their feast and gave it to some poor child, according to the words of Christ: "Ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."—*Florance Scannell, in St. Nicholas for January.*

Du Chailu, the noted traveler, at a recent meeting of the New York Geographical Society, gave an account of his recent three years travel in Lapland, in which he gave some facts about that people, not generally known. The popular idea of Laplanders is, that they are much like the Esquimaux, semi-savage at least. Mr Du Chailu says: "Most of them are very fair-skinned, with blue eyes and flaxen hair, and with an average height of about four feet. The girls when young are very pretty."

All Laps are educated to a certain extent, being able to read and right with fluency. Education was compulsory. Their religion is Lutheran, and ceremony of confirmation was an impressive one. Every one was confirmed, and a full mastery of the catechism was necessary before the rite could be administered.

The reindeer was the principal property and currency of the country—furnishing food clothing and milk. Rich men sometimes own as many as 3,000 to 4,000 of them. They can travel 180 miles a day.

From May to July, exclusive, the sun never disappears below the horizon, and during December and January there is no sun, but the nights are not dark, by reason of the electrical lights.

On the whole, with their comfortable clothing, and their fine forests of timber, the Laplanders get along very well, and are more contented than people who get the Paris fashions monthly.

Mrs. Asa B. Hutchinson, one of the celebrated family of singers, who has sung all over the country in the 'Tribe of Asa,' the last 16 years, though latterly devoting herself to the temperance cause, was stricken with paralysis while lecturing on that subject at Rushford, Minn., on Sunday evening, Dec. 20, and died in half an hour.

The Will.

Men often think of breaking the will of a child; but it seems to me that they better break the neck. This will needs regulation, not destroying. I should as soon break the legs of a horse in training him as a child's will. I would discipline and develop it into harmonious proportion. I never heard of a will itself too strong, more than an arm too mighty, or a mind too comprehensive in its grasp, and too powerful in its hold. The instructions of children should be such as animate, inspire, train, but not to awe, cut or carve, for I would always treat a child as a live tree, which was to be helped to grow, never as dead, dry timber, to be carved into this or that shape, and to have a certain mouldings grooved upon it. A live tree, and not dead timber, is every little child.—*Theodore Parker.*

Keep it from Them.

Don't give liquor to children. Possibly you can do it with safety, but the chances are against it. One of the first literary men in the United States said to a prominent lecturer:

"There is one thing which, as you visit different places, I wish you to do everywhere; that is entreat every mother never to give a drop of strong drink to a child. I have had a fight, as for my life, all my days to keep from dying a drunkard, because I was fed with spirits when a child, and acquired a taste for it. My brother, poor fellow, died a drunkard. I would not have a child of mine take a drop of liquor for anything. Warn every mother, wherever you go, never to give a drop to a child, as she values its future happiness."

EDWARD EVERETT'S IDEA OF A GOOD EDUCATION.—"To read the English language well, to write with dispatch a neat, legible hand, and be master of the first four rules of arithmetic, so as to dispose of, at once, with accuracy, every question of figures which comes up in practice—I call this a good education. And if you add to write pure grammatical English, I regard it as an excellent education. These are the tools. You can do much with them, but you are helpless without them. They are the foundation; and unless you begin with these, all your flashy attainments, a little geology, and all other ologies and oologies, are ostentatious rubbish."

LADIE'S CABBAGE.—Boil the cabbage fifteen minutes, then change the water and boil until done; set aside until cold, chop fine; add two beaten eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, salt, and three spoonfuls of cream of milk; stir all well; bake in a buttered pudding dish.

HOMINY BREAD.—Beat two eggs with a cupful of cold hominy, mashed up with a spoonful of butter, a little salt and a small cupful of raw hominy, stir well and bake in a pan.

RICE MACCARONI.—Wash and pick over one teaspoonful of rice; add to it three teaspoonfuls of boiling water, and place over the fire. When boiled in cold water the kernels lose their shape, but if hot water is used the shape is retained. When done, drain, and in a baking dish place a layer of rice, then a layer of cheese cut into dice, a little butter and salt, alternating with rice and cheese until the dish is full, having cheese on top. Fill the pan with milk, and bake three quarters of an hour.

A DELICATE CRACKER PUDDING.—For a small family, take one pint of milk, the yolks of two eggs, three crackers rolled fine, a piece of butter the size of hickory nut, and a little salt and bake. Use three-fourth cup of granulated sugar and the whites of two eggs beaten to a stiff froth for frosting. When the pudding is done, spread the frosting over it and set it back into the oven for a few minutes to brown a very little, and your pudding is ready for the table.

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