

# THE KANSAS FARMER

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## The Kansas Farmer.

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### AMERICAN AGRICULTURE AND THE DEAD MEAT IMPORTATIONS.

What British Farmers Must Do to Defend Themselves

In a late issue of the *Edinburgh Scotsman*, we find the following article upon the dead meat trade between America and England, a subject which is of very great interest to the farmer and stock-growers of the west. In giving very clearly the methods to be pursued by English farmers to enable them to compete with American meat, the writer has placed before western farmers the points necessary for them to know and the course for them to adopt to successfully compete with the best English beef. The European markets have to-day, and must continue in the future to be, a very important influence in deciding profitable prices for the products of American farms, particularly the great grain and stock-producing belts of the west. With that sagacity that has placed the results of American manufacturers in successful competition with European goods, must the American farmer succeed in making American beef equal in every respect to the best marbled, English cuts. We have every advantage of cheap feed and favorable climate, and the incentive to higher breeding, better care and better feeding will be found in the enhanced profits. We believe we cannot do our readers a better service than by quoting in full the article in the *Scotsman*. It is as follows:

"As already stated, the immediate effect on British farming of the importation of American beef is not likely to be so very serious as at one time it threatened to be, but still it will exercise an influence sufficiently powerful—an influence, too, that will be steadily growing—to demand that British farmers must strain every nerve to fortify their defence against the invader. A passive resistance will not suffice—a vigorous offensive movement must be made. No one who looks into the matter for a moment can fail to see that henceforth the foreign consignment will be an important element in British beef markets. The foreign "out" will always be there, ticked at, perhaps a penny per pound less than third-rate native beef; and with many the financial advantage will, to a certainty, give the choice to the foreign article. The "prime" beef of England and Scotland, which has its own particular patrons, and which just now brings about £4, 4s. per cwt., will not be disturbed by the current from abroad, and will find its way as quietly as before into British households; and again, it is believed that, at any rate for many years, till the imported beef improves very greatly in quality, that large class of British beef which comes so close upon the prime beef, and which is raised upon the frames of well-bred and carefully-fed young crosses, and which is just now worth from £3, 18s. to £4 per cwt., will command an uninterrupted sale at nearly the present prices. And thus the imported beef must come into competition mainly with the third-rate and inferior varieties of British beef—the beef, for instance, of cows, bulls and ill-bred, ill-cared-for steers and heifers—which at present sells at from £3, 10s. to £3, 15s. per cwt. The whole of the American beef that may be imported is not likely to be equal in quality even to third-rate English beef, but then in all probability there will be a difference of a halfpenny or a penny per pound in the retail price in favor of the foreign article, which in many cases may be sufficient to secure sale for it in preference to the slightly higher-priced, but also slightly superior, home-grown article.

It is therefore plain that the aim of every farmer ought to be to produce none but first-class beef, or, at any rate, to raise a very much larger quantity of really good beef than he does at present. Of course the beef of cows and bulls cannot be improved to any great extent; their beef must always be of an inferior quality; but as to the "ill-bred, ill-fed steers and heifers," they are capable of improvement, while the means by which that much-to-be-desired improvement might be accomplished are easily indicated. The first step must be to improve the breeding of those ill-bred animals, or rather to supplant them by a class of animals much better bred—far superior in quality, finer in the bone, shorter in the legs, broader in the back, better sprung in the rib, and much neater about the head

and neck. It is a pretty well established fact that the sire has a stronger influence than the dam in improving the progeny, and, therefore farmers, while losing no opportunity of bettering their stock of cows, should above everything be most careful to secure really good bulls to breed from. It must be admitted that during the past eight or ten years farmers have had strong temptations thrown in their way to use many bulls of inferior character, by the enormous number of bulls of that stamp that have been offered for sale annually both in England and Scotland. The well-deserved fame which the fashionable short-horn obtained in the British Isles many years ago as the most powerful of all agencies in the improving of the common cattle stock of the country, and also as a profitable farm animal itself, created throughout the whole kingdom an extraordinary demand for bulls of this breed; and this in turn induced short-horn breeders to exercise too little "selection" in the retaining of bulls; or, in other words, induced them to retain far too many of their male calves as bulls. I cannot speak so confidently of England and Ireland (though I believe the same evil exists to almost as great an extent in both); but I am convinced that I am within the mark in saying that of all the male short-horn calves dropped in Scotland every year, at least 90 per cent. are retained as bulls. Now is it natural to suppose that such a large percentage could really be well suited as agents for the improving of their kind? And it is thus that so many inferior young bulls pass through sale rings every year, selling at from 15 to 25 guineas per head. The more intelligent and better informed farmers pay no heed to these "weeds," but still it is, indeed, a miserable creature that fails completely to find a purchaser. If the supply of good bulls were really inadequate, there would be some excuse for using these inferior animals; but then it is not so. If one-fifth of all the short-horn bulls now employed throughout the country (the worst fifth, of course) were "weeded" out, and the other four-fifths used a little more extensively, the result could not fail to be advantageous to every one concerned. And the same remarks apply with equal force to the polled bulls, which are becoming more popular in the northern counties of Scotland than they have been for many years. The farmer who formerly paid 26 gs. for an inferior bull, would be consulting his own best interests by disbursing 10gs. more in order to bring home to his herd an animal that would leave it better for his having been there; or (which is the same thing) if, in place of sending his cows to the man who has an inferior bull, and charges only 10s. or £1 a head, he were to send them to the man who has the good bull and charges £2. If by this he can add £2 a head to the selling price of his two-year-olds, which is no stretch of the imagination, his extra price or fee would be well invested. In many parts of the country, where the holdings are small, there are no farmers that are able, individually, to spend so much money on one animal as 35 or 40 guineas; but the difficulty in many of these cases might be overcome by a few of the holders combining together and purchasing a really good bull in shares. Besides improving their own stocks, they might realize a little from their neighbors, who, now that American beef has begun to disturb the sale of our inferior varieties of beef, would no doubt be willing to pay a few extra shillings for the use of a superior bull. But should these small holders be unable, or fail, to do anything for themselves in this way, their proprietors would do well to assist them; for it must be remembered that it is the quality of beef raised by these small holders, who are unable to purchase or breed good stock, that the foreign competition will affect first; and indeed, unless something be done by some one to improve the cattle on these holdings, it is difficult to understand how many of the present rents can continue to be paid. Landlords could materially assist these small tenants and suffer no loss themselves—they would gain indirectly—by purchasing bulls of a sufficiently good class, and stationing them at convenient farms or crofts, and hiring them at a moderate fee to the small tenants; still retaining the animals as their own property. It is within my own knowledge that in several parts of Scotland the desired, or rather necessary, improvement can never be effected except in such way as this.

