

THE KANSAS FARMER

ESTABLISHED, 1863. TOPEKA, KANSAS, DECEMBER 1, 1875. VOL. XIII, No. 48.

The Kansas Farmer.

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

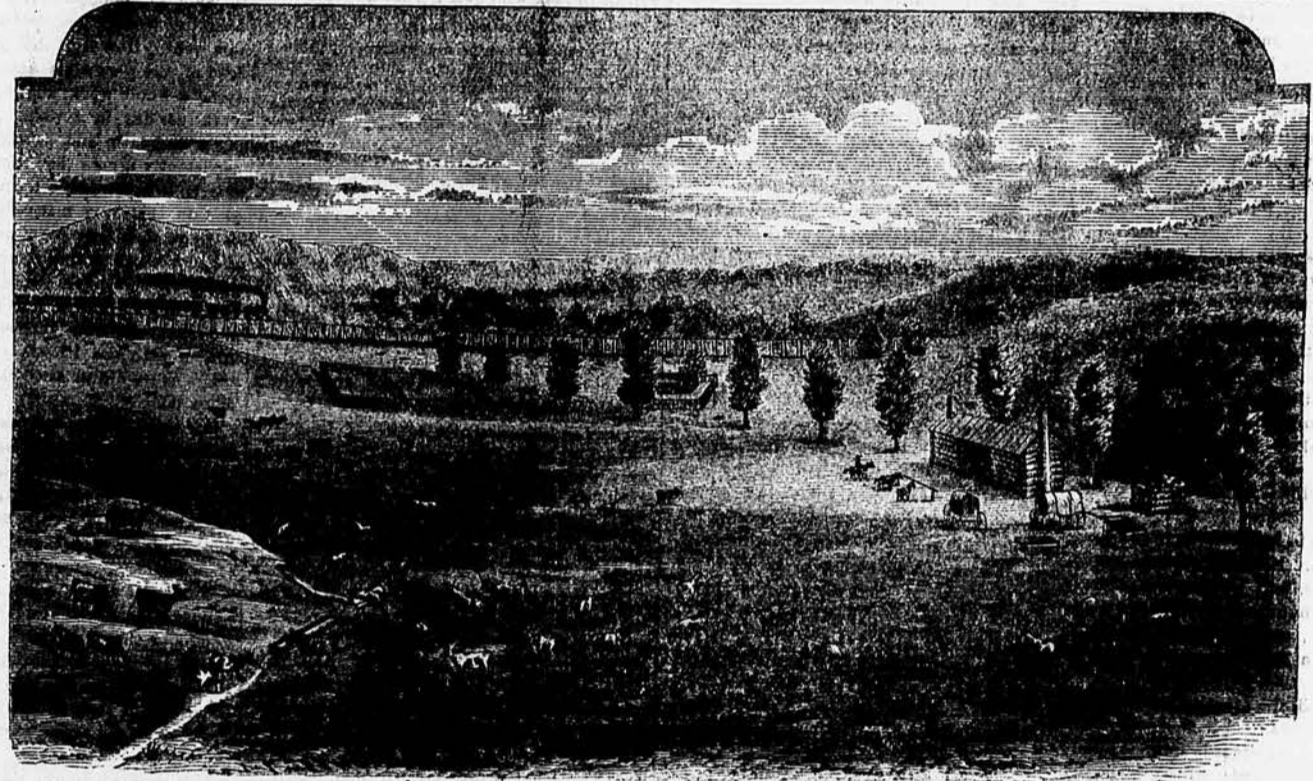
TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.
 One Copy, Weekly, for one year, \$2.00
 One Copy, Weekly, for six months, 1.50
 Three Copies, Weekly, for one year, 5.00
 Five Copies, Weekly, for one year, 7.50
 Ten Copies, Weekly, for one year, 15.00

RATES OF ADVERTISING.
 One insertion, per line, (nonpariel) 20 cents.
 One month, " " " 15 " " per insertio
 Three months, " " " 12 " " " "
 One Year, " " " 10 " " " "

SPECIAL OFFER FOR TRIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.
 1 inch space for 3 months, (13 insertions), for \$11
 Copy of the paper mailed regularly to all advertisers.
 Sample copy of the FARMER sent free to all applicants.