But the breeding of a better class of cattle alone will not suffice. There is also a great need for improvement in the system of feeding pursued by many farmers. At present there

is considerable waste of food and time, arising from a want on the part of farmers of any knowledge of the essential ingredients which the food given to cattle ought to contain, and from a want of care and attention in feeding unvaryingly and systematically. Continuous and intelligent feeding from the calf-hood onward is the only means by which the greatest quantity and best quality of beef can be put upon an animal, and the nearer farmers approach to this ideal the larger will be their profits, and the better they will be able to defend themselves from the invasion from America. Calves should receive a liberal supply of milk for at least five months, with cake or some equivalent added, or substituted for a portion of the milk, towards the latter end of that period; and then when they are weaned, the greatest care ought to be taken not to allow them to fall away, or to allow their constitutions to be impaired by the change of food, which for some time should be of a very nourishing kind. During the first winter they need not be fed too highly—just liberally enough to retain the calf flesh, keep the animal in a healthy, growing condition, and gradually add a little beef. Then at the first of summer they ought to be kept in the house, even though a little artificial grass should have to be given them, till the grass has advanced sufficiently to maintain them in a progressive state; and in the same way, at the end of the grass season, they should be housed as soon as the grass begins to fall or the cold to interfere with their feeding. The less that farmers sustain in this country through turning their cattle too soon out to the grass in spring, or beginning of summer, and leaving them too long upon it in autumn, is very great indeed, and demands that strenuous efforts be made to remedy the evil. House-feeding must be continued longer in spring even if artificial food should have to be used a little; and to tide over the interval between grass and turnips and straw seasons, much larger quantities of tares and such crops ought to be grown, especially in Scotland, where there is less provision made for this short season of cold and hunger than in England. It sometimes takes a month of liberal house-feeding to replace what has been worn away by the half-starvation of a fortnight on the open field. Cattle would make more progress in a comfortable house, on little more than half feed, than out on an exposed field during cold weather, even if they should have all the meat they could consume. And in addition to the waste of time, labor and food, this "wearing away" process, as previously noticed in referring to the American system of feeding, has a very injurious effect on the quality of the beef, while it also, in many cases, weakens the constitution of the animal. In the majority of cases it would probably be advisable for the ordinary farmer to feed off his cattle at two years; and in this case the feeding during the last winter ought to be both most liberal and skillful. The temperature and constitution of the animal ought to receive constant attention, and every animal ought to be fed exactly according to what its constitution can bear. They ought to be cleaned, or "groomed," more frequently than they are in general, and so also must they be allowed longer and more regular periods of rest.

The questions of byre, box and court feeding can hardly be entered upon here; but it may be remarked that the feeding-house ought to be kept clean and well ventilated, but free from draughts. For about half the winter 100 lbs of turnips are not too many for each animal per day; but during the last two months of its feeding, it ought not to have more than 80 or 85 lbs of turnips, and 4, 5 or 6 lbs of artificial stuff, each in two meals per day, according to the constitution and relative condition of the animals. A mixture of good linseed cake and grain—say oats and Indian corn, and perhaps beans, or locust-beans, in equal parts—forms one of the best feeding mixtures any farmer could desire. In a mixture of grain and either of many kinds of cake there is too little oily matter; but in linseed-cake all that is necessary is supplied. There is little doubt that the general body of farmers, with considerable advantage to themselves might use a great deal more artificial food than they do, and thus spread their turnips over more ground, so to speak; for at present turnips have too heavy a share of the feeding allotted to them. The "soiling" system—i. e., feeding in the house during summer on cut grass and artificial food—ought also to be pursued more largely; for where

there are half-courts, it has been found to pay splendidly, and then summer is the season of the year during which there will be least foreign competition in the beef market. In concluding this part of the subject, I would sum up my advice to farmers who breed and feed cattle thus—keep few, keep good, keep well."

### APPLES AND PEARS FOR VARIOUS SECTIONS.

The *Rural New Yorker* gives a list of apples and pears for various sections, from which we take the following:

**IOWA.**—Apples: Ben Davis, Benoni, Cole's Quince, Downie, Duchess of Oldenburg, Edgar Red Sireak, Fallwater, Fameuse, Grimes' Golden, Jonathan, Lowell, Maiden's Blush, Pryor's Red, Rawie's Genet, Red Astrachan, Shockley, Teofsky, Willow Twig, Winesap. Pears: Bartlett, Beurre d'Anjou, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Flemish Beauty, Howell, Lawrence.

**MISSOURI.**—Apples: Carolina Red June, Early Harvest, Gilpin, Michael Henry Pippin, Newtown Pippin, Pryor's Red, Rawie's Genet, Red Astrachan, Smith's Clider, White Winter Pearmain, Winesap. Pears: Beurre Rose, Beurre Clairgeau, Beurre d'Anjou, Glout Morceau, Urbaniste, Winter Nellis.

**NEBRASKA.**—Apples: American Summer Pearmain, Buffington's Early, Carolina Red June, Cooper, Cooper's Early White, Downie, Duchess of Oldenburg, Fameuse, Gabriel, Grimes' Golden, Jonathan, Late Strawberry, Perry Russet, Roman Stem, Summer Bellefleur, Williams Favorite, Winesap. Pears: Bartlett, Beurre d'Anjou, Beurre, Giffard, Bloodgood, Doyenne Boussock, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Flemish Beauty, Glout Morceau, Howell, Lawrence, Seckel.