The greatest care is used to prevent swindling humbugs securing space in these advertising columns. Advertisements of lotteries, whisky bitters, and quack doctors are not received. We accept advertisements only for cash, cannot give space and take pay in trade of any kind. This is business, and it is a just and equitable rule adhered to in the publication of THE FARMER.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.
 A notification will be sent you one week in advance of the time your subscription expires, stating the fact and requesting you to continue the same by forwarding your renewal subscription. No subscription is continued longer than it is paid for. This rule is general, and applied to all our subscribers. The cash in advance principle is the only business basis upon which a paper can sustain itself. Our readers will please to understand when their paper is discontinued that it is in obedience to a general business rule, which is strictly adhered to and in no wise personal. A journal, to be outspoken and useful to its readers, must be peculiarly independent, and the above rules are such as experience among the best publishers have been found essential to permanent success.



A TEXAS CATTLE RANCHE IN WESTERN KANSAS.

Agriculture.

FAMILIAR FARM TOPICS.

BY JAMES HANWAY.
 NUMBER V.
 WEEDS.

In those districts of country visited by the locusts last spring, nothing was more common than to hear the remark: "Well, the hoppers have destroyed all the cockleburrs and other weeds which infest the corn fields." This was some consolation for the losses sustained, but it was only momentary; as the young corn grew, a fresh crop of weeds showed themselves, and it would be no exaggeration to state: that there never was such a crop of weeds raised since the settlement of Kansas. Cockleburrs are no exception. When we are blessed with a fine, growing season, we may always look for weeds in abundance.

MOULDY HAY.
 We hear some complaining that the prairie hay is more than usually dusty or mouldy. The prairie hay was uncommonly rank this year; it contained a great number of large stems, which required more time to cure. Farmers, in ordinary years, frequently cut the grass in the morning and hauled and stacked it the same day; following this plan is doubtless the cause of much dusty hay this year.

MANURE.
 Forty or fifty years ago, no farmer would think of spreading manure on the land, and letting it remain any considerable length of time before plowing it under; but in England, where manure is considered next to gold in value, they no longer adhere to the old plan. They spread it over the land at their convenience during the winter and spring months. It is thought there is less loss in the escape of ammonia when spread on the field than would be the case if left in the barn yard or manure heaps. This gives the farmer a chance to haul out manure when work is not so pressing. He can do it at any time when it is most convenient.

PRAIRIE HAY VS. TIMOTHY.
 There is a wonderful diversity of opinion among farmers in regard to the nutritious properties of the different kinds of hay for wintering stock. While all are a unit in respect to the value of our wild grasses for pasture, yet, when it is cut and made into hay, many claim these valuable properties are no longer to be found.
 Could not this question be tested with a little trouble? Suppose some of your readers, who feel an interest in this mooted question, were to select two steers, or two cows, weigh them on the scales, feed one prairie hay, the other timothy, and then weigh them in the spring, or two or three months after they have been thus fed. If timothy hay should gain

the victory (as I think it would), then estimate the cost of these two articles, and we can ascertain the profit in feeding prairie hay or timothy. As prairie hay produces costiveness, it would be proper to give the cattle all the salt they would eat.

POTATOES.
 When the potato crop is good, and the price is low, there is generally a class of persons who do not pay the same attention to harvesting them as when the price rules higher. It is frequently the case, when spring opens, the price of potatoes advances, and a scarcity is found. Let us not neglect to take care of the potato crop, and if they are stored away in piles in the field, make use of a liberal supply of hay or straw, well covered with earth. It will pay.

THE DIFFERENCE.
 If a dozen farmers come into possession of a farm each, at the same time, with the same means to commence life, etc., how long, think you, would their circumstances and conditions continue the same? Not long. The first year might show some difference even in the crops, or in the condition of the stock. The second year, a wider difference would be observable. The third year, still greater. After ten or twelve years an observing stranger, in looking over the different farms, would suppose that these farmers had never commenced life under the same circumstances. He would naturally suppose that some of the most thrifty among them had possessed some extra means at the outset.