**KANSAS.**—Apples: American Summer Pearmain, Ben Davis, Fallwater, Gilpin, Mangum, McAfee's Nonesuch, Pryor's Red, Rawie's Genet, Talman's Sweet, Winter Sweet Paradise. Pears: Bartlett, Belle Lucrative, Beurre d'Anjou, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Seckel, Sheldon.

**CALIFORNIA.**—Apples: Duchess of Oldenburg, Fall Pippin, Newtown Pippin, Yellow Bullfleur. Pears: Bartlett, Beurre Clairgeau, Beurre Hardy, Doyenne d'Alencon, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Easter Beurre, Flemish Beauty S eckel, Sterling, Winter Nellis.

### WHAT IS THE HESSIAN FLY?

The Hessian Fly is a small gnaw or midge of the order diptera, family cecidomyiadae, o gall gnats, and genus cecidomyia. It was called Hessian Fly from the supposition that it was brought to this country by the Hessian troops, in some straw, during the revolutionary war. It was scientifically described in 1817, by Mr. Say, as *cecidomyia destructor*. The body of the insect is about one-tenth of an inch in length, and the expanse of wings one quarter of an inch, or more. This insect is so destructive in some seasons in fields of wheat, barley, and rye, generally matures two broods in the course of a year, appearing in spring and autumn, earlier in the Southern States. The transformations of some are retarded in various ways so that their life from the egg to the perfect insect may be a year or more, rendering the continuance of the species in after years more sure.

The eggs, about one-fiftieth of an inch in length, translucent and pale red, are placed in the longitudinal creases of the leaves of both winter and spring wheat very soon after the plants are above ground, to the number of twenty, thirty or more on a leaf. If the weather be warm, they are hatched in four or five days, and the larvae, small, footless maggots, tapering at each end, and of a pale red color, crawl down the leaf and fix themselves between it and the main stalk, just below the surface of the ground, there remaining, head downwards, till their transformations are completed, nourished by the juices of the plant, which they obtain by suction. Two or three larvae thus placed will cause the plant to wither and die.

In about six weeks they attain their full size, about three-twentieths of an inch in length, when the skin gradually hardens and becomes of a bright chestnut color, about the first of December in the autumn brood, and in June or July in the spring brood. In the beginning of this, the pupa state, they look like flax-seed. In two or three weeks the insect within becomes detached from the leathery skin and lies loosely within, a motionless grub. It gradually advances towards the winged state about the end of April or beginning of May, according to the warmth of the weather. When mature, it breaks through this case,

enveloped in a delicate skin, which soon splits on the back, setting the perfect insect at liberty.

Burning the stubble of wheat, rye and barley fields, afterwards plowing and harrowing the land, appears the best method of getting rid of this insect. Various minute parasitic insects, similar in their habits to the lice-men flies, destroy a very large proportion of every generation of the Hessian Fly, preying upon their eggs, larvae and pupae.—*Rural Home*.

### THE OUTLOOK FOR SHORTHORNS.

We have been asked lately what we think the prospects are for Short-horns in future, and whether the prices obtained at public sales, and the failures that have occurred, do not indicate that the business is overdone.

We have no hesitation in saying that these circumstances do not indicate that the business is overdone. Like everything else, this business is subject to abuses; the failures that have recently occurred should not depress it; they may easily be traced to causes other than an overstocked market. And the same thing is true of the low prices that have ruled in many cases at recent sales. It appeared to us some weeks ago that our Kentucky friends were making (for themselves at least), a mistake in placing between six or seven hundred animals on the market all within a fortnight, although the depression in prices which thereby appeared almost inevitable, was an advantage to buyers, enabling any farmer who desired to improve the quality of his common stock, to do so at comparatively small cost. The weather, during a portion of the time when the late sales were in progress, was unfavorable, and the attendance was not all that could have been desired; yet, notwithstanding this drawback, and the further fact that many of the offerings were of plainly bred sorts, everything was sold, showing that a demand exists for all that is bred.

There is money in breeding improved cattle of any breed in this country, and there never was a broader or more successful field for making the business successful than exists here. Farmers are coming more and more to understand that there is money in well-bred cattle; that high grades are far more profitable than scrubs; that those with a good proportion of Short-horn or other improved blood are ready for market a year earlier than scrubs, and that they sell for more per pound by reason of the excellent quality of the beef.

So far as breeding the more fashionable sorts is concerned, that is a matter which we do not now propose to discuss; but we may say in passing that if men who have the capital and capacity to follow it or engage in it, desire to do so, it is their business and theirs alone. That a fair demand for such strains of blood exists is not to be questioned, and it is a branch of the business which appears to be quite as satisfactory in point of profit to those who have the means to indulge their tastes in that direction, as is the breeding by others of less fashionable tribes. And right here we desire to say that there is less discrimination among breeders in the selection of breeding animals than there should be. The excellence of this, or any other breed, can only be maintained by following closely in the footsteps of those who have brought it such high perfection. The absurd fashion in color often saves an animal without merit. The knife is not used enough. Real merits should govern always in the selection of breeding animals, and the blood must be kept pure.—*Western Rural*.

Dairying is a rapidly growing rural industry in California. The time was, says the *Bulletin*, when it was generally believed that the climate of California was not favorable to making good butter, but it is now known that no state in the Union can make better butter, or keep it good longer than they can. Wherever alfalfa grows rapidly the year through, as it does on river bottoms, the dairy season is practically perennial. On this clover, or on hay made from it, cows keep up a good flow of milk the year round, and are only dried up to allow of the necessary rest and recuperation. Large quantities of empty firkins have been shipped from the East, and all that have been made by local coopers have been used, and still the demand for something to pack butter in is unsatisfactory. But a few years since California shipped the firkins from the East, not to put butter in, but to get the butter that came in them. It now wants the empty firkins, and will return them well filled with butter of a quality superior to that formerly received.

W. C. Clark

WINTER FLOWERING BULBS—THEIR CULTURE.

The autumn catalogues of Dutch flowering bulbs reminds us that the season for planting them is at hand, and if we would have them in bloom early in the winter, we must attend to them at once.

When the snow and hoar frost cover the ground like wool, and all the green things of the earth are hidden from our sight, fragrant flowers and bright green foliage are so refreshing to our eyes.