Success in farming, like any other undertaking, depends upon the manner we lay out our work, and the amount of energy which is employed in carrying it out. This is the secret—nature is not at fault. Capacity to succeed depends on the application of those means which are necessary in every undertaking. There is no luck about it. The farmer or mechanic who is indolent and thriftless, is either stationary or has fallen back in the race of life.
 The successful farmer feels convinced that nothing reliable can be accomplished without striving for it. He is never still, for he cannot afford to be; hence he seeks to avail himself of every facility placed before him, to compare notes, and profit by other men's experience and observation.

The Oregonian makes the following comparison:
 The number of vessels clearing with Oregon wheat for Europe in October this year was 9 against 10 in the corresponding month in 1874, but the vessels this year were of a much larger class, and carried 147,526 bush. wheat and 9,442 bbls. flour more than those last year. The value of wheat and flour shipments in October this year was also greatly in excess of those of last, being \$653,956 against \$292,539, or more than double.

SILK RAISING IN KANSAS.

Each different climate has its own special adaptation to some product. That which proves a failure in one climate or section of country, may be a grand success in another. Oranges, that grow spontaneously in Florida can be raised in Massachusetts only at great expense, and then but imperfectly at that.

For many years past, efforts have been made to raise silk in the Northern and Atlantic States, but with such poor success that it has never risen to be a leading business. The reason is that those States are not in the altitude above the level of the sea, nor within the isothermal lines. To make them congenial to the constitutional demands of the silk-worm. Taken out of its natural climate, the worm degenerates, and is too liable to disease, to insure success in the business. The worm requires a high, dry climate, with a certain peculiar warmth of atmosphere for its best development. While the silk worm is reared in France and Italy, China and Japan. These countries only meet the requirements of the worm in part. They are too near the great bodies of water, and lack the peculiar dryness of atmosphere needed for the best development of the worm. Broussin, in Turkey, is the best silk raising country in the world, unless Kansas shall be found to rival it.

Six years ago, Mons. de Bossier, an educated and wealthy gentleman from France, being familiar with the habits of the worm and the process of silk culture, conceived the idea that the climate and altitude of Kansas was adapted to the culture of silk.

With the view of testing it, he purchased a section or more of land in Franklin county, opened a farm, and put out a nursery of white mulberry, rearing the trees from the seed. From trees thus raised, and which are now six years old, he has already raised three crops of cocoons; each year raising a larger number of worms than the preceding. In 1874, he raised some 90,000 worms from two acres of trees four years old from the seed. The value of the silk and silk-worm eggs thus raised amounted to \$1,400. The past season, he reared ten times the number from eight acres of five year old trees; and already he has sold \$3,000 worth of silk-worm eggs in France.

The eggs for his experiment, he procured from Japan, as the worms in France are affected with a disease. Each successive year has witnessed an improvement upon the preceding one, in the size of the cocoons, and in the amount and quality of the silk.
 The result of these experiments has demonstrated two facts:
 First, that Kansas is one of the best silk raising countries in the world; and second, that in consequence of the warmth and dry-

ness of the climate, and the comparative cheapness of land, silk can be raised in this State cheaper than in France or Italy.

The importance of this industry to the people of Kansas will be seen from the following considerations:
 1st. Our country consumes from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 worth of silk annually; all, or nearly of which, is of foreign production, and upon which a duty of 20 per cent is laid; and yet in France, where land is high, and the climate less favorable, the raising of silk takes precedence of wheat raising, though that article rules high in the market.

With the advantages of a more congenial climate, cheap lands, and no tariff to eat up the profits, the business must be immensely profitable in this State.

2d. While there are insurmountable obstacles to successful grain raising in this State, beyond home consumption, on account of our great distance from the markets of the world; and the great uncertainty attending this branch of farming, in consequence of open winters, drouth, chintz bugs, and locusts; silk raising is a business not in the least affected by any of these plagues.

It is true that stock raising and wool growing are not subject to these drawbacks, and will always form leading industries in this State, yet no small share of the profits of these two industries is eaten up in the cost of transportation to market. As an illustration of the advantage of silk-raising over these, let it be remembered that it costs no more to transport a pound of silk to New York, worth from \$8 to \$13 per pound, than it does a pound of wool, worth 50 cents, or a pound of pork or beef, worth from 8 to 15 cents.

3d. What adds weight to this consideration is, that silk-raising would not, in any material degree, interfere with other forms of industry. The rearing of the worms from the eggs, till they have spun their cocoons, will occupy but from four to six weeks; or, from the early part of May, when the mulberry leaves put out, till the middle of June, when the worms have finished their work. Then, too, the labor is light and easily learned. Old people who cannot endure the heavy labor of the farm, and women, and even children, can do the labor, leaving the husband or son to attend to the other labors of the farm.

4th. It is a business requiring little or no capital to start with. Trees, one year old from the seed, can be had from the nursery of Mons. de Bossier for \$4 per hundred, or the farmer can raise the trees himself from the seed. One ounce of seed, costing 40 cents, would stock an orchard of ten acres, and they are as easily raised as peach or apple trees, and are extremely hardy, standing the severest winters unharmed. The tree also attains a given size in half the time it does in France.

When the trees are two years old, the experimental silk grower can begin the rearing of the worms; a few to start with, and increasing the number as the size and growth of the trees will permit.

The cost of a building for a cocoonery will be very light. At first a spare room in the house may be taken, or a comfortable cow stable or horse barn can be cleaned out and fixed up at small expense, until the increase and profits of the business will justify the erection of a building expressly for that purpose.

To the inquiry: Where can we find a market for our cocoons, when raised? I answer: Mons. de Bossier, of Silkville, Williamsburg P. O., Franklin county, is this year erecting machinery for the reeling of silk from the cocoons; and will hereafter purchase all the cocoons offered in the market at the highest possible price. It should be remembered that this is a business that cannot be over done. There is always a market at the East for silk in the cocoons, as well as for silk already reeled; and when silk raising shall have increased in this State—as it surely will in a few years—reeling establishments will spring up in different parts of the State and a lively competition will increase the value of cocoons in the market.

To those who wish for full details in regard to rearing of mulberry orchards, and the entire process of raising the worms, till they spin, or wind their cocoons, I will say that so soon as sufficient interest is manifested by the people of Kansas to justify it, a full and complete Manual on silk raising will be issued from the press of the KANSAS FARMER, the cost of which will not exceed 25 or 30 cents. With such a manual in hand, the amateur silk raiser can take the successive steps needed to make the business a grand success.

BARDILLO.

NEIGHBORLY TALKS ABOUT THE FARM.

NUMBER II.

Here is a young orchard I set out last spring. It has done very well through the season, only one of the two hundred having died. I dug the holes wide and deep, and put top soil at the bottom. A relative from the northern part of Missouri helped me to set the trees. He said that where he lived the subsoil was blue clay, that holds water like a jug if a hole is dug in it. And there they set their trees about on top of the ground, and hill up the earth about them. That part of Missouri is not a fruit country. I once set out an orchard and took much pains in setting the trees, and put manure with the earth in the holes, but nearly every tree died. The FARMER, some time since, gave us a

Let us Smile.

CHEATING AN INNOCENT OLD MAN. One day last month when trade was dull a Vicksburg grocery clerk procured a piece of sole leather from a shoemaker, painted it black and laid it aside for future use. Within a few days an old chap from back in the country came in and inquired for a plug of chewing tobacco. The piece of sole leather was tied up, paid for, and the purchaser started for home. At the end of the sixth day he returned, looking downcast and dejected, and walking into the store he inquired of the clerk: "Member that terbacker I got here the other day?" "Yes."

"Well, was that a new brand?" "No—same old brand."

"Regular plug terbacker, was it?" "Yes."