Hyacinths rank first on the list, because they are the sweetest of all the species, and will bloom so perfectly.

Hyacinths are placed in the glasses, set them in a cool, dark cellar or closet, frost proof.

It should be cool, because the leaves will start too soon if the temperature is warm.

Common flower pots are not deep enough to grow Hyacinths perfectly, for the roots strike deeply.

When the sun shines warm and bright, and the mercury is 48° or 50°, or higher, the whole top can be thrown open for an hour or so.

Well they reward the toil. The sight is pleasing, the scent regal; Each opening blossom freely breathes around its gratitude, and thanks him with its sweets.

The Duc Van Tholl Tulips are very lovely for winter flowering, and will bloom freely either in water, moss, sand or soil.

The Crocus is always a delight, whether blooming in doors or exhibiting its lovely tinted chalice just as the frost and snow are disappearing.

They require the same cultivation as the Hyacinth, and can be mixed with them in glass dishes or flower pots.

The Narcissus is a fine bulb for in-door culture; some of the varieties are very fragrant, and all are ornamental.

All these bulbous roots can be grown in groups, and produce a fine effect; and as our government permits its mails to carry large packages of them at a very small price, the dwellers on the distant plains and prairies can be accommodated with all that is rich and rare, at a small expense, as well as those of us who live in the vicinity of large cities and flourishing greenhouses.

At this season of the year, when "wailing winds and naked woods" herald the approach of winter, every true lover of flowers looks with dismay at the array of pot plants which she has collected, especially if there is no particular room in the house which can be devoted to their service, and the windows of parlor, dining-room, and even of sleeping rooms (for I fully believe that plants, in a healthy, growing condition, will contribute rather than take from the health of the sleeper), must be fitted up with shelves to hold them.

The idea of a cold pit is gladly embraced as an inexpensive substitute for a greenhouse or conservatory. For this purpose we must select a location as near the house as possible, and if it can be placed on the south-east side, under or near the kitchen or dining room, it will be more accessible, but if such a position is not available, choose a sheltered spot in the garden, under a fence or a hedge, which will shelter it from the north wind.

Excavate it to a depth of five or six feet, then drive down strong posts, which can be made of the body of a tree about five inches in diameter, or of any kind of well-seasoned lumber. Nail slats across the posts from side to side, as near the earth as will admit of nailing thin pine boards closely together.

The former is better on account of not harboring insects and worms. It is needless, however, to make the pit slope from the back to the front; therefore, the back posts should be nearly a foot higher than the front ones, giving it a slanting roof, which should be formed of two parts, securing the sashes or window frames by hinges at the sides, so only one part of them need be lifted at once.

To do this, fill to the depth of six or eight inches with powdered or finely broken up charcoal (a little gravel can also be mixed with it), and a foot of coal ashes, or spent tan, thrown in upon it. In this sink the pots of flowers. But if you prefer to plant them in the pit, so as to put in more small plants, throw in a good rich but sandy loam, instead of the ashes or tan.

Small sized evergreens packed in such manner as to provide for these necessary conditions, have been, and can be shipped long distances and successfully planted in early fall.

The advantages derived from fall planting is the development of new root growth, which assists in sustaining the trees through the Winter, or causes a more rapid growth of the trees in all their parts the ensuing season.

It is also an excellent fertilizer, if applied to the soil in weak solution, being particularly beneficial to roses, geraniums and fuchsias.

In such a pit as I have described, primroses, pansies and violets will bloom all the winter, while excellent lettuce and radishes can be raised by scattering the seeds in the tan.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS IN THE FALL.

The September number of the Fruit Recorder, under the head of "Seasonable Hints," says, "transplanting evergreens in August and September, can not be well done in any case where the trees have to be packed in boxes and boxes to reach their destination, as the chances of drying up, in such hot weather as we usually get in these hot months, overbalances the advantages of the rapid push of new fibres."

The italics in the above extract are our own, and direct issue is taken with such an unqualified statement, based upon many years of handling, packing, shipping and transplanting millions of evergreen seedlings.

• To replace the loss sustained by evaporation through the foliage, and supply the constituents necessary for the ensuing season's growth, the evaporation of moisture taking place in larger proportion in "hot and dry" years and portions of the year, than in years or portions of the year, when the temperature is low, and the volume of moisture is large in the atmosphere and soil.

• In order to fully understand the question at issue, it should be borne in mind, that the Pines, Firs and Spruces complete their upright growth in June, and as they retain their foliage throughout the year, they are, so far as their dormant condition is concerned, in as proper a condition for removal and transplanting in the fall, as they would be in the spring.

Farmers should see to it that their hogs are ready to be butchered the first suitable spell that comes in the fall, so that they may not only avail themselves of the best season for fattening but of the cool months for smoking.

THE HEREFORD CATTLE.

The contest between the Hereford cattle and the Short-Horn Durham, will occupy in the near future very much more public attention than it does at present.

They have stood in the English markets for one hundred years as the best cattle, commanding the highest prices.

They are highly prized in the English markets.

They are especially adapted to the grazing of the vast plains of the west, being the best grazing cattle in the world.

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It is also an excellent fertilizer, if applied to the soil in weak solution, being particularly beneficial to roses, geraniums and fuchsias.

In such a pit as I have described, primroses, pansies and violets will bloom all the winter, while excellent lettuce and radishes can be raised by scattering the seeds in the tan.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS IN THE FALL.

The September number of the Fruit Recorder, under the head of "Seasonable Hints," says, "transplanting evergreens in August and September, can not be well done in any case where the trees have to be packed in boxes and boxes to reach their destination, as the chances of drying up, in such hot weather as we usually get in these hot months, overbalances the advantages of the rapid push of new fibres."

The italics in the above extract are our own, and direct issue is taken with such an unqualified statement, based upon many years of handling, packing, shipping and transplanting millions of evergreen seedlings.

• To replace the loss sustained by evaporation through the foliage, and supply the constituents necessary for the ensuing season's growth, the evaporation of moisture taking place in larger proportion in "hot and dry" years and portions of the year, than in years or portions of the year, when the temperature is low, and the volume of moisture is large in the atmosphere and soil.