"Well, then, it's me; it's right here in my jaws," saidly replied the mch. "I knowed I was gittin purty old, but I was allus handy on bitin plug. I never seed a plug store this one that I couldn't tear to pieces at one chaw. I sot my teeth on to this one, and bit and pulled and twisted like a dog at a root, and I've kept bitin and pullin for six days, and thro' am am now, the same as the day you sold her to me!"

"Seems to be good plug," remarked the clerk as he smelled of the counterfeit.

"She's all right; it's me that's fallin!" exclaimed the old man. "Pass me out some fine-cut, and I'll go home and deed the farm to the boys, and git ready for the grave?"

"I never get mad at a fool" was the cutting remark of a man who fancied himself affronted by another. "That accounts for your always being on such amicable terms with yourself!" was the rejoinder.

Mr. Huxley, the learned scientist, writes: "I hope Mr. — will not mix in philogenetic stammbaume with objective taxonomy."

An old lady residing in Ohio lost the companion with whom she had jogged for many years. She neglected to mark the spot of his burial by even a stone.

Clean your harness well and then apply Uncle Sam's Harness Oil.



Buck's Stoves. Every stove warranted. Guarantee.

EVERY STOVE WARRANTED. BUCK'S Guarantee.

For Coal or Wood, are the only Soft Coal Cooking Stoves that always give perfect satisfaction.

Extension Top, with High or Low Down Reservoir. We also manufacture Enamelled Work of all kinds.

Buck & Wright, 720 and 722 Main Street, St. Louis.

ELECTRICITY IS LIFE. PAOLI'S ELECTRO-VOLTAIC CHAIN BELT



PAOLI'S ELECTRO-VOLTAIC CHAIN BELT. Gives a continuous current of electricity around the body.

PAOLI'S ELECTRO-VOLTAIC CHAIN BELT. Beware of cheap imitations.

PAOLI'S ELECTRO-VOLTAIC CHAIN BELT. Beware of cheap imitations.

Farm Stock Advertisements

NORMAN HORSES



Have made the Breeding and Importing of Norman Horses a specialty for the last 20 years have now on hand and for sale 100 head of Stallions and mares on terms as reasonable as the same quality of stock can be had for any where in the United States.

E DILLON & CO., ATCHISON, KANSAS. THOROUGHBRED SHORT-HORN DURHAM CATTLE, OF STRAIGHT BRED BIRTH PEDIGREE, BRED AND FOR SALE.

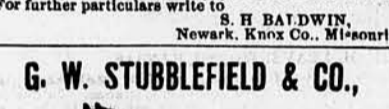
Shannon Hill Stock Farm. Atchison, Kansas. Thoroughbred Short-Horn Durham Cattle, of Straight Bred Birth Pedigree, bred and for sale.

Poland China Pigs. S. H. Baldwin, Newark, Mo. Offers for sale at reasonable rates a large and fine stock of pure bred Poland-China Pigs of all ages.



G. W. Stubblefield & Co., Importers and Breeders of Norman Horses. Office with Aaron Livingston, Bloomington, Ill.

N. H. Gentry, Sedalia, Missouri. Breeder and Shipper of Thoroughbred Berkshires.



D. A. Rouner, Newark, Missouri. Breeder of Short-Horn Cattle.

Challenge Feed Mills. Over 10,000 in use. They do not clog or heat.



Whitman Agricultural Works. The Largest Manufacturing in the Southwest.

Land Advertisements.

"The Best Thing in the West." Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad LANDS,

3,000,000 ACRES. Of the best Farming and Agricultural Lands in America, situated in and near the beautiful Cottonwood and Great Arkansas Valleys, the Garden of the West.

Kansas Land Agency. Downs & Merrill. We place on sale, WILD LAND AND IMPROVED FARMS, in all parts of Kansas.

Land! Land! Land! Homes for the People. 350,000 ACRES IN Bourbon, Crawford and Cherokee Co's, KANSAS.

500,000 ACRES OF Michigan Lands FOR SALE. The Lands of The Jackson, Lansing & Saginaw R. R. Co., ARE NOW OFFERED FOR SALE AT

Low Prices and on Long Time. The Railroad is constructed and in operation from Jackson to Gaylord, a distance of two hundred and thirty-six miles, and will soon be completed to the Strait of Mackinaw, a further distance of about fifty-five miles.

Commission Merchants. A. J. Thompson & Co., General Commission Merchants, for the purchase and sale of Grain, Seeds, Hides, Greens and Dried Fruits, Butter, Eggs, &c.

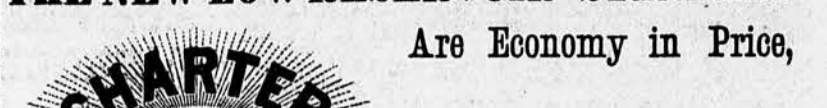
Whitman Agricultural Works. The Largest Manufacturing in the Southwest.

Whitman's American Cider Mills, American and Excelsior Cider Mills, St. Louis double hole Corn Shelter with NEW COB RAKE AND PAN;

Junior St. Louis and Mound City Shellers, THE BEST MADE; St. Louis Hay Cutter, four sizes; Sanford and Lever Cutters.

General Manufacturers of Agricultural Implements. Send of Illustrated Catalogue. Factory and Office, corner Clark Ave. & 5th Street, ST. LOUIS.

THE PROMINENT ADVANTAGES OF THE NEW LOW RESERVOIR "STANDARD" Are Economy in Price, Superior Construction, Quick & Uniform Baking, Great Durability & Handsome Designs, And Giving PERFECT SATISFACTION Everywhere.



Excelsior Manufacturing Company, 612, 614, 616 & 618 N. MAIN STREET ST. LOUIS, MO.

AND SOLD EXCLUSIVELY BY A. W. KNOWLES & CO., TOPEKA, KANSAS.

THE "RURAL" CORN SHELLER.



JOLIET CORN SHELLERS, CHAMPION FANNING MILLS, For Perfect Cleaning of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Flax, Castor Beans, and all kinds of Seeds.

DEERE, MANSUR & CO., Descriptive Circulars sent free, on application. KANSAS CITY, MO.

THE ORIGINAL WHOLESALE GRANGE SUPPLY HOUSE, Chicago, CARRIES A FULL STOCK OF



Dry Goods, CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, NOTIONS, BOOTS, SHOES, VALISES, TRUNKS, ETC. ETC.

Patrons of Husbandry, Farmers and Mechanics at Wholesale Prices. We are the ORIGINAL GRANGE SUPPLY HOUSE. We have the largest Stock of the best Goods kept by any house in the world, devoted to supplying the Consumer direct. Catalogues and Price Lists with instructions sent by mail free to any address upon application.

REFERENCES. Dewey W. Adams, Master National Grange. P. B. Maxwell, Secretary National Grange. J. G. Otis, Bus. Agent Kansas State Grange. J. H. Smith, Sec. Minn. State Grange. W. B. Porter, Master Nebraska State Grange. H. E. Huxley, Sec. Wisconsin State Grange. J. H. Smith, Sec. Oregon State Grange. P. M. Hinxman, Sec. Colorado State Grange. COMMERCIAL LOAN CO., Bankers, Chicago, Ill.

Please call and see us when in the city. Just over State street bridge. MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., 246 to 254 Kinzie St., Chicago.

NEW HISTORY OF KANSAS.

Now Ready for Agents. Complete and reliable from its first exploration. Positively the most magnificent State History ever published.

ROCKETT'S PATENT WELL AUGER. WANTED. Agents in every county to canvass for the new illustrated book published.

CATARRH CURED! CHEAP JOB PRINTING. CHEAPEST JOB PRINTING HOUSE IN THE STATE connected with the office of the KANSAS FARMER.

CHEAP JOB PRINTING. CHEAPEST JOB PRINTING HOUSE IN THE STATE connected with the office of the KANSAS FARMER.

Notes, Checks, Drafts, etc. printed on short notice in the style of the KANSAS FARMER Book and Job Printing office, Topeka, Kansas.