• In order to fully understand the question at issue, it should be borne in mind, that the Pines, Firs and Spruces complete their upright growth in June, and as they retain their foliage throughout the year, they are, so far as their dormant condition is concerned, in as proper a condition for removal and transplanting in the fall, as they would be in the spring.

Farmers should see to it that their hogs are ready to be butchered the first suitable spell that comes in the fall, so that they may not only avail themselves of the best season for fattening but of the cool months for smoking.

THE HEREFORD CATTLE.

The contest between the Hereford cattle and the Short-Horn Durham, will occupy in the near future very much more public attention than it does at present.

They have stood in the English markets for one hundred years as the best cattle, commanding the highest prices.

They are highly prized in the English markets.

They are especially adapted to the grazing of the vast plains of the west, being the best grazing cattle in the world.

They are highly prized in the English markets.

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They are highly prized in the English markets.

Patrons of Husbandry.

STATE GRANGE DIRECTORY. Master, Wm. Sims, Topeka, Shawnee Co. ... EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. M. E. HUDSON, Mapleton, Bourbon Co. ... PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

The following are the current rates of freights from Chicago to the points named for the articles given:

Table with columns: To, Four per barrel, Fourth class per 100 lbs., Grain, etc. per 100 lbs., Stock, etc. per 100 lbs.

The following are the rates of freight from Crawford county by the M. K. & T. Railroad:

Table with columns: Corn, per car load, Merchandise per 100, etc.

Attention is particularly invited to the rates on merchandise, which constitutes almost everything a farmer buys. Then, passing to the actual cost of transportation, we find that the actual cost of transportation is not far from the following...

Table with columns: One engineer from Fort Scott to St. Louis, One conductor, same, One fireman and two brakemen, etc.

Thus it will be seen that every farmer who sells forty acres of corn, or 1,600 bushels (four car loads) gives, donates, or pays for blackmail, \$201 each year, or, if reduced to corn, husked, hauled, and delivered at the station at twenty cents a bushel, one thousand and five bushels, or pays an annual rent in cash to somebody of five dollars an acre on every acre of corn he sells, for the privilege of paying our railroad companies to transport it to St. Louis. The county of Crawford contains 2,368 sections of land. If all these farms were improved, and but an aggregate of forty acres of corn, or four car-loads of produce, from each farm sold a year under a railroad public highway system, the distance would be in favor of the farmers of this county alone in one year, the sum of \$475,668, or enough to build two railroads across the county each year. Is it a wonder that times are hard and money scarce? And if these figures represent the loss to one county only, what then is the amount paid by the state of Kansas each year for blackmail, or whatever else anybody may please to call it. Starting as these figures are, they are nothing in comparison with the evils resulting from this joint stock company monopoly system.

British gold has mainly built our railroads, and judging from the systematic manner the health of the agriculturist and of the state is extracted, it would seem that express conditions are stipulated in the bond that the farming community of the Western states should be modeled after that of feudal England—a nation whose inhabitants are divided into classes or castes. There is not very much difference between the two names, and of which Mr. Simpson says, in his work on "National Education in Great Britain": "The intellectual condition of the agricultural districts is death without his dance. Shut out from everything that can sustain or ennoble an intelligent nature, the peasantry of England have long since displayed in unparalleled degradation the full effects of knowledge desired, and have now sunk into a state of mental imbecility and semi-barbarism. Rude, selfish, superstitious, and profane, their sense of right and wrong limited and perverted, scarcely ever looking beyond the apparent wants of the present hour, the great mass live and die without an effort to raise themselves above the lowest conditions of animal existence." And it is very evident that a firm and determined resistance to opposition can alone save us from such a doom.

That the state of Kansas is an inland state, with the absence of lakes, canals, or navigable rivers, that we have to compete with our sister states and other nations, in selling our produce; that our commerce is wholly and entirely monopolized by railroad companies whose roads have been built at our expense, that while Eastern roads only charge from \$5 to \$7 per 100 miles for carrying produce and goods, we pay for the same distance \$22.66 on each car load of produce, and \$38.38 for each car load of groceries and other goods for 100 miles of carriage; that the sun does not shine on any other nation, be it Christian, Jew, Mohammedan, or Pagan, whose commerce is a monopoly; that the system of monopolies is unjust in principle, pernicious in influence, selfish, arrogant and tyrannical in practice, and, in fact, a truth which can not be denied.

That the state of Kansas is a rich agricultural state, that railroads here are as necessary in this age for the successful pursuit of agriculture, as the air we breathe, is unquestionable, and that to facilitate transportation and to serve the productive interests of her people, the state of Kansas should own and control her system of railroads (for example two lines across the state east and west, and a line through the center of each tier of counties north and south, with a line to St. Louis, and one to Chicago if necessary) these to be public highways for any common carrier, can easily be demonstrated.

We have on exhibition in our office four of the longest carrots we think that have ever penetrated the bowels of the earth in western Kansas. Three of them are twenty-four inches long each, and the fourth one is twenty-five inches long each, and were raised by our Granger friend Mary Randall. Who has grown a taller carrot than any of these?—Stockton (Rooks Co.) News.

From out among our farmers comes the charming news that wheat is looking exceptionally good, and no preventing providence, there will be a goodly harvest next year.

The farmers inform us that the late potato crop, which is expected to be but little less than a failure, will give an average yield, and in some localities the crop will be very large.—Woodson Co. Post.

beans, 90 cts. to \$1; potatoes, 60 to 70 cts.; turnips, 20 cts.; sweet potatoes, \$1; beans, \$1.75 to \$2; apples, 80 cts. to \$1; butter, 15 to 20 cts. per pound; lard, 11 cts. per pound; cheese, 11 cts. per pound; eggs, 15 cts. per doz.; chickens, \$1.50 per doz.; turkeys, \$5 to \$6 per doz.; sorghum molasses, 40 cts. per gal.; cabbage 4 to 5 cts. per head; sauerkraut, 25 cts. per gal.; honey—strained, 15 cts. per pound; onions, 75 cts. per bushel. Dressed poultry, none in market.—Burlington Patriot.

AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE GREAT STRIKE THAT occurred about the middle of the past summer there was a pretty general feeling in business circles that we were to have a marked revival in the general business affairs of the country, owing in great part to the abundant harvest of small grain that had been produced, and also to the fact that a heavy corn crop seemed by the 1st of August to be well assured.

During the present fall season we have seen daily reports of new cases of bankruptcy in all parts of the country, and we have noticed too that taking the manufacturing interest of the country in the aggregate that there has not been such a spirit of revival shows as we certainly should have been well pleased to see. We are therefore reluctantly forced to the conclusion that business, taking the whole country together, is not much, if any, better than it was a year ago.

There is no doubt but what the immense crop of grain of all kinds that has been produced in the country for the present year will materially help the farmers as a class. As we have before stated we have not expected to see extravagant prices paid for any of this grain, but admitting that moderately fair prices shall be realized for the surplus grain that the country will have to dispose of, it must bring an immense amount of money into the country. But right here it must be said that there does not seem to be any scarcity of money, at least in the great money centers among the banks. Still it would be a good thing to have the proceeds of all the grain, cattle, hogs, etc., that will be sold between the present time and next summer will diffuse all over the country as it will be. In the mean time it would seem to be one of those immutable laws in the common order of things that all those parties that have allowed themselves to go too heavily in debt during the flush times of the past ten or twelve years will have to close up as best they can, as it will make little difference as to how abundant money might be in a general way parties that are carrying a heavy load of indebtedness, cannot commend it.—Drovers Journal Chicago

ALL ABOUT CHICKENS AND EGGS. The National Butter and Egg Association in conjunction with the Northwestern Dairyman's Association, have made arrangements to hold a grand exposition at Chicago, commencing December 18th, and continuing three days. Three thousand dollars in gold premiums will be awarded.

As I sit here to-night thinking of Mr. Woderly's article on pet stock, in which he asks why chickens are not made pets of, a remark of a lady friend comes to my mind. We were talking about chickens; and I was telling her what pets mine were; that they would eat out of my hand and fly on my shoulders whenever they saw me coming. She said: "Well, I declare, do you make pets of such things as chickens?" Now I think to just such feelings as were expressed in what she said may be attributed half the failures in poultry-keeping. The raising of poultry does not consist (as a great many think) in simply throwing them a handful of corn now and then and occasionally giving them a little water with no attention to roosting and laying-places, but you must go amongst them as often as possible, learn their habits, teach them to know you and your voice, allow them never to be frightened, as fear and fright hinder thrift. One of the most successful poultry raisers on a small scale I ever knew, was an old colored woman who had a name for every chicken, and when called by their names would answer the call by coming to her. I have tried a great many pets, but I have not yet found any that paid for their care as well as my chickens. Now I am not writing this for old poultry-keepers but for beginners, and especially the ladies, for they like to have something to pet, and I know if they once try chickens they will not give them up for birds, dogs, or any other kind of pets.—Helen D. Frisbie.

EGGS AS FOOD. I think eggs, considering the nutriment they contain compared with beef, at least four times cheaper. They are more easily cooked. To cook a pound of pork requires considerable wood and time. To cook a pound of eggs little of either. The English vegetarians eat no flesh. They are, on the average long lived, much longer than other people; they use eggs moderately.

The way to cook an egg, according to my notion, is to put it into water of a temperature of 180° and let it stand five minutes. The inside or yolk will be hard and the white of the egg will not be hard, but flocculent like curd, and easy of digestion. A little salt will teach any one how to do this. The eggs are then delicious. The only dressing needed on an egg is a little good butter—at least I think so. Pepper and salt are only demanded by a morbid taste. Fried eggs, I think, are about nothing. A fresh egg dropped in water about 180° F. and allowed to remain four or five minutes, so as to cook through, and then laid on a nice piece of brown bread that has been toasted and dipped in hot water is good enough for a king.

Custards made from eggs are both nutritious and wholesome. For the feeble they are better than beefsteak, and may be used freely.—Writer in Southern Poultry Journal.

The growth of the British steam fleet is one of the commercial marvels of the age. In 1814 the fleet consisted of 25 vessels with a combined tonnage of 456 tons; twenty years later it numbered 462 vessels of 50,755 tons; in 1854 it had risen to 1,708 vessels of 326,452 tons, and in 1862 it reached 3,600 vessels of 597,932 tons. The most rapid growth, however, has been since the introduction of the screw propeller with compound engines. Thus the number of this class of steamers in 1876-7 was 539, an increase of 315 in five years.

STOVER WIND ENGINE COMPANY, FREEPORT, - ILL. Manufacturers of the Celebrated Stover Automatic Windmill that carried off the highest honors at the American Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876.

"HIGHLAND STOCK FARM." Salina, Kansas. THO'S. H. CAVANAUGH, BREEDER OF HEREFORD CATTLE, COTSWOLD SHEEP, BERKSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE PIGS.

SCOTT'S NON-POISONOUS Sheep Scab and Vermin Destroyer. It destroys Ticks and Vermin, cures Scab, water proofs the fleeces by preserving and adding to the natural yolk, improves and greatly increases the growth of Wool, and costs a little over 2 cents per Sheep.

PEAR TREES FOR SALE! I have on hand a large stock of standard pear trees two and three years old, standard pear trees at very low prices. Address E. H. HARROFF, or M. S. GREEN, Topeka, Kansas.

PURE BRED BERKSHIRES. I have now a very choice collection of pigs sired by Imported "Vance King" 1299 and Matchless Liverpool out of fine sows sired by my famous old Boar Richard 1059. Lord Liverpool 237 and Lord Liverpool 238. Canals, etc. All these sows and will guarantee satisfaction to every purchaser. Stock all eligible to registry in A. B. Record. Address: SOLON ROGERS, Prairie Center, Johnson Co. Kansas.

GIDEON BAILEY, Tipton, Cedar Co., Iowa. BREEDER AND SHIPPER OF PURE BLOODED Poland-China Hogs. BREEDING STOCK constantly for sale.

BERKSHIRE SWINE. The undersigned having had many years' experience in the breeding of FINE HOGS, desires to call the attention of farmers and breeders to our herd of ENGLISH BERKSHIRE SWINE.

BLACK PRINCE 1025. Bred by Heber Humphrey England, at the head of the herd. Our Stock is all bred in the American Berkshire Record, and for individual merit cannot be excelled. We have sows in pigs with pigs by their side, and also a nice lot of pigs now ready to ship, and will ask all who desire to procure first class BERKSHIRES to write or call on us before purchasing elsewhere. We have also a few choice Short-Horns for sale. L. W. MICKLEY, Vinton, Benton County, Iowa.

HOW TO Make Hedge Fence. THE ONLY COMMON SENSE HEDGE FENCE MAKER AND ORCHARD CULTURIST. BY PROF. P. B. ROUGH.

NOT FAIL TO send for our New Catalogue. It contains valuable information for every person contemplating the purchase of articles for personal, family or agricultural use. Free to any Address. MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., Original General Supply House, 232 & 234 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

Breeders' Directory. J. J. IVES, Mount City, Linn Co. Kansas, makes a specialty of Brown Leghorn Fowls bred pure from the best strains in the U. S. A few choice Birds for sale at reasonable figures. Correspondence Solicited.

SAMUEL JEWETT, Breeder of Pure Blood Merino Sheep. 200 Choice Rams for sale. Correspondence solicited. Address, Independence, Missouri.

H. M. & W. F. SIBSON, Galeburg, Ill. Breeders of pure bred Poland-China Hogs. This stock took the \$1,000 premium at Canton, in 1871 over 36 competitors.

FOR Choice Merino Rams and Ewes. Also Imported Canada Cotswolds at Moderate Prices. A. B. MATTHEWS, Kansas City, Mo.

W. M. HASTIE, Somerset, Warren Co., Iowa, breeder of short horn cattle, Cotswold and Leicester sheep. Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited.

WARREN HARRIS, Trenton, Missouri, Breeder of Short-Horn Cattle with Herd-Book pedigrees also, Pure Bred Berkshire Pigs. Correspondence solicited and promptly answered.

JOHN W. JONES, Stewartville, Mo., breeder of Thoroughbred Short Horn Cattle of approved blood and pedigree. Also, breeder of Berkshire of the best strains in the United States and Canada.

SAMUEL ARCHER, Kansas City, Mo., breeds Spanish Merino Sheep as improved by A. Wood and Hammond from the Hampshire's importation in 1822. Also Chester White Hogs, pure bred, and Light Brahma Chickens, both bred pure by me for eight years past. Send for circulars. \$25.00 RAMS FOR SALE this year.

W. W. BLACKWILL, Breeder of Poland-China Hogs, Iowa. Pigs for sale at \$15 to \$50 per head. Eggs \$2.00 per case, containing three dozen.

W. W. ESTILL, LEXINGTON, KY. PROPRIETOR OF Elmwood Flock of Cotswolds, From Imported Stock. Young Stock for Sale.

Nurserymen's Directory. 500,000 Apple Stocks, 1,000,000 Usage Plants, 50,000 Fruit Trees, 25,000 Small Fruit Plants, etc. Apple Box Grapes put up to order by experienced hands. Send for Price Lists. E. F. CADDY, VALLADER, Miami County Nursery, Louisville, Kansas.

KANSAS HOME NURSERY A. C. & H. C. GRIESE, Proprietors, Lawrence, Kansas. We offer for sale home-grown Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Grape Vines, Quinces, Small Fruits, etc. and Evergreens. Apple Seedlings at low prices; apple grafts put up to order.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—The new ones at reduced rates. Send for price list to SAMUEL MILLER, Sedalia, Mo.

FLOWERS.—All lovers of Plants should send for Catalogue of Geraniums, Fuchsias, Verbenas, Roses, etc., to ROBERT S. BROWN, Box 1158, Kansas City, Mo.

VILLA NURSERY AND GREENHOUSES.—Grape Vines from 15 dollars per 1,000 and upwards, excellent plants. Greenhouse plants at lowest current prices. Address A. SAUER, Kansas City, Mo.

KAW NURSERY, WYANDOTTE CO. KANS. General Assortment of Nursery stock, especially Apples and Cherry Trees, Grape Roots and other small fruit plants. Address G. F. BERNHARDT, Box 972, Kansas City, Mo.

HAWKINS & CORNHIS, Goshen, N. Y., Growers and Importers of Select Garden and Field Seeds and Choice Seed Potatoes. Illustrated Catalogue free.

General Business Directory. D. H. WHITTEMORE, Worcester, Mass., makes a specialty of fine Apples and Apples of all sizes and varieties. Warranted satisfactory. Price, \$1 and \$1.50 each. Sold by Dealers.

AGENTS. Mica Lamp Reflectors, 35c. \$2.00 a Dozen. Nigger Head Match Safe, 35c. \$2.00 a Dozen. Patent Pocket Stove \$1.00. Send for Circulars. C. W. FOSTER & CO., 62 Canal St., Chicago, Ill.

The Kansas Farmer.

J. K. HUDNOR, Editor & P. Supt., Topeka, Kan.

TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE. One Copy, Weekly, for one year, 2.00

RATES OF ADVERTISING. One insertion, per line, (normal) 30 cents.

The greatest care is used to prevent swindling humbugs securing space in these advertising columns.

TO SUBSCRIBERS. A notification will be sent you one week in advance of the time your subscription expires.

LESS THAN 2 CENTS PER WEEK. How to get the KANSAS FARMER FOR ONE YEAR for less than two cents per week.

THE LOCUST MOVING WESTWARD. Dr. A. S. Packard, Jr., Secretary of the United States Entomological Commission.

property this fall and winter will be immense. A farmer should not think of burning a fire-guard unless he has at least a dozen of his neighbors to help him.

SADDLEBAG NOTES. NO. 1. The corn crop in the southeastern portion of Shawnee county will compare very favorably with last year's crop as to quantity.

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property this fall and winter will be immense. A farmer should not think of burning a fire-guard unless he has at least a dozen of his neighbors to help him.

Nearly all the corn is gathered in this part of the county, and the farmers generally are preparing to fatten their stock with it in preference to selling it from the bushel or to keeping it over.

DOUGLAS CO. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. EDITOR FARMER: A condensed report of our Horticultural Society's proceedings may be of interest to your readers.

We hold these meetings every third Saturday in each month. During summer it is held at the grounds of its several members, and a picnic dinner is served the entire year.

Among the new features of the season, are the coming from their extreme shyness in bearing, the Northern Spy and the Yellow Bellflower, both yielding bountiful crops, and both are of rare excellence in quality.

A New Feature.—One of the permanent features of the FARMER hereafter will be a condensation of the more important news. We do this in obedience to an oft repeated request of our subscribers.

The State Normal School.—Our readers, by reference to our columns of last week, will see that the winter term of the excellent Normal School, located at Emporia, begins Dec. 12.

Any person having Nos. 2 and 3 of this year's KANSAS FARMER will confer a personal favor by sending them to the Rev. Jno. D. Knox, Topeka, Kansas.

Parties having farms for sale will do well to leave them with Ross and McClintock, of Topeka, Kansas. This enterprising firm have been extending their business very largely the past six months, reaching, by advertising and by personal application many of the best emigrants coming into the state.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Nov. 28.—Chief Joseph and his band of Nez Percés Indians arrived here at Fort Leavenworth at 5 o'clock this afternoon from Bismarck guarded by this escort, consisting of two companies of the first infantry, commanded by Capt. Rbt. E. Johnson and Lieut. H. T. Reed.

Topeka, Nov. 28.—The Supreme Court to-day filed opinions in twenty-two cases, one of which is of considerable importance. Under a law passed in 1876, the railroad assessors assessed railroad property in unorganized counties for State purposes.

BUCHANAN, Va., Nov. 27.—The river is six feet higher than the great freshet in 1842. Twenty colored people were drowned in this neighborhood. The destruction of property in town and country is unprecedented.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The Senate Finance Committee resumed consideration of the House bill for remonetization. Amendments were proposed and in succession rejected by a uniform vote of 4 against 3.

Another amendment was offered providing that after the enactment of the bill, a committee shall be appointed to confer with any similar committee that shall be appointed by other nations, for the purpose of recommending the adoption by all nations of the same uniform relation of value between metals.

London, Nov. 28.—A telegram from Bucharest says so far the rumors that Osman Pasha is negotiating to surrender are merely based upon the appearance of a member of parliament from Plevna at the Russian headquarters.

London, Nov. 26.—A special from Constantinople says the Sultan has expressed his intention to treat separately with the Czar. He abandons all idea of applying to any foreign power for mediation.

A special from St. Petersburg says the Russian newspapers profess a strong desire for peace. There is much talk of direct negotiations with the Porte and grows stronger daily.

Paris, Nov. 26.—A grand military dinner was given at the Elysees on Saturday. The Moniteur states that at the reception that followed the dinner, President MacMahon repeatedly declared in favor of a policy of resistance, saying the Chamber had replied to his conciliatory overtures by a violent declaration of war.

Several Conservative papers say the government will call upon the Senate to declare openly for or against it.

Crops, Markets & Finance.

NEBRASKA. LINCOLN, Neb., Nov. 26.—The official vote of the late state election was canvassed to-day, showing Coke, for chief justice, 29,569; Howe, 15,639; For regents—Holmes, 29,698; Persinger, 28,937; Grim, 6,915; Cash, 6,830. Total vote, 45,860, a falling off of 10,000 in one year.

Nebraska is now enjoying the result of an unusually fruitful harvest, and the general expression is that the trade of prosperity has fairly set in. There is no longer that cry of hard times which was prevalent a few months back, but on the contrary a more cheerful feeling of better days in the near future.

And now, on this 22d day of November, 1877, comes Wm. H. Dougherty, bending under the weight of a mammoth turnip, which he coolly deposited in our office, the dimensions of which we at once proceeded to take, and ascertained by actual measurement to be twenty-six inches around the waist, and the weight to exceed the capacity of our counter scales.

From advance sheets of the report of the State Board of Agriculture for August, September, and October, furnished us by Secretary Alfred Gray, we learn that Coffey county had 1,333 acres of wheat, yielding 16,995 bushels; 342 acres of rye, yielding 6,156 bushels; and 155 acres of spring wheat, yielding 2,325 bushels; 32,947 acres of corn, yielding 1,483,615 bushels; 41 acres of barley, producing 1,107 bushels; 3,715 acres of oats, growing 174,605 bushels; and the average per acre of corn is 47 bushels.

The way settlers are coming in this fall, surpasses the ordinary native. Never was such a rush made for any country in the world as there is into the great Solomon valley at this time.

The discussion lasted until two o'clock, when the further consideration of the bill was postponed until the 10th of December next.

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which he sells at 16@20 a pound. When it is remembered that bees keep and feed themselves, it will be noticed that Mr. Ward has a pretty good thing. And Farmington, remember, is in Kansas!—Seneca Courier.

From all parts of the country we hear the encouraging news that the farmers are getting into more comfortable quarters. Neat and substantial buildings are going up on every hand, both for man and beast, and the indications are that the farmers will be better prepared for the approaching winter than they ever have been before.

Last Monday morning Pearl Gill went out to see if the wild geese "yanked high." He was out about an hour and returned with eleven geese as trophies of his shooting.

Meessrs. Glick & Knapp, the proprietors of Shannon Hill stock farm, yesterday sold to Mr. M. G. Taylor the young yearling bull, Gen. Custer, sired by the famous young Duke bull Gustavus, dam by Fayette's Gen., a beautiful red and white cow.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Grocers retail price list, corrected weekly by J. A. Lee. Items include Apples, Beans, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Potatoes, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Topeka Lumber Market. Items include Joist and Scantling, Rough boards, Fencing, Common boards, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Topeka Butcher's Retail Market. Items include Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Sausage, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Leather Market. Items include Hides, Sheep Pelts, Damaged Hides, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Topeka Retail Grain Market. Items include Wheat, Corn, Rye, Barley, Flour, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes New York Money Market. Items include Gold, Silver, Government Bonds, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes St. Louis Produce Market. Items include Flour, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Barley, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Chicago Produce Market. Items include Flour, Wheat, Corn, Rye, Barley, etc.







